

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Law  
with effect from Semester A 2018/2019**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Criminal Litigation Practice

**Course Code:** PLE5019

**Course Duration:** Semester B

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P

**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) Nil

**Exclusive Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This course aims to prepare students to begin the practice of criminal litigation.

### 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.	Demonstrate that they understand the overall structure and main principles of criminal litigation practice by applying that understanding to the resolution of real life problems and challenges in criminal litigation practice.		✓	✓	
2.	Conduct a range of tasks found in real life practice in criminal matters.		✓	✓	
3.	Perform basic and useful skills required of lawyers in criminal litigation practice.		✓	✓	✓
4.	Explain to a client their analysis and advice in some basic criminal litigation situations.		✓	✓	✓
5.	Discover new developments in areas of the law, such as in the use of evidence.		✓	✓	
6.	Recognise and deal with some ethical issues that may arise in criminal litigation practice.		✓	✓	✓
		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	
1	Teaching and learning will primarily involve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Lectures, in large groups</li> <li>➤ Demonstrations, in large groups</li> <li>➤ Discussions, in small groups</li> <li>➤ Student performance based on real-life situations, in small groups</li> <li>➤ Student drafting and writing based on real life situations, in small groups.</li> </ul>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

### 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		
Continuous Assessment: 25%								
Mid-term assessment		✓	✓			✓	25%	
Examination: 75% (duration: 3 hours)								
Final examination	✓			✓	✓	✓	75%	
							100%	

## 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. Mid Term Coursework Assessment	To pass this course students must obtain an aggregate mark of 50%. Students do not need to obtain a minimum of 50% on each of the exams.	The work meets the client's needs in all respects, evidenced by – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a superior grasp of the issues and subject matter</li> <li>• good organization</li> <li>• a capacity to analyze and synthesize</li> <li>• possession of an extensive knowledge base</li> <li>• a superior use of lawyer skills.</li> </ul>	The work meets the client's needs in most respects, evidenced by – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a strong grasp of the issues and subject matter</li> <li>• some critical and analytical ability</li> <li>• an understanding of the applicable law and procedures</li> <li>• a good use of lawyer skills.</li> </ul>	The work meets the client's main needs, evidenced by – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an adequate grasp of the issues and subject matter</li> <li>• an ability to develop solutions to the client's problems</li> <li>• a basic use of lawyer skills.</li> </ul>		The work does not meet the client's needs, evidenced by little or an insufficient – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• grasp of the issues and subject matter</li> <li>• critical and analytical ability</li> <li>• understanding of the applicable law and procedures.</li> </ul>
2. Examination at the end of Semester B						

\* Note: The University's grades C- and D are not used in the PCLL.

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

#### **1. Keyword Syllabus**

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

The conduct of criminal cases in the Magistrates' Court; District Court and High Court; police powers, process to compel appearance; formulation and amendment of charges; bail; transfers and committal proceedings; discovery; trial; juries; sentencing; costs; appeals.

#### **2. Reading List**

##### **2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

The Criminal Litigation Practice Deskbook

Some Ordinances and Subsidiary legislation will need to be downloaded as well; this will be indicated in the Deskbook.

Knight and Upham, 'Criminal Litigation' (Legal Practice Manual) Second Edition, Thomson, Sweet & Maxwell 2005 reprint.

Simon Young 'The Essential Statutes on HK Criminal Law and Procedure 2008/9 Lexis Nexis

Useful for reminding about the basics: Amanda Whitfort 'Criminal Procedure in HK - A Guide for Students and Practitioners' Lexis Nexis 2006

##### **2.2 Additional Readings**

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

- Bilingual Laws Information System - Hong Kong Ordinances and Subsidiary Legislation (<http://www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/home.htm>)
- Lexis and/or Westlaw - available through "Electronic Resources" section of the Run Run Shaw Library website
- Andrew Bruce, S.C. 'Criminal Procedure – Trial on Indictments'
- Audrey Campbell-Moffat 'Magistrates Court Manual', Sweet & Maxwell
- Cross and Cheung 'Sentencing in Hong Kong', Butterworths