

City University of Hong Kong

Course Syllabus

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

Part I Course Overview

Course Title:	Admiralty Law
Course Code:	LW6192E
Course Duration:	One semester
Credit Units:	3
Level:	P6
Medium of Instruction:	English
Medium of Assessment:	English
Prerequisites: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Precursors: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Equivalent Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	Nil
Exclusive Courses: <i>(Course Code and Title)</i>	LW5583, LW6183E and LW6583E Maritime Claims and Practices in Admiralty, LW6592E Maritime Law (old course title: Maritime Law II)

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

Admiralty law is the core subject of shipping law. Admiralty law regulates the rights and duties of people whose object of trade is a ship. The subject comprises areas of the law concerned with the conduct of seamen at sea while navigating or assisting other ships in need and the liability of their employers. The subject includes many other specialised areas of the law, most of which are regulated through international conventions, but it excludes the law relating to the carriage of goods by sea, international trade law and marine insurance as well as the Admiralty enforcement procedures. These are covered in separate courses.

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.	Describe and display knowledge of the law relevant to sale and purchase of ships, ship-buildings, and related financing issues.			√	
2.	Describe and display knowledge of the liabilities arising from shipping incidents (collisions, groundings, marine pollution).			√	
3.	Identify, describe and critically assess the rationale behind the applicable liability regimes and the underlying internationally accepted norms.			√	
4.	Discuss existing rules and regulations relating to the management and safety of ships and comprehend their link with the applicable liability regimes. Critically evaluate the sufficiency of such rules to prevent maritime casualties.			√	
5.	Describe and demonstrate good understanding of the principles and applicable rules for liability arising from salvage, wreck removal, marine pollution, collision liability and carriage of passengers.			√	
6.	Understand and critically assess the legal norms supporting limitation of liability for those operating ships.			√	
7.	Apply the knowledge gained to resolve complex legal issues arising from scenarios of shipping accidents.				√
8.	Consider the suitability of the Admiralty to the operation of new craft, including autonomous and unmanned ships and underwater vehicles.				√
		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	5	6	7	8	
Seminars	Discussion of law relating to the operation of ships, the policies and the legal principles underpinning them.	√	√	√	√	√	√			3 hours lecture / week or a total of 39 hours of block teaching
Tutorials	Case-studies of incidents at sea to promote students' problem-solving and analytical skills					√	√	√	√	
Guided individual studying	Development of basic independent research and critical assessment skills.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	
Formative work	Application of legal principles and knowledge to practical situations.						√	√	√	

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	4	5	6	7	8		
Continuous Assessment: 40%										
Group presentation in class (one of CILOs 1-6)	one of CILOs 1-6 plus 7								10%	
Coursework: 2,500 words on a challenging topic or case study.	Selected CILOs from 1-6 plus 7 and/or 8								30%	
Examination: 60% (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 format and students are required to use computers to type the answers. However, students are NOT allowed to access the internet.

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)
Group presentation in class	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.
Coursework: A critical analysis of a case selected from given choices, in which students analyse and critique the case.	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.
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.)

Ship sale and purchase (new builds and used ships), shipowner's liability, crew negligence, negligence in management, salvage, wreck removal, collisions, marine pollutions, passenger's death, towage, limitation of liability

1.2 Detailed Syllabus

1. Introduction
2. Buying an old ship or building a new one
3. Liabilities arising from shipping incidents – basis of liability
4. Liabilities arising from shipping incidents – exemptions and recoverable Damages
5. Salvage – International Law
6. Salvage – Contracts and Environmental protection
7. Towage
8. Marine Pollution incidents
9. Liability for passengers
10. Limitation of Liability
11. Legal norms for the development of unmanned and autonomous ships
12. Revision

2. Reading List

2.1 Recommended Readings

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

Justice Barma (eds), *Maritime Law and Practice in Hong Kong* (Sweet & Maxwell 2015)

Aleka Mandaraka-Sheppard, *Modern Maritime Law (Volume 2)*. (3rd ed, Routledge-Cavendish 2014) - available on i-law

Yvonne Baatz (eds) *Maritime law* (4th ed, Routledge, 2017)

Simon Baughen, *Shipping Law* (6th ed, Routledge 2015) or the subsequent edition

Journals:

Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly

The Journal of International Maritime Law