CULS5316: Graduate Research Paper / Project
MA Cultural Management AY2024-25
Department of Cultural and Religious Studies
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Course Instructor: Ashley Lee Wong (ashleyleewong@cuhk.edu.hk)

Course Description:

This course is intended for students who would like to hone their independent research skills and delve deeper into a topic related to Cultural Management. Students will have the opportunity to pursue an independent research paper or project on a topic of their choice. The course will be self-directed with the support and guidance of the course instructor and co-supervisors. Students will be asked to submit a proposal in Term 1 on their research proposals with a clear outline for how the time will be spent. Meetings will be arranged throughout the semester to report on progress and get feedback.

Students will have the option to write a 10,000-word research paper **OR** produce a project and short 5,000-word paper with project documentation. Students may develop an existing/ongoing project or develop a new project in the performing arts, visual arts, film/video and media arts. Projects may include creative works, videos/websites/installations, curated events/exhibitions, performances, collaborative projects, public artworks, interventions, artistic experiments, or other professional work. Students are required to seek their own support and resources for the projects. Collaborative group paper/projects are permissible with adequate justification and a clear outline of individual contributions.

Those choosing to undertake a project are suggested to define how the research will be conducted in relation to the project. For example, see the following on Research Creation (https://www.ualberta.ca/research/services/funding-awards/social-sciences-and-humanities-research-council-canada/research-creation-grant.html):

Research for Creation describes a practice of undertaking intensive research that is integral to a creative project or artwork. This can occur prior to and/or during production.

Research from Creation: This category recognizes that different forms of artistic production can generate data or information that can help communities, audiences, artists, and researchers understand behaviours and dynamics. This can be an iterative process throughout the project's development, or it can be undertaken as an analysis upon completion of a project or artwork.

The Creative Presentation of Research involves the presentation of results from traditional research methods through artistic or creative means.

Creation as Research recognizes the artistic work as research outputs and forms of knowledge production in and of themselves. Artworks can communicate, elaborate, distill, and expand ideas and knowledge just as an academic text or the results scientific or qualitative research study can. Creation as Research is most often interdisciplinary and usually interweaves textual research, writing, artistic experimentation and production, and analytic reflection in fluid and reciprocal ways.

For inquiries about potential papers/projects, contact the course instructor.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs):
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Develop an independent research paper or project related to Cultural Management;
2. Understand and employ different research methods and methodologies;
3. Analyse data and synthesize research findings and provide a critical evaluation and review of a research project;
4. Present findings and outcomes coherently in a written and visual format;
5. Report research process and findings in verbal and written forms; and
6. Understand the ethical issues relevant to research.

Assessment:

Assignments	Percentage	Description
Final Proposal	15%	Proposal submission.
Midterm Progress Report	35%	Midterm report, which may include draft literature review, research methods, research plan, project development, initial findings.
Final Paper / Project	50%	Final submission of research paper or short paper and project.

Course Schedule:
Interested students are required to submit a one-page statement of intent on or before **15 Nov 2024**. Students will be notified if they are accepted into the course within two weeks of submitting the proposal. Only upon the official approval of the proposal, can the student be enrolled into this course. The statement should include your motivation for conducting the research and a brief outline of the proposed research.

The statement may inform the development of the full proposal, which may include:
- Paper/project description (including problem statement, research objectives, research questions, methods and methodologies)
- Background of study
- Reference list for literature review
- Key concepts for theoretical framework
- Significance and limitations
- Research plan and timeline
- Visual references
- Potential journals for publication of research paper

Proposals will be judged upon the following criteria: Originality, Feasibility and Rigour.

Students will have 3 x one hour sessions with the course instructor and/or assigned co-supervisors. Students may be required to attend a Research Methodologies Workshop (TBC).

Statement of Intent Deadline: 15 Nov 2024 (Fri), 11:59pm.
Proposal Deadline: 24 Jan 2025 (Fri), 11:59pm
Midterm Deadline: 7 April 2025 (Fri), 11:59pm.
Final Deadline: 2 May 2025 (Fri), 11:59pm.

<u>Use of generative AI tools</u>
Use of AI tools is allowed with explicit acknowledgement and proper citation.

<u>Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:</u>
Please refer to the University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work at:
http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/.

With each assignment, you will be required to submit a signed declaration.
- In the case of group projects, all members of the group should sign the declaration.
- For text-based document assignments submit via VeriGuide:
  https://veriguide1.cse.cuhk.edu.hk/portal/plagiarism_detection/login.jsp and submit the receipt the statement, in the form of a copy of the receipt along with your assignment.

The submission of a piece of work, or a part of a piece of work, for more than one purpose (e.g. to satisfy the requirements in two different courses) without declaration to this effect shall be regarded as having committed undeclared multiple submissions. It is common and acceptable to reuse a turn of phrase or a sentence or two from one's own work; but wholesale reuse is problematic. In any case, agreement from the course teacher(s) concerned should be obtained prior to the submission of the piece of work.

The copyright of the teaching materials, including lecture notes, assignments and examination questions, etc., produced by staff members/ teachers of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) belongs to CUHK. Students may download the teaching materials produced by the staff members/ teachers from the Learning Management Systems, e.g. Blackboard, adopted by CUHK for their own educational use, but shall not distribute/ share/ copy the materials to a third-party without seeking prior permission from the staff members/ teachers concerned.

<u>Assessment Criteria:</u>
Grade A / A-: Well-structured paper/project with clear framework for discussion. Clear evidence of sophisticated analysis or innovative thinking with depth and complexity of argument and discussion. Evidence of original creative thought and articulation of own ideas.
Grade B+ / B: Mostly well-structured paper/project with a well-developed framework for discussion. Logical development of ideas with some complexity of argument expressed. Some evidence of creative thought and use of own ideas.
Grade B- / C+: Paper/project has a satisfactory structure with mostly accurate material. Logical presentation attempted and successful in a limited way. Limited evidence of creative thought and use of own ideas.
Grade D: Poor and unclear paper/project structure. Weak development of argument. Little support from the literature. General appearance of resources lacks clarity.
Grade F: No submission or incoherent framework with little relevant material selected and poor use of examples. No development of argument and absence of own ideas.