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CCST9081 All You've Ever Wanted to Know About Humans

## **Common Core Global Engagement Scheme Report on Surabaya Anthropology Field Trip**

### Introduction

Visiting Surabaya from 10/3 to 16/3 has been one of the most enriching experiences of my life. From learning inside the University of Airlangga, to visiting the museums and temples in rural areas, the knowledge I gained have expanded my horizons. Different aspects of Anthropology are explored through multiple activities in one week.

### Museum Visiting-Cultural Anthropology



Museum Etnografi Kematian, University of Airlangga Campus B  
With Dava, my guide and an anthropology student, I explored the funeral culture of Indonesian in the Museum Etnografi Kematian. I learned about the baby grave of Kambira, Toraja Lemo stone graveyard and the Ma'Nene ritual. This experience offered me a completely new perspective on life and death, and how the spirit goes

back to after life. The museum has shown the cultural diversity of the tribes in Indonesia I also shared insights about Taoist funeral customs and the idea of feng shui in Hong Kong to Dava.

There are also real bones from the indigenous villages or the unsolved forensic cases inside the museum. It is enlightening to be there. I shared the Ma'Nene ritual in CCHU tutorial to my classmates, hope that more people will know about such special cultures.

### Museum Visiting-Paleoanthropology



Museum Trinil Ngawi, Trinil

On the last day, we went to Trinil, where the first Homo Erectus fossils found. Although it takes us 4 hours to arrive the westernmost part of eastern Java, the historical background in there and the well-preserved prehistoric animals' bones are remarkable.



Guided by Mr. Bayu, an anthropologist, I learned about the pre-human and migration of different vertebrates. We looked at the view of Solo River and discussed on the 'missing link' in the hominid history.

## Bones-Forensic Anthropology



**Laboratory**, Museum Etnografi Kematian, University of Airlangga Campus B  
I have worked with the bones for two days, mainly arranging the bones and collecting data to estimate sex, age, pathology and height before death, and wrote a report for each case. The first skeleton that I assessed was a 4-month-old baby boy, it was a meaningful learning opportunity about juvenile osteology.





**Laboratory**, Museum Etnografi Kematian, University of Airlangga Campus B  
 The second day in lab, I independently handled another case with same tasks. The second skeleton I assessed was a 50 to 60-year-old male. It helps me gain a deeper understanding in bone pathology by looking at the infections, bone spur, and injuries. Through measuring the bones to estimate sex, age and height, I also learned about anthropometry.

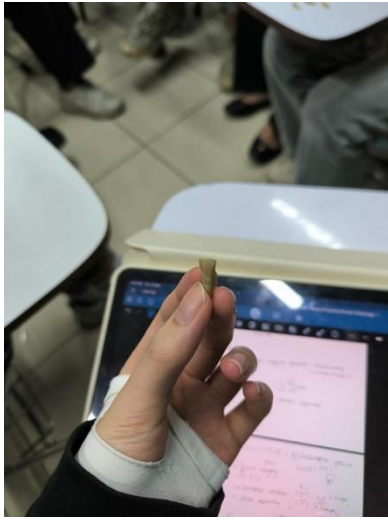
## Zoo-Primatology



Surabaya Zoo

We visited the Surabaya Zoo, which is famous for the native Indonesia species- Komodo Dragon and endangered primates. It is a good place to study primatology given that the zoo is home to several primates like the Javan Gibbon and the Orangutans.

## Lecture-Dental Pathology



The 8am lecture about dental pathology conducted by Mr. Bayu was thought-provoking. Learning and discussing with students majoring in anthropology, we explore the morphology of different teeth and how the appearance of teeth can relate to race.

It was a wonderful experience to engage in lecture outside the University of Hong Kong and the students there were so nice.

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## Site Visiting-Archaeology



Tanjungan



Kumitur Site





Candi Tikus, Mojokerto

Gapura Bajang Ratu

Trowulan Museum

In the last two days, we have been to rural areas to visit temples and historical sites. I learned the cultures behind the temples and the monuments, and the stories behind each statue. Entering the real archeological sites (Tanjungan and Kunitur) was a new experience to me, offering a deeper connection to the past. Although the heavy rainfall had washed away the soil layer that shown archeological insights, I really enjoyed exploring the rich history of Indonesia while walking among ancient Kingdoms.

## Conclusion

The journey in Surabaya was amazing, thanks to the guidance and support I received from the University of Hong Kong and the University of Airlangga. During the trip, it was the Ramadan which I could also study some Muslim cultures from my friends. It has deepened my understanding towards anthropology and altered my views on Indonesia in terms of the food, the lifestyle and the people there. I am looking forward to sharing my experience in Surabaya to others.