

Department of Anthropology,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Summer Internship 2015

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Institution: The Hong Kong Museum of History

I've gotten an opportunity provided by Department of Anthropology CUHK to work as an intern in the Hong Kong Museum of History this summer. I started my internship at May 26 and I have been working there for 5 weeks. During my internship, I was placed under the Urban and Oral History Unit, which is responsible for organizing exhibitions related to local history of Hong Kong. Under the supervision of assistant curators, I have assisted in organizing an upcoming exhibitions and other tasks.

On the first day of my internship, assistant curators introduced to me the upcoming exhibition on Ming dynasty that they were preparing, which is "The Radiant Ming 1368-1644 through the Min Chiu Society Collection". This exhibition is going to be held in December this year. It aims to show the history and culture of Ming dynasty through displaying around 300 sets of precious collections including porcelains, paintings and calligraphies, etc. I was given some reference books and was asked to classify the porcelains into various groups according to different dragon patterns on their surface. During the internship, I also assisted in collating the exhibit list and writing captions for the exhibits. I was also assigned to make a brief timeline of major events in Ming dynasty and a map showing the voyage route of Zheng He. Despite the difficulties I faced in my job, my supervisor would explain it to me patiently and give me some documents of the past exhibitions as references. She also allowed me to leave the office and searched for useful information in libraries when I was writing the captions.

Apart from assisting in organizing the upcoming exhibition, I also assisted in compiling the records and documents of some past exhibitions, including "Memories We Share: Hong Kong in 1960s and 1970" held in 2010, "The Aftermath of the First Sino-Japanese War: The Lease of the New Territories and Weihaiwei" held in 2014 and a special exhibition about Basic Law of Hong Kong held this year. I was asked to put them in order and compile a table of contents for each folder. Assistant curators also taught me how to search collections of the museum by using their online system when I was making tables for the exhibits.

All in all, this internship experience was very fruitful as I've learnt a lot about the job in museum. I

am so thankful that I was given this chance to work in the Museum of History.