

Coordinator: Prof MC Chan

Course Description:

Infectious diseases are of major public health concern. This course focuses on the study of common human infectious diseases from a public health point of view. The course covers basic microbiology, common infectious diseases in community and health care settings, and provides the biological basis for the methods used for prevention and control of communicable diseases. This course has a strong emphasis on the practical aspects of infectious disease and is important to those who are working or pursue their career in the fields of epidemiological investigations, public health surveillance, and other public health responses that are related to microbial infections.

Prerequisite: None

Term 2 (Monday)

Contact person: Miss Tonia Kam

Date	Time	Lecture Topic	Lecturer	Venue
12 Jan 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	1. Basic microbiology	Prof MC Chan	TBC
19 Jan 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	2. Pathogen lifecycle and transmission modes	Prof M Zhu	TBC
26 Jan 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	3. The mechanisms of microbial pathogenesis & immune responses against microbial infectious	Prof MC Chan	TBC
02 Feb 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	4. Common microbes causing communicable or foodborne diseases, their transmission and control	Prof MC Chan	TBC
09 Feb 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	5. Common microbes in healthcare settings, their transmission and control	Prof Maria Zhu	TBC
02 Mar 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	6. Methods for microbial diagnosis and surveillance	Prof KP Hui	TBC
09 Mar 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	7. Antimicrobial Resistance	Prof TT Lam	TBC
23 Mar 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	8. Global infectious disease surveillance and investigation	Prof TT Lam	TBC
30 Mar 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	9. Immunization and treatment	Prof LLM Poon	TBC
13 Apr 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	10. Control of influenza virus as an example	Prof MC Chan	TBC
20 Apr 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	Tutorial	-	TBC
27 Apr 2026	6:30 – 9:00 pm	Examination	-	TBC

Course Assessment:

In-course assessment: 50%
 Final exam: 50%

Recommended readings:

1. Burlage RS. Principles of public health microbiology. Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning, 2012.
2. Engelkirk PG. Burton's microbiology for the health sciences. 9th edition. Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer Health/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2011.

Contact person: Miss Tonia Kam – email: kamtonia@connect.hku.hk.