CORE GSGS3220 for Jefferson Global Seminars
Hong Kong Summer 2016 - Syllabus

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Course Description
CORE is a short course that wraps around your studies in Hong Kong with short seminars and assignments before and during your time at HKUST. The goal is to complement your studies with practice and reflection on transferrable cross-cultural concepts and skills. We use your experience and the activities, journals, photos you already plan to make as the basis of work. We focus on translation and adaptation and add a reflective dimension to your time abroad.

Learning Goals
• Observe, listen, communicate, and make sense of other people’s words and behaviors when we do not speak or share a common language.
• Understand how social roles, categories and contexts shape communication, our perceptions of others, and our identity.
• Combine observations, experiences, and cultural understanding to create a narrative that translates across cultures

Course Schedule, Assignments, and Grading
The course is structured in two parts, the first half is preparatory before you depart and involves in-class assignments. The remainder of the course combines class discussion with short readings and an independent group project.

_Spring_ (on Grounds, see core.iso.virginia.edu for schedule and to sign up)
_Seminars A + B incl hmwk (4hrs):_  (attend two of four, multiple dates)
  _Identity in Translation_
  _Intro to Cross-Cultural Miscommunication_
  _Making and Unmaking Stereotypes_
  _Writing to See, Seeing to Write_

_Seminar C (1hr): What is Culture and Why CORE? (TBA in April)_

_Summer_ (in Hong Kong, times TBD)
_Assignment (6hrs): 3 reflective micro-observation and interpretation exercises in the field_
_Discussion (4x1hr): Weekly meetings and group activity/project._

Most of the course involves group interaction and you work in teams to observe and narrate what you are doing in Hong Kong in light of concepts introduced in the spring seminars (70% of grade). A final group project requires you to convey your knowledge of home and abroad in a way that is meaningful to a remote audience, and relate particular experiences to a global frame (30% of grade). You receive feedback on your effort in the course in terms of letter grades, but only a Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory grade appears on your transcript.