

Generally fine:  
Lessons learnt from year 1 of delivering  
a Biomedical Sciences course in China

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BMS Learning and Teaching Forum

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# Who are we?

# Who are we?



# Who are the students?

## First cohort

- Started September 2016
- 22 students
- All from China, most from Zhejiang region

## 2nd cohort

- Starting September 2017
- Around 60 students
- Some international

## Long-term plan

- 150 students per year
- International recruitment



## Who are the students?



(Link)

# How is the course organised?

## Dual award

- BSc (Hons) Integrated Biomedical Sciences from University of Edinburgh
- BSc Integrated Biomedical Sciences from Zhejiang University

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## Yearly structure

- Year 1: Key concepts in the Biological and Biomedical Sciences
- Year 2: Foundational understanding of Biomedical Sciences and its importance to medicine and health
- Year 3: Developing biomedical knowledge through experiment
- Year 4: Research in practice

# Where is it happening?



January 2016





# Where is it happening?



September  
2016



# Year 1 - Challenges and insights

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Choose your own adventure

# Year 1 - Challenges and insights

## Choose your own adventure

- “I love study. Study makes me happy.”
- “So, when are you going out to China?”
- “What do you mean, you don’t want to teach the Citric Acid Cycle in the first year?”
- “Do nothing. - Do nothing. - Do nothing. - PANIC”
- “That’s the lab. It’s in the gym.”
- “a few students rattling around in a big box”
- “But what will less work lead to? Losers!”
- “I used to equate my future with the future of China”
- “tiny insects eating the bathroom from

# Year 1 - Challenges and insights

## Recurring themes

- Student workload and welfare
- Communication between faculty at both sites
- Working on a new campus (aka “building site”)
- Designing and planning curriculum
- Unclear decision-making processes
- “Higher-up” planning and decision-making

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## What works well

- Interactions with students
- Content and structure of BMS courses
- Use of English

# Year 1 - Summary

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Course name:	ICMBI
What is working well?	generally fine.
What could be improved?	



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