COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 科目簡介

COURSES FOR TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

HTI501 Inclusive Innovation: Design for a Better World (6 credits)
Innovative problem-solving skills are essential to developing novel products, formulating competitive strategies, driving changes, and making sustainable impact on communities to address pressing social problems.

This 6-credit design studio is designed to equip humanitarian technology and inclusive business leaders to manage creative problem-solving processes in complex, ill-defined, and ambiguous situations. Students will spend ample studio time individually and in teams to tackle challenges and opportunities related to humanitarian technology and inclusive business.

All students in the programme are required to complete this course in the first semester.

HTI502 Humanitarian Relief and Emergency Management (3 credits)
The course will introduce principles and practices in humanitarian response in major health crisis or disasters. The emphasis will be on understanding various crisis settings and how each of them affect different communities, managing material, health and psychosocial needs and response support post crisis, humanitarian law and ethics. The later part will introduce the management and coordination of humanitarian effort and emergency response through case studies, roleplay, exercises, and guest talks from practitioner.

The course will introduce tools necessary to make appropriate decisions in emergency situations. These tools will focus on short- and medium-term needs assessment, understanding context, planning, execution, and evaluation of project interventions. This process will help participants to gain an overview on a community's economic security, habitat, ecosystem, and diseases.

At the end of the course, the participants are expected to be able to describe essential public health, health care, management, legal and ethical issues and approaches in humanitarian action, in order to make relevant and ethical decisions.

HTI503 Rural Food-Energy-Water Systems (FEWS) (3 credits)
Understanding how three critical factors to the viability of the Human species, namely Food, Energy and Water affect each other, is going to be critical in solving challenges in the 21st century. The course will explore the link between the Food, Energy and Water systems (FEWs).

Poverty and the causes that lead to poverty in a community is invariably linked to the availability and the efficient functioning of FEWs. From the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) all set out to   try to mitigate the challenges created by vulnerabilities in FEWs. Climate change, rapid urbanization and industrial agriculture are major factors which have destabilized the dynamic system of food-water-energy nexus.

The limitation of these resources and the complexity of accounting for the production,

utilization and conservation will be the focus of this course. The course will explore the validity of data which are used at a global scale and encourage students to embrace the complexities in them. This will lay the foundation for the students to build enough knowledge to take a deep dive into the available data for any given community or ecosystem with an appreciation of the scale and context in each of them.

HTI504   Gerontechnology: Design for an Ageing Society (3 credits)
The proportion of the population aged 65 years or over is growing in most regions worldwide. This course foregrounds this global demographic trend and introduces students to the concepts of gerontechnology: technology designed specifically for the elderly. Students will broaden their knowledge and practical skills related to user research (in relation to elderly), appropriate technology, human-machine interface, challenges related to ageing and elderly healthcare, etc.

HTI505   Design Innovation for Humanitarian Action (6 credits)
In this capstone course, students will do a supervised individual project that focuses on 1. an action research project in collaboration with an NGO community partner; 2. a grant proposal for a social innovation project; 3. a detailed business plan for an inclusive business venture; or 4. a more developed humanitarian technology prototype that aims to address a specific challenge related to underserved populations. This course will prepare students for their future career in humanitarian technology/NGO management, social innovation, and/or academia.

At the end of the course, students will present their final design to the course coordinators and their peers and learn to critically discuss the designs and their possible implications/limitations, as well as the possibilities for scaling-up through social innovation and project funding applications.

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