

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

TEACHING AND LEARNING

In 2023/24, CityUHK offered 45 courses that promote justice and peaceful societies.

The course “Criminal Justice” in the School of Law provides students with an understanding and appreciation of the main features of the Criminal Justice system in Hong Kong; its mode of operation, the interaction between its principal agents, institutions and practices, and the theoretical foundations underpinning those bodies and processes. This course will not only deal with the mechanical ‘how’ about the manner in which various Criminal Justice practices are conducted, but also with the philosophical and moral ‘why’ it should or should not continue to be conducted in a particular manner.

The course “Citizens and Criminal Justice” in the School of Law deals with and provides an understanding of the basic rights and responsibilities of citizens in Hong Kong and other jurisdictions who are caught up in the criminal justice process and of their criminal justice institutions, such as the police, the courts and the prisons. The course will also provide information on the Hong Kong National Security Law.

The course “Values and Justice in the Contemporary World” in the School of Law examines major issues related to values and justice in the contemporary world. Students are exposed to fundamental concepts such as justice, politics, power, equality, fairness and consequences.

The course “Criminal Justice in Hong Kong and the Pacific” in the Department of Social and Behavioural Sciences provides students with a basic understanding and overview of the main features of the criminal justice system in Hong Kong and the Pacific. This course will also provide students with the opportunity to study fascinating issues of crime and justice that are crucial and closely related to the modern world.

Student Learning Activities

International Internships:

The [Public Law and Human Rights Forum](#) facilitates international internship opportunities for LLB and JD students of the CityUHK’s School of Law. These internship opportunities aim at providing students with exposure to law-related issues as part of the School’s commitment to developing the next generation of lawyers with global perspectives.

Model UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review (MUPR) Competition:

10 LLB and JD students participated in the MUPR Competition in Seoul, South Korea. CPLR collaborated with Human Asia, a South Korean Human Rights NGO, to create this unique opportunity for CityUHK law students. The MUPR aims to encourage participating students to understand human rights challenges and explore sustainable solutions to such challenges in a given country that they represented.

RESEARCH

We published 342 research papers related to SDG 16 between 2019 and 2023.

The aim of the project “[Accommodating the Needs of Persons with Disabilities in Policies Concerning Public Health Emergencies: Law, Ethics and Practice](#)” is to develop

an empirically informed and theoretically supported policy framework for the Hong Kong government to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities in public health emergencies. The study is divided into three phases and adopts a mixed-method approach, based on qualitative research and policy analysis.

ON-GOING INITIATIVES

Employment and Quality

Through our [Advisory Committee for Graduate Employment](#), students, faculty and staff advise the President, the Council and the Senate, as appropriate, on matters relating to student and graduate employment to promote job opportunities for graduates by maintaining links with the Hong Kong community.

In addition, our [Quality Assurance Committee](#) advises the Senate through the Academic Policy Committee on principles, policies and procedures relating to quality assurance of teaching, learning and assessment and other related matters as requested by the Academic Policy Committee. It conducts audits and other reviews as requested by the Academic Policy Committee and reports on the quality assurance mechanisms and quality of the offerings of the academic units.

Bribery, Academic Freedom, Human Rights

Our basic principles include engaging with different parties to ensure that campus is free from corruption as stated in our staff handbook detailing how to manage issues such as receiving gifts, advantages or discounts.

Our [policy on academic freedom](#) published prominently on the CityUHK home page emphasises the separation of politics and education to ensure CityUHK's academic mission and political neutrality to safeguard campus autonomy.

Our [Public Law and Human Rights Forum](#) is a platform for conducting research, fostering collaboration, and building capacity in the field of public law and human rights. The primary focus is on constitutional law, criminal law and criminal justice, human rights in Hong Kong and Asia, including the subfields of business and human rights, and public international law.

In addition, the [Centre for Chinese and Comparative Law](#) (CCCL) established in 1994 as an interdisciplinary research institute in affiliation with the School of Law is one of the world's oldest research centres on Chinese and comparative legal studies. The Centre's goal is to broaden the horizon of human knowledge and contribute to the betterment of society by conducting research in Chinese and comparative law.



Public Lecture on “Climate Change Governance: Ambitious Targets and Institutional Failures”

The School of Law celebrated its 35th Anniversary in 2022 and held a [public lecture](#) on the above theme delivered by Professor Michael Tsimplis.

The lecture talked about scientists, activists and sceptics who agree that climate change undermines global economic development and poses risks for the populations of developed and developing states too. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change just turned 30 years old and yet the risk of dangerous anthropogenic climate change has not been reduced. The talk considered the reasons why climate change law has been inefficient and discussed whether established institutions could support sustainable development.

International Collaboration

Our School of Law endeavours to develop close links with universities and institutions on the Mainland, in Europe, North America and across the Asia-Pacific region, in the form of staff and student exchanges, joint research, co-sponsorship of conferences and symposia, etc.

[LLM Programme for Chinese Judges](#)

We have worked closely with the National Judges College of the Supreme People's Court of the PRC for the further education of judges from Mainland China.

[Global Legal Education and Awareness Project \(G-LEAP\)](#)

Launched in October 2007, G-LEAP promotes excellence in legal education with a view to providing opportunities for our law students to have a global perspective in the study of law. Under G-LEAP, we signed an agreement with University College, Oxford.