

## **Reflection on Guigang Working Trip (25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2017)**

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**Surveying, Year 2**

This trip taught me to get out of my comfort zone and interact with students from a diversity of curriculums and cultural background. I also get to communicate with students from South China University of Technology and foreign students, broadening my horizon on the education system and how the construction industry works outside Hong Kong, as well as overcoming my shyness in communicating in Mandarin and English to the native speakers. Through the process of working as a team, it became evidential that those from a difference educational backgrounds might have another way of attempting the tasks at hand, together we fill out the missing parts in the way we think and formed a more comprehensive approach in dealing with the scenario at hand. For instance, I learned how to phrase the questionnaire in a way that makes the interviewee more accurately speak their mind with the help of a social science student, as well as looking at buildings from a different angle after watching engineering students study the building structure. Project Mingde is undoubtedly a great chance for students to gain hands-on experience on construction and to look at construction from a broader perspective.

Practically speaking, this project provided a chance to experience how the environmental constraint in underdeveloped regions can restrict construction. We are asked to do survey on the material available in area for the convenience and cost of the construction by studying the architectural style of the buildings nearby and resources that the natural environment can provide, contrary to Hong Kong, where the price of construction material and availability is mostly documented.

Most of all, I am touched by the hospitality and the gratefulness of the local villagers upon hearing about the project, further emphasizing the meaning of this project.