

Teaching Team Co-leaders:  
**Prof Peiyuan Qian and Dr Ice Ko**

Team members:  
**Prof Madeline Wu, Prof Reinhard Renneberg,  
Prof Jianzhen Yu and Prof Dennis Hsieh**



This innovation is the development of a core interdisciplinary course, ESCE 500 Introductory Environmental Chemistry and Microbiology, which is part of the MSc. in Environmental Science & Engineering program.

This self-paced course was developed to ensure that students entering this program are not missing the required

background knowledge. The teaching team has made innovative use of online media to enrich the course content in meeting different levels of prior knowledge and also to increase student-student and faculty-student interaction.

The development of this course epitomises the notion of collaboration: collaboration between faculty from different departments, collaboration between faculty departments and CELT, and collaboration between faculty and students and students themselves during the course.



The teaching team has also developed a course using technology as a lever for best practices in learning and teaching in higher education. By using technology to break down time and place barriers, the team has provided busy, part-time students with a flexible option to cope with their competing demands of work, family

and study. The course team also used web-based technology to collect formative feedback (using HKUST's OSTEI) mid-semester and has made adjustments to the course in the light of this.