

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Law
with effect from Semester A 2017/2018**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Personal Injuries Practice

Course Code: PLE5028

Course Duration: Semester B (7 weeks – estimated)

Credit Units: 2

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 for the practice of personal injuries litigation, so that, on completion of the course, students who have taken this elective will possess the foundational knowledge and skills to advise clients and render a range of services that would be undertaken by a junior personal injuries litigator in Hong Kong.

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.	Conduct conferences with a clients in preparation for drafting court documents relating to a personal injuries litigation		✓	✓	✓
2.	Assess the likely outcome of a proposed course of action and advise upon the various strategic issues related to the said actions		✓	✓	
3.	Draft court documents relating to personal injuries litigation			✓	✓
4.	Comply with court rules in relation to drafting of court documents relating to personal injuries litigation			✓	✓
5.	Manage a personal injuries case from commencement of the action to trial		✓	✓	
6.	Assess the proportionality and reasonableness of the proposed advice		✓	✓	
7.	Consider settlement options and advise on the various alternatives available to clients whilst keeping the clients best interests in mind		✓	✓	✓
8.	Draft written advice to client		✓	✓	✓
9.	Prepare the case for trial		✓	✓	
10.	To discover how personal injuries litigation (specialty cases) differs from general civil lawsuits both in terms of substantive law and procedures and appreciate the importance of various statutory legislations which are fundamental to the practice of personal injuries law in Hong Kong		✓	✓	
		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	9	10		
1	Students will receive instruction on how to conference with a witness in a large group session. They will have a conference with a client and receive feedback in a small group session.	✓											
2	Students will receive instruction on what course(s) of action to take on behalf of the client during large group sessions.		✓										
3	Students will receive instruction on how to draft these documents in large group sessions. They will then draft these documents and receive feedback in small group sessions and/or written comments on their submissions.			✓	✓					✓			
4	Students will receive instruction in large group and small group sessions.					✓							
5	Students will receive instruction on how to advise client on merits, quantum and evidence of the case.						✓						
6	Students will receive instruction on the available settlement options, how to advise client on settlement options and assess the settlement offers made by opposition.							✓					
7	Students will receive instruction on how to prepare a case for trial.										✓		

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	9	10			
Continuous Assessment: 0%													
Examination: 100% (duration: 3 hours 30 minutes)													
Assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		100%	
												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)
Examination at the end of the semester.	To pass this course students must obtain an aggregate mark of 50%.	<p>The work meets the client's needs in all respects, evidenced by –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a superior grasp of the issues and subject matter • good organization • a capacity to analyze and synthesize • possession of an extensive knowledge base • a superior use of lawyer skills. 	<p>The work meets the client's needs in most respects, evidenced by –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a strong grasp of the issues and subject matter • some critical and analytical ability • an understanding of the applicable law and procedures • a good use of lawyer skills. 	<p>The work meets the client's main needs, evidenced by –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an adequate grasp of the issues and subject matter • an ability to develop solutions to the client's problems • a basic use of lawyer skills. 		<p>The work does not meet the client's needs, evidenced by little or an insufficient –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • grasp of the issues and subject matter • critical and analytical ability • understanding of the applicable law and procedures.

* 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.)

- Conferencing with clients
- Course(s) of action
- Court documents
- Case management
- Settlement
- Advice
- Preparation for trial
- Discovery of the differences between Personal Injuries Litigations and General Civil Lawsuits

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.)

Personal Injuries Practice Desk Book

2.2 Additional Readings

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

Rick Glofcheski, *Tort Law in Hong Kong*, 2nd Edition, Sweet & Maxwell.

Butterworths Hong Kong personal injury service, Butterworths Asia.

Neville Sarony QC, Wai-Sum Chan and Felix Wai-hon Chan, *Personal Injury tables Hong Kong 2013: tables for the calculation of damages*, Sweet & Maxwell, 2013.

Atkins court forms Hong Kong, Butterworths Asia.

Patrick Curran QC, *Personal injury pleadings*, Sweet & Maxwell, 1995.

Hong Kong Judiciary Website