

REGULATIONS FOR THE DUAL DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG (HKU) AND BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB) AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON (UCL)

These regulations and syllabuses apply to students admitted to the dual degree HKU LLB and UCL LLB curriculum under the 4-Year '2012 curriculum' in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter.

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula for candidates admitted under the 4-Year '2012 curricula')

Admission to the degree of Bachelor of Laws

DLL1. To be eligible for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Laws, candidates shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
- (c) satisfy all the requirements of the LLB curriculum in the first two years of study at UCL; and
- (d) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with these Regulations and syllabus.

Period of study

DLL2. The curriculum for the dual degree of Bachelor of Laws at HKU and of Bachelor of Laws at UCL shall normally require eight semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than four academic years, including the summer semesters, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Students in the dual degree programme spend the first two years at UCL and a further two years at HKU. After completing all four years of study, successful candidates will be awarded the HKU LLB and UCL LLB degrees. Candidates shall not in any case be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of six academic years, comprising a maximum period of three academic years of studies each at UCL and at HKU, except with the approval of the Board of the Faculty of Law.

Completion of the curriculum

DLL3. To complete the curriculum a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) satisfy the requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula;
- (c) follow instruction and attend classes as required, and complete all coursework requirements;
- (d) satisfy the capstone requirement;
- (e) satisfy the requirement of the curriculum for the first two years of study of LLB at UCL, equivalent to 132 credits in value; and
- (f) pass in courses totalling at least 156 credits in value in the last two years of study at HKU, in the manner specified as follows:
 - 6 credits in Chinese language enhancement¹ in accordance with UG5(c);

¹ (a) Non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking students should take CUND9001 Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers, or CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society, or CUND9003 Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking

- 24 credits of Common Core² courses in accordance with UG(5)(d);
- 96 credits of Professional Core including 42 credits of compulsory courses³, 42 credits of disciplinary electives⁴, and 12 credits in a dissertation;
- 24 credits of free electives⁵;
- 6 credits in artificial intelligence literacy in accordance with UG(5)(e); and
- a non-credit bearing course in national education and national security education, and any other non-credit bearing courses as may be required from time to time in accordance with UG5(f).

Transfer of credits

DLL4. Candidates shall be permitted to transfer credits for courses completed successfully in the first two years of studies at UCL or at other institutions at any time during their candidatures. The number of transferred credits may be recorded in the transcript of the candidate, but the results of courses completed at UCL or other institutions shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA. The number of credits to be transferred shall not exceed half of the total credits normally required under the degree curricula of the candidates during their candidature at the University and a minimum of four semesters of study at this University shall be required before a candidate is considered for the award of this dual degree.

Selection of courses

DLL5. Candidates shall select their courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines specified in the syllabus before the beginning of each semester. Changes to the selection of courses may be made only during the add/drop period of the semester in which the course begins, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript of the candidate. Requests for changes after the designated add/drop period of the semester shall not normally be considered.

DLL6. Withdrawal from courses beyond the designated add/drop period will not be permitted, except for medical reasons and with the approval of the Board of the Faculty of Law. Withdrawal without permission will result in a fail grade in the relevant course(s).

Students, or CUND9004 Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students; and

- (b) Students who did not study Chinese language during their secondary education and have not reached the required proficiency level for the Chinese language enhancement course, CLAW9001, should seek approval from the Board of the Faculty to take a 6-credit course in either Chinese language or Chinese culture offered by the School of Chinese in lieu, especially for international and exchange students.

² Candidates shall complete successfully 24 credits from four of the five Areas of Inquiry in the Common Core Curriculum, with 6 credits from each selected Area of Inquiry.

³ A pass in LLAW1016 Legal research and writing shall be deemed to satisfy the “English in the Discipline” requirement under UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

⁴ Law electives, including a 6-credit Designated Disciplinary Elective. For the purpose of fulfilling specialisation requirements, students are required to take and pass at least 36 credits of law electives under one of the specialisation clusters as indicated in the syllabus.

⁵ Free electives are courses offered by any Faculty of the University, including Faculty of Law.

Specialisation

DLL7. Candidates who have obtained at least 36 credits of law electives listed under one of the specialisations in the syllabus will be duly recognised by having that specialisation stated in the official academic transcript.

DLL8. Candidates shall declare their choice of specialisation, if any, in the beginning of the third academic year. A declaration made beyond the first semester of the fourth academic year will not be considered.

Progression in curriculum

DLL9.

- (a) Candidates shall take the required number of credits in each semester, as stipulated in the degree syllabus, but shall not take more than 78 credits in each academic year of the last two years of study at this University.
 - (b) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits during the last two years of study at this University, the total number of credits taken should not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 234 credits for the maximum period of registration specified in DLL2, unless it is done with the approval of the Senate.
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Grades

DLL10. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG8 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula. Any course for which a candidate is given an F grade shall be recorded on the official academic transcript, and shall be taken into account in the calculation of the GPA. Courses which are graded as distinction, pass or fail shall be recorded on the transcript but shall not be counted towards the GPA.

Passing a course

DLL11. Candidates shall pass a course if the Board of Examiners is satisfied by the candidates' performance in the assessment.

Assessment

DLL12.

- (a) Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of continuous assessment of coursework, written examinations and/ or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits.
- (b) Candidates suspended under Statute XXXI shall not be allowed to take, present themselves for, and participate in any assessments during the period of suspension, unless otherwise permitted by the Senate.
- (c) Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner as prescribed in the curriculum regulations:

- (i) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
 - (ii) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
 - (iii) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
 - (iv) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.
- (d) Where candidates are permitted or required to present themselves for re-assessment/ re-examination/ assessment in an alternative course under (c) above, the new grade obtained together with the previous F grade shall be recorded on the transcript and be included in the calculation of the GPA.
- (e) A candidate shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which he or she has received a pass grade for the purpose of upgrading.
- (f) There shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.
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Absence from an examination

DLL13. Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the First Semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

Exit for a single LLB degree

DLL14. Candidates shall be permitted to apply in writing to exit from the dual degree programme and register for either the UCL LLB or the HKU LLB curriculum. Such application shall be made to both UCL and HKU not later than the end of the first year of study of the 4-year dual degree programme. Admission to either the UCL LLB or the HKU LLB curriculum shall be decided solely by the respective Faculty of Law which the candidate wishes to continue studying in.

DLL15. Candidates who are admitted to register for the HKU LLB programme before the end of the first year of study shall be granted advanced standing for the courses completed successfully in the first year of study at UCL, and shall from the next semester on refer to and comply with the Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Laws (LLB) applicable to students who are admitted to the LLB in the same admission year.

Discontinuation of study

DLL16. Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they fail to satisfy the examiners in the examinations in accordance with UG4(e) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula as follows:

- (i) fail to complete successfully 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester) during the course of study at HKU, except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or
- (ii) fail to achieve an average semester GPA of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or
- (iii) exceed the maximum period of registration specified in DLL2.

Award of Degrees

DLL17.

- (a) To be eligible for the award of the degrees of Bachelor of Laws (HKU LLB) and Bachelor of Laws (UCL LLB)⁶, candidates shall have successfully completed the curriculum as stipulated under DLL3 and DLL4.
- (b) The degree of Bachelor of Laws (HKU LLB) shall be awarded in five divisions in accordance with UG9 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula:

First Class Honours

Second Class Honours Division One

Second Class Honours Division Two

Third Class Honours

Pass

- (c) The classification of honours shall be determined by the Board of Examiners for the degree in accordance with the following Graduation GPA (GGPA) scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying weightings which are proportionate to their credit values:

Class of honours	GGPA range
First Class Honours	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class Honours	(2.40 – 3.59)
<i>Division One</i>	3.00 – 3.59
<i>Division Two</i>	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class Honours	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

- (d) Honours classification may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's Graduation GPA and the Board of Examiners for the degree may, at its absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose Graduation GPA falls below the range stipulated in (c) above of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.

⁶ The degree of Bachelor of Laws (UCL LLB) shall be awarded with honours in accordance with the UCL regulations governing the award of a Bachelor of Laws honours degree.

- (e) A pass list of successful candidates shall be posted on Faculty notice boards and the student homepage.
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SYLLABUSES FOR THE DUAL DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF LAWS AT HKU AND BACHELOR OF LAWS AT UCL

These syllabuses apply to students admitted to the dual degree of HKU LLB and UCL LLB curriculum in the academic year 2026-27 and thereafter.

1. A candidate shall, unless otherwise approved by the Board of the Faculty of Law, complete 96 credits of professional core including 42 credits of compulsory courses, 42 credits of disciplinary electives, and 12 credits in a dissertation of the curriculum in accordance with DLL3 and the syllabuses as set out below. Subject to DLL9, candidates shall select at least 156 credits of courses in their Third and Fourth Years during the course of study at HKU.

UCL

First Year (Equivalent to 72 credits)

Contract Law
Criminal Law
Property Law I
Public Law

Summer Semester (12 credits)

Summer Internship (UCL Global Citizenship Programme)

Second Year (Equivalent to 60 credits)

European Union Law
Jurisprudence and Legal Theory
Property Law II
Tort Law

HKU

Third Year and Fourth Year (156 credits with 78 credits per year)

Compulsory courses

LLAW2001	Constitutional law (6 credits)
LLAW2012	Commercial law (6 credits)
LLAW3010	Business associations (6 credits)
LLAW1016	Legal research and writing (6 credits)
LLAW2009	Introduction to Chinese legal system (6 credits)
LLAWxxxx	Disciplinary electives ¹ (42 credits)

¹ Law electives, including a 6-credit Designated Disciplinary Elective. For the purpose of fulfilling specialisation requirements, students are required to take and pass at least 36 credits of law electives under one of the specialisation clusters as indicated in the syllabus.

LLAW3243	HKU legal internship ² (capstone) (12 credits)
LLAW3242	Dissertation (12 credits)
CLAW9001	Practical Chinese for law students ³ (6 credits)
XXXXxxxx	Free electives ⁴ (24 credits)
CCXXxxxx	Common Core courses ⁵ (24 credits)
AILT1001	Artificial intelligence literacy I (3 credits)
AILT90xx	Artificial intelligence literacy course ⁶ (3 credits)

Designated disciplinary elective (choose one of the following courses):

LLAW3205	Advanced legal theory
LLAW3016	Comparative law
LLAW3220	Gender, sexuality and the law
LLAW3216	Justice
LLAW3285	Law and colonialism
LLAW3295	Law and government
LLAW3128	Law and literature
LLAW3239	Law and social justice
LLAW3172	Law and social theory
LLAW3283	Law and society

² Subject to the approval of the Programme Director, students may satisfy the requirement for LLAW3243 HKU legal internship (capstone) by:

- (i) taking any two of the following 6-credit Designated Clinical Courses: LLAW3148 Clinical legal education, LLAW3187 Mooting and dispute resolution, LLAW3198 Clinical legal education (China), LLAW3256 Clinical legal education (special needs financial planning), LLAW3280 Clinical legal education – refugee and human trafficking stream, LLAW3246 Disability rights clinic, LLAW3281 Human rights in practice clinic, LLAW3230 Public interest clinic, and LLAW3252 The global migration legal clinic; or
- (ii) taking one of the 6-credit Designated Clinical Courses listed in paragraph (i) and a clinical course of Business Law Clinic at UCL.

Any of the courses listed in paragraph (i) and (ii) shall be graded with a pass/fail and shall not be counted in the calculation of the GPA. Any additional course(s) taken from the list in paragraph (i) will be counted towards the disciplinary elective requirement.

The Programme Director may also approve other clinical courses from time to time or on an ad hoc basis for satisfying HKU legal internship.

- ³ (a) Non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking students should take CUND9001 Basic Spoken and Written Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers, or CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society, or CUND9003 Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking Students, or CUND9004 Practical Applied Chinese Writing and Effective Presentation Skills for Non-local Mandarin Speaking Students; and
- (b) Students who did not study Chinese language during their secondary education and have not reached the required proficiency level for the Chinese language enhancement course, CLAW9001, should seek approval from the Board of the Faculty to take a 6-credit course in either Chinese language or Chinese culture offered by the School of Chinese in lieu, especially for international and exchange students.

⁴ Free electives are courses offered by any Faculty of the University, including Faculty of Law.

⁵ Candidates shall complete successfully 24 credits from four of the five Areas of Inquiry in the Common Core Curriculum, with 6 credits from each selected Area of Inquiry.

⁶ Candidates shall take any 3-credit AILT courses offered by other Faculties/Schools that are open to all undergraduate students.

LLAW3292	Law and society in China
LLAW3233	Law, history and culture
LLAW3039	Legal history
LLAW3146	Multiculturalism and the law
LLAW3235	Punishment and society
LLAW3282	The economic analysis of law
LLAW3278	The legal profession

2. The disciplinary electives are listed as follows⁷ (Please refer to the LLB syllabuses for course description):

LLAW3015	Advanced company law
LLAW3206	Advanced law of obligations
LLAW3205	Advanced legal theory
LLAW3151	Advanced seminar in law and technology
LLAW3265	Advanced seminars in trust and equity
LLAW3214	Advanced topics in constitutional law
LLAW3294	AI and private law
LLAW3007	Alternative dispute resolution
LLAW3244	Alternative finance
LLAW3140	Animal law
LLAW3164	Arbitration and conflict of laws in Greater China
LLAW3112	Arbitration law
LLAW3207	Arms control and disarmament law
LLAW3009	Banking law
LLAW3186	Business and human rights
LLAW3138	Carriage of goods by sea
LLAW3107	China civil law (in Putonghua)
LLAW3108	China criminal law and procedure
LLAW3109	China economic law
LLAW3087	China intellectual property law
LLAW3153	China investment law
LLAW3152	China property law
LLAW3181	China security and insolvency law
LLAW3129	China tort law
LLAW3154	China trade law
LLAW3081	Chinese commercial law (in Putonghua)
LLAW3173	Chinese family law in comparative perspective
LLAW3097	Civil procedure
LLAW3241	Climate change law and policy

⁷ For the purpose of PCLL admissions, a candidate must satisfactorily complete LLAW3102 Evidence I (or LLAW3103 Evidence II) and LLAW3284 Hong Kong land law, and comply with any other requirements as may be specified in the PCLL regulations from time to time.

LLAW3148	Clinical legal education ⁸
LLAW3198	Clinical legal education (China) ⁸
LLAW3256	Clinical legal education (special needs financial planning) ⁸
LLAW3280	Clinical legal education - refugee and human trafficking stream ⁸
LLAW3088	Commercial dispute resolution in China
LLAW3125	Comparative constitutional law
LLAW3257	Comparative corporate law
LLAW3144	Comparative environmental law
LLAW3016	Comparative law
LLAW3191	Comparative family law
LLAW3123	Competition law I
LLAW3124	Competition law II (HK and EU competition law)
LLAW3199	Competition law and intellectual property
LLAW3236	Competition law in the digital economy
LLAW3301	Computing for lawyers: automation and prediction
LLAW3098	Constitutional and administrative law in the PRC
LLAW3067	Construction law
LLAW3200	Copyright and creativity
LLAW3184	Credit and security law
LLAW3099	Criminal procedure
LLAW3018	Criminology
LLAW3298	Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong
LLAW3066	Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong (in Putonghua)
LLAW3101	Cybercrime
LLAW3127	Dealing with legacies of human rights violations
LLAW3179	Digital copyright
LLAW3246	Disability rights clinic ⁸
LLAW3117	Economic, social and cultural rights
LLAW3218	Energy law
LLAW3071	Equality and non-discrimination
LLAW3102	Evidence I
LLAW3103	Evidence II
LLAW3258	Financial regulations and compliance
LLAW3220	Gender, sexuality and the law
LLAW3080	Governance and law
LLAW3203	Guided research
LLAW3217	Guided research II
LLAW3133	Healthcare law
LLAW3284	Hong Kong land law
LLAW3110	Human rights and cyberspace
LLAW3022	Human rights in Hong Kong
LLAW3281	Human rights in practice clinic ⁸

⁸ For the purpose of satisfying the 42-credit requirement of disciplinary electives, students may choose up to one of the Designated Clinical Courses, other than any such Designated Clinical Courses taken in satisfaction of LLAW3243 HKU legal internship (capstone) pursuant to footnote 2.

LLAW3083	Human rights: history, theory and politics
LLAW3023	Insolvency law
LLAW3024	Insurance law
LLAW3084	Intellectual property and information technology
LLAW3085	International and comparative intellectual property law
LLAW3086	International and regional protection of human rights
LLAW3072	International business taxation
LLAW3111	International commercial arbitration
LLAW3025	International commercial litigation
LLAW3076	International commercial transactions
LLAW3078	International economic law
LLAW3134	International environmental law
LLAW3026	International human rights
LLAW3058	International moot competition ⁹
LLAW3027	International organisations
LLAW3135	International protection of refugees and displaced persons
LLAW3136	International securities law
LLAW3160	Interpretation of statutes, contracts and treaties
LLAW3248	Introduction to class action litigation in the USA
LLAW3159	Introduction to negotiation theory and practice
LLAW3030	Private international law (the conflict of laws)
LLAW3263	Issues in consumer law: theory and policy
LLAW3033	Issues in intellectual property law
LLAW3059	Jessup international law moot court competition ⁹
LLAW3216	Justice
LLAW3034	Labour law
LLAW3190	Language and the law
LLAW3249	Language rights and linguistic justice
LLAW3285	Law and colonialism
LLAW3065	Law and ethics of artificial intelligence
LLAW3141	Law and film
LLAW3295	Law and government
LLAW3128	Law and literature
LLAW3142	Law and politics of constitutions
LLAW3239	Law and social justice
LLAW3172	Law and social theory
LLAW3283	Law and society
LLAW3233	Law, history and culture
LLAW3037	Law of agency
LLAW3048	Law of restitution
LLAW3049	Law of the sea
LLAW3145	Law, economics, regulation and development
LLAW3254	Law, innovation, technology, entrepreneurship: tech startup law

⁹ This may be substituted by participation in Jessup moot or any other international moot competition approved by the Assistant Dean (Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes).

LLAW3273	Law, innovation, technology and entrepreneurship (LITE) lab - social impact entrepreneurship
LLAW3161	Law, meaning and interpretation
LLAW3090	Legal aspects of white collar crime
LLAW3234	Legal and legislative drafting
LLAW3226	Legal fictions: United States citizenship and the right to write in America
LLAW3269	Legal foundations for global health and development
LLAW3039	Legal history
LLAW3275	Legal language in Hong Kong: issues and directions
LLAW3162	Legal translation
LLAW3255	LITE lab: emerging technology and business models (undergraduate)
LLAW3272	LITE lab: AI and legal technology and the future of the profession sandbox
LLAW3073	Media law
LLAW3192	Mediation
LLAW3040	Medico-legal issues
LLAW3187	Mooting and dispute resolution ^{8,9}
LLAW3146	Multiculturalism and the law
LLAW3303	Murder: law and policy
LLAW3178	Online dispute resolution
LLAW3302	Patent law
LLAW3042	Planning and environmental law
LLAW3043	Principles of family law
LLAW3075	Privacy and data protection
LLAW3230	Public interest clinic ⁸
LLAW3044	Public international law
LLAW3235	Punishment and society
LLAW3069	Regulation of financial markets
LLAW3045	Remedies
LLAW3068	Rights of the child in international and domestic law
LLAW3290	Seminar on human rights and constitutionalism in Asia
LLAW3277	Seminars in private law
LLAW3274	Shakespeare and the law
LLAW3147	Space law and policy
LLAW3054	Succession
LLAW2011	Summer internship
LLAW3251	The beginnings of English law and literature
LLAW3282	The economic analysis of law
LLAW3252	The global migration legal clinic ⁸
LLAW3264	The law of signs: interpretative controversies in legal semiotics
LLAW3212	The law on financial derivatives and structured products
LLAW3278	The legal profession
LLAW1008	The legal system of the Hong Kong SAR
LLAW3260	The Mainland China legal internship programme
LLAW3143	Topics in law and literature: Flaubert and Eliot
LLAW3171	Topics in English and European legal history
LLAW3113	Topics in technology law
LLAW3176	Trademarks and unfair competition
LLAW3221	Trusts in practice
LLAW3055	Use of Chinese in law I

LLAW3004 Use of Chinese in law II
LLAW3070 World Trade Organization: law and policy

The advanced disciplinary electives are listed as follows¹⁰:

LLAW3289 Armed conflicts and international humanitarian law
LLAW3201 China shipping law (in Putonghua)
LLAW3062 Human rights in China
LLAW3299 Law and regulation of private banking and wealth management
LLAW3292 Law and society in China
LLAW3286 Law and wealth management
LLAW3287 Legal concepts and practical application in financial transactions
LLAW3270 Legal pluralism in Hong Kong
LLAW3297 Medical malpractice
LLAW3291 Mental disability and the law
LLAW3183 Mergers and acquisitions
LLAW3115 Rights and remedies in the criminal process
LLAW3293 Securities regulation
LLAW3311 Selected topics in Chinese law
LLAW3306 Selected topics in commercial law
LLAW3307 Selected topics in corporate and financial law
LLAW3310 Selected topics in international and comparative law
LLAW3304 Selected topics in private law
LLAW3305 Selected topics in public law
LLAW3309 Selected topics in regulatory law
LLAW3308 Selected topics in technology law
LLAW3300 Sports law
LLAW3288 Transnational criminal law

3. For the purpose of DLL7, the following specialisations are available for any student who has obtained 36 credits by completing courses listed below in the respective category or such other courses as may be approved by the Assistant Dean (Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Programmes) for the purposes of inclusion in that category. Not all specialisations are necessarily on offer every year.

- Chinese law
- Commercial, corporate and financial law
- International trade and economic law

Chinese law

¹⁰ Students must meet the following requirements before enrolling in any of the courses on the list:

- (i) must achieve a CGPA of 3.3 or above at the point of enrolment,
- (ii) choose no more than two from the course list during their undergraduate studies, and
- (iii) enrolment in any of the courses is subject to places being available. No guarantee of successful enrolment in a selected course.

LLAW3151	Advanced seminar in law and technology
LLAW3164	Arbitration and conflict of laws in Greater China
LLAW3107	China civil law (in Putonghua)
LLAW3108	China criminal law and procedure
LLAW3109	China economic law
LLAW3087	China intellectual property law
LLAW3153	China investment law
LLAW3152	China property law
LLAW3181	China security and insolvency law
LLAW3201	China shipping law (in Putonghua) ¹⁰
LLAW3129	China tort law
LLAW3154	China trade law
LLAW3081	Chinese commercial law (in Putonghua)
LLAW3173	Chinese family law in comparative perspective
LLAW3088	Commercial dispute resolution in China
LLAW3098	Constitutional and administrative law in the PRC
LLAW3298	Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong
LLAW3066	Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong (in Putonghua)
LLAW3270	Legal pluralism in Hong Kong ¹⁰
LLAW3272	LITE lab: AI and legal technology and the future of the profession sandbox
LLAW3260	The Mainland China legal internship programme

Commercial, corporate and financial law

LLAW3015	Advanced company law
LLAW3206	Advanced law of obligations
LLAW3151	Advanced seminar in law and technology
LLAW3265	Advanced seminars in trust and equity
LLAW3007	Alternative dispute resolution
LLAW3244	Alternative finance
LLAW3164	Arbitration and conflict of laws in Greater China
LLAW3009	Banking law
LLAW3109	China economic law
LLAW3153	China investment law
LLAW3154	China trade law
LLAW3081	Chinese commercial law (in Putonghua)
LLAW3088	Commercial dispute resolution in China
LLAW3123	Competition law I
LLAW3124	Competition law II
LLAW3199	Competition law and intellectual property
LLAW3184	Credit and security law
LLAW3258	Financial regulations and compliance
LLAW3023	Insolvency law
LLAW3024	Insurance law
LLAW3072	International business taxation
LLAW3136	International securities law
LLAW3160	Interpretation of statutes, contracts and treaties
LLAW3030	Private international law (the conflict of laws)

LLAW3263	Issues in consumer law: theory and policy
LLAW3033	Issues in intellectual property law
LLAW3299	Law and regulation of private banking and wealth management ¹⁰
LLAW3286	Law and wealth management ¹⁰
LLAW3254	Law, innovation, technology, entrepreneurship: tech startup law
LLAW3273	Law, innovation, technology and entrepreneurship (LITE) lab - social impact entrepreneurship
LLAW3037	Law of agency
LLAW3048	Law of restitution
LLAW3287	Legal concepts and practical application in financial transactions ¹⁰
LLAW3255	LITE lab: emerging technology and business models (undergraduate)
LLAW3272	LITE lab: AI and legal technology and the future of the profession sandbox
LLAW3183	Mergers and acquisitions ¹⁰
LLAW3069	Regulation of financial markets
LLAW3045	Remedies
LLAW3293	Securities regulation ¹⁰
LLAW3277	Seminars in private law
LLAW3212	The law on financial derivatives and structured products
LLAW3260	The Mainland China legal internship programme
LLAW3176	Trademarks and unfair competition

International trade and economic law

LLAW3151	Advanced seminar in law and technology
LLAW3138	Carriage of goods by sea
LLAW3153	China investment law
LLAW3154	China trade law
LLAW3123	Competition law I
LLAW3124	Competition law II (HK and EU competition law)
LLAW3085	International and comparative intellectual property law
LLAW3111	International commercial arbitration
LLAW3025	International commercial litigation
LLAW3076	International commercial transactions
LLAW3078	International economic law
LLAW3027	International organisations
LLAW3263	Issues in consumer law: theory and policy
LLAW3049	Law of the sea
LLAW3145	Law, economics, regulation and development
LLAW3272	LITE lab: AI and legal technology and the future of the profession sandbox
LLAW3044	Public international law
LLAW3070	World Trade Organization: law and policy

NOTE: Not all courses will be offered in any given year. For actual courses available, please refer to annual course offerings.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The courses available to students are listed below. Where two courses are described as “I and II” (12 credits), this means that they may either be taught separately in two semesters in the same academic year or be taught as one combined course in one semester, and may either be examined separately or at the same time.

Compulsory courses (in the order listed in the syllabus)

THIRD YEAR AND FOURTH YEAR

LLAW2001 Constitutional law (6 credits)

Constitutional law is a core component of a legal system. It also constitutes the foundation of a legal system, because it stipulates what are the sources of law in the legal system and how the law is made; it establishes, empowers and constrains the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government; and it regulates the relationship between these organs of government as well as the relationship between the government and the people. From the perspective of the people, constitutional law guarantees and protects their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In Hong Kong, constitutional law also performs the important function of regulating the relationship between Hong Kong as a Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) and the Central Government Authorities of the PRC. Constitutional law in Hong Kong is therefore the legal foundation of ‘One Country, Two Systems’. It is also an area of the law which is often the focus of public and media attention. Constitutional law cases and controversies often appear in the Hong Kong press as frontpage news stories. The outcomes of constitutional litigation sometimes not only change the lives of the parties to the case, but also have wide and deep impact on the Hong Kong community and its public and social policies, or the political relationship between Hong Kong and mainland China.

Constitutional law is closely related to politics, political philosophy and history. In students’ previous legal studies, they have already come across aspects of constitutional history and constitutional theory (e.g. in the Law and Society course), as well as some constitutional controversies in Hong Kong (e.g. in the Legal System course). We hope that this course on constitutional law will provide for students the opportunity to study the subject more systematically and intensively. However, as it is only a one-semester course, it can do no more than opening the door for students, so that students who are interested in a broader and deeper understanding of the subject may acquire a solid foundation for their future studies in this interesting, exciting and challenging domain of public law.

Assessment: 30% take home assignment, 70% examination

LLAW2012 Commercial law (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the fundamental legal concepts and principles relating to commercial law in Hong Kong and covers the following topics:

A: Personal Property

- Types of Personal Property
 - Chose in Possession
 - Chose in Action
- Types of Rights and Interests
 - Possession
 - Ownership
- Legal and Equitable Assignment

B: Sale of Goods

- Scope and Application of the Sale of Goods Ordinance (Cap. 26)
- Passing of Property
- Transfer of Risks
- Transfer of Title and the *Nemo Dat* Rule
- Implied Terms
- Duties and Remedies of Seller and Buyer

C: Agency

- Creation of Agency
- Types of Authority
- Undisclosed Agency
- Effects of Agency
- Duties of an Agent
- Termination of Agency

D: Credit and Security

- Types of Security
 - Real Security - Pledges, Liens, Mortgages, Charges
 - Personal Security – Guarantee, Indemnity
- Rules of Priority

Assessment: 20% in-class participation, 80% in-hall final examination

LLAW3010 Business associations (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the law of business associations. The two main forms of business association to be covered in the course are partnerships and companies, with a predominant focus on the latter. Students will acquire an understanding of the basic issues in company law, including company formation, corporate personality, the relationship between the company and outsiders, directors' duties, member's right in a company, and the dissolution of a company. The focus will be on Hong Kong law.

The course adopts the usual lecture-tutorial format. The tutorials are highly interactive and students are expected to come prepared and to participate actively in tutorial discussions.

Pre-requisite: Have taken and passed Commercial Law

Assessment: 20% in-class participation, 80% final examination

LLAW1016 Legal research and writing (6 credits)

Legal Research and Writing is a foundation skills course offered in the first semester. It introduces students to judgments, ordinances, and specific genres such as case notes and legal memoranda. As a practice-focused skills course. The lectures and tutorials work in tandem to help students develop the following inter-related skills, which are essential for the study of other law subjects and for future legal work:

Legal analysis – to closely read and analyse common law judgments; to use and interpret legislation, and to identify legal issues from fact-patterns.

Research – to identify and locate appropriate cases and legislation and secondary sources.

Legal writing – to write succinctly and effectively, and construct logical and persuasive arguments.

Assessment: 15% class contribution, participation in tutorials, 35% writing exercises / presentations, 50% final examination

LLAW2009 Introduction to Chinese legal system (6 credits)

The course provides an overview of the basic rules and institutions of the legal system that is operating in the mainland of People's Republic of China (PRC) and the fundamental concepts in the core areas of Chinese law. The aim of the teaching is to introduce the structures, institutions, and distinctive features of the Chinese legal system and improve the understanding of Chinese law as compared with other legal systems, including the common law-based legal system in Hong Kong.

Assessment: 20% tutorial participation, 40% essay, 40% final examination

LLAW3243 HKU legal internship (capstone) (12 credits)

This HKU Legal Internship course is a compulsory course for students registered in the UCL-HKU Dual Degree Programme, and is only open to those students.

This course will consist of training sessions and legal clinic work (including attending interview, and advice sessions and preparing case summary, legal research memos and summary of advice). Students will be required to conduct interviews with real clients and handle real cases under the supervision of the Director/supervising staff of the clinical legal education or any similar experimental learning programme of the Faculty and voluntary duty lawyers in the private sector, or responsible Legal Officer and/or staff in public sector, NGOs and relevant partner organisations in the community and elsewhere, if any. Students will be provided with training on lawyering skills such as interviewing, negotiation, communication, facts investigation, legal research and analysis. They will be required to apply legal theories and principles to practical settings, practise legal writing and drafting, and reflect on professional ethics and responsibilities. Depending on availability, students may be placed in different streams of the clinical legal education or any similar experimental learning programme.

Students may also have the opportunities to develop professional judgement through encounters with legal and ethical dilemmas, and to recognize challenges, to creatively identify options, and to diligently and ethically provide assistance to clients.

This course will also provide opportunities for experiential learning through simulated legal advocacy and dispute resolution exercises. In particular, students will have the opportunity to apply their legal knowledge and skills by participating in the moot coaching session and the moot competition.

Students will be assessed on a pass / fail basis by reference to the contents of the portfolio/ written work, and by the feedback of the Director/supervising staff of the clinical legal education programme and the supervising lawyers/ responsible legal officer on their professional attitudes and competence when they handle clients' cases. Students are also required to submit to the Programme Director or his/her delegate samples of written work or reflective journals/essay based on the experience at the legal internship.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

LLAW3242 Dissertation (12 credits)

This course is about legal scholarship. Students will acquire the skills of effective legal writing and research, including: the selection of research topics and questions; planning and structuring research, developing an original thesis/argument, and engaging critically with legal scholarship. To these ends, students will produce a research dissertation, under the supervision of a faculty member and informed by their participation in a series of seminar sessions. Learning activities during the seminars will consist of discussing the goals and challenges of legal research and scholarship, presenting one's own research topic/idea, and constructive engagement with others about their research. The expected word count of the dissertation is between 10,000 to 12,000 words.

This course is only open to students on the UCL-HKU Dual Degree Programme, for whom this course is compulsory.

Assessment: 90% dissertation, 10% classwork

CLAW9001 Practical Chinese for law students (6 credits)

The course is designed to enhance the students' proficiency in the use of the Chinese language in the legal profession. It helps to sharpen the students' skills in writing formal letters, notices, announcements, proposals and reports. As a variety of the Chinese language, legal Chinese has its own distinctive characteristics, which are explored in this course. A special topic in this course is "Characteristics of Chinese Legal Language". The students are trained to express their ideas and views lucidly in Chinese in a legal context. Drilling practices are provided to familiarise them with the simplified forms of frequently used legal terms.

Assessment: 50% written assignments, 50% written examination

AILT1001 Artificial intelligence literacy I (3 credits)

Artificial Intelligence (AI) literacy is essential for navigating our modern society effectively and responsibly. This course provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to understand AI concepts, interact with AI systems, and critically evaluate their impact. Through lectures, online learning activities and a practical project, students will explore the ethical, social, and technological dimensions of AI, preparing them to make informed decisions in a world that is increasingly AI-driven.

Assessment: 20% participation, 40% group assignment, 40% final test

Designated Clinical Courses (listed in alphabetical order)

LLAW3148 Clinical legal education (6 credits)

In this course the students will through interviewing real clients and handling real cases under the supervision of the course coordinator and voluntary duty lawyers in the private sector develop lawyering skills such as interviewing, negotiation, communication, facts investigation, legal research and analysis, applying the legal theories and principles to the real client's case or situation, legal writing and drafting, as well as professional ethics and responsibilities. The "course" will consist of the following elements

– training sessions and legal clinic work (including attending interview and advice sessions and preparing case summary, legal research memos and summary of advice). The applicants for this course are required to submit an application in prescribed form to the course coordinator for consideration and approval.

Assessment: Students will be assessed on a pass / fail basis by reference to the contents of the portfolio and the course coordinator and the supervising lawyers' feedback on their professional attitudes and competence when they handle

clients' cases.

LLAW3198 Clinical legal education (China) (6 credits)

This is a programme offered to law and mixed degrees students in the Summer Semester. As part of the experiential learning in the Faculty of Law, this course offers an opportunity for Hong Kong students 1) to observe the operation of the Chinese legal system from a close distance; 2) to participate in activities of provision of legal aid to the poor in the Mainland; and 3) to critically reflect the political and legal development in the Mainland.

The summer Internship is placed under the existing Clinical legal education course and offers a scheme of clinical legal education in Mainland China. Each student enrolled in this programme will be placed in one of the hosting Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Mainland China between June and August for a period between six and eight weeks. During the placement, the students will work as Interns for the NGOs at the instructions and supervision of the relevant staff of the NGOs.

Hosting NGOs may be located in different parts of China. They include China-based international NGOs such as the American Bar Association's Beijing Office; domestic NGOs such as Yirenping Centre; or University-based legal aid centre such as the Wuhan University Legal Aid Centre. The Faculty will contact and enter into agreements with the NGOs and match NGOs with the student interest subject to availability.

Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

LLAW3256 Clinical legal education (special needs financial planning) (6 credits)

This course will begin with seminars on affordable planning instruments for individuals with cognitive impairment in Hong Kong, such as will, statutory guardianship, enduring (or continuing) power of attorney and special needs trusts. Selected topics in succession and estate planning; personal care and welfare system for people with disability; probate and intestacy; and family and matrimonial assets distribution will also be covered.

Students will then have an opportunity to apply their knowledge in a real practice setting. Students will provide legal advice and individual assistance to eligible families and individuals (ie families with modest wealth that have individuals with intellectual disability, autism, and mental disorder; and elderly people) seeking to execute the above planning instruments where appropriate. Students will through interviewing real clients and handling real cases under the supervision of the Course Coordinators, Director of the Legal Clinic and pro bono lawyers in the private sector develop lawyering skills such as interviewing, communication, fact investigation, legal research and analysis, legal writing and drafting, as well as professional ethics and responsibilities.

Pre-requisite: Undergraduate LLB and double degree students must have completed at least 2 years of their degree programme.

Assessment: Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis by reference to the contents of the portfolio and feedback by the Course Coordinators / Director on their professional attitudes and competence when they handle the clients' case.

LLAW3280 Clinical legal education – refugee and human trafficking stream (6 credits)

The CLE – refugee and human trafficking stream (“the Clinic”) is offered to undergraduate and post-graduate students in the Faculty of Law at the University of Hong Kong (HKU) in partnership with the Centre for Comparative and Public

Law (CCPL) and Justice Centre Hong Kong. Justice Centre provides information and individual assistance to claimants seeking non-refoulement protection in Hong Kong (known as “protection claimants”) and advocates for their rights in policy spheres and through campaigns to raise public awareness and change perceptions. The Clinic allows students to learn both the theory and practice of non-refoulement law in Hong Kong. Students will learn the legal Hong Kong for assessing protection needs and develop their legal skills in a real practice setting. Specific skills include: interviewing protection claimants, working with an interpreter, fact investigation, legal research and analysis, and legal writing and drafting. Students will also have opportunities to develop professional judgment through encounters with real legal and ethical dilemmas. Students will learn to take a human rights-based approach to legal work, to recognise challenges, to creatively identify options, and to diligently and ethically assist protection claimants. Students work under the direct supervision of Justice Centre’s Legal Officer and/or other Justice Centre staff.

Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Assessment: 100% clinical work: Pass/Fail in two components, namely 1) preparation and participation in group seminars and clinical sessions; 2) written work

LLAW3246 Disability rights clinic (6 credits)

This course will provide an opportunity for HKU students to gain knowledge and practical experience in the rapidly developing area of disability rights law. Both for students who will work outside the corporate sector and also within the corporate sector, a working knowledge of disability law is imperative. In recent years, disability law has gained attention and prominence. As a result, there is demand for lawyers with knowledge and experience in this area. This is an area of law that touches all others; for example, from employment law, to education, medical, criminal and tort law. As such, it is desirable even for graduates who will work in private practice to have a working knowledge of disability law.

Through partnerships with innovative and progressive disability rights groups (both domestically and internationally), students will acquire substantive knowledge in international human rights law and disability rights law while actively applying the knowledge to practice through providing service to the community.

The Disability Rights Clinic will challenge students to identify, research, analyse and report on rights violations experienced by people with disabilities. Weekly seminars will incorporate both substantive knowledge and practical skills training.

No prerequisite but a prior or concurrent course in international human rights law is recommended. Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Assessment: 20% project plan; 20% weekly team/partner meetings; 20% mid-term draft work product; 40% final work product

LLAW3281 Human rights in practice clinic (6 credits)

The Human Rights in Practice course provides students with the opportunity to explore and engage with both domestic and international human rights issues through experiential learning. By working with clients facing infringements to their fundamental human rights, students will gain substantive knowledge in different areas of international law and experience first-hand the relationship between international human rights laws and the Hong Kong legal system.

This course seeks to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in the changing global legal environment by providing opportunities to work on public interest legal matters while serving the community. The course aims to expose students to the challenges and skills of acting in the role of a lawyer within the unstructured

situations that public interest lawyers confront in practice. Through collaborative work on real cases, students will learn the theory and practice of domestic and international human rights law, as well as comparative legal analysis.

The course encourages critical analysis of the law, the relationship between international and domestic legal systems, and the different roles within Hong Kong's legal regime. It also aims to give students an opportunity to practice their professional skills and ethics, identify and provide service for unmet legal needs, and evaluate the real-life application and effects of international human rights instruments on an individual level. Students will also be given opportunities to work with practising lawyers, counsellors, and social workers, enabling students to recognize challenges and gain valuable skills.

Specific skills taught in this course include litigation skills, designing community legal education materials, collaborative and community-based lawyering, domestic and international legal research and analysis, including comparative legal research, human rights research, and legal writing. By providing students with practical experiences and critical analysis, this course prepares them to become lawyers who are mindful of the holistic needs of clients in their future legal careers.

Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Assessment: 15% In-class presentation; 20% weekly written reports; 65% ongoing clinic assignments

LLAW 3187 Mooting and dispute resolution (6 credits)

The course takes place in both Semester 1 and Semester 2. Course credits are awarded at the completion of the course in Semester 2.

The course is designed to introduce you to the following:

1. Appellate Advocacy

- You will participate in a moot.
- You will be in teams of two, acting as Counsel for one of the parties in an appeal from a (fictional) trial decision. You will be required to prepare and submit to the court a skeleton argument of the legal arguments you intend to advance along with a list of authorities. You will also be required to argue the case before the court.
- This course builds upon the writing and oral presentation skills you have developed in Legal Research and Writing.

2. Dispute Resolution Methods (such as litigation, arbitration and mediation).

Pre-requisite: Have taken and passed Legal research and writing

Assessment:

This is a pass/fail course.

In order to pass the course, students must complete all of the following **three** elements:

- (i) Attend one mooting coaching session;
- (ii) Attend at least 80% of the lectures; and
- (iii) Participate in one mandatory moot in the competition, including:
 - prepare and submit a skeleton argument at the mooting competition to a satisfactory level; and

- prepare and present an oral argument to at the moot competition to a satisfactory level. Please note that for the mandatory moot, **both** your oral presentation and skeleton argument must be of satisfactory standard.

In order to select the semi-finalists and the finalists of the moot competition, and to provide feedback to students on their performance, the moot (written and oral presentations) will be graded. However, the grades will have no impact on the students' GPA.

LLAW3230 Public interest clinic (6 credits)

The Public Interest Clinic is a clinical legal education subject which combines practical experience and academic learning.

Under the supervision of the course instructors and in collaboration with legal practitioners, students will provide legal assistance to non-governmental and non-profit organizations in addition to engaging directly with clients from underserved communities, including 1) individuals seeking asylum 2) those affected by human trafficking 3) mental health patients 4) persons facing discrimination, ensuring these clients receive critical legal support tailored to their unique circumstances.

Students will work with lawyers and other professionals to provide a diverse range of services. Working in small groups on allocated projects, students will gain practical legal skills by providing assistance and information to clients.

The precise nature of the practical experience will vary depending on the needs of the relevant organisations and clients requiring assistance during the academic semester.

During the course, students will conduct in-depth interviews with clients from underserved populations to establish the scope and goals of each case, identifying key deliverables that address their specific needs. While assisting these clients, students will leverage their foundational knowledge of doctrinal law and enhance their competencies through targeted legal research, particularly in areas less familiar to them. They will be encouraged to understand the broader context of their clients' legal situations, striving to provide comprehensive support that encompasses the full spectrum of their needs.

In addition to their direct client engagements, students will actively participate in a variety of research activities that support the broader work of the clinic. These efforts will include analyzing legal trends, evaluating procedural effectiveness, and developing educational materials that serve to inform both clients and the broader community. These projects, guided by experienced legal practitioners and utilizing advanced research tools, will enhance students' understanding of law in practice. Such activities not only complement the practical legal experience gained but also contribute to academic growth and professional readiness in addressing complex legal challenges.

Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Assessment: 10% class participation, 20% weekly reports, 20% class presentations and written reviews, 50% ongoing clinic

LLAW3252 The global migration legal clinic (6 credits)

The Global Migration Legal Clinic aims to empower and equip HKU students with the skills and knowledge necessary to excel in a changing global legal environment by providing students with the opportunity to learn by doing and by providing service to the community.

This experiential course will focus on the growing number of people across Asia who migrate from their home each year in search of better work opportunities. In Hong Kong alone, 10% of the working population are foreign domestic workers. And the HK government recently announced that the number of said workers will grow from approximately 370,000 to over 600,000 in a matter of decades. Moreover, because of ageing populations and diminishing growth, unskilled migrant workers are increasingly important to economies across Asia, with nations such as China, Japan, and South Korea recently enacting laws allowing unskilled migrants to work in-country.

Conversely, as the amount of labor migration increases, the instances of abuse also increase. There are more slaves and bonded workers in the world today than at any time prior, and the vast majority of these workers are found in Asia. Recent studies have shown that a majority of foreign domestic workers in HK have been abused or deceived in some fashion, and the US government has categorized HK as a Tier-2 Watch country on its Trafficking in Persons Report for multiple years running.

Students in this Clinic will be tasked with focusing on specific legal cases and problems, and devising holistic solutions to said problems. While their solutions will obviously involve legal recourse or research of some kind, students will be required to also consider broader solutions, including: media and social media exposure, lobbying, commercial solutions, etc.

The aims of the Clinic are:

1. to expose students to the challenges and skills of affecting real change in real-life situations;
2. to expand opportunities for collaborative experiential learning;
3. to instruct students in the theory and practice of various legal disciplines;
4. to give students an opportunity to practice their professional skills and ethics;
5. to encourage students to identify and provide service for unmet legal needs; and
6. to encourage critical analysis of the law, the relationship between international and domestic legal systems, and the clients' place and the lawyer's role within the international legal system.

Specific skills taught include interviewing, working with an interpreter, oral advocacy, negotiation, fact investigation, legal research and analysis, legal writing and drafting, collaborative problem solving, and lobbying.

Students will be assessed on a pass/fail basis.

Assessment: 20% weekly seminar, team meetings, written weekly report, 20% project plan, 20% mid-term product, 40% final work product

Designated Disciplinary electives (listed in alphabetical order)

(Choose one of the following courses)

LLAW3205 Advanced legal theory (6 credits)

This course provides an in-depth analysis of a number of key themes and texts in legal theory. Each year a core theme is introduced to provide a coherence to the study of several perennial problems in legal theory.

The course will work in a sustained way through a range of questions and perspectives so that students gain a deeper knowledge of legal theoretical issues and how they bear on contemporary problems of law in society. These will be explored through a series of engagements with texts, contexts, representations and contestations.

The course is seminar-based and will be taught through a range of materials and disciplinary approaches. These will include conventional scholarly texts in law, politics and philosophy, but may also draw on non-standard resources. The classes will be discussion-based.

Students are expected to pursue their own interests and insights on the issues raised in the course in a 5,000-word research essay. The subject of the essay will be devised by each student individually in consultation with the course convenor. An oral presentation will allow students to articulate their understanding of the ideas being analysed, as well as to answer questions on it.

As this is an advanced level course it is expected that students will normally have already studied some aspect of legal theory or a cognate subject. However, this is not a prerequisite.

Assessment: 80% research essay, 20% oral presentation

LLAW3016 Comparative law (6 credits)

This course introduces basic methodologies and theories of comparative law and studies different legal systems. The primary idea of this course is to investigate how different societies and cultures understand justice and order in their own contexts. In addition to centering on two salient legal systems: the common law system and the civil law system, this course will also pay special attention to comparative studies of Chinese law, with a focus on its interaction with the Hong Kong legal system.

The course will start with discussing general topics in the comparative law discipline, and then delve into significant differences in constitutional law, procedure, criminal law, property, contract, tort and family law around the world. In the end, this course will explore some potential usages of comparative law in legal debates.

Assessment: 20% participation, 40% mid-term essay, 40% take home examination

LLAW3220 Gender, sexuality and the law (6 credits)

This course explores the ways in which law regulates sexual behavior, and considers the roles it plays in constructing sexual identities. It examines issues recurrent in discussions of gender and sexuality, including the oppositions between normalcy and deviancy, the public and the private, and autonomy and community. Comparative perspectives will be considered where appropriate. While the course focuses on case law and doctrine, it also has a strong jurisprudential dimension, and includes extensive readings in legal and cultural theory.

Assessment: 45% final essay, 25% mid-term essay, 15% class presentation, 15% class participation

LLAW3216 Justice (6 credits)

This course is about justice. It begins with a treatment of John Rawls' justice as fairness and the related debates. Implications of justice as fairness to constitutional regimes will be analyzed. The course also involves a discussion of distributive justice and corrective justice and their implications to selected branches of law such as tax law, tort law, contract law, and property law.

Assessment: 70% research paper, 20% presentation, 10% class participation

LLAW3285 Law and colonialism (6 credits)

The course critically examines the relationships between law and colonialism, drawing on disciplinary knowledge and methods in law, anthropology, history, cultural studies, and political and social theory. The focus is on modern European

colonisation, particularly the British Empire in the nineteenth century and its continuations into the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Topics will include how law has been used as an instrument of colonial and anti-colonial processes; how law has been the product of colonisation, as well as productive of colonial forms of authority and subjectivity; how law has been a site of colonial struggles, transformations and movements; how law has been part of a social imaginary implicated in 'Orientalisms' old and new; and how law has been treated as a gift of colonisation as well as a measure of its 'achievements'.

Assessment: 20% class participation, 20% research paper proposal, 60% research paper

LLAW3295 Law and government (6 credits)

In Law and Government, we embark on a journey through cutting-edge debates that lie at the nexus of law and political science. We delve into a wide spectrum of topics, including the political conception of law in ancient and modern philosophical traditions, tensions between judicialisation and the popular democratic process, the politics of constitutional review, constitutional design and change, legality under authoritarian governance, legal, attitudinal and strategic models of judicial decision-making, administrative law and bureaucratic politics, the logic of 'fourth-branch' institutions such as the Ombudsman, the politics of the legal process and legal profession, the interdependence between international politics and international law, and algorithmic law and governance. Synthesising theoretical, empirical, and doctrinal materials across various disciplines and jurisdictions, this course critically confronts conventional notions that law is a self-contained system insulated from the currents of politics, or is reducible to a crude instrument of political power. Ultimately, we are invited to rethink how law and politics are constitutive of each other in multi-faceted ways at both the domestic and international levels.

Pre-requisite: Having taken LLAW2001 Constitutional law and LLAW3093 Administrative law (or their equivalents)

Assessment: 15% participation, 35% mid-term assessment, 50% research paper

LLAW3128 Law and literature (6 credits)

This course explores the complex interactions between literature and the law. Even though the two disciplines may seem distinct, both law and literature are products of language and have overlapped in significant and interesting ways in history. Why do legal themes recur in fiction, and what kinds of literary structures underpin legal argumentation? How do novelists and playwrights imagine the law, and how do lawyers and judges interpret literary works? Could literature have legal subtexts, and could legal documents be re-interpreted as literary texts? We will think through these questions by juxtaposing novels, plays, court cases, and critical theory.

Pre-requisite: Haven taken and passed a previous course in legal and/or literary subject.

Assessment: 45% final essay, 25% mid-term essay, 15% presentation, 15% class participation

LLAW3239 Law and social justice (6 credits)

One of the continuing challenges undermining the law's effectiveness is its inability to capture within its frame the most marginalized and vulnerable communities. This exclusion or marginalization of particular stakeholders from the legal process has received considerably less attention. Although the theme of access to justice conceptualizes this accessibility gap in some respects, it fails to capture stakeholders who never engage with the legal framework at any stage despite violations or gaps in the realization or implementation of their rights.

This course examines the limits of the law and its reach and assesses the structural and substantive 'justice gap' and its implications for particular groups. The course challenges law's framing and structuring of social, legal and political

relationships given its mono-dimensional framing of legal issues which fails to capture the complex realities and diversities of life, communities and experiences governed by law. It deconstructs the single factor / frame / category of analysis such as gender, disability, race or sexual orientation to examine how the interpretive framework of the law fails to respond to multiple sites of oppression experienced by a particular individual / group and systemically disadvantages particular categories of persons. The legal system's failure to capture within its frame the lived realities of complex lives and relationships today results in the law's complicity in systemic and structural oppression. This paradigmatic non-recognition or the forceful fragmentation of particular identities is closely bounded up with identity politics and the historical exclusion of the voices of particular groups from legal and political frameworks. Given law's power to give meaning to actions,

to determine legal truth and given its promise of equality and justice for all, the course places a magnifying lens on law's processes and substance to identify those at the margins of law and to reorient attention to marginalized voices to consider new ways of conceptualizing their authentic realities to achieve inclusive justice in a diverse and complex world.

For the clinical component of the course, depending on the posture of ongoing legal cases or issues, students will have an opportunity to work closely with the course lecturer and NGOs involved in serving clients from these communities to develop a rich grassroots-level understanding of the issues. Students will contribute to the development of a resource or toolkit on multiple, intersectional or additive discrimination and the potential strategies to mobilizing change in discourse, legal practice and social justice paradigms.

Assessment: 55% research paper, 15% journal reflections, 15% symposium presentation, 15% class participation

LLAW3172 Law and social theory (6 credits)

Amongst the most powerful of contemporary analyses of law and legal institutions are those which draw on the tradition of social theory. These trends now constitute a discrete area of academic enquiry that is of growing importance and relevance. This course offers a series of readings which draw on that tradition and think them through in relation to contemporary legal problems. This course will develop students' knowledge of the basic paradigms of social theory as it relates to law and place the development of law in social theoretical and historical context. By developing a critical understanding of the relationship between law and social theory students will assess the differences between diverse theoretical approaches and be able to develop and articulate their own understanding of the appropriate paradigms for analysis in legal and social theory. The aim is therefore to enhance students' understanding of contemporary law and legal institutions. Topics to be covered may include: competing theories of law and modernity; analyses of alternative approaches to power and security; the role and consequences of processes of juridification; and theories of globalisation.

Assessment: 20% presentation, 80% research essay

LLAW3283 Law and society (6 credits)

The objective of this course is to introduce students to the historical, comparative and critical study of issues relating to "law and society". We hope to capture the dynamics between law and society, namely, how law is shaped by social changes, perception and thought, and how society is molded by legal rules and norms. We will discuss broad interdisciplinary perspectives and theoretical, empirical and policy considerations relevant to the study of the relationship between law and society.

In this one semester course, we will consider some topical themes, such as the relationship between law and politics, law and philosophy, law and history, law and culture, law and morality, law and gender, law and family, etc., to illustrate these dynamics. We will be using multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary perspectives from anthropology, sociology, political science, history and philosophy. This is a course that is not primarily about law, but about how law-related socio-political and historical issues can be studied by employing these multi-disciplinary perspectives.

Assessment: 5% a written answer to an assigned tutorial question, 10% tutorial participation, 85% examination

LLAW3292 Law and society in China (6 credits)

This course aims to explore the theoretical and practical issues relating to law and society in China, the extent to which law as a tool for politics and development has affected social change and how social forces have influenced the functioning of law and the interaction among legal institutions in China. This course will discuss the operation of China's political-legal system, lawmaking, courts, legal professions, various forms of dispute resolution, legal consciousness and mobilization, criminal and civil justice, and how the Chinese case pushes the boundaries of socio-legal theories. It will also address the impact of law on people's behaviour, how law mediates the interaction between state and society, and the relationship between social change and legal change. The interface between law and economic, political, cultural, and social phenomena will be studied through critical debates, empirical research and from comparative perspectives.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LLAW3233 Law, history and culture (6 credits)

This course will enable students to research and examine the history of law and its connection with social, political and economic development of Hong Kong and China in the 19th and 20th centuries through students' first-hand exploration of archival documents and images stored in libraries and the Public Records Office. Students, through a close reading of archival materials, will be asked to reflect critically on their conventional basic ideas about the legal system, social customs and culture of Hong Kong and China. These ideas include, among others: 'Imperial China lacks the rule of law'; 'Hong Kong's rule of law is a British colonial legacy'; and 'Chinese traditionally preferred settling disputes through mediation than resorting to the law'. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach, this course will explore how the notion of law functions as a site of discourse in the expression of identity as well as the articulation of ethnic, cultural and socio-economic differences.

Assessment: 15% class participation, 20% presentation, 30% book review, 35% research essay

LLAW3039 Legal history (6 credits)

Hong Kong had been a constituent part of both the Chinese and the British Empire and was subjected to the laws and regulations of these two historic domains. This course examines how Western scholarship treats the legal history of both China and Britain to explain the approaches and construction of historical narratives for laws and legal systems. Approaching law through history, this course explains the history of legal ideas that shaped a modern common law legal system in China. The aim is to elucidate the legal nature and temporal position of a modern legal entity such as the 'Hong Kong Special Administrative Region' through the study of the techniques of historical construction.

This course will discuss the following: the Chinese imperial legal system, the paradoxical absence of Chinese civil laws, general Western study of Chinese laws, the works of twentieth century Harvard scholars such as William C. Jones's work on the Great Qing Code, and the Californian sociological challenge to the Harvard school. Discussion on British legal history will include: the works of Blackstone, Holdsworth, Dicey and Maitland, British imperial expansion and Admiralty law, colonisation and the Unequal Treaties, colonisation and the corporate form: the cases of the Virginia Company, the Massachusetts Company and the East India Company. The course will also discuss the postmodernist philosophical critiques of history.

Assessment: 100% essay

LLAW3146 Multiculturalism and the law (6 credits)

Conquests and colonial projects have long been responsible for the instigation of large-scale ethnic and national mobility in order to further the ends of empire, for example, for the purposes of labour and industrial development or populating land considered to be terra nullius. In the aftermath of the First and Second World Wars, which led to a significant redrawing of national boundaries, people once again moved; some, voluntarily and in pursuit of their dreams whilst numerous others, became victims of exile due to economic, social or political circumstances. This pattern of migration has continued into the 21st Century, particularly in the aftermath of 9/11, the war in Iraq and Afghanistan, and resultant turmoil in neighbouring Middle-Eastern countries, with the immigrant and refugee exodus reaching crisis point in 2016.

This shift in the composition of inhabitants from homogenous populations into multi-ethnic groups within national borders beckons an overhaul of the nation-state framework. The very conception of monolithic nationhood that comprises the experiences of a singular nation, peoples or culture as definitive of their collective identity stands challenged. Governance structures presuming shared political, social and secular ideals have also demonstrably failed in their ability to cope with the increasing diversity represented among 'nationals'.

Despite the increasingly complex regime of international provisions that has emerged to safeguard the fundamental rights and interests of all people, particularly framework conventions that seek to recognise the risks faced by vulnerable minorities to protect them against violations of their religious, cultural, linguistic and political rights, even naturalised citizens often fail to have their voices heard due to discrimination, inequalities, marginalisation or exclusion of their voices. These circumstances have precipitated the most serious crises of identity in an increasingly globalised world, whose borders continue to shrink and shift as citizens become highly hybridized.

The course examines this conflict through comparative and interdisciplinary lenses, drawing on material from law, political theory, philosophy, and postcolonial studies to better understand the nature of identity, rights, citizenship and the discourse of oppression, violence and conflict. It uses a case study approach to examine contemporary global challenges in the management of pluralism and diversity. Students will develop skills to apply an enriched analytic framework through which to conceptualise these challenges and to critically examine governance structures, approaches and arguments to reconcile conflicting rights within the liberal constitutional framework in light of international human rights commitments.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LLAW3235 Punishment and society (6 credits)

This course will explore the institution of punishment from a philosophical perspective.

The first part of the course will focus on the question of justification of punishment (i.e. what provides the positive reason and right for setting up the institution of punishment?) Deterrence, Self-defence, Retribution, Consent, and Forfeiture theories will be covered.

The second part of the course will explore the question of distribution of punishment (i.e. who should be punished and by how much?). Topics that may be covered include the following: Should successful crimes be punished more than failed attempts? Should poverty, youth, or repentance be mitigating factors? Should previous criminal records be taken into account in sentencing? How should we sentence offenders who commit their crimes under civil disobedience?

Assessment: 50% examination, 50% term paper

LLAW3282 The economic analysis of law (6 credits)

Judges make policy through their decisions in individual cases. This observation is especially true of jurisdictions that recognize opinions as authoritative sources of law. To distill precedents and extract from them a rule to govern future cases, skillful lawyers imbue doctrine with spirit and purpose. Are case outcomes best explained by the economic notion of efficiency? How should legal regimes be designed to maximize welfare? Finally, should social efficiency and welfare—as defined by the economist—be the normative goal of law and its institutions? This lecture-based seminar will introduce students to the economic analysis of the common law, including property, contracts, and torts. It will also cover public law themes such as voting and delegation. Finally, challenges to the neo-classical law and economics tradition will be considered. Students should come to each meeting prepared to discuss the assigned readings. This course is self-contained, and no prior knowledge of law or economics is assumed or required.

Assessment: 50% mid-year examination, 50% research paper

LLAW3278 The legal profession (6 credits)

This course introduces the legal profession not from the perspective of law practitioners, but from the social science studies on various aspects of this profession in different jurisdictions and social contexts. The course does not teach students how to think like a lawyer, but it provides social science perspectives for understanding how the legal profession is organized, differentiated, and transformed over time. It also examines the relationship between lawyers and other social entities and processes, such as their clients, market competitors, state regulators, and the processes of globalization and political change.

Assessment: 20% reading responses and participation, 30% midterm exam, 20% law firm report, 30% law paper

Disciplinary electives

LLAW3284 Hong Kong Land Law (6 credits)

Acquisition of interests in land: legal and equitable methods.

Concurrent interests under ownership; trusts; joint ownership (including partition of land)

Acquisition of interests by proprietary estoppel or adverse possession.

Priority: enforceability of interests against third parties.

Government leases and Conditions of grant

Deeds of mutual covenant

Special features of the New Territories: small house policy and tsos and t'ongs

Planning (time permitting): Outline Zoning Plans; planning permission; planning through building controls; Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) Ordinance

This course is only open to students on the UCL-HKU Dual Degree Programme.

Assessment: 30% assignment, 70% examination

(Please refer to the courses listed in the syllabus for the degree of LLB)