Course Title/Code: Current Research and Development of Chinese Medicines (MMPH6187)

Department: School of Chinese Medicine

Objectives: The main objective of this course is to facilitate students to understand the theories and clinical applications of Chinese medicines, including resources, authentication, chemistry, quality control, pharmacology and toxicology of Chinese medicine, as well as the applications of modern technologies in the research of Chinese medicines.

Content: This course provides students with well-organized information on the basic traditional Chinese medicine theory and up-to-date progresses on the scientific research of Chinese medicines. The contents of this course are delivered through ten 2-hour lectures on the topics on herbal resources, chemistry, quality control, toxicology, pharmacology, drug discovery and clinical perspectives of Chinese medicines. This course highlights the uniqueness of traditional Chinese medicine and the application of modern pharmacological, molecular biology, genomic and proteomic technologies in the authentication of Chinese medicines, quality control, drug development and clinical evaluation.

Students will learn background information and state-of-the-art of pharmacological research on traditional Chinese medicine through ten lectures, and demonstrate their understanding through an approximate 10 minutes of presentation on a latest research paper in the area of Chinese medicines.

Learning outcomes: On the completion of the course, the students are expected to:

- Observe the basic theories of traditional Chinese medicine.
- Describe the important methods for the quality control of Chinese medicines.
- Understand the basic pharmacology and toxicology of Chinese medicine.
- Apply modern technologies to study Chinese medicines.
- Identify the strategies for the clinical evaluation of Chinese medicine formulations
- Discuss the development of new drugs based on Chinese medicines

Prerequisite: None

Duration: Semester 2; 24 contact hours

Coursework/Examination ratio: Course participation 30%; Presentation 70%

Remarks: Also offered to RPg from other Faculties at HKU