

<b>Summer School on Emerging Viral Infections</b>			
<i>Pasteur Research Pole, University of Hong Kong, 13-19.07.25</i>			
<i>Virology and Public Health</i>			
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Thanks to the generous support from the Swiss Society for Microbiology, I had the opportunity to attend the *Croucher Foundation Summer School on Emerging Viral Infections* in Hong Kong.

The program brought together leading experts to explore novel infectious threats, One Health approaches, and therapeutic and preventative strategies. Lectures were given by renowned professionals who shared their ample experience in combating emerging diseases on the ground, giving insights into the realities of working in a rapidly evolving field.



Participating in the course allowed me to connect with these experts and peers and significantly enhanced my understanding of zoonosis - the research focus my PhD. Attending this course helped me place my research into a broader, global, context.

Apart from attending the truly inspiring lectures, the course was structured around interactive and challenging workshops where students were encouraged to develop their own research questions, sharpen their critical thinking skills, and collaborate with peers from diverse fields and backgrounds.

Additionally, I had the opportunity to present my own research on bat immune systems to peers and faculty. This sparked engaging discussions with many questions and valuable feedback, opening doors for collaboration. The connections I formed during the course even led me to visit Universities in Singapore and gathering insights into the academic research there, expanding my professional network in the field of emerging infectious diseases.

I am deeply grateful to SSM for enabling this enriching experience. I return with new knowledge, inspiration, and international connections that will greatly benefit my ongoing research.