

LW8715D: PUBLIC LAW SEMINARS

Effective Term

Semester A 2026/27

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Public Law Seminars

Subject Code

LW - Law

Course Number

8715D

Academic Unit

School of Law (FL)

College/School

School of Law (FL)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

D8 - Professional Doctorate

Medium of Instruction

Other Languages

Other Languages for Medium of Instruction

Chinese (Putonghua) supplemented by English

Medium of Assessment

Chinese

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The objective of the course on Public Law Seminars to expose them to the classic as well as the latest research in foreign and comparative public law topics, including constitutional law, administrative law, legal theories as well as practical issues such as constitutionality of demand for Hong Kong independence.

Through this course, students will be able to know the fundamental issues and theories of public law, understand what public law scholars are currently researching on, and also learn about the ways to identify research topics basing on current research.

Since Chinese judge students are from mainland China, this course will cover the latest research in common law jurisdictions as well as civil law jurisdictions with a special focus on comparative law literature.

Scholars from other jurisdictions may be invited to give guest lectures whenever it is suitable and necessary.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 app.)		DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Demonstrate an understanding of both classic and the latest research topics in public law.		x		
2	Understand different theoretical debates and arguments on various latest research topics in public law in both common law and civil law jurisdictions.		x	x	
3	Develop the ability to critically evaluate and analyse various latest research topics.			x	x
4	Develop the skills to identify topics for further research basing on existing research output.			x	x

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 real-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.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs		Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Lecture	Lectures will introduce both classic and the latest research topics as well as scholarly arguments on those topics.	1, 2	

2	Presentation and Participation in Discussions	Students are required to actively participate during in-class discussions on the presentation of the lecturer as well as the literature they have been assigned to read.	2, 3, 4	
3	Readings	Students are required to read the assigned reading materials before each seminar.	2, 3, 4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

ATs		CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Class Participation	1, 2, 3, 4	10	The use of Generative AI tools is not allowed.	No
2	Oral Assessment	1, 2, 3, 4	90	The use of Generative AI tools is not allowed.	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

0

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1. Class Participation

Criterion

Students should demonstrate thorough preparation of assigned readings; contribute high-quality, evidence-based points; show analytical rigor and independent judgment; engage respectfully and collegially; and, where appropriate, make comparative and interdisciplinary connections.

Excellent

High

Good

Significant

Fair

Moderate

Marginal

Basic

Failure

Marginal levels

Assessment Task

2. Oral Assessment

Criterion

Students will be assessed on their ability to formulate a clear, theoretically grounded public-law research question; develop a persuasive, critically engaged argument; substantiate claims with authoritative sources; communicate with coherence and precision; and defend their argument effectively in discussion.

Excellent

High

Good

Significant

Fair

Moderate

Marginal

Basic

Failure

Marginal levels

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Keyword Syllabus

Introduction of both classic and the latest research topics in public law.

Discussion of the presentations of the lecturers as well as the literature they have been assigned.

Access to Library Resources

The Law Library has an excellent collection of legal materials in print copy and electronic format. Some important databases include:

- BLIS (Bilingual Laws Information System) which contains the statutory Laws of Hong Kong and selected constitutional documents.

- Lexis/Nexis

- Westlaw

- Law Library Electronic Databases that include Index to Legal Periodicals and Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals, Latest Judgement Alert, Hong Kong Premium Service, Hansard U.K

CD-ROM' s include British Hansard, LEXIS/NEXIS, the Laws & Regulations of China, and the European Union Laws Library.

There are also databases in Chinese as well as print format copies of Chinese law.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	To be assigned by lecturers.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	To be assigned by lecturers.