

CoP-ITL

Case Example from HKU

Subject area: Biomedical science

Course: CCST9006 Chasing Biomedical Miracles: Promises and Perils

Page: <https://commoncore.hku.hk/ccst9006/>

The teachers elucidated their efforts in reforming the above Common Core course from lecture-based teaching to student-oriented learning. From there, they incorporated experimental projects into the course to develop students' ability to raise questions and nurture the culture of research among students. The aims of the course were to help students to understand the relationships between science and the world by the introduction of milestones in life sciences so that students could realise what role science plays in the progress of human civilisation. The teachers internationalised their teaching and learning in two major ways. First, the teachers attempted to arrange students in groups with mixed disciplines and encouraged students from different disciplines to learn from each other. Second, they leveraged student diversity by fostering in-class discussions on global ethics and values through such debatable topics as antibiotics resistance, placebo effects, DNA testing, xenotransplantation (the process of transplanting animals' organs into human bodies), trafficking as well as organ trade. Students from different cultural backgrounds had the opportunity to reflect on why there was such a difference in perceiving the same ethical issue. This approach helped students come to understand that there was always more than one way to analyse a science problem and there was never a pure science problem in real life.



Dr. Nai Sum Wong
School of Biomedical Sciences
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, HKU
nswong@hku.hk



Dr. Kwok Ming Yao
School of Biomedical Sciences
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, HKU
kmyao@hku.hk

Cite this item:

CoP – ITL. (2020, Dec). *Case example of Dr. Nai Sum Wong and Dr. Kwok Ming Yao*. Retrieved from <https://www.cetl.hku.hk/cop-itl/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/DrWongandDrYao.pdf>.