

Ignite Your Future: **Engage in Transformative Overseas Internship**



From HKSYU to the World: **Students Share Their Exciting Internship Stories Abroad**



The University has collaborated with a number of reputable organisations and companies across the globe to provide our students with exciting overseas internship opportunities in the summer of 2023 as the pandemic subsides. Notably, eight students from the Department of Social Work participated in credit-bearing internships at various NGOs in Singapore and Canada, while seven students from other departments engaged in internships in Mainland China, Taiwan, the UK, Germany, Spain, and Ireland respectively.

Here, our students who have successfully completed internships abroad this summer share their thrilling experience and personal growth.





Dr. Steve Fong, Head of the Social Work Department, visited the students interning at NGOs in Singapore.



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I am eager to bring the knowledge, skills, and ideas which I have learned during this (overseas) placement back to Hong Kong.

JAIME LIN, YEAR 4, BSW (HONS)

I am delighted to have successfully completed my summer social work placement organised by the Department of Social Work in 2023. During this placement, I had the opportunity to work as a student counsellor at the **Community Family Services of Ontario** in Toronto. It was an incredibly valuable experience that allowed me to acquire essential counselling skills and gain insights into the welfare system in Canada.

Interacting with different people allowed me to appreciate and embrace different cultures, fostering moments of mutual understanding and cultural exchange. As a counsellor, I witnessed the transformative power of narrative therapy for both clients and practitioners. This first-hand experience reinforced my belief in empowerment work and therapeutic interventions. Additionally, visiting various social service agencies in Ontario was an inspiration for me. Their innovative ideas and passion for work left a lasting impression.

Looking ahead, I am eager to bring the knowledge, skills, and ideas which I have learned during this placement back to Hong Kong. My future goal is to contribute to the enhancement of social services in the city. I am motivated to implement innovative approaches and make a meaningful difference in the lives of people in need.





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Rather than solely relying on the formal system support, such as directing them to apply for assistance, I discovered the transformative power of empowering individuals to utilise their own resources and networks to overcome challenges.

MELODY WU, YEAR 4, BSW (HONS)

I am privileged to have taken part in the nine-week overseas credit-bearing internship programme organised by the Department of Social Work this summer, with the **South Central Community Family Service Centre (SCCFSC)** in Singapore as my assigned placement. This exceptional opportunity not only expanded my practical knowledge in the field of social work but also enabled me to apply the theoretical concepts I had learned in classroom to real-life scenarios in casework and community work.

This immersive experience profoundly deepened my understanding of the pivotal role social workers play and broadened my horizons on engaging with individuals in need. I learned to approach each member holistically, taking into account their strengths and informal support networks. Rather than solely relying on the formal system support, such as directing them to apply for assistance, I discovered the transformative power of empowering



individuals to utilise their own resources and networks to overcome challenges.

This internship has equipped me with indispensable skills that will shape my future career trajectory. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to have gained practical experience in an international setting like Singapore, as it has truly enhanced my professional growth and ignited an unwavering passion for social work within me.



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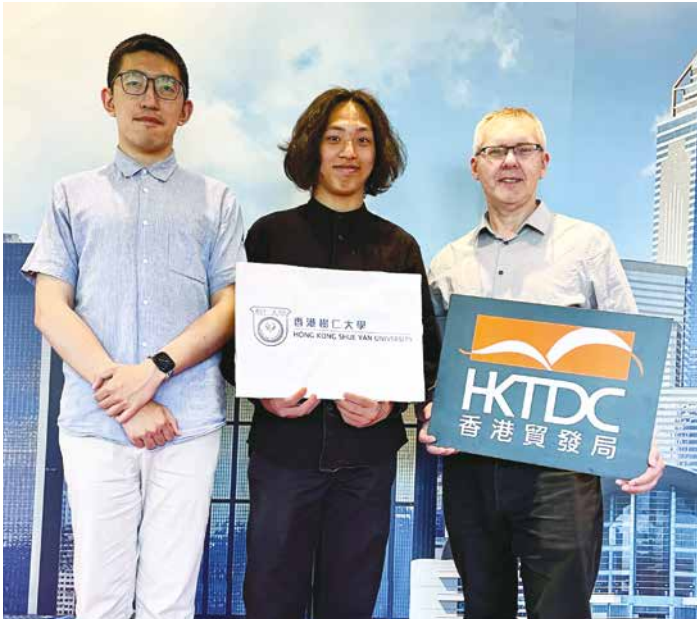
Immersing myself in a different cultural context exposed me to diverse perspectives and challenged my preconceptions. It taught me to approach situations with cultural sensitivity and adapt my practice to meet the unique needs of clients from different cultural backgrounds.

MARY CHAN, YEAR 4, BSW (HONS)

My overseas internship at the **Montfort Care Marine Parade Family Service Centre** in Singapore was an incredibly enriching experience that brought about significant learning and a range of emotions. I was exposed to new perspectives, challenged by unfamiliar situations, and inspired by the resilience of individuals and families I encountered.

On a personal level, the internship prompted self-reflection and introspection. Engaging with clients from diverse backgrounds and witnessing their struggles and triumphs evoked a mix of emotions, including empathy, compassion, and at times, frustration. It was a humbling experience to witness the courage and strength of individuals as they navigated difficult circumstances, and it reinforced my commitment to supporting and advocating for those in need. Professionally, the internship provided a platform for hands-on learning and skill development. The cross-cultural aspect of the internship added an extra layer of learning. Immersing myself in a different cultural context exposed me to diverse perspectives and challenged my preconceptions. It taught me to approach situations with cultural sensitivity and adapt my practice to meet the unique needs of clients from different cultural backgrounds.

Overall, the internship was a transformative learning experience that expanded my knowledge, skills, and empathy as a social work student. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been part of such a meaningful and impactful journey.



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One of my proudest achievements was creating a marketing tool tailored for trade fair visitors. Utilising my knowledge and understanding of Hong Kong, I designed a quiz game which is immensely beneficial for HKTDC Frankfurt.

CHEUNG CHEUK NAM, 2023 GRADUATE, BBA (HONS) IN HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Greetings everyone! I'm Nam, a recent graduate of BBA HRM in 2023. This summer, I embarked on an inspiring six-week internship as the marketing assistant at **HKTDC Frankfurt** in Germany.

Pursuing this overseas internship was a decision driven by my desire to combine work and travel in Europe. I was keen on gaining a deeper understanding of European culture and acquiring valuable experiences that would shape my future career or studies.

During my internship, I was responsible for a diverse range of tasks, including conducting marketing research, designing social media posts, and preparing marketing materials. I took full advantage of the knowledge I had gained from my studies, applying it effectively at my job. One of my proudest achievements was creating a marketing tool tailored for trade fair visitors. Utilising my knowledge and understanding of Hong Kong, I designed a quiz game which is immensely beneficial for HKTDC Frankfurt.



Throughout this journey, I have faced various challenges that have helped me grow enormously. Not only have I gained a deeper understanding of myself, but I have also explored the world and discovered what I want for my future. Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to HKSYU IAO and HKTDC Frankfurt for giving me this valuable opportunity. Their unwavering support played a vital role in enabling me to embark on this enriching journey.

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Working alongside colleagues from diverse backgrounds and cultures provided me with valuable insights into global PR strategies and broadened my perspective on effective communication across different markets.

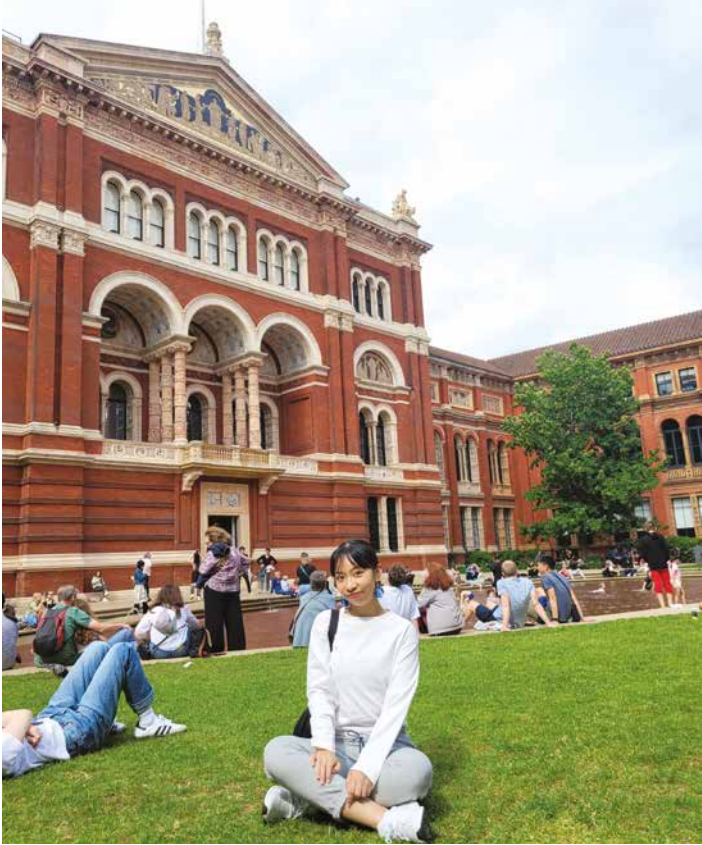
CHARLOTTE TSE, YEAR 4, BA (HONS) IN JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION



This summer, I was privileged to engage in a credit-bearing internship at **Image Line Communications**, a B2B PR firm in London, and I was given the chance to work on various client accounts, assisting with media monitoring, content creation, and research tasks. While I could utilise the writing skills and PR techniques that I had learned in school, I felt a sense of success during the internship. My colleagues were not only kind and supportive but also generous in sharing their valuable insights and experiences, which greatly enriched my learning and professional growth.

The exposure to real-world PR challenges allowed me to develop my problem-solving skills and think critically about the best approaches to achieve client objectives. Working alongside colleagues from diverse backgrounds and cultures provided me with valuable insights into global PR strategies and broadened my perspective on effective communication across different markets.

Overall, my internship reinforced my passion for strategic communication, honed my skills in client relations and media engagement, and solidified my understanding of the role PR plays in driving business success. I am grateful for the invaluable knowledge gained and the lasting connections formed during this memorable journey.





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It (the overseas internship) has made me more resilient and adaptable when confronting future challenges.

AGNES TONG, YEAR 4, BA (HONS) IN ENGLISH

I participated in the University's overseas credit-bearing internship programme in the 2023 summer, working as a counsellor at the **Taichung YMCA International Summer Camp**. I am grateful for this opportunity to get a closer look into the organisational culture of Taiwan NGOs.

Being a teacher in this summer camp was a big challenge for me. I was responsible for instructing elementary primary students and taking on various roles, including class teacher, music course and movie club teacher, as well as assistant for other courses. The workload was demanding. However, this experience helped me gain a better understanding of the teaching profession, and I also learned how to collaborate with people of different nationalities and cultural backgrounds. It made me realise the importance of communication and teamwork.

The overseas internship has helped me immensely in my future career planning and enhanced my problem-solving abilities. It has also made me more resilient and adaptable when confronting future challenges.





Embark on a Journey of Learning and Adventure: Experiential Learning Tour to New Zealand

From 11 to 18 August 2023, fifteen Year 1 and Year 2 students, accompanied by two faculty members from the Department of Social Work, participated in an Experiential Learning Tour to New Zealand organised by the Industrial Attachment Office and immersed themselves in its vibrant social service scene.

During the tour, the group visited four significant social service agencies and a government health unit, gaining valuable insights and experiences along the way. These included the Auckland City Mission, a reputable organisation with a hundred-year history of serving the homeless and underprivileged in the Auckland City Region; the Te Whare Ruruhou o Meri Trust, which provides culturally relevant whakatau models of practice for the indigenous Māori population; the CNSST Foundation, the largest agency serving Asian communities in New Zealand; and the Asian Health Services of Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, a government unit that promotes health among Asian communities, offering multi-language translation services. The tour was wrapped up with a visit to South Seas Healthcare, which caters for the health of Pacific Islanders in the southern regions.



The participants also engaged in three workshops, focusing on social services development in New Zealand, the roles of social workers in the field, and the culturally sensitive service model for diverse ethnic groups.

This exceptional experience broadened the participants' understanding of Western culturally appropriate social service systems, while also allowing them to share their own experiences from Hong Kong with social services practitioners in New Zealand.



Welcoming Freshmen on Orientation Day

We are delighted to have met and greeted HKSYU freshmen on the Orientation Day from 29 to 31 September 2023, and introduced them our internship programmes. The Orientation Day marks the start of an exciting journey filled with new experiences, friendships, and countless opportunities. We wish all freshmen a fantastic start to their HKSYU experience!

Joint Information and Student Sharing Sessions of IAO and IU

In collaboration with the International Unit, three Information and Student Sharing Sessions were successfully held from 5 to 7 September 2023, with the aim of assisting our students in planning their overseas internships and exchanges. We were delighted to have three students returning from their summer overseas internships to share their exciting experiences with fellow students.



Start Your Internship Journey with IAO



Engaging in an overseas internship can be an incredibly valuable and enriching experience. The Industrial Attachment Office (IAO) offers students:

1. Credit-bearing and non-credit-bearing internship programmes in various industries in Mainland China, Asia, Europe, Oceania, and North America in the summer semester (June–August)
2. Assistance during internship application process
3. Advice on application of subsidies and scholarships to support overseas internship
4. Internship pre-departure workshops

This is an excellent chance for you to gain valuable international work experience, develop a global mindset, expand your professional network, and enhance your employability.

Don't miss out on this opportunity and start your internship journey with IAO!

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APPLY FOR
OVERSEAS INTERNSHIP



INSTAGRAM



FACEBOOK



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