

CA3322: CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS - PRINCIPLES AND ADMINISTRATION

New Syllabus Proposal

Effective Term

Semester A 2026/27

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Construction Contracts - Principles and Administration

Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

Course Number

3322

Academic Unit

Architecture and Civil Engineering (CA)

College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

CA2744 Building Technology

Students must have attempted (including class attendance, coursework submission, and examination) the precursor course(s) so identified.

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

Students will engage in key contract law principles and the administration of construction contracts commonly used in Hong Kong.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Explain the principles of contract law in construction contracting;		x	x	x
2	Apply the principles underlying the design of construction contracts;		x	x	x
3	Interpret the contractual procedure, rights and obligations of the contracting parties;		x	x	x
4	Describe contractual issues arising from the administration of construction contracts.			x	x
5	Discuss the use of various standard forms of construction contracts			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	Students will engage in class discussion for critical appraisal of the analytical skill to administer contractual matters.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	2 hours/week
2	Tutorial/Assignment	Students will engage in tutorial tasks and coursework to sharpen their knowledge and skill in contractual matters.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	1 hour/week

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Assignment	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	30	-	Yes
2	Mid-term test/quiz	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	20	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

50

Examination (%)

50

Examination Duration (Hours)

3

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

30

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

30

Additional Information for ATs

To pass a course, a student must obtain minimum marks of 30% in both coursework and examination components, and an overall mark of at least 40%

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Assignment

Criterion

Request students to give advice on scenario cast to test the ability to solve the contractual issues. Discovery based coursework to be embraced.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Mid-term test/quiz

Criterion

Testing the students ability of understanding of the basic principles.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Examination

Criterion

Scenario type of examination questions for students to demonstrate their ability to analyse the contractual issues at stake and make appropriate recommendations.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

High

Good (B+, B, B-)

Significant

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Moderate

Marginal (D)

Basic

Failure (F)

Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Elements of contracts, core clauses in construction contracts, obligations, payment, certificates, extension of time, loss and expenses, determinations.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Keung C.W., Yeung K.L. and Cheung S.O. (2021) “Quantity Surveying Practice: The Nuts and Bolts” , Routledge.

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Development Bureau HKSAR (2023), “NEC ECC Hong Kong Edition” .
2	CIC HK (2021), “Reference Materials – Sample Clauses for Procurement of MiC Building Projects” .
3	Soo G. and Lo M. (2025), Construction Law and practice in Hong Kong, 5th Edition, Sweet and Maxwell.
4	Keating, D (2024), Building Contracts, 12th Edition, Sweet & Maxwell.
5	Construction Industry Security of Payment Ordinance, Cap. 652 of the Laws of Hong Kong.
6	Schedule of Conditions of Building Contract for use in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Standard Form of Building Contract Private Edition -With quantities.
7	Managers, and The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (2023), Agreement & Schedule of Conditions of Nominated Sub-Contract for use in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
8	Official course website at Canvas