

**City University of Hong Kong**

**Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Law  
with effect from Semester A 2018/19**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** International Trade Law

**Course Code:** LW6144E

**Course Duration:** One semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P6

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Medium of Assessment:** English

**Prerequisites:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Precursors:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) LW6144C and LW5544

**Exclusive Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) LW6544C and LW6544E

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This course aims to

- provide students with a critical understanding and assessment of the multilateral trading system.
- encourage students to identify and search for an appropriate understanding of the current issues in WTO law.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Identify, describe and synthesize the principles relating to multilateral trading system	50%		√	
2.	Apply the rules of international trade law to complex fact patterns	30%		√	
3.	Develop the skills to analyse, evaluate, and reflect critically on current legal and economic problems of the international trade system	20%		√	
		100%			

A1: Attitude

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

A2: Ability

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.*

A3: Accomplishments

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.						Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4			
Lectures	The course leader will present the substantive law on the topics listed below in the course syllabus	√						2 hours/week or a total of 26 hours of block teaching
Interactive class discussion	Students will learn how to apply the law to cases. Students will also be engaged to participate in debates to develop a critical view on the strengths and deficiencies of international trade law		√	√				1 hour/week or a total of 13 hours of block teaching

**4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)**

*(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)*

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.						Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3					
Continuous Assessment: 50%								
Coursework	√		√				50%	
Examination 50% (duration: 3 hours)								
							100%	

Students are required to attend at least 70% of the classes (lectures, seminars, presentations). If a student does not meet this requirement, he/she may be disqualified for assessment.

Students must obtain a minimum mark of 40% in both coursework and examination and an overall mark of 40% in order to pass the course. The examination will be in open-book and students are required to use computers to type the answers. Students are NOT allowed to access the internet or to use other materials (unless expressly permitted by the course leader).

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Coursework	Demonstration of ability to identify issues; Application of knowledge to specific problems and discussion questions.	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.
2. Examination	Demonstration of ability to identify issues; Application of knowledge to specific problems and discussion questions.	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

**Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

**1. Syllabus**

**1.1 Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

Legal thinking in international trade disputes, international sale of goods (CISG), INCOTERMS 2010, international transportation, cargo insurance, finance of trade, World Trade Organization (WTO), GATT, GATS, TRIPS, DSU, Free Trade Agreements, CEPA.

**1.2 Detailed Syllabus**

The following topics are studied in detail:

1. Introduction
2. Legal thinking in international trade law disputes
3. United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) and its possible “competitors”
4. INCOTERMS 2010
5. International carriage of goods by sea
6. Non-sea carriage and multimodal carriage
7. Cargo insurance
8. Finance of trade
9. WTO rules (Multilateral Agreements on Trade in Goods)
10. WTO rules (Dispute Settlement Body)
11. Revision

**2. Reading List**

**2.1 Recommended Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

Guiguo Wang, *The Law of the WTO: China and the Future of Free Trade* (Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell Asia 2005)

Trebilcock/Howse, *The Regulation of International Trade* (London: Routledge 2005)

Hoekman/Kosteci, *The Political Economy of the World Trading System* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2001)

Carole Murry, David Holloway, Daren Timson-Hunt, Schmitthoff *the law and practice of international trade* (London: Sweet & Maxwell 2012)

Janssen/Meyer, CISG Methodology (Munich: Sellier 2009)

DiMatteo/Janssen/Schulze/Magnus, The International Sale of Goods (Munich & Oxford: C.H. Beck & Hart)

Schlechtriem/Butler, UN Law on International Sales (Berlin: Springer 2009)