Re-envisioning Undergraduate Education
Inaugural Symposium of C9+1 Universities in China
The University of Hong Kong
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Experiential Learning in the Faculty of Social Sciences, HKU

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Dean of Social Sciences
Introduction to FoSS

- FoSS core pedagogical commitments
  - Disciplinary expertise
  - Research competence
  - Experiential learning
- Experiential learning in flagship BSocSc programme (180 students per year)
  - Social innovation
  - Global citizenship
Social innovation and global citizenship

- Social innovation (12 credits)
  - HK or overseas internship
- Global citizenship (12 credits)
  - Overseas internship
  - Overseas exchange studies
  - Overseas summer school
Internships

• Internship programme
  – 80-90 community partners
  – Full-time and part-time modes
  – 300+ students per year
  – Typically 300+ working hours per student

• Faculty also offers its own internship
  – MOEI intensive English summer camp
  – Cambodia, China (Anhui, Yunnan), Thailand
Pluses and minuses

- **Pluses**
  - Learning outcomes (notably character, skills)
  - Practical complement to on-campus learning

- **Minuses**
  - Assessment
  - Excessive diversity of experience
  - Some student resistance
Thank you!

Thank you for your attention!
Department of Civil Engineering, The University of Hong Kong
Experiential Learning Programmes for Civil Engineering Students

**Internship in Industry** (Mandatory)

- **Duration**: 2 months in Summer
- **Work nature**: Infrastructure engineering design
  Supervision of construction on site
  Management of civil engineering projects
- **Locations**: Hong Kong, Beijing, Three Gorges, Jinsha River, Shanghai, Singapore

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Mingde Projects

• To go into the society and to find out the needs of people

• To practice the engineering principles in a real world environment

• Duties include visits to understand the culture and the environment, to come up with a suitable design to satisfy their needs and to supervise the construction

• Voluntary participation
Mingde Projects

Special Features

- Developed very strong and close alumni support
  - Provide financial support for the construction and travelling costs
  - Personal participation as consultants advising students on design and development of projects

- Multi-disciplinary collaboration
  - Projects involve contributions from civil and structural engineers, architects and surveyors as well as building services engineers.

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Mingde Projects

Three Projects

- **Mingde Building**
  - A primary school building for Xiali Village in Guangxi
  - 8 visits involving approximately 50 students

- **Gewu Building**
  - A dormitory for a vocational training school in Guangxi
  - 10 visits involving approximately 60 students

- **Zhengdong Kindergarten ruined during earthquake**
  - A three storey building under construction in Sichuan
  - To date, 16 visits involving 150 students

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Mingde Building

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Gewu Building

Department of Civil Engineering, The University of Hong Kong
Zhengdong Kindergarten

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Zhengdong Kindergarten

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明白天生具有的偉大德性, 幷將之發揚光大, 是為「明明德」。窮究事物的原理, 擺除蒙蔽心眼的物欲以顯良知, 是為「格物致知」。

馮靖翔同學 2007年9月

Thank you!