

PIA3810J: STUDY TOUR

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Study Tour

Subject Code

PIA - Public and International Affairs

Course Number

3810J

Academic Unit

Public and International Affairs (PIA)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

AIS3180J AIS Study Tour

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course is organised around a study tour to Japan that typically takes place in the Summer Term. The course involves 120 hours of study, which will include preparatory activities prior to departure, a structured programme of academic

work at the partner university, field trips to observe and experience relevant sites and activities in Japan, and a post-tour presentation session. Pre- and post-tour activities enable students to prepare for, and enhance their learning experience during and after, the study tour. These activities are linked to the programme's goals. Taken together, this study tour will provide students with a unique opportunity to explore and examine specific social, economic, political, and cultural issues in Japan of interest to them.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Explore and explain important aspects of the history, society, politics, economic development, and culture of Japan.		x	x	
2	Devise, conduct, and report on research involving one or more of the areas above.		x	x	x
3	Relate learning and results from one Asian or other overseas country to specified programme and subject specific goals; and/or to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of expressions and be able to communicate in a language of a country properly and fluently.		x	x	x
4	Reflect on the overall experience of immersion in a foreign culture.		x	x	x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Pre-Departure Individual Study	Students will spend time learning the fundamentals of the Japanese language (i.e., hiragana and katakana). Students will also conduct research for their proposed project, and produce a 300-word outline and bibliography.	1, 2	

2	Pre-Departure Briefing Session	Students will attend a briefing session that helps them better understand the academic requirements set by the partner university, and how to overcome some of the main challenges of living in Japan.	1, 2	
3	Study Tour Classes, Field Visits, and Lectures	Students will participate in language classes, field visits, and lectures offered by the partner university.	1, 2, 3	
4	Post-Tour Report and Presentation	Students will complete a 1,500-word report on their research project, and deliver a 15-minute presentation.	1, 2, 3	
5	Post-Tour Video and Photos	Students will submit a portfolio consisting of a 5-minute video and 10 photos that reflect upon their experience of immersion in Japanese culture.	1, 4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("-" for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Project Outline and Bibliography	1, 2	5	The project outline and bibliography will be assessed in groups. They are considered to be formative assessment tasks. Thus, the use of GenAI tools is permitted.	Yes
2	Study Tour Participation	1, 3, 4	50	Study tour participation is considered to be a formative assessment task. Thus, the use of GenAI tools is permitted.	Yes

3	Post-Tour Report and Presentation	1, 2	20	The post-tour report and presentation will be assessed in groups. They are considered to be summative assessment tasks. Thus, the use of GenAI tools is not permitted.	No
4	Post-Tour Video and Photos	1, 4	15	The post-tour video and photos will be assessed in groups. They are considered to be summative assessment tasks. Thus, the use of GenAI tools is not permitted.	No
5	Post-Tour Survey	4	10	The post-tour survey is considered to be a summative assessment task. Thus, the use of GenAI tools is not permitted.	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Additional Information for ATs

Continuous Assessment 100%

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. Project Outline and Bibliography

Criterion

Students will complete a 300-word outline for a project that they would like to implement in Japan. Students will also submit a bibliography that contains at least 5 peer-reviewed journal articles or university press books.

Pass (P)

Performance up to minimum standards.

Failure (F)

Performance not up to minimum standards.

Assessment Task

2. Study Tour Participation

Criterion

Students will participate in language classes, field visits, and lectures offered by the partner university.

Pass (P)

Attend the minimum number of language classes, field visits, and lectures required by the partner university; complete assignments, quizzes, and the final exam

Failure (F)

Fail to attend the minimum number of language classes, field visits, and lectures required by the partner university; fail to complete assignments, quizzes, and the final exam

Assessment Task

3. Post-Tour Report and Presentation

Criterion

Students will submit a 1,500-word report that summarises their research project, its findings, and conclusions. Students will also deliver a 15-minute presentation on their research project.

Pass (P)

Performance up to minimum standards.

Failure (F)

Performance not up to minimum standards.

Assessment Task

4. Post-Tour Video and Photos

Criterion

Students will produce a 5-minute video that documents and reflects upon their group's experiences in Japan. Students will also submit 10 photos with captions that feature them and their groupmates engaging in activities during the study tour.

Pass (P)

Performance up to minimum standards.

Failure (F)

Performance not up to minimum standards.

Assessment Task

5. Post-Tour Survey

Criterion

Students will complete a post-tour survey anonymously in order to evaluate how well the study tour has met the CILOs and their own expectations.

Pass (P)

Completion of the survey.

Failure (F)

Failure to complete the survey.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Study tour, culture, economy, politics, social development, immersion, international studies, field trips, international organisations, non-governmental organisations

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Will vary according to the study tour's location and focus.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Will vary according to the study tour's location and focus.