



香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong

Integrating scientific reasoning and deliberation in pursuing urban sustainability in Hong Kong

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Principal Investigator: Dr. Wanxin LI

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Abstract:

This project is aimed to equip future generation of professionals with skills necessary for answering the grand call for forming collective actions towards sustainability. Wicked problems such as climate change, pollution, or social inequality always involve a diverse group of stakeholders who hold different values and share unevenly distributed costs and benefits. Societal consensus is thus critical for materializing the potential of technological advancement as well as for enabling individual/community actions towards sustainable development goals. CityU students are expected to become professionals who can work with diversity and engage with localized solution finding towards better sustainability in Hong Kong and beyond. Thus, this project will experiment with incorporating both scientific reasoning and deliberation in GE2261 (Urban Sustainability in Hong Kong). Adopting a problem-driven and learning by doing approach, the students will work on deliberative scenarios to practice both analytic and social processes of deliberation in reaching mutual understanding and consensus on how to address a specific sustainability challenge faced by Hong Kong society. By completion of the course, students are expected to acquire the following transferrable skills, (1) understand assumptions and value judgements integral to decision-making, (2) critically apply stakeholder analysis and cost-benefit analysis, and (3) practice deliberation in collective decision-making. The problem-driven and experiential learning in this course will enable students to work confidently on sustainability challenges that are inherently value-laden, by discovering and deliberating on value judgments that are previously hidden, cultivating professional accountability, and developing leadership skills.

Academic Publication:

Li, W., Lee, P. K. H., Chan, J. C. L., & Tan, H. (2019). Cultivating environmentally responsible citizens in a local university in Hong Kong—Evaluating the cognitive, attitudinal, and behavioral outcomes. *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education*, 29(4), 301–315. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10382046.2019.1678274>