

2023-2024



GLOBAL ISSUES THROUGH HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES



In partnership with Global Scholars Program, University of Michigan

PROJECTS COMPONENTS

I. Engage with peers in self-directed learning and online dialogue to explore global issues of consequences and continuity arising from and connected to WWII in Asia

II. Engage in collaborative action in a Fall and Winter team project that provides critical analysis and constructive recommendations to the programs and work of a charitable organization -- ALPHA Education

OVERVIEW

ALPHA Education contributes to the overall goals of the Global Scholars Program by offering experiential learning that enables students to develop a critical understanding of history and social change. They will also receive opportunities to connect their global justice interests with their current and future goals.

The goals of the Global Engagement Projects are: Empathy, Ethical Decision-Making, and Social Engagement.

ALPHA Education fosters critical inquiry of World War II history in Asia to promote justice, peace and reconciliation, and to facilitate making connections to and active engagement in contemporary social justice issues. In doing so, ALPHA Education promotes historical thinking about the past into current and future social praxis.



- Program is conducted via Canvas and Zoom.
- Registration for Canvas account will be provided.
- Access to a computer and internet is required.

ALPHA Education Team

Gen-Ling Chang, Deputy Executive Director
Charmaine Ching, Museum Development Associate
Flora Chong, Executive Director
Hana Suckstorff, Education & Research Associate
Sophie Zhou, Education & Research Associate

TO REGISTER: <https://forms.gle/DDA3zpf8E9h6YvZ9>

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ALPHA Education is a non-profit and registered charity in Canada. It promotes a critical-historical inquiry of World War II in Asia that contributes to peace and reconciliation. Through its programs, events, and initiatives, ALPHA Education aims to develop the values of humanity, equity, and diversity. By representing and reflecting the human side of the history in our education work, contemporary issues such as racism, discrimination and hate, gender bias and violence, ethics and empathy, identity, and belonging are explored.

What will GSP Students gain from this internship?

- Engage in critical exploration of humanity issues of World War II in Asia to better understand the nuanced complexities of war, justice, reconciliation, and peace
- Participate in collaborative action and positive social impact by making constructive contributions to a charitable organization, ALPHA Education
- Gain experience in working with a charitable organization that serves diverse populations and communities
- Develop local and global perspective-taking which are research and/or evidence informed, and skills in team project design, management, and implementation
- Appreciate the significance of positive reflection and feedback in self and peer learning, which values and respects diversity, inclusion, and voice



Overview of the Program

Self-Directed Learning and Online Discussions

1

World War II in Asia:
Consequences and
Continuity

2

Human Experimentation and
Biological and Chemical Warfare

4

Forced Labour

3

Japanese Military Sexual Slavery

5

Massacres

Readings, videos, and thinking questions on the above topics are provided. In addition to topic 1, students select one from topics 2, 3, 4, or 5 for self-directed learning; post an online reflective response to the thinking questions, and select to comment on two of their peers' responses. This component is asynchronous and conducted on Canvas. ALPHA Education staff is available for questions and requested support.



Fall and Winter Semester Projects

The team projects offer students experiences working with a charitable organization. The projects will enhance collaboration skills, evidence-informed research, global thinking, empathy, and ethical decision-making. Each of the projects is designed to be completed within a semester. Both projects will be informed by what students learned from self-directed learning and online discussions.

Fall Project

- Students will work as a full CG team
- Develop and implement a survey on youth activism
- Using survey data, produce a report to ALPHA Education on its work with youth

Winter Project

- Students will work in teams of 3 or 4
- Based on the findings of the Fall Project, produce a short video essay (5-8 minutes)