Case Teaching and Learning for Social Science and Public Policy Education

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Engaging students with experiential learning in social science and public policy

The case method is a student-centered pedagogy that emphasizes in-depth and active learning, helping students make meaningful connections between textbook knowledge and real-life scenarios. Students learn how to analyze and explain social phenomena and recommend solutions to resolve decision dilemmas in public policy.

Milestones

Case Development Program

In 2017–18, a team of professional case developers took on the challenge to create the first batch of teaching cases under the guidance of faculty advisors. These cases covered a variety of social science or public policy issues of Hong Kong. Selected cases were used in five undergraduate and postgraduate classes as well as a case competition.

Class Activities

The following activities were used to facilitate the study of the cases:
- Case presentations
- Poster presentations
- Group discussions
- Debates

HKUST Inter–University Public Policy Case Competition 2019

Thirty-eight student teams from 7 higher education institutions competed for the championship. They analyzed policy cases, devised solutions for resolving policy dilemmas, and presented recommendations to a panel of policy experts.

Survey Feedback

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<tr>
<th>Project Outcomes</th>
<th>Overall Satisfaction with Learning through Case Study Method / Case Competition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Case teaching in five undergraduate and postgraduate classes</td>
<td>4.35 out of 5 (n=105)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HKUST Inter–University Public Policy Case Competition 2019</td>
<td>4.1 out of 5 (n=67)</td>
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</tbody>
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Project members: Prof. Xue WU, Prof. Gerald R. PATCHELL, Prof. Nafisah SHARIF
Acknowledgement: This project is funded by the Teaching Development Grant (O99H) and supported by the Center for Education Innovation of HKUST.