Cultural and Language Immersion Scheme 2017
Summer Programme in Middlesex University, London UK

1. Objectives

The main objectives of the Scheme are to enhance students’ global perspectives and to improve their English proficiency. This 1-month summer programme is conducted in collaboration with the Middlesex University, London UK. It consists of 15 hours of intensive English classes per week (a combination of general English with IELTS preparation), cultural and social activities, as well as community projects. Each student will be assigned a local family as home stay. It is anticipated that through immersion in an English environment where students engage themselves in different cultural and social activities and service projects, they will be able to improve their English language abilities and also broaden their international perspective.

2. Eligibility

All BSc Computer Science students and BSc Creative Media students are eligible for the programme. A selection process will be in place. Shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview.

3. Duration of the Programme

The programme will be held from 28 June 2017 (Wednesday) – 31 July 2017 (Monday).

4. Programme arrangements

♦ Home stay with a local family near campus.
♦ 3-hour English language classes will be provided by Middlesex University each day. Students will be arranged to take an IELTS test (inclusive in the programme fee) upon completion of the programme.
♦ Substantial homework assigned on a daily basis.
♦ Students will be given a student card to gain access to Library, computer facilities etc at the Middlesex University.
♦ Visits to some landmark buildings and Houses of Parliament, as well as other cities and heritages such as Oxford, Winsor Castle and Brighton are included.
♦ Weekly sports activities such as hiking, horse riding and cricket will be arranged.
♦ Community services opportunities such as visiting some local elderly centres and a local primary school are available.
♦ Other social activities such as visits to museums and galleries, a boat cruise along the River Thames, and watching a musical at a local theatre are also included.
5. **Cost of the Programme**

*Programme fee*

The University will sponsor 60% of the total costs and students are required to pay 40% of the total costs, which is estimated at around HK$ 19,000. The programme fee covers airfare, accommodation, course fee, IELTS examination fee, and some of the programme activity expenses. General daily expenses and local transportation are not included and are to be borne by students separately.

*Caution money*

Each participant is required to pay a caution money of HK$5,000, which will be refunded on the condition that the student has fulfilled the undertakings in the preparation, planning, organizing and reporting process of the summer programme. It is mandatory for students to attend all the above-mentioned activities. Penalties including deduction of caution money may be imposed for unexcused absences from any pre-arranged activities.

6. **Other Available Funding Resources**

- **Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange (SSE)**
  Established by the Education Bureau in 2015, the Scheme for Subsidy on Exchange (SSE) provides funding to students covered by the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) or means-tested grants/loans from the HKSAR Government. For details, please refer to [http://www.cityu.edu.hk/gso/oge_sse.htm](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/gso/oge_sse.htm).

- **Reaching Out Award (ROA)**
  Students selected for this overseas learning programme will be considered for the Reaching Out Award (ROA), under the HKSAR Government Scholarship Fund - Non-Academic Awards 2016-2017. The Department is allocated a small number of quota for ROA in 2016-2017. The value of the Award is HK$10,000. For eligibility, criteria and other details, please refer to Appendix I. The results are expected to be known in late June 2017. Awardees will be notified of the result individually via email.

  For BSc Creative Media students, please watch out for the announcement made by the School of Creative Media (SCM) with regard to the Reaching Out Award (ROA). SCM may have different procedures in place for nomination of the ROA, and you are requested to follow the procedures as stipulated by your home department.

7. **Visa Application**

Participating students are responsible for obtaining the necessary visas and ensuring that their passports are valid for six months beyond their intended stay in the UK.
8. **Travel Arrangements**

Participants can opt for either buying the air tickets through the Department or by themselves. Students who purchase the air tickets through the Department are required to depart from and return to Hong Kong with the main group. No changes to the flights are allowed. Students who will buy the air tickets by themselves are requested to arrive at the Middlesex University before a designated time.

9. **Insurance**

Throughout the programme period, all students are covered by the Group Personal Accident Insurance Policy of the University. Students who will depart from Hong Kong and return to Hong Kong will also be covered by the Group Travel Insurance Policy. For details of the coverage, please visit the website of CityU Finance Office at [http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/fo/](http://www6.cityu.edu.hk/fo/). If additional insurance coverage is needed, students may make the arrangements themselves.

10. **Feedback from past participants**

Each year, CALIS participants set up a website with photos and sharing of their overseas learning experience. You can find the information in the Departmental website: [http://www.cs.cityu.edu.hk/life/calis.html](http://www.cs.cityu.edu.hk/life/calis.html).
Value of the Award: HK$10,000
Target group: students currently studying full-time UGC-funded degree or above level and sub-degree programmes.

Reaching Out Award (ROA)

a. Aims
   - Equip students with an international vision, broadening their exposure to multicultural environment and enhancing their communication skills in English, Putonghua or other languages.
   - Enable students to participate in learning, internship or service programmes which are mainly course or placement related as well as national, regional and international events and competitions that are conducted outside Hong Kong.

b. Criteria
   - Achieve good academic attainment, normally CGPA 3.0 or above.
   - The ROA can only be provided to the same student once over the entire study programme.
   - Each awardee is required to submit a 2000-word reflection report on the activities participated and the learning experiences and benefits acquired within one month upon completion of the programme.
   - The Department will consider the financial needs of students (with support of documentary evidence) in the nomination process.

c. Nomination
   - Students selected for this overseas learning programme will be considered for the Reaching Out Award (ROA). The Department is allocated a small number of quota for ROA in 2016-2017. The Department will make the nomination in March 2017. The results are expected to be known in late June 2017. Awardees will be notified of the result individually via email.

Remarks:
For BSc Creative Media students, please watch out for the announcement made by the School of Creative Media (SCM) with regard to the Reaching Out Award (ROA). SCM may have different procedures in place for nomination of the ROA, and you are requested to follow the procedures as stipulated by your home department.