

MONITORING THE STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE THROUGH ONLINE COURSE OFFERING

Dr. Amy Wai Sum Lee
Hong Kong Baptist University, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong
Email: amylee@hkbu.edu.hk

Abstract

As a local born academic working at a government funded university, I am well aware of the various expectations and (sometimes) imaginations about university education among parents, students and the general community. A lot of parents are happy to let their children enter local government funded universities, not only because of the good quality education offered, but also because of the relatively affordable fees compared to that of a lot of overseas cities. However, an “overseas experience” within the university education has always carried an added value for many: opening one’s horizons, seeing the world, meeting international friends, exploring new opportunities and so on are the most general benefits one can name about this experience. Thus, the university-sponsored exchange programme (originated from government sponsorship in 2000) among local universities is widely popular and many students are willing to delay graduation for one year in order to accommodate this experience, which in a way is an interruption of his or her studies. While there are “obvious” benefits to these students who participate in the exchange, what exactly are these benefits? Who is there to monitor the students’ learning and what is done to note and measure their learning? The presentation is a brief report on how the Hong Kong universities present this exchange programme and what they have done to monitor and measure the learning outcomes. At the end of the presentation, I will propose a course which perhaps can help us to have more data about our students’ learning and to help them maximize their experience overseas.

Keywords: Overseas Experience, Exchange Programme, Hong Kong Universities, Learning Outcomes.
