

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by Department of Accountancy
with effect from Semester A 2020/21**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Taxation and Tax Planning

Course Code: AC4251

Course Duration: 1 semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: B4

Arts and Humanities

Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations

Science and Technology

Proposed Area:
(for GE courses only)

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites: FB2100 Accounting I; or
CB2100 Accounting I / Introduction to Financial Accounting
(Course Code and Title)

Precursors: Nil
(Course Code and Title)

Equivalent Courses: Nil
(Course Code and Title)

Exclusive Courses: Nil
(Course Code and Title)

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

(A 150-word description about the course)

This course aims to:

1. describe the Hong Kong tax system;
2. provide students with knowledge of property tax, salaries tax, profits tax, tax depreciation allowance, personal assessment and tax administration, stamp duty;
3. develop students' analytical ability to solve technical tax problems in a systematic way;
4. prepare students so that they can demonstrate generic skills in interpersonal interaction with others, working individually and in team situations;
5. develop students' ethical outlook and sense of professional integrity when dealing with tax related issues.

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 the law and practice of Hong Kong tax, including source of tax law and Inland Revenue practices.		✓	✓	
2.	DESCRIBE and EXPLAIN the law, principles and practices of Hong Kong property tax, salaries tax and profits tax, tax depreciation allowance, personal assessment and tax administration, stamp duty.		✓	✓	
3.	APPLY the tax principles to practical business situations.		✓	✓	
4.	DEMONSTRATE technical competence in various areas of Hong Kong taxation, including property tax, salaries tax, profits tax, tax administration, stamp duty.		✓	✓	
5.	COMMUNICATE effectively in verbal, written and electronic formats.		✓	✓	
6.	DESCRIBE the basic principles and ethical requirements of tax practice.		✓		
		100%			

* If weighting is assigned to CILOs, they should add up to 100%.

[#] Please specify the alignment of CILOs to the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning outcomes (PILOs) in Section A of Annex.

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	
Seminar class	Students will learn and interact with lecturer and other students on various knowledge, theories and practices	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Live case studies	Students will be assigned application of live cases to study practical tax treatments and tax planning	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Project study*	Students are required to carry out live search and analysis across international jurisdictions on tax policies and systems and propose new tax initiatives for Hong Kong.			✓	✓	✓	✓	

*DEC TLA element

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: <u>50%</u>								
<u>In-class activities</u> Students are expected to actively participate in in-class activities (e.g. class discussions and quizzes) held during class sessions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	10%	
<u>Mid-term test</u> Students need to answer questions on tax computation, discussion and case analysis to demonstrate their learning achievement.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	
<u>Project report[#]</u> Students are required to carry out live search and analysis across international jurisdictions on tax policies and systems and propose new tax initiatives for Hong Kong.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	20%	

Examination: 50% (duration: 3 hours) [Open-book examination]								
<u>Final examination</u> Students need to answer questions on tax analysis and case scenarios to demonstrate their core competency in the course learning process.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	50%	
							100%	

* The weightings should add up to 100%.

#DEC AT element

Students are required to pass both coursework and examination components in order to pass the course.

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.	In-class activities	Performance in class activities	Students have demonstrated excellent initiative and interactions in raising sensible questions and giving insightful discussion of issues and cases relating to the course topics in class	Students have demonstrated good initiative and interactions in raising reasonable questions and joining discussion of issues and cases relating to the course topics in class	Students have demonstrated reasonable interactions in raising questions and joining discussion of issues and cases relating to the course topics in class	Students have demonstrated occasional interactions in joining discussion of issues and cases relating to the course topics in class	Students randomly or rarely join discussion of issues and cases with little contribution to the course topics in class
2.	Mid-term test	Performance in answering questions in the mid-term test	Students perform excellently in the test and provide very good answers to test questions	Students perform well in the test and provide good answers to test questions	Students perform reasonably well in the test and provide some good answers to test questions	Students fairly perform in the test and provide some acceptable answers to test questions	Students perform badly in the test and cannot provide acceptable answers to test questions
3.	Project report	Performance in carrying out live search and analysis across international jurisdictions on tax policies and systems and propose new tax initiatives for Hong Kong.	Students perform excellently in project analysis and provide a very good report of required competency	Students perform well in project analysis and provide a good report of required competency	Students perform reasonably well in project analysis and provide good discussion and analysis in certain parts of the report of required competency	Students fairly perform in project analysis and provide reasonable discussion in certain parts of the report of required competency	Students cannot perform satisfactorily in project analysis and only provide basic discussion in certain parts of the report of required competency

4.	Examination	Performance in answering questions in the final examination	Students perform excellently in the exam and provide very good answers to exam questions	Students perform well in the exam and provide good answers to test questions	Students perform reasonably well in the exam and provide some good answers to exam questions	Students fairly perform in the exam and provide some acceptable answers to exam questions	Students perform badly in the exam and cannot provide acceptable answers to exam questions
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Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

1. Keyword Syllabus

Hong Kong tax, Regulatory framework, Property tax, Salaries Tax, Profits Tax, Depreciation allowances, Personal assessment, Returns and information, Assessments of tax, Stamp Duty, Tax administration, Double tax agreement, BEPS, Ethics in tax practice.

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.)

1.	Ho, Patrick K.W. Hong Kong Taxation and Tax Planning. 19 th edition (2020). Pilot Publishing Company Ltd.
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2.2 Additional Readings

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

1.	Lee, D. Advanced Taxation in Hong Kong. 18 th edition (2016). Prentice Hall.
2.	Macpherson, A., Laird, G. Hong Kong Taxation: Law & Practice. 2017-18 edition (2017). The Chinese University Press.
3.	Canvas site of the course
4.	Inland Revenue Department website, Hong Kong SAR: http://www.ird.gov.hk
5.	Bilingual Laws Information System: http://www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/home.htm
6.	Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, Volume I Professional Accountants Ordinance & By-laws, Professional Ethics & Conduct, Members' Handbook
7.	Tax cases and Board of Review cases