

In Dialogue with Nature (the course code is abbreviated as UGFN) adopts the classics reading approach to cultivate scientific literacy for the undergraduate students in the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). UGFN is one of the two compulsory courses in the General Education Foundation (GEF) Programme specially designed for the four-year curriculum in CUHK. Beginning from 2012, it became compulsory for all approximately 4000 students per year. Distributed over two regular semesters and summer semester each year, the students are put into approximately 180 classes of maximum 25 students concurrently run by over 15 full-time and part-time lecturers.

While UGFN has been successful in helping students to attain the objectives, it is of concern that, students often reported that they would need to know more background knowledge to facilitate their reflections. As a 3-unit course, each week, a 1-hour session of lecture and a 2-hour session of interactive tutorial are dedicated for each of the 11 classics within UGFN syllabus. However, teachers and students often reported that the 1-hour lecture is insufficient to provide necessary background knowledge for the students to handle the specific classic text on their own. It is common that most of the time in the 2-hour interactive tutorial is used not for the discussion of the core questions but for the comprehension of the textual meaning of the classic.

Beginning from 2015, an attempt had been made to develop a series of micro-modules to facilitate classroom flipping of the course. As of the end of 2016, there are now 140 videos/exercises produced and uploaded to the designated website for 5 of the 11 classics to facilitate classroom flipping. The remaining 6 could be the future work of this project. There are various types of videos that we have prepared. 38 videos were filmed while we conducted live lecture on the supplementary materials. 39 videos were filmed using the self-recording facility provided by Elite. 48 videos were edited from seminars conducted by guest speakers. 5 videos were produced by former students. These were contents deemed to be interesting from students' perspective. 7 videos of Student discussions on relevant topics they found interesting were also recorded. On top of the videos, a series of online interactive exercises was provided to serve as checkpoints for the students who have watched or read the materials.

The micro-modules were implemented in the Knowledge and Education Exchange Platform (KEEP). On the KEEP course homepage, the micro-modules are arranged according to the main character of each classic text and students can choose the text they are interested by clicking on the corresponding button. Then, students are directed to a content page. They can choose the topic by clicking on the corresponding link to watch the video or attempt the interactive exercises.

After the launch of the KEEP course website for the students to use in Semester 1 of 2016/17 academic year, there are now more than 240 users registered. The number is expected to increase further in the coming semesters when more promotion will be conducted by the course