

**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS**

**School of Business
BUSI1001/BUSI3801 – Business Law
(Academic Year 2016-2017, Semester 2, Subclass D)**

GENERAL INFORMATION

Instructor: David S. Lee

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Consultation times: by appointment

Teaching Assistant: Rainbow Tsang

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Consultation times: by appointment

Pre-requisites: N/A

Co-requisites: N/A

Mutually exclusive: N/A

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an introductory survey to the fundamentals and general principles of the law as it interacts with individuals and institutions in society. It seeks to equip students with a deeper understanding of the processes by which laws are made, including both formal and informal, and the influence that laws have on different stakeholders in a society. This course also works to teach students to understand and analyze current events through a legal lens.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Gain an understanding of the basic structure of the Hong Kong legal system, including how laws are made and enforced.
2. Understand the broad scope of the law, and the diverse ways it interacts with individuals and institutions.
3. Develop the ability to analyze current events and social issues through a legal perspective, and then offer possible solutions.
4. Improve research, debate, problem solving, communication, and analytical skills through analysis of legal issues in both group and individual settings.

PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

PLO1: Acquisition and internalization of knowledge of the programme discipline

PLO2: Application and integration of knowledge

PLO3: Inculcating professionalism and leadership

PLO4: Developing global outlook

PLO5: Mastering communication skills

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES			
Course Learning Outcomes		Aligned Programme Learning Outcomes	
CLO1: Appreciate the breadth of influence that law has on society, and understand how and why that influence is formed.		PLO 1, 2	
CLO2: Analyze the effects that law has on businesses and investigate how businesses respond to legal environments.		PLO 1, 2, 3	
CLO3: Analyze the relationship between law and society, and develop verbal and written presentation skills.		PLO 3, 4, 5	
COURSE TEACHING AND LEARNING ACTIVITIES			
Course Teaching and Learning Activities		Expected contact hour	Study Load (% of study)
T&L1. Lectures		30	25%
T&L2. Response Paper		20	21%
T&L3. Group Project		30	21%
T&L4. Independent Study		40	33%
Total		120	100%
Assessment Methods	Brief Description (Optional)	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcomes
A1. Group Project	Students will complete and present a detailed written analysis and solution to a complicated business law issue. Specific guidance regarding the project will be explained further in class.	50%	1, 2, 3
A2. Response	Students will complete a short response related to a current law and business topic. Will be discussed further in class.	10%	1, 2, 3
A3. Concept Checks	Simple concept checks of course material. Will be discussed further in class.	20%	1, 2
A4. Class Participation	It is expected that students will prepare for class and actively participate in class discussions. Specific guidance regarding participation will be explained further in class.	20%	1, 3
Total		100%	

STANDARDS FOR ASSESSMENT**Course Grade Descriptors**

A+, A, A-	Demonstrate evidence of original thought, strong analytical and critical abilities as well as a thorough grasp of the topic from background reading and analysis; should demonstrate excellent organizational, rhetorical and presentational skills.
B+, B, B-	Demonstrate evidence of critical and analytical thinking but not necessarily original in their thinking; show adequate grasp of the topic from background reading and analysis; should demonstrate strong organizational, rhetorical and presentational skills.
C+, C, C-	Demonstrate evidence of a reasonable grasp of their subject but most of their information is derivative, with rather little evidence of critical thinking; should demonstrate fair organizational, rhetorical and presentational skills.
D+, D	Demonstrate evidence of being able to assemble the bare minimum of information, poorly digested and not very well organized in presentation. There is no evidence of critical thinking.
F	Demonstrate evidence of poor knowledge and understanding of the subject, a lack of coherence and organization, and answers are largely irrelevant. Work fails to reach degree level.

Assessment Rubrics for Each Assessment

Assessment rubrics for each assessment will be provided separately and explained at length in class.

COURSE CONTENT AND TENTATIVE TEACHING SCHEDULE (1-2 weeks per topic)

LECTURING TOPICS	PRE-CLASS READINGS WILL BE PROVIDED VIA MOODLE
Weeks 1 & 2: Course Overview & Introduction to Law	Please refer to Moodle.
Week 3: Legal Environment in Hong Kong	Please refer to Moodle.
Weeks 4 & 5: Contracts	Please refer to Moodle.
Week 6: Agency & Business Organizations	Please refer to Moodle.
Weeks 7 & 8: Torts	Please refer to Moodle.
Weeks 9 & 10: Ethics	Please refer to Moodle.
Weeks 11 & 12: Crimes	Please refer to Moodle.
Week 12+: Entrepreneurship & Intellectual Property	Please refer to Moodle.

REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED READINGS & ONLINE MATERIALS (e.g., journals, textbooks, website addresses, etc.)

Essential:

- Course reading materials will be provided via Moodle. You are expected to read all of the pre-class readings before the class discusses the related topic.
- You will likely need to complete additional reading related to the group project.

Recommended (Optional):

- Textbook: Srivastava, D. K. (2014). *Business Law in Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell/Thomson Reuters.

MEANS/PROCESSES FOR STUDENT FEEDBACK ON COURSE

Standard university course evaluation

Informal mid-semester course feedback conducted online

COURSE POLICY (e.g. plagiarism, academic honesty, attendance, etc.)

Academic Honesty and Integrity

You are expected to do your own work whenever you are supposed to. Incident(s) of academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. Cheating or plagiarism of any kind will result in an automatic failure for the course plus strict enforcement of all Faculty and/or University regulations regarding such behavior.

The University Regulations on academic dishonesty will be strictly enforced! Please check the University Statement on plagiarism on the web: <http://www.hku.hk/plagiarism/>.

Academic dishonesty is a behavior in which a deliberately fraudulent misrepresentation is employed in an attempt to gain undeserved intellectual credit, either for oneself or for another. It includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the following types of cases:

- a. **Plagiarism** - The representation of someone else's ideas as if they are your own. Where the arguments, data, designs, etc., of someone else are being used in a paper, report, oral presentation, or similar academic project, this fact must be made explicitly clear by citing the appropriate references. The references must fully indicate the extent to which any parts of the project are not one's own work. Paraphrasing of someone else's ideas is still using someone else's ideas, and must be acknowledged.
- b. **Unauthorized Collaboration on Out-of-Class Projects** - The representation of work as solely one's own when in fact it is the result of a joint effort.
- c. **Cheating on In-Class Exams** - The covert gathering of information from other students, the use of unauthorized notes, unauthorized aids, etc.
- d. **Unauthorized Advance Access to Assessment Materials** - The representation of materials prepared at leisure, as a result of unauthorized advance access (however obtained), as if it were prepared under the rigors of the exam setting. This misrepresentation is dishonest in itself even if there are not compounding factors, such as unauthorized uses of books or notes.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION (e.g. e-learning platforms & materials, penalty for late assignments, etc.)

This course will utilize MOODLE.