

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	Daniela Vicherat Mattar
Title of clinic:	Mapping interdisciplinarity at LUC
Number of students:	12 (2 per major max.)
Major (<i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i>):	CHS, EES, GED, IJ, GPH, WP
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	Qualitative Research Methods is desirable

Research context

When browsing LUC's website one come across with various statements about interdisciplinarity. This one sums them all: "We consider interdisciplinary exchange a vital element of learning at our university college". But, how do we do interdisciplinarity at LUC?

In this research clinic you will embark in a project to map what interdisciplinarity means at LUC, how we do it, what works, what doesn't, what is difficult and what can be improved. We all, members of the LUC, have ideas about interdisciplinarity. There is also a vast literature about the topic. What is needed, in order to advance our interdisciplinary dialogues as a programme at a curricular level, is an assessment of where we stand regarding interdisciplinarity in our teaching. This clinic is aimed at producing that map.

Students' tasks and activities

The task of this clinic team is to research how do we do interdisciplinarity at LUC. This will be done combining various types of activities, and hence developing various types of skills:

1. Reading and synthesizing literature about liberal arts and science and interdisciplinary teaching. Students from each major will focus on the broad disciplines studied in their respective majors to produce a general overview of the state of the art about interdisciplinarity in those fields (skills: critical reading and synthesis).
2. Description of each component of the LUC programme with regard to interdisciplinarity. For this the students will examine each component in the programme to define what is being done and under which parameters re-interdisciplinarity (skills: curricular description and analysis).
3. Qualitative fieldwork: interviews with key stakeholders at LUC and 2/3 focus group discussions about interdisciplinarity (skills: interviewing and narrative analysis).

The outcome of all this work will be a report with an overview about how we do interdisciplinarity at LUC. That report will have a written component, and ideally an audio-visual one too. The finding of this clinic will be shared in a staff seminar with all LUC staff in Semester 2.