

**NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY**

Fieldwork and Visual Arts at the Studio@CresPion Halls of Residence at Nanyang Technological University

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Attributes of NTU Graduates

Communication

Leadership, Teamwork,
Mutual Respect &
Communication Skills

Character

Ethical Reasoning,
Integrity & Moral Character

Civic-mindedness

Professionalism, Public
Service, Social Engagement
& Global Citizenship

Competence

Self-discipline, Disciplinary
Depth & Lifelong Learning

Creativity

Entrepreneurship,
Innovation &
Interdisciplinary
Synthesis



*Foo Ying Han,
Nanyang Business School Alumna*

Two issues

- Graduate attributes cannot be fully developed within formal degrees or within halls
- Disconnections in learning experiences between living in the hall and studying in formal degrees



Residential Education

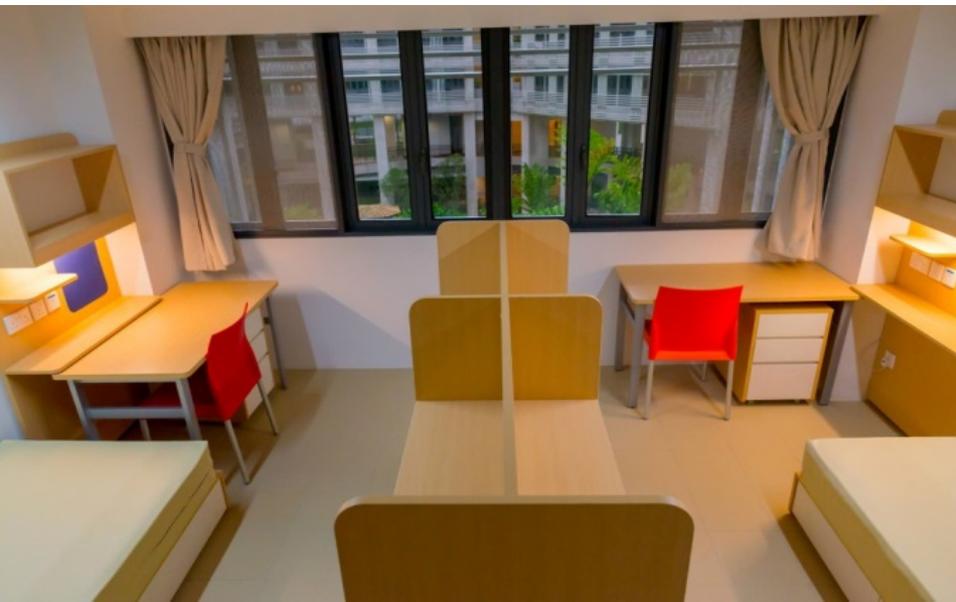
- NTU residential learning philosophy
 - Intellectual growth
 - Community engagement
 - Personal development
- Connecting...
 - Head (competence)
 - Heart (civic-consciousness, character)
 - Hands (creativity, communication)



Crescent & Pioneer Halls of Residence



Crescent & Pioneer Halls of Residence



Learning @CresPion

Creativity in
the disciplines of :

& Service
Learning

Physical
sciences &
engineering



Visual,
tactile &
literary arts



Biological
& chemical
sciences



“Giving back”
to the
community



The Studio @CresPion

Overview



A learning and experimental space for visual and literary arts

- Creative Expression
- Communication skills
- Interdisciplinary dialogue in Humanities and Communications
- Reflective thinking

Gain **hands-on knowledge and skills** in creative communication and expression, as well as documentation and humanities and/or social science research



The University Scholars Programme (NTUSP)



Nurturing **CREATIVE AND REFLECTIVE GLOBAL CITIZENS** devoted to understanding our ever-changing world.

Connecting **NTUSP** and The Studio: Fieldwork and Documentation

- Three features of the course:
 - Small-group, residential-based team-based collaborative learning

Research: Fieldwork and the ethics involved



Connecting **NTUSP** and The Studio: Fieldwork and Documentation

- Three features of the course:
 - Small-group, residential-based team-based collaborative learning
 - Connections between concrete experiences and abstract conceptualisations (see [blog](#))

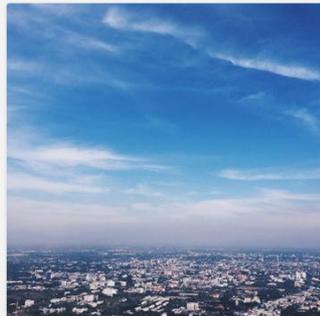
FIELDWORK AND DOCUMENTATION

University Schotafs Programme

BLOG POSTINGS

REFLECTIVE DIARY

REFERENCES



Post-trip Retrospection

Connect Exchanging stories with my fellow batch mates, I learnt of the colourfulness of Chiang Mai and in a more humanistic way, the complexities of the human perspective. Although all of us were in the same city, our experiences were vastly different given not just our separate itineraries, but the different...
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Post trip reflections

(*For my post trip reflections, I have decided to use a more Q&A style where I can directly answer the questions I posted in my pre-trip reflections.)
 Questions posed in Pre-trip Reflection: Q1) Can the creative Chiang Mai project really preserve the essence of the Thai culture while advocating so much changes? Can the past really...

[CONTINUE READING](#)

le0004yu • January 26, 2016

on everything I've gathered after the trip

On the elephants and the evolution of my feelings for the project This trip has taught me so much about elephant tourism that I would never have known had I not been on this trip. In fact, with all this information at hand, I feel quite invested in the project and would really like the...

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Wong Su Ting • January 26, 2016

Post-Trip Reflection

Many university students yearn for an intercultural exchange – for the opportunity to immerse in a different culture, broaden one's global outlook and travel. Just one semester into my university education, I am blessed to be given this opportunity to experience a week long intercultural exchange to Chiang Mai. "Enriching" duly described my experience in...

Post Trip Reflections

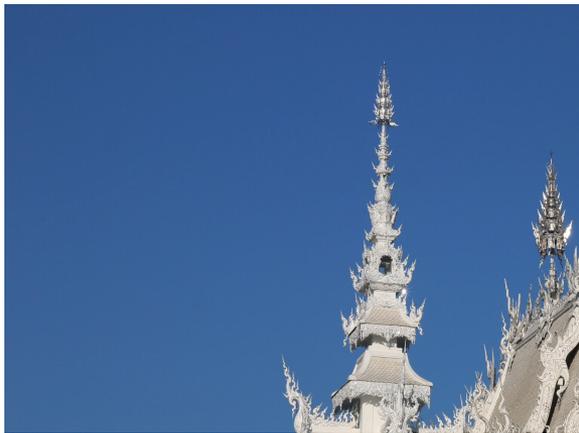
In Singapore, the aptly named rat race starts the moment you are born. The best milk formula, the best hospital, the best pre-school. The list goes on and on. So where does this all end? And what are we striving towards? Sabai-sabai. Being happy. This forms the basis of the Thai lifestyle. It is so...

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Connecting **NTUSP** and The Studio: Fieldwork and Documentation

- Three features of the course:
 - Small-group, residential-based team-based collaborative learning
 - Connections between concrete experiences and abstract conceptualisations (see [blog](#))
 - Communication and materiality with visual arts

Telling a story / Articulating ideas with visuals



OUTCOMES

Nurturing global literacy

- Meeting the vision of the programme

“Our actions can have either good or bad impacts, and it is with awareness that we have control over what we bring to this global community. I realise that learning will be a continuous process, and just as I feel as guests in a foreign land we ought to be humble, open-minded and respectful, we ought to have that eagerness to learn and understand other cultures and communities.”

(Choo Jue Ying, 2016)

Cultural awareness and context

- Developing cultural sensitivity and cross-cultural literacy
- Culture is not reduced to a simple set of factors, but understanding who is shaping what and why – the local and global influences that are shaping each response

“...female empowerment carries different meanings for different individuals. We saw it as a state where women can do what men already can, in areas ranging from academia to politics. There were many parallels between our definition of female empowerment and those of the Thai youth which we surveyed and interviewed. As previously mentioned, this was attributed to the fact that our respondents were urbanised, privileged and relatively well-educated. After all, they were sought mostly from universities and high-end shopping malls. Had we gone to a rural village to collect responses, the results could very well differ....and I wondered how much of Ms H’s views were coloured by her circumstances, upbringing and values...”

(Pang Jin Hu)

Dealing with contingencies

- Mastering competence with communication, creativity, and character

“Even the best-laid plans can backfire. What we faced were merely some objections and concerns from one or two individuals. However, it did not mean that we were destined to fail. It only made the journey more challenging, and at the same time, more interesting. We decided to go with our original plan regardless and believed that as we got to interact with more Thai people, we would understand our research better. Even if our assumptions were wrong, it would not stop us from learning things. At the end of the day, our ultimate goal for this research is to become more informed and knowledgeable about our chosen topic. A researcher should aim for depth instead of certainty.”

(Fay Fuyang Shen)

Empowerment and Personal Growth

- Empowering students whilst nurturing confidence and communication skills

“I think one of my most important takeaways from the course was learning to become a more confident person as well as a better communicator. In my group, I helped to film most of the videos, and I often had to take the first step to approach complete strangers for interviews and surveys. Having to approach people in a completely foreign land was really unnerving, and I was very worried about being rejected or brushed off. However, as we carried out more interviews, my confidence gradually grew”

(Teo Rui Ling)

ISSUES ARISING

Student Performativity

- Associated with greater learning outcomes (Macfarlane, 2014)
- But there are also negative implications



Building bridges between stakeholders

- Course coordinator to also be a faculty in residence
- Stakeholders in the School, College, and Residential Education need to be aligned in terms of support and learning outcomes
- Physical facilities in residential halls are not always managed or built to support teaching and learning
- Pressures on student leaders in residential halls due to competition for space and time

Thank You