

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2023	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	FNDN115		
Course Title	Omnibus Themes		
Prerequisites	None		
Course Instructor	Fong Chun Yuen	Year Available (Grade Level)	1
Subject Area	Foundation Courses	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Class Methods	Face to face

(NOTE 1) Class Methods are subject to change

(NOTE 2) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course"

Course Description	<p>This course is designed to help incoming degree-seeking students with their transition to university, by providing them with knowledge and tools to help them succeed in their studies as well as adapting to the new environment. The course is divided into 5 major subsections which starts by introducing liberal arts as an educational philosophy and explaining why interdisciplinarity is a major goal of liberal arts education. Apart from (1) introduction (week 1-2), other subsections include (2) Learning tools management (week 5 - 6), (3) Study skills (week 7 - 9), (4) College life (week 9 - 12) and (5) Future planning (week 12 - 15).</p> <p>The CLA+ test is an important part of this course and its score counts for 20% of your final grade*. The test is designed to evaluate your critical thinking, analytical reasoning, problem-solving, and written communication skills. Its implementation in the Omnibus Themes reflects the importance of these skills for academic success and beyond. By taking the test, you will receive an objective measure of these skills and identify areas for improvement in earning outcomes. The CLA+ test aligns with the diploma policy of iCLA and is an essential component of your academic journey.</p> <p>* Taking the CLA+ test is a requirement in order to earn credits for the Omnibus Themes. It is important to note that missing the test will result in an automatic FAIL for the course.</p>
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	<p>The class plan is designed to incorporate interactive and engaging activities that align with the four diploma policy goals: valuing knowledge, adapting to a changing world, believing in collaboration, and acting from a sense of personal and social responsibility. The plan includes opportunities for students to develop their critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills through discussions, debates, and group projects. Students will also have the chance to explore diverse perspectives and engage with different cultures to develop a broader understanding of the world around them. Self-reflection and self-awareness activities will also be integrated to encourage students to assess their own progress and learning. The class plan is structured to encourage active participation and foster a supportive learning environment.</p>
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	<p>This course covers an extensive range of topics delivered by several different faculty members who have extensive experience in the skills they are teaching.</p>
Learning Goals	<p>This course is designed to help you succeed at university by offering information and tools to help you with your studies. A few major changes have been made to the course and class structure, with the purpose of enhancing your effective communication skills and problem-solving abilities via a newly designed interactive learning environment. Details are as follow: 1) All classes will be conducted face-to-face. Students must attend every session, take part in all in-class group activities and take all the assessments. 2) Students will be randomly assigned into a group of 4-5 for the purpose of in-class activities, most evaluations though are on individual basis. 3) Most of the classes are activity-based and with a significant connection with your everyday life at iCLA. By the end of the Omnibus Course, the students would have learned a host of skills that 10-12 professors will impart.</p>

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2/DP3/DP4
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iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	group discussions and problem-solving exercises
Use of ICT in Class	google calendar, chatGPT
Use of ICT outside Class	google calendar, chatGPT
Expected study hours outside class	At least 5 hours per week, this may increase depending on what skill is being imparted in a particular week.
Feedback Methods	You will get feedback at the end of the CLA plus test and after you submit quizzes and assignments.

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
CLA Plus Test	20%	missing the test will result in an automatic FAIL for the course.
College plan	20%	
team evaluation	10%	

In-class activities and quizzes	50%	best 8 out of 12
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Required Textbook(s)	None
Other Reading Materials/URL	None.
Plagiarism Policy	Plagiarism is the dishonest presentation of the work of others as if it were one' s own. Duplicate submission is also treated as plagiarism. All plagiarized text on your assignment will not be graded and this will very likely lead to failing. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) or paraphrasing software to generate content without proper attribution can also be considered a form of plagiarism. If you are using them, you must carefully review the output and ensure that it is properly attributed. Simply running text through a paraphrasing tool and presenting it as your own work without proper attribution is considered plagiarism.
Other Additional Notes	None

(NOTE 3) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Part 1: Introduction and learning tool management Week 1: Welcome to iCLA (1)Icebreaking and course introduction: Why we need tertiary education (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 2	Week 1: Welcome to iCLA (2)Psychology as an LA subject, learning (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 3	Week 2: What is liberal arts? (1)Exploring college, What is LA? (Kanupriya Dua)

Class 4	Week 2: What is liberal arts? (2) What is LA? (Kanupriya Dua)
Class 5	Week 3: CLA + test (1) CLA introduction (Mike Blow)
Class 6	Week 3: CLA + test (2) CLA practice test (Mike Blow)
Class 7	Week 4: CLA + test (Assessment 1; 30%) (1) CLA + test (Mike Blow)
Class 8	Week 4: CLA + test (2) Extra curriculum activities at iCLA (Mike Blow)
Class 9	Week 5: Information literacy (1) Information literacy (Sanjay Jhingan)
Class 10	Week 5: Information literacy (2) Information literacy (Sanjay Jhingan)
Class 11	Week 6: Data science (1) Data science as a LA subject: AI, chatGPT (Abhishek Parida)

Class 12	Week 6: Data science (2) Basic command on Windows and Mac (Abhishek Parida)
Class 13	Part 2: Study skills Week 7: Planning, time management, and teamwork (1) Time management (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 14	Week 7: Planning, time management and teamwork (2) Teamwork (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 15	Week 8: Writing and presentation (1) Writing (David Knudsen)
Class 16	Week 8: Writing and presentation (2) Presentation (David Knudsen)
Class 17	Week 9: Academic conduct (1) Academic conduct (Haja Rajaonarison)
Class 18	Part 4: College life (2) Financial Literacy (Nan Zheng)
Class 19	Week 10: Cultural differences and diversity (1) Who controls culture? (Darren Ashmore)

Class 20	Week 10: Cultural differences and diversity (2) Counselling services at iCLA, Inclusion and diversity (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 21	Week 11: Peers, conflicts and bullying (1) Conflicts and Bullying (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 22	Week 11: Peers, conflicts and bullying (2) Healthy social relationship (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 23	Week 12: Healthy Lifestyle (1) Stress management (Chun Yuen Fong)
Class 24	Part 5: Future planning Week 12: Planning your academic pathway I (2) Economics (Nan Zheng)
Class 25	Week 13: Planning your academic pathway II (1) Political Science (Koji Haraguchi)
Class 26	Week 13: Planning your academic pathway II (2) Japan studies (Clarence Lee)
Class 27	Week 13: Planning your academic pathway III (1) Interdisciplinary arts (Vahid Rafieyan)

Class 28	Week 14: Planning your academic pathway III (2) Graduation Research Project (GRP) (Haja Rajaonarison)
Class 29	Week 15: Career planning (1) Career design (Genjima Fukutomi)
Class 30	Week 15: Career planning (2) Summary of college study (Chun Yuen Fong)