

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Law
with effect from Semester B 2022/2023**

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Hong Kong Legal System and One Country, Two Systems

Course Code: GE3109

Course Duration: One Semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: B3

Proposed Area: Arts and Humanities
(for GE courses only)

Medium of Instruction: English

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites: Nil
(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

- To encourage students to discover the functions of law in society, and its relationship between morality and justice;
- To guide students to developing a sound understanding and appreciation of the concept of the rule of law and its relevance in the context of Hong Kong;
- To familiarise students with the sources, classification and operation of Hong Kong law and other features of the legal system in Hong Kong;
- To introduce students to the legal and constitutional framework in which law is practised and administered in Hong Kong;
- To introduce students to basic features of civil and criminal justice as well as how institutions and procedures were developed to further civil and criminal justice, how the notion of access of justice remains key to evaluating the effectiveness of the civil and criminal justice system and thus how legal aid plays a crucial role
- To introduce students to the relationship between HKSAR and the PRC, and the interface between Hong Kong and Chinese Law; and
- To encourage students to think critically about Hong Kong law and institutions and to communicate their views and their analysis effectively both orally and in writing.

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 a sound knowledge and both conceptual and practical understanding of the topics covered on the course	N/A	√	√	√
2.	Explain issues, difficulties and problems arising in relation to the topics covered on the course	N/A	√	√	√
3.	Critically evaluate the law and practice relating to the topics covered on the course and suggest feasible ways to improve upon the existing law and practice	N/A	√	√	√
		N/A			

* 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.

No.	CILOs [#]	Weighting* (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3

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	
Lecture	Students will be introduced to, and have explained to them, course topics in a lecture context	√	√	√	3
	Students will read all readings assigned by the course teachers to better understand the course topics	√	√	√	
	Students will take the initiative to conduct further research on course topics outside the lecture	√	√	√	
	Students will complete all relevant readings prior to each lecture	√	√	√	
	Students will prepare for all questions assigned	√	√	√	
	Students will proactively participate in lecture	√	√	√	
	Students will present in every lecture	√	√	√	

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		
Presentations: 30 %					
Students are expected to give presentations in lectures. During lectures, students will be encouraged to participate in the discussion by expressing their views on the issues on the syllabus and also on how innovation can take place in the Hong Kong legal system. These presentations aim to boost students' confidence and maturity.	√	√	√	30 %	

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.			Weighting*	Remarks
	1	2	3		
Visit Report: 30 %					
Students have to visit a court in Hong Kong. Students will be assessed by way of a visit report which will be submitted by them electronically and subjected to plagiarism checking. Students are expected to display sound knowledge and understanding of the court procedure.	√	√	√	30%	
Exam: 40 %					
Students will need to show their ability to answer multiple choice and essay type questions. Students are also expected to demonstrate a sound knowledge of legal rules and principles. These questions are all to be answered within a limited time. Students will be trained to present logical arguments	√	√	√	40%	
<i>* The weightings should add up to 100%.</i>				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)
Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Demonstration of oral presentation skills and willingness / ability to answer questions in class. -The presentations aim to boost students' confidence and maturity. 	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.
Visit Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstration of understanding of the legislative process or court system. - Ability to write a report in a clear and logical manner. - Ability to conduct research 	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.
Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Demonstration of understanding of principles, theories and concepts. -Demonstration of ability to identify issues. -Application of knowledge to specific problems and discussion questions. -Ability to engage in argument-based analysis in a clear and logical manner. 	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

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.)

1. The law and the rule of law
2. Introduction to common law
3. Comparing different legal systems
4. Historical development of the Hong Kong legal system
5. Sources of law
6. The court system and doctrine of precedent
7. The process of legislation
8. Statutory interpretation
9. Introduction to criminal justice in Hong Kong
10. Introduction to civil justice in Hong Kong
11. HKSAR and the PRC (subject to the availability of time)

Notes:

1. Week 9 will be reading week, where there will be no lecture.
2. The submission deadline for the visit report will be the end of Week 9

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.	S Lo, K Cheng and WH Chui, <i>The Hong Kong Legal System</i> (2nd edition) (Cambridge University Press 2019)
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2.2 Additional Readings

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

1.	M J Fisher, <i>Text, Cases and Commentary on the Hong Kong Legal System</i> (HKU Press 2019)
2.	E Ip, <i>Law and Justice in Hong Kong</i> (3rd edition) (Sweet & Maxwell 2019)

A. Please specify the Gateway Education Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (PILOs) that the course is aligned to and relate them to the CILOs stated in Part II, Section 2 of this form:

GE PILO	Please indicate which CILO(s) is/are related to this PILO, if any (can be more than one CILOs in each PILO)
PILO 1: Demonstrate the capacity for self-directed learning	CILO1: Demonstrate a sound knowledge and both conceptual and practical understanding of the topics covered on the course CILO2: Explain issues, difficulties and problems arising in relation to the topics covered on the course CILO3: Critically evaluate the law and practice relating to the topics covered on the course and suggest feasible ways to improve upon the existing law and practice
PILO 2: Explain the basic methodologies and techniques of inquiry of the arts and humanities, social sciences, business, and science and technology	
PILO 3: Demonstrate critical thinking skills	
PILO 4: Interpret information and numerical data	
PILO 5: Produce structured, well-organised and fluent text	
PILO 6: Demonstrate effective oral communication skills	
PILO 7: Demonstrate an ability to work effectively in a team	
PILO 8: Recognise important characteristics of their own culture(s) and at least one other culture, and their impact on global issues	
PILO 9: Value ethical and socially responsible actions	
PILO 10: Demonstrate the attitude and/or ability to accomplish discovery and/or innovation	

GE course leaders should cover the mandatory PILOs for the GE area (Area 1: Arts and Humanities; Area 2: Study of Societies, Social and Business Organisations; Area 3: Science and Technology) for which they have classified their course; for quality assurance purposes, they are advised to carefully consider if it is beneficial to claim any coverage of additional PILOs. General advice would be to restrict PILOs to only the essential ones. (Please refer to the curricular mapping of GE programme: http://www.cityu.edu.hk/edge/ge/faculty/curricular_mapping.htm.)

B. Please select an assessment task for collecting evidence of student achievement for quality assurance purposes. Please retain at least one sample of student achievement across a period of three years.

Selected Assessment Task
Visit report and exam.