

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREES OF MASTER OF LAWS (LLM), MASTER OF LAWS IN CHINESE LAW (LLM[ChineseLaw]), MASTER OF LAWS IN CORPORATE & FINANCIAL LAW (LLM[CFL]), MASTER OF LAWS IN HUMAN RIGHTS (LLM[HR]) AND MASTER OF LAWS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAW (LLM[ITL])**

*(See also General Regulations)*

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**Admission requirements**

LL 14. To be eligible for admission to the courses leading to the degree of Master of Laws (in the general stream or a specialist stream) a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
- (b) (i) hold the degree of Bachelor of Laws with honours of this University; or
  - (ii) hold a degree in law from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; or
  - (iii) have been admitted to the professional practice of law in Hong Kong or in a territory or country other than Hong Kong; or
  - (iv) have obtained either the Common Professional Examination of England and Wales or the Common Professional Examination Certificate of this University provided that in either case the candidate has also obtained a second class honours degree of this University or from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; or
  - (v) in relation to the Master of Laws in Human Rights programme only, hold another degree in a discipline other than law or qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose.

A candidate for admission under Regulation (b)(ii), (b)(iii), (b)(iv) or (b)(v) above shall produce evidence of sufficient academic attainment and shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if such an examination is required. A candidate who fails to meet the requirements of (b) above by reason only of the fact that his or her degree is not of at least second class honours standard may, nevertheless, be admitted provided that the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee is satisfied that by reason of his or her background, experience and professional qualifications, if any, the candidate is fit to follow the courses.

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**Qualifying examination**

LL 15.

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's formal academic ability or his or her ability to follow the courses of study prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent.
- (b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he or she has satisfied the examiners in the examination.

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**Award of degree**

LL 16. To be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Laws (in the general stream or a specialist stream) a candidate shall

- (a) comply with the General Regulations; and
- (b) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out below.

### Curriculum

LL 17. The curriculum shall comprise approximately 300 hours of prescribed work normally extending over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study. To complete the curriculum a candidate shall

- (a) in the case of a full-time candidate satisfactorily complete courses equivalent to 8 credit units;
- (b) in the case of a part-time candidate satisfactorily complete courses equivalent to 4 credit units in each of the two years of study;
- (c) satisfactorily complete all prescribed written and other work and comply with attendance requirements;
- (d) satisfy the examiners in each course of instruction by either assessed written work carried out during the course or a written examination at the end of the teaching programme or both;
- (e) satisfy the examiners in an oral examination if such an examination is required.

LL 18. A 2-unit course of instruction is one which is taught over a period of two semesters and a 1-unit course of instruction is one which is taught over a period of one semester. A 1-unit intensive course of instruction is one which is taught over a period of approximately one month.

### Dissertation

LL 19. A candidate who elects to submit a dissertation either as a 2-unit or 1-unit course shall

- (a) in the case of a full-time candidate, submit the title six weeks after the commencement of the first semester for approval and present the dissertation not later than August 31 following the written examinations in the same academic year as required by the curriculum or any other date as may be specified from time to time by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee;
- (b) in the case of a part-time candidate, submit the title for approval before the end of the first academic year of study and present the dissertation not later than April 30 in the second year of study or August 31 following the written examination in the second year of study as required by the curriculum;
- (c) in the case of a repeating candidate, submit the title for approval and present the dissertation in accordance with a schedule prescribed by the Board of Examiners.

In exceptional circumstances a candidate may apply to the Faculty Board for an extension of the period within which the dissertation must be presented.

The candidate shall submit a statement that the dissertation represents his or her own work undertaken after registration as a candidate for the degree.

The examiners may require an oral examination on the subject of the dissertation.

### Failure to satisfy the examiners

LL 20. A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in a course or courses of instruction may be permitted

- (a) to attend a supplementary examination; or
- (b) to repeat the course or courses of instruction in the following academic year and to re-take the prescribed examination or examinations; or
- (c) to re-take the prescribed examination or examinations in the following academic year without repeating the course or courses of instruction; or
- (d) to undertake the study of an alternative course or courses of instruction in the following academic year and to take the prescribed examination or examinations.

LL 21. A candidate who has failed to present a satisfactory dissertation may be permitted, subject to his performance in other examinations, to revise the dissertation and to re-present it within a specified period as determined by the Board of Examiners after receiving a notice that it is unsatisfactory.

LL 22. A candidate who is not permitted to present himself or herself for re-examination in any course or courses of instruction in which he or she has failed to satisfy the examiners or to revise and re-present the dissertation shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under General Regulation G 12.

#### **Absence from examination**

LL 23. A candidate who is unable because of illness or other acceptable reason to attend for examination may apply for permission to attend for examination at some other time.

#### **Examination results**

LL 24. At the conclusion of the examination a pass list shall be published. A candidate who has shown exceptional merit at the whole examination may be awarded a mark of distinction and this mark shall be recorded in the candidate's degree diploma.

#### **Specialist Degree**

LL 24A. A candidate may be awarded an LL.M. in a specialist stream set out in the syllabus herein instead of an LL.M. in the general stream, if he or she has satisfied the requirements of the programmes in the specialist stream.

#### **Exemption from subjects, admission to the second year of the part-time curriculum and advanced standing**

LL 25.(a)\*The Board of the Faculty of Law may exempt any candidate from any of the subjects up to the maximum of 2 credit units, on the ground that equivalent subjects have been passed at another university or comparable institution accepted by the Senate for this purpose: provided that no candidate shall be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Laws without having earned at least 6 credit units by satisfactorily completing courses in this programme. A holder of the Postgraduate Diploma in Commercial Law or the Postgraduate Diploma in the Law of the People's Republic of China or the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law may be eligible for exemption of up to 2 credit units, but he or she may not enrol in any course which he or she has satisfactorily completed in the relevant Postgraduate Diploma.

LL 25.(b) A candidate who has been admitted to any of the courses leading to the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Commercial Law or the Postgraduate Diploma in the Law of the People's Republic of China or the Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law, and who has satisfied the examiners in all examinations, may be considered for admission to the second year of the part-time curriculum leading towards the award of the degree of Master of Laws (in the general stream or a specialist stream) provided that his or her application for conversion has been submitted on or before the prescribed deadline. Candidates who satisfy the examiners in the examinations of the second year shall qualify for the award of the Degree of Master of Laws, but shall not qualify for the award of the relevant Postgraduate Diploma. A candidate under these circumstances who, however, fails to satisfy the examiners and is therefore not eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Laws shall qualify for the award of the relevant Postgraduate Diploma.

LL 25 (c) A candidate with a degree of Master of Laws from Hong Kong or another jurisdiction may apply for advanced standing status. Such candidate shall be eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Laws upon successful completion of not less than 6 credit units in this programme.

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### **Publication**

LL 26 Any publication based on work approved for this degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

\*LL25(a) is not applicable to the Master of Laws in Human Rights

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## **SYLLABUSES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF LAWS**

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### **LENGTH OF CURRICULUM**

Candidates normally take a full-time curriculum extending over one academic year or a part-time curriculum extending over two academic years. A full-time candidate may be required to take a curriculum extending over two academic years where it appears that he or she is unlikely to be able to complete the necessary study in one year.

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### **COURSE OF STUDY**

Every candidate is required to follow instruction through the medium of lecture courses, seminars and small group tuition.

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### **COURSEWORK**

The Board of Examiners shall decide what proportion of the final assessment for each course of instruction shall be determined by written work carried out during the course. Candidates will be informed at the beginning of the course of the relative proportions of the final assessment to be derived from coursework and from written examinations which will be held at the end of the teaching programme.

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### **STREAMS**

The following streams of the LL.M. are available :-

LL.M. in Chinese Law  
 LL.M. in Human Rights  
 LL.M. in Corporate & Financial Law  
 LL.M. in Information Technology Law

## MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)

### OBJECTIVES

The degree of Master of Laws [general stream] is offered by the Faculty of Law to meet a need in specialist areas of the law that are of importance to Hong Kong and its locality, and to offer courses which Hong Kong is perhaps uniquely placed to provide to students from both within and outside Hong Kong. The courses available at present focus upon international trade law, commercial law, Chinese law and public law (including human rights).

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### STRUCTURE

Candidates are required to follow subjects equivalent to 8 credit units. Both 2-unit and 1-unit courses are offered. A 2-unit course is taught over two semesters and a 1-unit course is taught over one semester. One-unit courses may be offered in either the first or second semester. A dissertation can be equivalent to a 2-unit or 1-unit course. Candidates may choose courses from the course outlines below and courses from any of the specialist streams. Candidates may apply to substitute for a listed course or courses a course or courses offered by another Department in the University. Such application shall be approved by the Head of the Department of Law who has to be satisfied that the course or courses from the other Department(s) are of equivalent standard to that of those listed in the LL.M. syllabus. Candidates shall normally be permitted to take not more than 2 units of courses from another Department in the University. Permission will normally be granted only to take postgraduate courses, and only for those courses which can be shown to have relevance to candidates' overall course of study. Permission shall not be granted to substitute any other course for a compulsory course in the programme. Candidates are also required to obtain the approval of the Head(s) of the Department(s) which offer(s) the substitute course(s).

Candidates, on accepting a place, shall notify the Head of the Department of Law the courses which they wish to follow. The selection of courses shall, however, be subject to approval by the Head of the Department of Law in the light of the availability of resources. In any one academic year only some of the courses listed will be available.

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### DISSERTATION

To be regarded as a 2-unit course a dissertation shall comprise a paper not exceeding 20,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies) on a legal topic approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee. A 1-unit course dissertation shall comprise a paper on a legal topic not exceeding 10,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies). In both cases the dissertation must provide evidence of original work and a capacity for critical analysis.

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### COURSE OUTLINES

#### PRC law

Advanced seminar on Chinese law (1 unit) (LLAW6115)

Civil and commercial law in the People's Republic of China (2 units) (LLAW6003)

Company law and securities regulation in the People's Republic of China (1 unit)  
(LLAW6025)

Constitutional and administrative law in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6113)

Criminal law and procedure in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6112)  
 Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong (1 unit) (LLAW6114)  
 Current issues in PRC commercial law (1 unit) (LLAW6028)  
 Dispute resolution in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6029)  
 Human rights in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6070)  
 International trade regulation I : Introduction to the law of the WTO (1 unit) (LLAW6039)  
 Introduction to Chinese law (1 unit) (LLAW6040)  
 Introduction to Chinese law and legal system (2 units) (LLAW6008)  
 Law and regulation of banking and insurance in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6110)  
 Legal Chinese in commercial transactions (1 unit) (LLAW6041)  
 Legal system of the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6056)  
 PRC intellectual property (1 unit) (LLAW6044)  
 PRC security and insolvency law (1 unit) (LLAW6048)  
 Real estate law in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6047)  
 Taxation in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6050)  
 Trade and investment in the People's Republic of China (2 units) (LLAW6013)  
 The legal impacts of IT on international trade and logistics (1 unit) (LLAW6111)

### **Human rights and public law**

Advanced administrative law (1 unit) (LLAW6021)  
 Armed conflict, humanitarian law and human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6058)  
 Constitutional and administrative law in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6113)  
 Criminal justice and human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6059)  
 Criminal law and procedure in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6112)  
 Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong (1 unit) (LLAW6114)  
 Current issues in human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6060)  
 Development and human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6061)  
 Economic, social and cultural rights (1 unit) (LLAW6062)  
 Equality and non-discrimination (1 unit) (LLAW6063)  
 Equality and the law (1 unit) (LLAW6030)  
 Ethnicity, human rights and democracy (1 unit) (LLAW6064)  
 Freedom of speech and the press (1 unit) (LLAW6065)  
 Gender issues in human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6066)  
 Globalisation and human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6067)  
 Hong Kong basic law (1 unit) (LLAW6032)  
 Hong Kong environmental law (1 unit) (LLAW6033)  
 Human rights : History, theory and politics (1 unit) (LLAW6068)  
 Human rights and governance (1 unit) (LLAW6069)  
 Human rights in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6070)  
 Human rights in Hong Kong (1 unit) (LLAW6034)  
 Indigenous peoples and human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6071)  
 International and regional protection of human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6072)  
 International criminal law (1 unit) (LLAW6036)  
 International protection of refugees and displaced persons (1 unit) (LLAW6073)  
 Labour rights and human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6074)  
 Law, the individual and the community : a cross-cultural dialogue (1 unit) (LLAW6123)  
 National protection of human rights (1 unit) (LLAW6075)  
 Privacy and data protection (1 unit) (LLAW6046)  
 Public international law (1 unit) (LLAW6109)  
 Seminar in human rights research, sources and methodology (1 unit) (LLAW6076)  
 The child and the law (1 unit) (LLAW6108)  
 The rights of the child in international and domestic law (1 unit) (LLAW6077)

### **Commercial, corporate and financial law**

Arbitration law workshop (1 unit) (LLAW6023)  
 Banking and finance in the PRC (1 unit) (LLAW6078)  
 Banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6024)  
 Comparative banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6079)  
 Comparative company law (1 unit) (LLAW6080)  
 Comparative insurance law and regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6103)  
 Comparative securities laws (1 unit) (LLAW6057)  
 Construction law (1 unit) (LLAW6027)  
 Corporate governance and shareholder remedies (1 unit) (LLAW6082)  
 Corporate reconstruction (1 unit) (LLAW6083)  
 Credit and security law (2 units) (LLAW6002)  
 Cross-border insolvency law (1 unit) (LLAW6084)  
 Currency law/law of money (1 unit) (LLAW6085)  
 Current issues in corporate law (1 unit) (LLAW6086)  
 Current issues in financial law (1 unit) (LLAW6127)  
 Current issues in insolvency law (1 unit) (LLAW6087)  
 Derivatives : Law and regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6088)  
 Comparative financial regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6089)  
 e-Finance : Law and regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6126)  
 Electronic banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6118)  
 Emerging markets : Finance and investment (1 unit) (LLAW6090)  
 Equity in commercial law (1 unit) (LLAW6092)  
 Law of international finance I – debt (1 unit) (LLAW6055)  
 Insurance law (1 unit) (LLAW6107)  
 Intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6005)  
 International trade regulation II : Selected issues on WTO and China (1 unit) (LLAW6134)  
 Introduction to international economic law (1 unit) (LLAW6133)  
 Regulation of financial markets (1 unit) (LLAW6093)  
 Law of international finance II – equity and structured finance (1 unit) (LLAW6094)  
 International commercial transactions (1 unit) (LLAW6006)  
 International investment law with East Asia focus (1 unit) (LLAW6095)  
 International tax and tax planning (1 unit) (LLAW6096)  
 Law and regulation of banking and insurance in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW6110)  
 Pension and investment funds (1 unit) (LLAW6097)  
 Project finance (1 unit) (LLAW6098)  
 Remedies (2 units) (LLAW6010)  
 International commercial arbitration (1 unit) (LLAW6099)  
 Securities for corporate lending (1 unit) (LLAW6100)  
 Securities regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6049)  
 Takeover and insider dealing (1 unit) (LLAW6101)  
 Trade finance law (1 unit) (LLAW6081)  
 The corporation and crimes (1 unit) (LLAW6102)  
 The law of restitution (1 unit) (LLAW6051)

### **International and comparative law**

Hong Kong and international law (1 unit) (LLAW 6031)  
 International air law : Structure and organisation (1 unit) (LLAW6035)  
 International commercial transactions (1 unit) (LLAW6006)  
 International criminal law (1 unit) (LLAW6036)  
 International dispute resolution (2 units) (LLAW6007)  
 International environmental law (1 unit) (LLAW6037)  
 International humanitarian law (1 unit) (LLAW6038)

International trade law I (1 unit) (LLAW6128)  
 International trade law II (1 unit) (LLAW6129)  
 International trade regulation I : Introduction to the law of the WTO (1 unit) (LLAW6039)  
 Introduction to law in East Asia (2 units) (LLAW6009)  
 Liabilities in international aviation (1 unit) (LLAW6043)

### **Admiralty and shipping**

Admiralty (2 units) (LLAW6001)  
 Shipping law (2 units) (LLAW6011)  
 The law of the sea (1 unit) (LLAW6052)

### **Information technology and intellectual property law**

Computerisation of law (1 unit) (LLAW6116)  
 Cybercrime (1 unit) (LLAW6117)  
 e-Finance : Law and regulation (LLAW6126)  
 Electronic banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6118)  
 Human rights and cyberspace (1 unit) (LLAW6119)  
 Issues in information technology law (1 unit) (LLAW6106)  
 Intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6005)  
 Intellectual property in the information society (1 unit) (LLAW6120)  
 International and comparative intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6132)  
 Internet content : Property and liability (1 unit) (LLAW6121)  
 Internet governance : the law/technology interface (1 unit) (LLAW6122)  
 Privacy and data protection (1 unit) (LLAW6046)  
 PRC intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6044)  
 Telecommunications law (1 unit) (LLAW6124)  
 The law of E-commerce (1 unit) (LLAW6125)  
 The legal impacts of IT on international trade and logistics (1 unit) (LLAW6111)

### **Others**

Advanced research methodology for law (1 unit) (LLAW6022)  
 Current issues in international arbitration and dispute settlement (1 unit) (LLAW6137)  
 Dispute settlement in the WTO : Practice and procedure (1 unit) (LLAW6136)  
 Hong Kong arbitration law (1 unit) (LLAW6138)  
 Legal Chinese in commercial transactions (1 unit) (LLAW6041)  
 Legal fictions : Representations of the law in literature, philosophy and cinema (1 unit) (LLAW6042)  
 Media law (1 unit) (LLAW6131)  
 Medical law (1 unit) (LLAW6104)  
 Postmodern legal theory (1 unit) (LLAW6045)  
 Law, justice & ideology (1 unit) (LLAW6130)

\*In any one academic year only some of the courses listed will be available.



## MASTER OF LAWS IN CHINESE LAW (LLM[PRC])

### OBJECTIVES

The degree of Master of Laws in Chinese Law is offered by the Faculty of Law to address an increasing need in Hong Kong and internationally for a more comprehensive understanding of the laws and regulations of the People's Republic of China. Hong Kong is uniquely placed to provide to students from Hong Kong and elsewhere courses on contemporary Chinese law developments from a comparative perspective which are conducted primarily in English.

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### STRUCTURE

Candidates are required to follow subjects equivalent to 8 credit units. Both 2-unit and 1-unit courses are offered. A 2-unit course is taught over two semesters and a 1-unit course is taught over one semester. One-unit courses may be offered in any semester. A dissertation can be equivalent to a 2-unit or 1-unit course (see below). Candidates may apply to choose courses of unit value of up to 25% of the total curriculum load from courses offered under the other specialist streams or by other Departments in the University or by other approved Universities offering joint LLM programmes with the Faculty. Such application shall be approved by the Head of the Department of Law who has to be satisfied that the course or courses from the other Department(s) are of equivalent standard to that of those listed in this syllabus. Candidates are also required to obtain the approval of the Head(s) of the Department(s) which offer(s) the substitute course(s).

Candidates, on accepting a place, shall notify the Head of the Department of Law of the courses which they wish to follow. The selection of courses shall, however, be subject to approval by the Head of the Department of Law in the light of the availability of resources.

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### DISSERTATION

To be regarded as a 2-unit course a dissertation shall comprise a paper not exceeding 20,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies) on a legal topic approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee. A 1-unit course dissertation shall comprise a paper on a legal topic not exceeding 10,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies). In both cases the dissertation must provide evidence of original work and a capacity for critical analysis.

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### COURSE OUTLINES

#### *Two-unit Courses*

- . Civil and commercial law in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6003)
- . Trade and investment in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6013)

#### *One-unit courses*

- . Advanced research methodology for law (LLAW6022)
- . Advanced seminar on Chinese law (LLAW6115)
- . Company law and securities regulation in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6025)
- . Constitutional and administrative law in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6113)
- . Criminal law and procedure in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6112)
- . Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong (LLAW6114)

- . Current issues in PRC commercial law (LLAW6028)
- . Dispute resolution in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6029)
- . Human rights in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6070)
- . International trade regulation I : Introduction to the law of the WTO (LLAW6039)
- . Introduction to Chinese law (LLAW6040)
- . Law and regulation of banking and insurance in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6110)
- . Legal Chinese in commercial transactions (LLAW6041)
- . Legal system of the People's Republic of China (LLAW6056)
- . PRC intellectual property (LLAW6044)
- . PRC security and insolvency law (LLAW6048)
- . Real estate law in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6047)
- . Taxation in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6050)
- . The legal impacts of IT on international trade and logistics (LLAW6111)

\*In any one academic year only some of the courses listed will be available.

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## **MASTER OF LAWS IN HUMAN RIGHTS (LLM[HR])**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The degree of Master of Laws (Human Rights) is being offered by the Faculty of Law as a response to the increasing interest in and relevance of human rights standards in Asia and elsewhere. The programme responds to the important international, regional and national developments involving the debate about human rights standards and their implementation in Asian countries. The programme will focus on problems and perspectives which are of particular concern to the Asia-Pacific region, while at the same time ensuring that participants engage with universal human rights issues and the perspectives of other regional systems.

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### **STRUCTURE**

Participants in the course will be required to complete a total of 8 one-unit courses. Each participant will be required to take five compulsory one-unit courses, including the completion of a one-unit dissertation (although permission may be sought to submit a two-unit dissertation in its place). Participants may choose the remaining three (or in some cases, two) one-unit courses from among the courses developed by the Faculty of Law for the LLM(HR) programme or, with the approval of the Head of the Department of Law, from other courses offered within the Faculty. For courses outside the Department of Law, the approval of the Head(s) of the offering Department(s) is also required in addition to that of the Head of the Department of Law.

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### **DISSERTATION**

Each student is required to satisfy an independent writing requirement which is the equivalent of 1 unit. This requirement may be satisfied by the submission of a 1-unit dissertation or by the completion of a written project other than a dissertation on an area as agreed with the student's supervisor. With the approval of the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee, a student may submit a 2-unit dissertation or 2-unit written project in place of a 1-unit dissertation or 1-unit written project.

To be regarded as a 2-unit course a dissertation shall comprise a paper not exceeding 20,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies) on a legal topic approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee. A 1-unit dissertation shall comprise a paper on a legal topic not exceeding 10,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies). In both cases the dissertation must provide evidence of original work and a capacity for critical analysis.

The Faculty Higher Degrees Committee may, with the agreement of the student's supervisor, permit a student to undertake a writing project other than a dissertation to the value of 1 or 2 units. In appropriate circumstances, the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee may permit this written project to be completed in conjunction with an internship with a human rights organisation or other organisation. Unless otherwise approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee, the dissertation must be submitted not later than May 31 in the same academic year.

## **COURSE OUTLINES**

### *Compulsory Courses (one-unit)*

- . Dissertation (LLAW6054)
- . Human rights: History, theory and politics (LLAW6068)
- . International and regional protection of human rights (LLAW6072)
- . National protection of human rights (LLAW6075)
- . Seminar in human rights research, sources and methodology (LLAW6076)

### *Optional Courses (one-unit)*

- . Armed conflict, humanitarian law and human rights (LLAW6058)
- . Criminal justice and human rights (LLAW6059)
- . Criminal law and procedure in the People's Republic of China (LLAW 6112)
- . Development and human rights (LLAW6061)
- . Economic, social and cultural rights (LLAW6062)
- . Equality and non-discrimination (LLAW6063)
- . Ethnicity, human rights and democracy (LLAW6064)
- . Freedom of speech and the press (LLAW6065)
- . Gender issues in human rights (LLAW6066)
- . Globalisation and human rights (LLAW6067)
- . Human rights and governance (LLAW6069)
- . Human rights in the People's Republic of China (LLAW6070)
- . Human rights in Hong Kong (LLAW6034)
- . Indigenous peoples and human rights (LLAW6071)
- . International criminal law (LLAW6036)
- . International protection of refugees and displaced persons (LLAW6073)
- . Labour rights and human rights (LLAW6074)
- . Law, the individual and the community : a cross-cultural dialogue (LLAW6123)
- . Privacy and data protection (LLAW6046)
- . The rights of the child in international and domestic law (LLAW6077)
- . The child and the law (LLAW6108)

\*In any one academic year only some of the courses listed will be available.

## **MASTER OF LAWS IN CORPORATE AND FINANCIAL LAW (LLM [CFL])**

### **OBJECTIVES**

Hong Kong is a major international business and financial centre, and companies are a major business medium. It is important therefore that we have a coherent programme specially geared towards the study of corporate and financial law (which includes securities law). This programme is therefore intended to focus on issues relating to corporate activities and financial and securities law and regulations and their interrelationship. On completion of the programme, students should have a broad and reliable knowledge and understanding of HK corporate and financial law. Comparisons will be made with overseas systems where appropriate.

## STRUCTURE

Candidates are required to complete a total of 8 credit units, including the compulsory course from each of the corporate and financial streams. Both 2-unit and 1-unit courses are offered. A 2-unit course is taught over two semesters and a 1-unit course is taught over one semester. One-unit courses may be offered in any semester. Each candidate is required to take 5 units from the courses offered under this programme. Candidates may choose the remaining three credit units from among the courses developed under this programme, including the possibility of either a 2-unit or 1-unit dissertation, or, with the approval of the Head of the Department of Law, from other courses offered within the Faculty. For courses outside the Department of Law, the approval of the Head(s) of the offering Department(s) is also required in addition to that of the Head of the Department of Law.

## DISSERTATION

To be regarded as a 2-unit course a dissertation shall comprise a paper not exceeding 20,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies) on a legal topic approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee. A 1-unit dissertation shall comprise a paper on a legal topic not exceeding 10,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies). In both cases the dissertation must provide evidence of original work and a capacity for critical analysis.

The Faculty Higher Degrees Committee may, with the agreement of the student's supervisor, permit a student to undertake a writing project other than a dissertation to the value of 1 or 2 units. In appropriate circumstances, the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee may permit this written project to be completed in conjunction with an internship with a relevant organisation.

## COURSE OUTLINES

### *Compulsory Courses*

- . Corporate governance and shareholder remedies [(1 unit) (LLAW6082)] [Corporate stream]
- . Law of international finance I – debt [(1 unit) (LLAW6055)] [Financial stream]

### *Optional Courses*

#### Corporate stream

- . Company law and securities regulation in the People's Republic of China (1 unit) (LLAW 6025)
- . Comparative company law (1 unit) (LLAW6080)
- . Corporate reconstruction (1 unit) (LLAW6083)
- . Cross-border insolvency law (1 unit) (LLAW6084)
- . Current issues in corporate law (1 unit) (LLAW6086)
- . Current issues in insolvency law (1 unit) (LLAW6087)
- . Securities for corporate lending (1 unit) (LLAW6100)
- . Takeovers and insider dealing (1 unit) (LLAW6101)
- . The corporation and crimes (1 unit) (LLAW6102)
- . International commercial transactions (1 unit) (LLAW6006)

#### Financial stream

- . Banking and finance in the PRC (1 unit) (LLAW6078)
- . Banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6024)
- . Comparative banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6079)

- . Comparative insurance law and regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6103)
- . Comparative securities laws (1 unit) (LLAW6057)
- . Credit and security law (2 units) (LLAW6002)
- . Current issues in financial law (1 unit) (LLAW6127)
- . Currency law/law of money (1 unit) (LLAW6085)
- . Derivatives : Law and regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6088)
- . Comparative financial regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6089)
- . e-Finance : Law and regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6126)
- . Electronic banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6118)
- . Emerging markets : Finance and investment (1 unit) (LLAW6090)
- . Equity in commercial law (1 unit) (LLAW6092)
- . Introduction to international economic law (1 unit) (LLAW6133)
- . Insurance law (1 unit) (LLAW6107)
- . International trade regulation I : Introduction to the law of the WTO (1 unit) (LLAW6039)
- . International trade regulation II : Selected issues on WTO and China (1 unit) (LLAW6134)
- . Regulation of financial markets (1 unit) (LLAW6093)
- . Law of international finance II – equity and structured finance (1 unit) (LLAW6094)
- . International investment law with East Asia focus (1 unit) (LLAW6095)
- . International tax and tax planning (1 unit) (LLAW6096)
- . Law and regulation of banking and insurance in the People’s Republic of China (1 unit)(LLAW6110)
- . Pension and investment funds (1 unit) (LLAW6097)
- . PRC security and insolvency law (1 unit) (LLAW6048)
- . Project finance (1 unit) (LLAW6098)
- . International commercial arbitration (1 unit) (LLAW6099)
- . Securities regulation (1 unit) (LLAW6049)
- . Trade finance law (1 unit) (LLAW6081)

\*In any one academic year only some of the courses listed will be available.

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## **MASTER OF LAWS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAW (LLM [ITL])**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The principal objective of the degree of Master of Laws in Information Technology Law is to offer a range of courses that provide a sound legal understanding of various aspects of the rapidly developing field of information technology. Subject areas will be regularly expanded and updated to ensure that students are able to understand and analyze contemporary legal issues in this area.

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### **STRUCTURE**

Candidates are required to complete a total of 8 credit units of courses. Candidates are strongly advised to take the course LLAW 6122 as it serves as a foundation for other courses. Both 2-unit courses and 1-unit courses are offered. A 2-unit course is taught over two semesters and a 1-unit course is taught over one semester. One-unit course may be offered in any semester. Each candidate is required to take at least 6 units from the courses offered under this programme, which may or may not include the completion of either a 2-unit or 1-unit dissertation. Candidates may choose the remaining two units from among the courses developed under the general LLM programme or, with the approval of the Head of the Department of Law, from courses offered within or outside the Faculty.

## DISSERTATION

To be regarded as a 2-unit course, a dissertation shall comprise a paper not exceeding 20,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies) on a legal topic approved by the Faculty Higher Degrees Committee. A 1-unit dissertation shall comprise a paper on a legal topic not exceeding 10,000 words (exclusive of tables of cases and statutes, notes, appendices and bibliographies). In both cases the dissertation must provide evidence of original work and a capacity for critical analysis.

## COURSE OUTLINES

Computerisation of law (1 unit) (LLAW6116)  
 Cybercrime (1 unit) (LLAW6117)  
 e-Finance : Law and regulation (LLAW6126)  
 Electronic banking law (1 unit) (LLAW6118)  
 Human rights and cyberspace (1 unit) (LLAW6119)  
 Issues in information technology law (1 unit) (LLAW6106)  
 Intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6005)  
 Intellectual property in the information society (1 unit) (LLAW6120)  
 International and comparative intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6132)  
 Internet content : Property and liability (1 unit) (LLAW6121)  
 Internet governance : the law/technology interface (1 unit) (LLAW6122)  
 Privacy and data protection (1 unit) (LLAW6046)  
 PRC intellectual property law (1 unit) (LLAW6044)  
 Telecommunications law (1 unit) (LLAW6124)  
 The law of E-commerce (1 unit) (LLAW6125)  
 The legal impacts of IT on international trade and logistics (1 unit) (LLAW6111)

In any one academic year only some of the courses listed will be available. Students are strongly advised to take the courses LLAW6121 and LLAW6122.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### LLAW6001 Admiralty

Maritime law; the Hong Kong legislation; public control of shipping and navigation in Hong Kong waters; control of marine pollution.

The ship: the ship as property; registration; purchase and sale; ship mortgages; liens; construction, maintenance and equipment; master and crew.

Navigation, safety at sea and collisions: the collision regulations; Hong Kong harbour regulations; collisions and liability for damage; limitation of liability.

Salvage, towage and wreck.

Marine insurance: history; course of business at Lloyds; insurable interest; indemnity; utmost good faith; types of policy; perils insured against; contents of policies; losses and other incidents of liability; rights of insurers; assignment of policies; mutual insurance.

### LLAW6002 Credit and security law

The legal aspects of supplying and securing credit in respect of individuals and companies; the legal means of taking security over different types of property.

Aspects of law that are particularly relevant to non-corporate credit and security are: charges, mortgages, hire-purchase, bills of sale, pledges and liens, and assignments of chose in action.

The areas of law that are particularly relevant to corporate credit and security include floating and fixed charges, conditional sales, trusts, and hire-purchase.

Topics to be studied include: the concept of security, the role of Equity in security transactions, real and personal securities, types of business finance, insolvency, drafting of documentation to achieve particular purposes, and remedies.

### **LLAW6003 Civil and commercial law in the People's Republic of China**

Topics to be covered include: the law of person, agency, property, obligations (contracts, torts etc), family and succession, with an introduction to traditions, reforms, civil procedure and modes of alternative dispute resolution. Each topic is discussed in light of recent developments in China, such as corporatization of Chinese enterprises, experiments in bankruptcy, contract employment and regulating the new urban real estate market. Reading knowledge of Chinese helpful but not required. No prerequisite.

### **LLAW6005 Intellectual property law**

A comparative study of the Hong Kong law relating to patents, copyright, registered designs, trade marks, trade secrets, trade descriptions, common law remedies including and akin to passing off and injurious falsehood, and associated rights in information. Previous study or practice in the area of intellectual property would be an advantage but is not essential provided some preliminary private study is undertaken.

### **LLAW6006 International commercial transactions**

The topic of International Commercial Transactions touches on a number of legal frameworks that govern international business. The various frameworks consist of a patchwork of national and international, governmental and private-sector laws, agreements and mandatory or voluntary codes of conduct. This course will be presented in four parts, and in each part, relevant laws and decisions of tribunals in various jurisdictions in Asia are comparatively considered to present a range of issues arising in contemporary practice. It will begin with an introduction and examination of commercial and legal implications of terms-of-art frequently used in international sales agreements, shipping contracts, insurance and financing arrangements, and customs documentation. International efforts to unify or harmonize definitions and their legal implications, as well as rules that govern the interpretation of contractual terms, such as the 2000 Inco-terms, ICC Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits, 1980 Vienna Convention on the International Sale of Goods, and UNIDROIT principles, will be discussed. Agency, distribution, technology and intellectual property transfers, and e-commerce, as widespread and emerging modes of conducting international business, the legal issues inherent in each form, and associated regulation will be considered. Issues related to international investment agreements involving governments will be examined. Special problems related to corruption and money-laundering will be discussed. Significant attention will be paid to the settlement of international commercial and investment disputes, which will include an examination of special problems associated with the recognition and enforcement of awards and judgments.

### **LLAW6008 Introduction to Chinese law and legal system**

A broad introduction to traditional Chinese law, twentieth-century legal reform and the current legal system of the People's Republic of China. The first part of the course will consider the traditional Chinese legal system, particularly during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and will conclude with an analysis of late Qing and early Republican law reform. The second part of the course will cover legal developments from the establishment of the People's Republic through the Cultural Revolution. The third and main part of the course will consist of a detailed consideration of the legal system and the role of law in the P.R.C. since 1978. Specific areas of study will include constitutional reform and the legal structure, the enactment of a civil code, the introduction of economic reforms, family and inheritance law, criminal law and criminal procedure, nationality law and human rights issues. A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters is desirable.

**LLAW6009 Introduction to law in East Asia**

The purpose of this course is to examine the legal institutions, methods, principles and values of East Asian legal systems with a civil law tradition. Introduction to law in East Asia will focus on the legal systems of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

Like Hong Kong and Singapore, these three East Asian countries have enjoyed enormous economic growth in the post-war period. They also have common cultural traditions with Hong Kong and Singapore but for historical reasons their legal systems are rooted in the civil law tradition of Western Europe rather than in the common law.

The syllabus includes an introduction to the historical foundations of the modern legal systems of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan; legal institutions: structure of state, courts, legal professions; codification of law, especially the institutions of private law; civil and commercial law and legal structures for foreign trade and investment; civil process and mediation. These topics will be examined from a comparative perspective. The law will be analysed in the context of its history as well as its economic, political and cultural foundations.

**LLAW6010 Remedies**

The purpose of the course is to study the range of remedies available in commercial transactions. It will look at the tactic of re-classifying the transaction to achieve the relief sought, and the various types of judicial relief, especially those available before trial.

Common law damages: developments in assessing remoteness, the imposition of pre-agreed amounts, debts, the avoidance of penalties, and the question of whether loss must be proved.

Equity: the nature and relevant factors for discretionary relief, the prevention of equitable fraud through estoppel, constructive trusts and the imposition of the fiduciary obligation, and restitution.

Statutory remedies: the pre-emptive strikes, especially the Mareva injunction and the Anton Piller order, and the declaration.

Particular remedies: including the vendor/purchaser summons, promissory and proprietary estoppels, and relief against forfeiture.

**LLAW6011 Shipping law**

Contracts of affreightment; charterparties; agency; bills of lading; exclusion and limitation of liability; loading and discharge; master's authority; shipowner's duty; demurrage; freight; time charters; liens; damages; general average; legislation affecting contracts of affreightment.

**LLAW6013 Trade and investment in the People's Republic of China**

This course provides a comprehensive treatment of the major legal aspects of international trade, investment, finance and dispute resolution in the People's Republic of China. After a brief introduction to the Chinese legal system, the course concentrates on foreign-related legislation governing trade and investment in China. Particular attention is given to standard-form and model contracts as well as prevailing Chinese practices in the fields of trade and investment.

Areas treated in detail include: customs; import and export licensing; foreign economic contract law; technology transfer; trade finance; compensation trade; investment protection; foreign investment vehicles — equity joint ventures, co-operative ventures and wholly foreign-owned subsidiaries; special investment regimes — Special Economic Zones, Economic and Technological Development Zones and the Open Coastal Cities; foreign exchange problems; taxation and investment finance. Dispute resolution is also considered at length, with discussion of Chinese and third-country arbitration and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards as well as litigation in the People's Courts. A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters would be desirable.



**LLAW6021    Advanced administrative law**

This is an advanced course in administrative law which focuses on the decision-making process of administrative bodies. Topics covered include theories of administrative decision making, the procedure and content of administrative decision making, judicial (*ultra vires*, procedural fairness, estoppel and other limits on the exercise of discretionary power) and extra-judicial (ombudsman and other non-curial bodies) control of administrative action, the practical and procedural aspects of bringing an application for judicial review under Order 53 of the Supreme Court Ordinance, access to information (including the right to be given reasons and use of discovery proceedings), *habeas corpus* and remedies (including restitution). Emphasis will also be placed on subordinate legislation and the operation of some administrative tribunals.

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**LLAW6022    Advanced research methodology for law**

Course Content :

- Different types of research in law : an introduction to different types of legal and inter-disciplinary research drawing on current examples from, particularly, the periodical literature
  - Reading research material
  - Issues in research on law : a discussion of issues such as objectivity, honesty and other theoretical and philosophical issues that arise in doing research
  - Advanced library research techniques - using paper sources
  - Archival material
  - Use of electronic resources
  - Empirical research techniques - how to read empirical research, and statistical material. An elementary introduction to empirical techniques for law students : observation studies, interviews. The secondary use of primary statistical material.
  - Formulating research topics - generating ideas, developing a 'thesis', research strategies
  - Writing a proposal
  - Planning the writing; dealing with writer's block, organisation of material - different ways of structuring a substantial piece of writing
  - The formalities of presentation - citing, acknowledging, plagiarism and how to avoid it, issues of appropriate language.
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**LLAW6023    Arbitration law workshop**

The arbitration law workshop is intended to introduce students to the practice of arbitration. The workshop adopts a different approach than traditional arbitration courses which tend to focus in the abstract upon institutional rules. The workshop emphasizes a problem solving approach to learning about arbitration instead. The change is accomplished by running the workshop around a single model case study. The case study is entitled the *Sanctuary House Case*. It has been developed by Mark Cato, an experienced arbitrator and author. The case study unfolds in story form from the introduction of individuals through interlocutories to hearing and award to illustrate all the principal elements of arbitration law, practice and procedure in both a readable and entertaining way. In this manner the workshop highlights arbitration problems and teaches about practical solutions. The workshop's objective is thus to close the gap between the theory of arbitration and knowledge of the rules with actual management of an arbitration case in practice.

**LLAW6024     Banking law**

Introduction: history of banking; outline of banking organization, control and regulation of financial institutions in Hong Kong; distinction drawn between banks and other deposit-taking institutions.

Banker-customer relationship: nature of the relationship and its development; meaning of ‘customer’ and types of accounts; banker's rights as against customer including appropriation of payment, lien and set-off; duties of banker including secrecy and payment of customers' cheques; implied duties of the customer; contractual attempts to modify such duties; supply of references; banker as adviser; determination of relationship.

Paper-based funds transfers: general principles in law relating to choses in action and their assignment; negotiable instruments especially cheques; money paid by mistake; forgery; direct debits; credit transfers.

Electronic funds transfers and other modern banking developments: nature and operation of various means of electronic funds transfers including consumer-related and non-consumer-related transfers; legal implications of such transfers; revocability and finality of payment instructions; standing orders; cheque cards; credit cards.

**LLAW6025     Company law and securities regulation in the People's Republic of China**

This course covers both company law and securities regulation in the People's Republic of China. The part on company law involves an examination of the legal framework governing the structure and organization of business corporations and the responsibilities of and protection afforded various groups participating in a corporation's affairs, in particular, shareholders, creditors and management. The basic conceptual framework reflected in modern corporate legislation, and especially recent Chinese statutes is emphasized, with particular attention to the concept of corporate entity, scope of business activities, shareholders' rights and responsibilities, directors' duties, the governance of joint stock companies, management and control of limited companies. Limited companies and joint stock companies as vehicles for direct foreign investment will also be briefly discussed. The part on securities regulation involves an analysis of the scheme of securities regulation in the PRC. Topics covered will include efficient capital markets, types of securities and capital structure, agency theory, portfolio theory, regulation of primary market offerings, trading in secondary markets, inside trading, mergers and acquisitions, stock exchanges, and securities market professionals. Implications on portfolio investment by foreign investors in Chinese companies through the purchase of B-shares, H-shares and N-shares will also be covered. A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters would be desirable.

**LLAW6027     Construction law**

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the subject of construction law in Hong Kong. It will consist of three main areas: (a) an introduction to the topic and the importance of the sector to the local economy; the professionals engaged in construction and their regulation; the forms of contract and standard forms of agreement in use locally; (b) the legal framework for construction activities in Hong Kong including the relevant legislation e.g. Buildings Ordinance, Town Planning Ordinance etc; contract law and procedures; substantive law issues, and dispute resolution; and (c) construction practice for solicitors with attention to drafting, project structures and general advice for construction clients.

**LLAW6028     Current issues in PRC commercial law**

This course will highlight one or more areas of contemporary Chinese commercial law and practice of importance to foreign trade, investment or finance in the People's Republic of China. The subject matter to be covered in the course is not fixed and will vary from year to year. Students will be apprised in advance of the subject of the course to be offered. A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters would be desirable.

### **LLAW6029    Dispute resolution in the People's Republic of China**

This course examines the major features of commercial dispute resolution in the People's Republic of China. Chinese approaches to disputes and dispute settlement, including cultural and political influences, will be considered at the outset. The four principal Chinese institutions for commercial dispute resolution - amicable negotiations, conciliation, arbitration and litigation - will be the focus of the course, with an emphasis on commercial arbitration. Administrative channels for resolving disputes will also be discussed.

Both PRC foreign-related and domestic commercial arbitration will be treated at length. Arbitration before the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (CIETAC) will be a prominent feature of this part of the course, including an examination of the jurisdiction, procedures and practices of CIETAC. The emergence of reorganized domestic arbitration commissions will be discussed, including arbitral procedures and practices. Issues of enforcement of both Chinese and foreign arbitral awards in the PRC will also be covered.

Other topics include : institutional conciliation before the Beijing Conciliation Centre and in the People's Courts; joint conciliation; enforceability of conciliation agreements; foreign-related litigation in the People's Courts, including court organization, jurisdiction and venue, service of process, preservation measures, pre-trial and trial procedures, appellate procedures and enforcement of judgements; and bilateral judicial assistance agreements. A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters would be desirable.

### **LLAW6030    Equality and the law**

Significant protection against discrimination under the law of Hong Kong has been available only since the enactment of the Hong Kong Bill of Rights Ordinance in 1991 and the passage of sex and disability discrimination legislation in 1995. These focused considerable attention on the existence of patterns of discrimination in Hong Kong.

The purpose of this course is to explore the theoretical foundations and practical efficacy of the models of equality and non-discrimination underlying Hong Kong's anti-discrimination laws. The course will examine from a historical perspective the existence of institutionalised discrimination in Hong Kong and the reasons for its persistence, as well as the failure of the common law to address these issues. The background to the enactment of anti-discrimination and equal opportunities laws in Hong Kong will also be examined. Aspects of the substantive law of non-discrimination -- including comparative and international material will also be considered. Finally, the efficacy of law (and of the Hong Kong law and institutions in particular) as an instrument for addressing inequality will be discussed. The course will focus on different aspects of the problem of inequality and the role of law from year to year.

### **LLAW6031    Hong Kong and international law**

The course is divided into two parts: (a) international law -- a conceptual review and (b) application of international legal norms in the Hong Kong context. The topics covered in the first part include the nature, origin and basis of international law; sources of international law; international legal personality; jurisdiction; international responsibility; international intercourse (treaties); and international disputes (peaceful and forcible means of dispute settlement). The issues to be studied under the second part of the course are: the place of international law in the Hong Kong legal system; Hong Kong as an 'international legal person' (including 'autonomy' and 'internal self determination'); jurisdiction in a 'highly autonomous region' -- the case of Hong Kong; Hong Kong's international obligations (e.g. treatment of aliens, environmental protection); international treaty law as applied in Hong Kong; and 'one country, two systems' as a model of peaceful settlement of disputes.

**LLAW6032    Hong Kong basic law**

Topics to be covered include: the background to the Basic Law: the Sino-British negotiations, the Joint Declaration, the process of drafting and agreeing on the Basic Law; basic Chinese and British constitutional concepts relevant to an understanding of the structure and orientation of the Basic Law; the relationship of the Basic Law to the Constitution; the relationship of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Chinese central government; the institutional structure of the Hong Kong SAR, especially the relationship between the executive and the legislature, and the concept of ‘executive-led government’; the concept and special aspects of ‘one country, two systems’ - especially the preservation of the Hong Kong economic system in the Basic Law; the legal system under the Basic Law; human rights, judicial review and constitutional litigation; the Bill of Rights and the Basic Law; nationality issues under the Basic Law; interpretation of the Basic Law; transitional issues (at least the first time the course is taught - the relationship between the Provisional Legislature and the Basic Law etc.).

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**LLAW6033    Hong Kong environmental law**

Introduction: the Hong Kong environment; contextual factors affecting the environment and environmental law in Hong Kong. Overview of Hong Kong's environmental law, strategy and techniques. Techniques of environmental protection I: traditional approaches including the common law, nuisance, *Rylands v Fletcher*. Techniques of environmental protection II: the criminal law, interpretation of legislation, penalties. Techniques of environmental protection III: licensing and permits. Techniques of environmental protection IV: standards, objectives, technical memoranda, codes of practice, how they are used, what is their legal force, how they compare with international standards. Techniques of environmental protection V: Planning - territorial planning, town planning. Techniques of environmental protection VI: Environmental Impact Assessment. Techniques of environmental protection VII: Preventing pollution, energy conservation. Expanding liability: the liability of Directors, the liability of lenders. Conservation and the law. Rounding up.

On the whole the emphasis will not be on medium (water, air, waste etc.), but rather on techniques, since many of the same techniques, and similar issues of statutory interpretation, enforcement etc., occur across media. But examples and issues will be drawn from a variety of contexts. It would be possible to look at one problem (water or air or chemical waste for example) in detail.

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**LLAW6034    Human rights in Hong Kong**

This course will focus on the protection of human rights in Hong Kong. It will include an examination of the international human rights treaty regime as it applies to Hong Kong, and will focus on the domestic protection of human rights in Hong Kong under the Basic Law and the Bill of Rights (which both directly incorporate the terms of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights). The course will examine the history of the Bill of Rights, its interpretation, scope of application, inter-citizen rights, *locus standi*, permissible limitations, derogation and reservation, enforcement and remedy, and followed by a study of selected topics, which may include civil and criminal process, the right to a fair and public trial, arrest, search and seizure, torture and degrading treatment, liberty and security of person, freedom of association and assembly, freedom of expression, right to nationality, right to family, right to political participation, discrimination and equality.

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**LLAW6035    International air law : Structure and organisation**

This course deals comprehensively with the treaty structure in international air law. As such, it stands alone as a basic introduction to international air law.

More specifically, the course encompasses a study of the basic organization of international air law :

Chicago convention and ICAO; the ‘crime’ treaties governing offences on board and against aircraft as well as hijacking; the liabilities regime of treaties; international controls/treaties concerning commercial operations, IATA and bilateral air services agreements.

It is envisaged that this course should deal with not only international law, but how these treaties etc are implemented in both Hong Kong and PRC law.

#### **LLAW6036      International criminal law**

This course will examine the development and evolution of the concepts of international criminal law, the development of individual responsibility under international law for international crimes, the definition of war crimes, crimes against humanity and crimes against peace; specific international crimes, such as genocide, piracy and terrorism, the mechanisms of enforcement in relation to international criminal acts, such as various war-crimes tribunals, the principles and procedures for combating transnational crimes, the emerging idea of state criminal responsibility, co-operation in international law enforcement, extradition and its use in relation to political offences and terrorism, the concept of international crimes and the establishment and jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.

#### **LLAW6037      International environmental law**

Introduction: environment and international law - the need for and role of international law.

Sources of international environmental law: treaty law; customary law; ‘soft law’ and regional environmental law.

Principles of international environmental law: ‘sustainable development’; ‘human stewardship of nature’; ‘precautionary principle’ and ‘polluter-pays’.

State responsibility for environmental harm: established rules and remedies.

Conflicting pressures: environment vs development and environment vs trade.

Environment and human rights.

#### **LLAW6038      International humanitarian law**

This course focuses on the international law of war and humanitarian intervention. The Hague Convention, the four Geneva Conventions on the Law of War 1949 and their Optional Protocols 1977 will be the main focus of the study. Topics to be covered include: the development of humanitarian thought and practices of States; definition and place within international public law and sources of international humanitarian law; the development of the humanitarian conventions and their application (scope of application - international and internal conflicts; subjects - protected persons, detainees, prisoners of war, civilians; organs - ICRC; the principles of international humanitarian law (fundamental principles, principles proper to the victims of conflicts and to the law of war, prisoners of war, specificities of implementation, protecting powers, tracing and sanctions); humanitarian intervention and sovereignty; international humanitarian law and international law of human right; peace-keeping, disarmament and international humanitarian law.

#### **LLAW6039      International trade regulation I – Introduction to the law of the WTO**

“Public” or governmental regulation of international trade is separate from but complementary to “private” international business transactions. At the international level, the World Trade Organization (WTO) is the primary multilateral legal and institutional framework that governs trade relations and trade-related issues between States. This course will examine the rules, norms and policies that constitute the WTO and its substantive agreements, with a special perspective and focus on issues that are related to China’s membership. The course will begin with a review of policies that affect international trade, and economic theories associated with such policies. The Agreement Establishing the WTO (WTO Agreement), the

increasingly complex management of the activities of the WTO, and its decision-making processes, will be examined. Next, the substantive agreements and associated legal instruments included in the Annexes to the WTO Agreement will be analyzed. Significant attention will be focused on the core principles of the WTO Agreements: market access; non-discrimination; transparency and administration of justice; and, binding dispute settlement. In particular, the application of these principles under the GATT and GATS will be explored. The course will further examine some WTO rules that allow derogations from these general principles and specific obligations. These derogations include rules pertaining to regional trading agreements, safeguards, general exceptions, anti-dumping measures, subsidies and countervailing duties. Finally, the course will conclude with an examination of WTO rules on trade-related investment measures (TRIMs), and environmental measures which affect international trade.

#### **LLAW6040 Introduction to Chinese law**

A general overview of the present legal system and law of the PRC. The course begins with a survey of traditional Chinese law and the development of socialist theory and practice before and after 1949. It then provides an introduction to important areas of legislation enacted since 1979, including:

Constitutional reform: courts, procuracy and lawyers

Mediation and dispute settlement

The criminal process

Introduction to civil law

Marriage law and the status of women

Economic reform

#### **LLAW6041 Legal Chinese in commercial transactions**

This course is taught in Putonghua (Mandarin). It combines the study of substantive Chinese law with the development of practical linguistic skills useful for conducting legal business in the PRC. Using original materials (statutes, Supreme People's Court and administrative documents, case reports and commentaries), the course will explore how the law in China operates in its indigenous environment, in both domestic and foreign/Hong Kong-related cases. Students are required to learn to discuss, in Putonghua, selected PRC civil and commercial law topics and to practise drafting legal documents in Chinese as well as English-Chinese and Chinese-English translation. Classes will consist of alternate lectures and group discussion/evaluation sessions.

Examination will be conducted in Chinese. A reading knowledge of Chinese and basic Putonghua comprehension are required.

#### **LLAW6042 Legal fictions: Representations of the law in literature, philosophy and cinema**

This course will examine the representation of law in a variety of contexts: literary, philosophical and cinematic. Issues such as justice, rights, the rule of law, positivism, the language of the law, the trial and the role of the profession will be canvassed through 'texts' as varied as Plato's *Republic*, Sophocles's *Antigone*, Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Melville's *Bartleby the Scrivener*, Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities* (or, alternatively, *Bleak House*), Kafka's *The Trial* (or *Before the Law*), Dworkin's *Law's Empire*, Foucault's *Discipline and Punish*, *Witness for the Prosecution*, *Judgement at Nuremberg* and perhaps a sampling of various television series ('Rumpole', 'L.A. Law', 'Perry Mason', 'Street Legal' and possibly the OJ Simpson trial).

How the law is 'imagined' by these various 'texts' constitutes an important social document, unlocking, to a certain extent, the values -- moral, political, juridical -- of the culture that produced the document. But this course will argue that these representations of the law do more than just 'hold up a mirror to nature'; indeed,

they force us to rethink the law, reconceiving it, as well, as a representation -- in short, a text, subject to the same conventions of aesthetic representation. So the course will conclude by examining actual legal judgements, and how those judgements are informed by narrative conventions, plot structures, novelistic characterisation and constitutive metaphors.

#### **LLAW6043    Liabilities in international aviation**

This course encompasses a study of all aspects of air carriage liabilities. In particular, there will be close examination of air carrier liabilities (passengers and freight), manufacturers liability, airport liabilities, governmental liability (certification/security), pilot and other alternative liabilities in the event of loss or damage being caused in the course of air carriage.

#### **LLAW6044    PRC intellectual property**

This course will examine all major areas of Chinese intellectual property, including trademarks, patents, copyright, competition and related trade and technology transfer issues, with a brief introduction to background, policies and administrative procedures. Reading knowledge of Chinese helpful but not required. No prerequisite.

Topics to be covered: the IP challenge and common ground; overview of IP administration and ARR/ALL procedures; trade and service marks; patents and technology transfer; copyright and software protection; and competition (trade secrets, advertising etc).

#### **LLAW6045    Postmodern legal theory**

This is a course in legal theory examining the impact upon that field of ‘post-modernism’, a philosophical and aesthetic movement which has influenced not only the law but art, architecture, cinema studies, politics, literary criticism, history, anthropology and philosophy.

The perspective of the course will be, by necessity, interdisciplinary and will address, initially, a variety of general issues which the term ‘postmodernism’ has raised: namely, the issue of language, of subjectivity, of the body, of the unconscious, of politics and of ‘system’ in general. Specific topics will include: deconstruction (Derrida), psycho-analysis (Lacan, Klein, Zizek), feminism (Irigaray, Cixous), post-Marxism (Althusser, Laclau and Mouffe), New Historicism (Foucault) and post-colonialism (Bhabha and Spivak).

Each of these broad theoretical topics and issues, however, will be connected with those practical questions posed by the law. So, for example, issues of deconstruction will be addressed in the context of judicial interpretation; psycho-analysis, in terms of the split subjectivity -- conscious and unconscious -- of the subject of law, the ‘reasonable man’ or the rights-bearer; New Historicism and/or feminism in terms of the body constructed by the legal regulation of sexuality (abortion, pornography, homosexuality, medico-legal discourse, etc).

#### **LLAW6046    Privacy and data protection**

This course will consider the question of protection of privacy by the common law, bills of rights, the constitution, with particular reference to electronic surveillance and the conflict between privacy and free speech, including problems related to the Internet. Specific issues to be discussed will include: the concept of ‘privacy’ and the genesis and development of its common law protection, especially in the United States; the social need for ‘privacy’ and its political, philosophical and economic underpinnings, background to the legislation; existing common law and statutory protection : the equitable remedy for breach of confidence, defamation, copyright, the intentional infliction of emotional distress, the public interest, remedies; electronic surveillance, interception of communications, telephone tapping under the Telecommunication

Ordinance; the protection of ‘personal information’: the data protection principles, data matching and PINS, access rights, transborder data flow; the Privacy Commissioner: powers, functions, exemptions, from the principles, the sectoral codes; the international dimension : UN Guidelines, Council of Europe Convention, and OECD Guidelines, Council of the EC draft directive, Articles 17 and 19 of the ICCPR, Article 14 of the BORO, the ECHR; and the Internet and the protection of personal information.

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#### **LLAW6047 Real estate law in the People's Republic of China**

This course covers major areas of the rapidly evolving field of the PRC real estate law, with an emphasis on the discussion of issues arising from urban real estate development, management and related transactions. Among the topics to be examined are : the PRC land system, including state and collective ownership systems; types of land-use rights and regulatory framework; grant, assignment and lease of land-use rights as well as required procedures and related contracts; pre-sale, mortgage, *dian* and resumption issues; domestic and foreign investment regulations; and recent real estate management regulations and practices.

All reading materials are in English. Knowledge of Chinese is not required.

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#### **LLAW6048 PRC security and insolvency law**

This course will focus on both security and insolvency issues in the People's Republic of China, with reference to both PRC foreign investment enterprises and state-owned enterprises and companies. The options available to creditors for protecting their interests under Chinese law will be a central feature of both parts of this course.

Aspects of security law to be covered include the five forms of security - guarantees, mortgages, pledges, liens and deposits, with an emphasis on mortgages and guarantees. Topics to be studied include : the concept of security, Chinese attitudes towards security, the selection of security providers and of security vehicles, real and personal security, types of business finance, creating security (investigation, negotiation and documentation), the approval process, the recording system, and remedies.

The insolvency portion of the course will focus on the insolvency of foreign investment enterprises and state-owned enterprises and companies. The PRC Bankruptcy Law and related legislation at both the national and local levels will be considered. Topics to be studied include insolvency principles, the economic and political ramifications resulting from the insolvency of state-owned enterprises and companies, an overview of the insolvency process, commencement of insolvency cases, property available for distribution to creditors, representatives of the estate, and liquidation procedures generally. Cross-border insolvency issues, especially in relation to co-operation with the Hong Kong SAR, will also be considered. A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters would be desirable.

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#### **LLAW6049 Securities regulation**

This course involves an analysis of the scheme of securities regulation in Hong Kong and the People's Republic of China. Topics covered will include efficient capital markets, types of securities and capital structure, agency theory, portfolio theory, regulation of primary market offerings, trading in secondary markets, inside trading, takeovers and acquisitions, stock exchanges, and securities market professionals.



**LLAW6050    Taxation in the People's Republic of China**

This course provides a comprehensive study of the taxation system of the PRC. Particular attention is placed on cross-border taxation problems.

Specifically, emphasis is given to inbound and outbound investment and the principles of tax efficient structuring for investors from high tax jurisdictions, as well as low tax jurisdictions such as Hong Kong. The major PRC taxes to be studied include the Foreign Investment Enterprises and Foreign Enterprises Income Tax Law, the Individual Income Tax Law, the Tax Administration and Collection Law and various indirect taxes, particularly VAT, Business Tax and Land Value Appreciation Tax. The structure and use of the PRC double tax treaties are examined in depth.

An integral part of the course involves case studies of cross-border business activity in the PRC and Hong Kong, and if time permits, a typical OECD taxing jurisdiction.

A reading knowledge of simplified Chinese characters would be desirable.

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**LLAW6051    The law of restitution**

Topics to be covered in this course:

Introduction: fundamental concepts in the law of restitution.

Autonomous unjust enrichment: recovery of payments for mistakes; recovery of payments under duress or inequality of bargaining power; recovery of payments for failure of consideration; recovery of payments for *ultra vires* demands by public authorities; claims of restitution against third party recipients - tracing, knowing receipt; defences to claims in restitution.

Restitution for wrongs: restitutionary remedies for breach of common law obligations; restitutionary remedies for breach of equitable obligations.

Comparative insights: comparison between the laws of restitution in UK/HK and the PRC.

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**LLAW6052    The law of the sea**

This course will examine some of the important issues in the law of the sea originating from customary international law and law-making treaties, most notably the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The course will discuss such maritime zones as internal waters, territorial sea, contiguous zones, exclusive economic zones, the high seas, continental shelf, and international seabed areas. It will then consider rules and issues relating to various uses of the various sea zones, such as fishing, deep seabed mining, navigation and communication, marine scientific research, regulation of marine pollution, marine boundary disputes, military uses of the sea, and settlement of marine disputes. The course will also examine the interrelationship between international law and domestic law with respect to maritime matters. Relevant Chinese law will be taken into proper account.

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**LLAW6055    Law of international finance I - debt**

This foundation course will examine, primarily from a legal perspective but with interdisciplinary dimensions, the structure and operation of international bank and capital markets. The course, while sensitive to key issues of domestic, regional and international regulation of international securities offerings and international banking, will concentrate primarily on private law aspects of international financial transactions such as basic trade financing, Eurodollar syndicated loans, Loan sales and participation, Eurobond offerings, and basic interest rate and currency swaps, legal opinions and private international law considerations.

**LLAW6056     Legal system of the People's Republic of China**

This course offers an introduction to the law of the People's Republic of China and discusses some of the central issues of China's ongoing legal reform. It is designed mainly to prepare students for further studies in specialized Chinese commercial law subjects.

The course provides an overview of the basic concepts and categories of Chinese law, including the cultural and political traditions informing the current legal system and the background to legal reforms since 1979. The course further examines the PRC constitutional framework and political-legal institutions and practices, including the legal profession and the features and uses of both formal and informal procedures, such as civil, criminal and administrative litigation and mediation.

All reading materials are in English. Knowledge of Chinese is not required.

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**LLAW6057     Comparative securities laws**

Comparative discussion, vis-a-vis U.S., European Union, Hong Kong, PRC, Taiwan, Japan and IOSCO Principles, which respect to the fundamental aspect of capital market regulations including: entry, disclosure, capital adequacy, offerings, exemptions, insider trading, takeovers, enforcement and extraterritorial jurisdiction. Emphasis will be placed on the development of international 'best practices'.

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**LLAW6058     Armed conflicts, humanitarian law and human rights**

This course will examine the international standards regulating the conduct for armed hostilities and the use of weapons in both international and non-international armed conflict, the Hague Convention, the 4 Geneva Conventions on the Law of War 1949 and their Optional Protocols 1977, treatment of prisoners of war, humanitarian intervention, the principles of international humanitarian law, peace-keeping, and disarmament and the regulation of minefields. The course will deal with situations of conflict in the Asian region and elsewhere. It will also consider the interaction between international humanitarian standards and human rights standards, their adequacy for addressing the types of armed conflict in the region, the flow of people they produce, and their aftermath.

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**LLAW6059     Criminal justice and human rights**

This course will examine the international standards relating to the different dimensions of the criminal justice process and their implementation at the national level through constitutional, legislative, judicial and other means. Topics covered are likely to include pre-trial and administrative detention, procedural and substantive guarantees at trial (e.g., the right to be presumed innocent and the right to a fair hearing), sentencing, and the rights of prisoners.

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**LLAW6060     Current issues in human rights**

This course will focus on selected human rights issues of current interest. The topics offered will vary from year to year. The course is likely to be offered by both permanent staff of the Faculty and Visiting Professors.

**LLAW6061    Development and human rights**

This course will consider the concept of the right to development, the recognition and scope of this third generation of rights, the principles governing international trade and those governing respect for human rights, trade sanction and conditionalities in aids, particularly in light of global standards set by international bodies such as World Bank and the GATT/World Trade Organization, standards developed by other bodies such as the International Labour Organization, bilateral arrangements such as the most favoured nations clause and the moral, political and economic dimensions of such arrangement and their implications for human rights protection, the control on freedom of movement and brain drain, and autonomy on the use and disposition of natural resources.

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**LLAW6062    Economic, social and cultural rights**

This course will first examine the historical and conceptual evolution and recognition of economic, social and cultural rights, followed by an examination of various international and regional instruments governing economic, social and cultural rights, and in particular, implementation and enforcement of these instruments. There will then be a study of selected rights, including the right to food, the right to work, the right to housing, the right to medical care, the right to education, the right to trade union and collective bargaining, the right to social security, the right to preserve cultural heritage, and minority rights.

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**LLAW6063    Equality and non-discrimination**

This course will consider theories of equality, international standards on equality and non-discrimination, and their implementation in national laws and practice. The course will examine (with an emphasis on inequality issues of relevance to Asia) different forms of discrimination and inequality, which may include discrimination on the basis of race, class, ethnicity, sex, disability and other grounds.

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**LLAW6064    Ethnicity, human rights and democracy**

The rise of ethnic consciousness and the prevalence of conflicts based on diverse ethnic claims raise fundamental problems for rights and democracy. The course examines the causes of the rise of ethnicity and the challenges it poses to rights and democracy. The dominant modes of rights and liberal democracy, based on notions of the individual (or citizen) and social homogeneity, seem to clash with the claims of groups rights and cultural relativism. Many recent developments in the regime of rights and international law respond to this clash: the rise of rights of indigenous peoples, consociationalist democracy, new modes of expression of self-determination, developments in the rights of minorities, various forms of autonomy, the expansion of the scope of humanitarian intervention, and the adaptation of bills of rights to accommodate multi-culturalism.

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**LLAW6065    Freedom of speech and the press**

This course will examine the theoretical justifications for freedom of expression and freedom of the press, the role of the press in modern democracy, the scope of expression, the problem of inflammatory speech and hostile audience, prior restraint, the regulation of free speech by way of the common law of defamation, restriction by official secrets law, access to information and personal privacy, free speech and the judicial process, obscenity, television and broadcasting, and disclosure of sources of information.

**LAW6066      Gender issues in human rights**

This course will address the role that gender has played in the conceptualisation, interpretation and implementation of international human rights standards. The topics considered will include feminist critiques of the claimed androcentrism of human rights guarantees, the guarantees against sex discrimination under international and regional systems, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the extent to which recent developments in human rights law and practice address the problem of discrimination against women. Specific topics addressed may include violence against women (e.g. issues such as female infanticide, sexual harassment, marital rape, and dowry deaths), the enjoyment by women of economic, social and cultural rights, and the relationships among culture, tradition, religion and women's equality.

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**LLAW6067      Globalisation and human rights**

The course explores the relationship between rights and globalisation. Globalisation is a complex process whereby ideas, technologies, people, and capital move from one place to another, resulting in the greater integration of the world. The spread of the idea of human rights itself, particularly under the aegis of the United Nations, is itself a consequence of globalisation. At the same time, there are other trends in globalisation which threaten the enjoyment of rights: the rise of corporate power, the weakening of state authority, the dominance of the market as the matrix for social, political and economic power, and the downgrading of social rights. Globalisation enables us to explore the connections between political and economic rights, the limitations of rights as applied only against state authorities, and the debate on universalism versus relativism as different cultures are juxtaposed with the movements of peoples and cultures.

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**LLAW6068      Human rights: History, theory and politics**

This course will consider the evolution of concepts of human rights from historical, political, theoretical and philosophical perspectives. The Western traditions of human rights and the challenges to them will be examined. The issue of universal standards and cultural relativism and the political economy of human rights will also be examined, including the challenge to the dominant Western paradigms by the proponents of Asian values in interpreting and implementing human rights. Theoretical and practical questions relating to violations of human rights by non-State actors will also be considered, as will the impact of globalisation on the enjoyment of human rights. Feminist challenges to the dominant models and practice of human rights will also be examined.

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**LLAW6069      Human rights and governance**

This course will examine the international and regional guarantees of the right to self-determination, its relationship with the democratic process and other democratic rights, sovereignty and self-determination, and the rights of minorities. The course may include particular emphasis on the relationship between human rights and the process of democratisation or transition from authoritarian regimes to democratic governments.

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**LLAW6070      Human rights in the People's Republic of China**

This course will examine the international and domestic dimensions of the protection of human rights in the People's Republic of China. It will examine the applicability of international human rights standards to the PRC, the stance of the PRC in relation to international national mechanisms for the protection of human rights, and the place of international standards in domestic law. The course will consider the theoretical

debates about the origin and contingency of human rights standards, questions of priorities in human rights, and the issue of rights in Chinese cultural contexts. It will also examine the extent of human rights protections available under the Chinese constitution and other laws, and will focus on selected issues, which may include the criminal justice system, freedom of expression, freedom of association, freedom of religion, labour rights, gender discrimination, and minorities/self-determination. The course will also examine the social and political forces that may contribute to the improvement of human rights in China.

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#### **LLAW6071 Indigenous peoples and human rights**

This course will examine the international law status of indigenous peoples and population and the relationship between the rights of indigenous peoples and the rights of minorities. The work of the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations in the field will be considered. Taking case studies from the Asia-Pacific region as a particular focus, issues addressed may include the definition and legal status of indigenous peoples, their rights to land and resources, their linguistic and cultural rights, and their rights to self-determination, autonomy and self-government.

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#### **LLAW6072 International and regional protection of human rights**

This course will examine the evolution of international standards of human rights within the United Nations system and the mechanisms established to promote their enjoyment. The topics to be covered will include the development and content of the International Bill of Rights, the major United Nations human rights treaties and the work of the United Nations treaty bodies. The Charter-based mechanisms of the United Nations will be examined, including the Commission on Human Rights and its thematic and country-specific procedures. Particular attention will be given to the relevance of these mechanisms to the Asian-Pacific region.

The European, Inter-American and African regional systems for the protection of human rights will also be considered, in particular the work of their supervisory organs. The possibilities for an Asian regional or sub-regional human rights machinery for the protection of human rights will also be examined.

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#### **LLAW6073 International protection of refugees and displaced persons**

This course will examine the various international attempts to address the problem of the forced movements of people due to persecution, armed conflict or natural disaster. It covers international efforts in protecting aliens and refugees, the definitions of refugees in international and regional instruments, the principle of non-refoulement, the 1951 Convention on Refugees, the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and national responses to the flow of refugees.

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#### **LLAW6074 Labour rights and human rights**

This course will focus on the International Labour Organisation and its various agreements. Topics to be covered include historical development of the ILO, the institutional framework and the complaint mechanism, collective bargaining, freedom of association and workers' and employers' organisations, closed shop system, right to strike and other industrial action, restrictions on working conditions, child labour and wage negotiation.

**LLAW6075    National protection of human rights**

This course will examine the range of methods of ensuring the protection of human rights at the national level and will seek to identify the conditions that are conducive to the full enjoyment of fundamental human rights. The topics to be covered will include the relationship between international law and national law; the use of international standards in national decision-making and policy making; models of constitutional and legislative protection and enforcement of human rights; and the role of national institutions, such as the public service, human rights commissions, professional associations (such as bar associations and medical associations) and non-governmental organisations in the promotion and protection of human rights. The course will primarily focus on case studies from the Asian-Pacific region, but will also include material relating to other countries.

**LLAW6076    Seminar in human rights research, sources and methodology**

This course will provide an introduction to the methodology of, and sources for, rights research. The seminar will examine the various purposes of human rights research and sources and research strategies appropriate for different purposes. The topics covered will include international sources, comparative national material, non-governmental organisation material, and will include both legal sources and resources from other disciplines. The use of electronic resources and search strategies, including the use of the Internet and World-Wide Web, will also form part of the seminar.

**LLAW6077    The rights of the child in international and domestic law**

This course will examine the concept of children's rights within the Asia-Pacific region as a general theoretical issue, as well as consider selected issues of domestic law and practice in the light of the minimum standards mandated by international human rights law. The second part of the course will seek to apply these theoretical models to the concrete legal situations in the region. It will consider international instruments such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of Children, and the Hague Conventions on Child Abduction and Inter-country Adoption, as well as other regional or bilateral arrangements.

**LLAW6078    Banking and finance in the PRC****LLAW6079    Comparative banking law**

Comparative discussion vis-a-vis US, European Union, Japan, Greater China and Basle Committee Process with respect to fundamental aspects as to banking regulation such as entry, capital adequacy and other risk management tools, foreign entry, money laundering examinations, and enforcement and as to private law dimensions such as lender liability, environmental responsibilities, advisory duties and confidentiality and secrecy.

**LLAW6080    Comparative companies law in Asia-Pacific region**

This course is a survey of company law in Asia-Pacific region on a comparative basis with a focus on mainland China, Japan, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan. It will examine in a practical way the historical development, the main structure and characteristics, and the judicial application of the company law in the selected jurisdictions. The discussion will be also devoted to the legal aspects of business organization in international investment in each jurisdiction. The course will enable the students to appreciate the differences and similarities of company law of the different regimes. As an advanced

course, completion of Hong Kong company law or a comparable subject is a prerequisite. The course will be conducted by a combination of lecture and discussion with the involvement of scholars or practitioners of the relevant jurisdictions. The method of assessment may be either a final examination or a research paper, depending on the number of student registered for this course.

#### **LLAW6081 Trade finance law**

Legal analyses of basic trade transaction and related financial arrangements and documentation. Topics include bills of exchange, forfeiting, various forms of letters of credit arrangements and demand guarantees. Other subjects might include official export financing, counter-trade and dematerialization.

#### **LLAW6082 Corporate governance and shareholder remedies**

This course will examine among others the following topics:

- The current framework of corporate governance and the role, duties and powers of directors, auditors and managers.
- Power of general meeting to ratify breaches.
- Role of corporate practices and conduct, and self-regulation in general.
- Role of the Stock Exchange and SFC.
- Shareholders' legal remedies against abuse of corporate power.
- Shareholders' self-help remedies including institutional activism, individual activism, and access to information.
- Proposed reform in corporate governance and shareholder remedies

Comparisons will be made with the law in the United Kingdom, Australia, and to a lesser extent, United States and Canada.

#### **LLAW6083 Corporate reconstruction**

#### **LLAW6084 Cross-border insolvency law**

This course will focus on transnational insolvency, which involves an analysis of the cross-border aspects of insolvency law. The course will begin with an analysis of the transnational aspects of Hong Kong and United States law and, to a lesser extent, of the law of the United Kingdom, Australia, and perhaps other jurisdictions. Also discussed will be some recent proposals to foster cross-border co-operation in insolvency including proposals by the International bar Association and UNCITRAL, as well as the European Union Insolvency Convention on Insolvency Proceedings. Much time will be spent analysing the choice of law questions that arise in transnational insolvencies.

One of the aims of the course is for students to consider how best to resolve cross-border insolvency issues. Another aim is for students to consider the adequacy of Hong Kong law in this area, especially given the approach of 1997.

#### **LLAW6085 Currency law**

Money has various meanings, including: a medium of exchange, the currency for settlement of debts, cash or the right to receive cash, the standard to assess value, credit balances in a bank, and so on. In simple terms, 'currency' is the term used to refer to the notes and coins representing 'money' or cash.

This course will look at the various forms of money and currency, and how these are used in everyday transactions, as well as in international transactions. The items of money, and currency, are valuable not only for their intrinsic purposes, but also for purposes of security.

The topics to be discussed include: Forms of ‘money’, Bills of Exchange, the issue of currency, the role of a Central bank, the role of a trading bank, the role of a merchant bank, governmental controls on money and currency, forms of lending money, Money Lenders, banks as lenders, interest rates, recovery of money paid under mistake, marketability of money, credit-cards, electronic money, contractual claims as chose in action, collateral securities, securitisation, asset-backed securities, money laundering, foreign currency and payment of debts.

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**LLAW6086     Current issues in corporate law**

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**LLAW6087     Current issues in insolvency law**

Principal topics will include:

- Overview of personal and corporate insolvency law in HKSAR; historical development; insolvency law reform.
  - Commencement of insolvency proceedings and consequences thereof; jurisdiction and procedure.
  - Appointment of insolvency representative.
  - Avoidance powers, including fraudulent conveyance.
  - Insolvent trading.
  - Individual voluntary arrangements.
  - Corporate rescue and restructuring.
  - Receivership of companies.
  - Regulation of insolvency practitioners in HKSAR.
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**LLAW6088     Derivatives : Law and regulation**

Covers the historical and market developments of swaps and derivatives, market innovations as to financial, capital market and commodities based derivatives, use of derivatives in emerging economies, regulatory and supervisory concerns, and selective case studies of regulatory and litigation issues as to derivative arrangements.

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**LLAW6089     Comparative financial regulation**

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**LLAW6090     Emerging markets : Finance and investment**

Consideration of the fundamental regulatory and contractual aspects of financing and investment in developing countries and transitioning economies. Specific subject matter will include the role of law in economic reforms, financial sector reforms in emerging economies, basics of infrastructure financing from the countries perspective, debt rescheduling, privatization, regulation of foreign direct investment and related dispute resolution considerations from the emerging countries perspective.



**LLAW6092    Equity in commercial law**

This course is divided into three main parts. Part 1 deals with equitable obligations and their remedies. There will be special emphasis on duties of confidence, fiduciary duties in joint ventures and the doctrine of Chinese walls, as well as such remedies as equitable compensation and taking accounts. Part 2 deals with the use of equitable doctrines to obtain priorities in insolvency, such as the Quistclose trust, Romalpa clauses, equitable tracing to recover assets in a money-laundering scheme, remedial constructive trusts and the development of proprietary restitutionary remedies. Part 3 deals with the use of trust structures in international finance, especially in the securitisation of assets.

**LLAW6093    Regulation of financial markets**

This foundation course will consider the nature and operation of financial regulation as to banking, capital, pension and insurance markets, emphasizing overriding policy objectives, functional convergence and the role of the regulators/supervisors, and the movement toward collaborative international best practices.

**LLAW6094    Law of international finance II – equity and structured finance**

Course assumes a basic knowledge of syndicated lending and bond financing, although the first class will provide an overview of these transactions, covers more advanced aspects of international financial arrangement selected from such topics as role of security in international financing, fundamentals of infrastructure financing (from a lender's perspective), asset securitization, stock and debt derivatives, mezzanine financing, payment systems, aircraft finance and ship financing, and alternative forms of dispute resolution in financial arrangements.

**LLAW6095    International investment law with East Asia focus****LLAW6096    International tax and tax planning**

This course assumes a basic knowledge of the general principles of taxation law. It will examine two distinct, yet interdependent, areas: comparative international taxation systems and principles of international tax planning. Specific emphasis will be placed upon the taxation environment (law, policy and practice) within the Asia-Pacific region. Topics to be covered include:

- Inbound and outbound investment: the principles of efficient tax structuring for investors from both high and low tax jurisdictions.
- International taxation: jurisdiction to tax; use of tax treaties; withholding tax; tax efficient financing; mergers and acquisitions; exploitation of intellectual property; real estate; tax incentives; tax havens.
- Personal taxation.
- Impact of international and domestic anti-avoidance regimes on tax planning.
- Case studies involving Hong Kong and mainland China and selected Asia-Pacific countries (particularly Japan, Singapore and the United States) will be an integral part of the course.

**LLAW6097    Pension and investment funds in Hong Kong and the PRC**

This course is a comparative study of (a) the private law rights and obligations in and (b) the regulatory regime of pension funds and investment funds in Hong Kong and in the PRC. In relation to (a), emphasis will be placed on the different legal structures used in the two jurisdictions to operate pension and investment funds, and the differences in the extent of the rights and duties of the parties arising thereunder.

In relation to (b), emphasis will be placed on a few recent legislative developments in both jurisdictions, such as the new legislative framework on mandatory provident funds in Hong Kong, and the provisional regulation on investment funds in the PRC. Knowledge of PRC law is helpful, but not a pre-requisite to this course.

#### **LLAW6098    Project finance**

The course reviews the techniques and contract structures for international project finance including selection of project vehicles, risk assessment and management, concession agreements, project contracts such as purchase, supply and take or pay and forward agreements. The role of the project participants and the creation of legal obligations through performance bonds and guarantees, indemnities, counter-indemnities, and letters of credit as well as their common features and problems encountered in use are discussed. Financial agreements including syndication generally and direct and indirect participation are examined. The place of project security and insurance are introduced as is the topic of subordination. Final topics address current issues in privatisation, the provision of infrastructure in Asia and their relationships to development. Assessment will be by a written open-book final examination (worth 60%), an assigned and agreed research paper (worth 30%), and class participation (worth 10%).

#### **LLAW6099    International commercial arbitration**

In the world's globalizing economy there has been a dramatic increase in the size and complexity of international commercial transactions. This course will examine the legal problems and other risks (including financial, monetary, political and cultural) associated with the resolution of disputes arising out of such international commercial transactions. The main focus of the course will be on the use of international commercial arbitration to resolve disputes in a globalizing economy. The course will consider the following topics : the sources of international arbitration law (domestic and international), ad hoc and institutional arbitration, model arbitration laws and arbitration rules, arbitration laws of the HKSAR, the PRC and other Asia-Pacific states, and issues relating to the international arbitral process and procedure, such as arbitrability of disputes, arbitration and submission agreements, powers of arbitrators, the applicable law, the form of the arbitration hearing, interim and final remedies, arbitral awards (including challenges and appeal), and the recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards.

#### **LLAW6100    Securities for corporate lending**

A study of the assets of a company and the use of those assets as security for company borrowing. Topics to be studied include: loan capital, comparison with equity capital, the assets of the company, the power of the company to borrow, secured and unsecured loans, the use of the Debenture, registration of charges, identity of the lender, the forms of traditional security, fixed and floating charges, crystalization, the forms of quasi-securities, trusts, sale and repurchase agreements, default, effect of insolvency and the particular form of security, enforcement of securities, negative pledges, subordination, set-off, asset-backed securities, receivables, receivers, legislation including the Companies Ordinance.

#### **LLAW6101    Takeover and insider dealing**

Topics likely to be covered include theories of regulation, concept of control, acquisition of shares including takeover offers, disclosure in takeovers, purchase of own shares and financial assistance in takeover, compulsory acquisition, defending against unwanted takeovers, use of litigation in takeovers, role of SFC and the takeover panel, judicial review of regulator's powers, the need for insider dealing law, concept of insider dealing, role of Insider dealing Tribunal.

**LLAW6102    The corporation and crimes**

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**LLAW6103    Comparative insurance law and regulation**

Consideration of fundamental policy objectives and regulatory approaches to insurance regulation, with examples from both developed and emerging economies. Emphasis will be on development of international standards.

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**LLAW6104    Medical law**

Health care structure in Hong Kong : private health care and Hospital Authority; health insurance; complaint and investigation procedures; Hong Kong Medical Council and professional misconduct.

Beginning life : assisted human reproduction; embryo and fetal research; sex selection; cloning; family planning; contraception, sterilization, abortion, child destruction and infanticide.

Medical treatment : consent to medical treatment; assessment of competence; refusal to treatment; medical negligence; general and approved practice; the role of expert witness.

Confidentiality : access to medical records; reporting statutes; AIDs.

Mental health : voluntary patients; compulsory detention; mental health review tribunals.

End of life : euthanasia; do not resuscitate; suicide; passive and active euthanasia; living will, advance directives and surrogate decision-making; death; organ transplants.

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**LLAW6106    Issues in information technology law**

This course examines the legal and policy issues relating to information technology (IT). IT impacts on law and the legal system in many ways. In the public law field, IT permits public and private sector agencies to collect, store and use data about citizens, raising concern about rights to privacy and access to personal information. Illegal and improper uses of IT have created a new category of 'Cybercrime'. This global, transnational phenomenon poses difficulties for existing offences, rules of evidence and methods of law enforcement. The regulation of the Internet also raises important questions concerning censorship, freedom of speech and the proper role of the state in controlling cyberspace. In the commercial field, rapid development in the field of IT raises concern doubts whether existing laws offer appropriate levels of protection.

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**LLAW6107    Insurance law**

Regulation of the insurance industry, types of insurance, indemnity and non-indemnity insurance, definition of insurance, the insurance contract, renewal, indemnity, contribution, subrogation, insurable interest, the duty of utmost good faith, disclosure, the proposal as the basis of the contract, promissory warranties, waiver, definition of the risk, limits of liability, exceptions and conditions, third parties rights against the insurer, motor insurance, employees compensation insurance.

**LLAW6108 The child and the law**

Special attention to be given to the law relating to the child by examining the increasing importance of the child in family law. Evaluation of law governing parent and child relationship; the concept of parental rights and duties; the emergence of children's rights; the relationship between the child and the state; child protection under municipal and international law.

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**LLAW6109 Public international law**

Topics will include some of the following: introduction to the nature of international law and its historical development; sources of international law; the relationship between international and municipal law; the subjects of international law; the concept of sovereignty and state recognition; state jurisdiction; the acquisition and loss of territory; state responsibility; state succession; treaties and other international legal agreements; the pacific settlement of disputes; the use of force; international institutions; human rights. The above is intended merely as a guide to the general nature of the subject matter to be covered. Special reference will be made throughout to considerations which are particularly relevant in the Hong Kong and Southeast Asian contexts.

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**LLAW6110 Law and regulation of banking and insurance in the People's Republic of China**

This course involves an examination of the legal framework governing banking and insurance. The course begins with a discussion of the central bank, the People's Bank of China, regarding its role, activities, and regulatory power. Entry into the business of banking and regulation of the activities of banking business are examined. In addition to the regulatory regime, the law of negotiable instruments and the international transaction aspects of banking business are also treated. The course then moves into the regulatory regime governing the insurance industry. Restrictions of entry and activities of insurance companies are examined. Prudential management and investment limitations are also dealt with. Regulatory supervision of insurance companies and regulation of insurance agents and brokers are analysed. Other topics of insurance law include : insurable interest, subrogation, the insurance contract, third party claimants, and bad faith claims.

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**LLAW6111 The legal impact of IT on international trade and logistics**

Legal issues raised by the growing use of Electronic Data Interchange and Computer Encryption in international commercial transactions, documentary credits and international carriage of goods. Topics include the national and international framework for electronic commerce; electronic contracting; internet trade system using the private/public key cryptography; legal authentication and security issues; International Conventions and Model Laws on electronic commerce promulgated by international bodies such as ICC, UNCITRAL, OECD; electronic bills of lading and BOLERO; electronic letters of credit; internet taxation issues and revenue implications.

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**LLAW6112 Criminal law and procedure in the People's Republic of China**

This course will examine the structure of criminal liabilities under Chinese criminal law and the stages of criminal process on the mainland of the People's Republic of China (PRC). It will consider : (1) the organizations of criminal law in China and their relationship; (2) the changing rules of criminal liabilities and criminal process and their political and social context; and (3) the operations of the criminal law and the culture of criminal justice system in China. Major topics of the course include: definition of crime in the PRC, structure and principles of PRC criminal law, commercial crimes in the market economy, powers in criminal investigation, the judiciary and criminal trial, rules of evidence, and rights of the accused.

**LLAW6113     Constitutional and administrative law in the People's Republic of China**

This course consists of two parts. The first part of the course examines the following topics : (1) China's constitutional development and reform, (2) the state system, (3) the status of the Chinese Communist Party, (4) citizen's rights and obligations and, (5) the social and economic system. Through comparative studies, students are expected to understand the major differences between the concepts under the Chinese Constitution and the features of western liberal constitutionalism and the difficulties, as well as perspectives, for China's constitutional reform.

The second part of the course focuses on China's administrative law system. Topics on this part include: (1) historical foundation and development of the administrative system in China; (2) comparative studies of Chinese and western administrative law system; (3) administrative review including administrative reconsideration, punishment, and supervision; (4) judicial review or administrative litigation; and (5) state compensation. In contrast to the first part, this part is mainly conducted through case study format. Students are expected to analyse the issues in the cases by applying relevant laws and regulations.

**LLAW6114     Cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong**

The course examines the cross-border legal relations between the Mainland and Hong Kong from both theoretical and practical perspectives. The course covers: (1) the new constitutional order of "one country, two system" and the cross-border constitutional conflict; (2) conflict of criminal jurisdictions and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters; (3) mutual legal assistance in civil and criminal matters; and (4) theories and practice of regional mutual legal assistance in Greater China. Specific topics of the course include: the status of the PRC Constitution and the Basic Law and the issue of congressional supremacy, repatriation of fugitives and sentenced persons and mutual legal assistance in other criminal matters, mutual recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards and judgements, procedures of cross-border services and evidence taking, and cross-border insolvency and family law matters.

**LLAW6115     Advanced seminar on Chinese law**

This seminar will focus on selected topics including: the role of the judiciary, the rule of law, law and development, enforcement of the law, economic reform and commercial law, WTO and China, globalization and local culture.

**LLAW6116     Computerisation of law**

The theory and practice of developing computer applications for use in the law, emphasising the use of 'knowledge-based' technologies such as expert systems (systems that give legal 'advice') and automated legal document generators, but also covering aspects of text retrieval and hypertext techniques. There is a strong emphasis on the use of these technologies over the Internet. Systems in use in public administration and private practice will be demonstrated and discussed critically. Topics may include: principles, deficiencies and performance measurement of free-text retrieval; distributed retrieval over the internet; hypertext and distributed text retrieval over the internet; the nature of legal knowledge and reasoning and its capacity for computerised representation; rule-based expert systems; non-deductive expert systems; special problems of statute-based and case-law representation and reasoning; principles of automated document generators; implications for the delivery of legal services and the rule of law.

Each student will design and implement an Internet-based computer application in an area of law. The use of appropriate development tools is taught during the course. Familiarity with the use of a microcomputer and a word processing program is a pre-requisite, but a knowledge of programming is not required. Familiarity with computerised legal research is desirable, particularly internet legal research. Classes take place in the Faculty Microcomputer Lab and enrolment is therefore limited. The course will be taught by a combination of internet delivery and intensive computer lab instruction. Lab class attendance is required during the course (although not every week), plus required internet interaction.

**LLAW6117 Cybercrime**

‘Cybercrime’ refers to computer-mediated activities which are either criminal or regarded as illicit and which can be conducted through global electronic networks. It encompasses cybercrimes against the person (e.g. cyber-stalking, cyber-pornography), cybercrimes against property (e.g. hacking, viruses, causing damage to data, cyber-fraud), and cyber-terrorism. The computer-age has also provided organized crime with more sophisticated and potentially secure techniques for supporting and developing networks for a range of criminal activities, including drugs trafficking, money laundering, illegal arms trafficking, and smuggling.

Cybercrime poses new challenges for criminal justice, criminal law, and law enforcement. This course will examine the nature of and problems created by cybercrime, along with some of the legal and policy challenges arising in relation to the development of national and international law enforcement and regulatory responses to cybercrime.

**LLAW6118 Electronic banking law**

The legal framework of banking law arising from the use of electronic technology. The traditional relationship of banker and customer – including debtor/creditor, agency, trust and confidence – is contrasted with the modern relationship. How will the electronic methods of communication and exchange of information alter these traditional principles?

Topics to be discussed will include : The *Electronic Transactions Ordinance*, the *Bills of Exchange Ordinance* and associated legislation including the *Bills of Lading and Analogous Documents Ordinance*, electronic payment services such as digital cash and digital cheques; international fund transfers including *SWIFT*, *CHAPS*, *CHIPS*, the consequences of mistake in the use of electronic means of communication: electronic banking products such as *Smart Cards*, cyberbanking and progression from a paper-backed into a paperless system, PKI systems, adaptation of existing law to the requirements of IT law.

**LLAW6119 Human rights and cyberspace**

The exponential growth of the Internet and World-wide web provides great opportunities for and poses significant challenges to enjoyment of human rights in many areas. This course will examine a number of areas in which the Internet revolution has provided new tools and opportunities for promoting the enjoyment of human rights, as well as for enabling violations of human rights :

- The use of the Internet for building human rights networks for the dissemination of information and the co-ordination of action at national and international levels.
- Issues of access to technology, in particular the opportunities for persons with certain disabilities provided by IT developments, the problems of accessibility and the legal obligations of e-service providers to ensure that their services are accessible to persons with disabilities.
- The use of the Internet for the dissemination of racist material and other forms of offensive material.
- Cyberstalking and harassment through the Internet.
- The global dimensions of the Internet : the difference between rich and poor, the issue of language.
- Gender and the Internet.
- Freedom of expression and the Internet.
- Jurisdictional and substantive law problems in relation to human rights and the Internet.
- Use of the Internet by non-governmental organisations for building international networks and co-ordinating activism on human rights issues.

## LLAW6120 Intellectual property in the information society

This course examines intellectual property rights such as patents, trademarks and copyright and the challenges faced by them in the on-line world. The course will also examine the various forms of protection for software. Enforcement issues in the on-line world will also be considered as will issues specific to e-commerce such as domain names and strategies for the protection of web sites.

The following topics may be covered:

- A brief history of intellectual property and its nature.
- Intellectual property rights: patents, trademarks, copyright, registered designs - the nature of each right; the protection offered by each of these rights and how it can be obtained; duration of protection; infringement and enforcement; intellectual property laws in Hong Kong.
- The nature of software : copyright or patent protection for software; diverging views and provisions in the United States, Europe and Hong Kong. The patentability of software US vs European/Hong Kong view. Patents for business methods - the position in the US, Europe and Hong Kong. Disputes over patents for business methods : *Amazon.com v Barnesandnoble.com*; *Network Engineering Software Inc. v eBay Inc.*; *Winston v Ask Jeeves Inc.* etc.
- The challenges of intellectual property in the Internet Age: the territorial nature of intellectual property rights; international efforts to harmonise intellectual property rights; TRIPS obligations; European Community Directives. Copyright in the Information Society - the end of the first sale doctrine? Copyright infringement in the on-line world -hyper linking, framing, caching, browsing, 'down stream infringement', *Napster*, *MP3*. Trademark infringement in the on-line world - domains and hidden trademark infringement (meta-tags). A look at case law from Hong Kong, Europe and the United States. The application of the fair use doctrine and implied licences on the Internet. Establishing jurisdiction for intellectual property cases on the Internet; enforcement issues on the Internet - which remedy is useful in cyberspace?
- Domain name issues. The decentralised nature of the Internet and the management of unique identifiers. The domain name system explained. Challenges to the domain name system *PGMedia Inc D/B/A/Name.Space v Network Solutions Inc. and the National Science Foundation*. The formation of ICANN, its role and mandate. Disputes over domain names and ICANN's 1999 Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy. Cybersquatters and typo-squatters. An overview of UDRP decisions in the past year. Domain name trends and new initiatives. Domain names in Hong Kong - the overhaul of the existing system. Chinese language domain names - VeriSign vs CNNIC registrations.
- Trademarks, passing-off and domain names - where should the analogies end?
- Protecting your website - IP strategies for websites. Branding and co-branding issues.
- Trade Secrets and the Internet

## LLAW6121 Internet content : Property and liability

How law regulates the content of Internet (cyberspace) communications. Roughly half the course is devoted to the protection of content by intellectual property and other laws and half to forms of liability for objectionable or harmful content. Throughout the course, various themes recur : the liability of ISP and other third parties for actions by others; the role of technology in providing protection; self-regulatory and co-regulatory models; the emergence of international standards; problems of jurisdiction and regulatory arbitrage.

Topics may include :

- Copyright and other protection of Internet content (hypertext linking, caching, search engines, meta-tag stuffing etc)
- Software protection : copyright; Internet process patents
- Database protection : copyright and sui generis rights

- Liability of ISPs for IP infringements by others
- Technological protection of copyright works – ECMS; anti-circumvention and RMI laws
- Censorship of Internet content – legislation and technology (examples from restrictions on sexual, political, racist, and/or gambling content)
- Defamation – Internet differences; liability of ISPs
- Tortious liability for Internet content (negligent misstatements; product liability for software etc)
- Protection of personal information (introduction only)
- Regulation of obscene material
- Regulation of advertising.

### **LLAW6122    Internet governance : the law/technology interface**

How does the law and other forces determine the structure or constitution of the Internet (cyberspace), both locally and internationally? The general framework for legal recognition of transactions in cyberspace. Who and what is allowed to exist and transact in cyberspace, and who decides?

The focus is on the entities that make up cyberspace (computers, people and business entities, and networks), and the distinctive technologies of cyberspace (e.g. public key cryptography, the Internet Protocols). Themes include the role and regulation of new types of entities such as Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and Certification Authorities (CAs); the extent to which control of technology and standards acts as regulation; the relationship between government regulation and self-regulation; and the capacity of both public international law (treaties etc) and private international law to cope with the 'borderless world' of cyberspace. This course is intended to be studied before or in conjunction with other information technology law subjects.

Most of the following topics will be covered :

- Structure and history of the Internet/cyberspace (the Internet protocols; origins; convergence; defining characteristics of the internet)
- Theories of cyberspace regulation (relationship between law, 'architecture' and other modes of regulation; role of self-regulation; cyber-libertarian and 'realm of surveillance' perspectives)
- Constitutional powers to regulate cyberspace; National IT policies
- Jurisdiction and conflict of laws in cyberspace
- Governance of networks (International and national self-regulation; Telecommunications regulation; protocols and addresses)
- Addresses and reputations (IP addresses and domain names; domain name allocation; ICANN and other dispute resolution procedures; interaction with trademark law)
- Entities in cyberspace – Individuals, business entities and identification (requirements for cyberspace identification; anonymity and pseudonymity)
- New entities in cyberspace – obligations and protections (carriage service providers and ISPs, content hosts, CAs etc)
- Public key cryptography and its significance 'Public key infrastructure' (PKI); Attempts to control encryption; Digital signatures)
- Electronic transactions legislation (introduction and public sector implications); evidence requirements generally
- Computer crimes (unauthorised access; protection of infrastructure)

### **LLAW6123    Law, the individual and the community : a cross-cultural dialogue**

This course is a "global classroom" course centred on dialogue amongst parallel classes at universities in a number of countries (including Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Finland and the USA) by means primarily of



Internet-based communications technology. The course deals with competing ideas about the appropriate relationship between individual and community and the role of law in regulating that relationship. A special concern is to explore the extent to which human rights are an indispensable and universally-desirable aspect of such legal regulation. Are there reasons to believe that either the idea of human rights or the content attributed to some human rights cannot be justified as appropriate for all societies in all contexts? In order to provide a context for the dialogue amongst the students in the different universities, selected cases and scenarios from international human rights law (as well as some comparative constitutional case law) provide the concrete focus for exploring the broader theme. The issues to be examined are likely to include (though will not necessarily be restricted to) the death penalty, preventive detention, sexuality, corporal punishment, parent and child relationship, and freedom of expression.

The course will involve regular meetings of the class in Hong Kong, together with participation by students in discussions with their counterparts in other countries for 8 weeks during the semester. This discussion will be based around the common themes and reading being considered simultaneously by each of the classes during that period. The main form of communication technology used to link the students is an Internet website discussion group (a series of "conferences"), hosted by the Bora Laskin Law Library at the University of Toronto, with a back-up site at the National University of Singapore. Students will be required to contribute to the conferences on a weekly basis as part of the course. The co-instructors at the different institutions will moderate general conferences involving all students from all the participating universities.

[Note : This course was originally conceptualised and implemented by Professor Craig Scott of the University of Toronto and Professor Kevin Tan, of the National of University of Singapore. The course description above is based largely on their course description and appears with their permission.]

#### **LLAW6124    Telecommunications law**

The aim of this course is to provide an overview of telecommunication legislation and regulation. In the last two decades the traditional monopolies offering telecommunications services have been broken up around the world. The liberalisation of the telecommunication markets has called for legislation and regulation able to deal effectively with incumbent dominant operators to ensure a level playing field to all new entrants in the market.

The following topics may be covered:

- Telecommunications technology - the jargon explained;
- The move towards the liberalisation of the telecommunications industry - GATS and WTO agreements on Basic Telecommunications; an overview of the Hong Kong telecommunications market pre and post 1995;
- The need to regulate; regulatory principles and structures; regulatory models compared (US, EU and Hong Kong); types of licences; licence fees; licence provisions;
- The role of the regulator, his powers and duties. The Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA), the Telecommunications Authority (TA) and the Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau (ITBB);
- Telecommunications regulation and legislation in Hong Kong. The impact of the Telecommunications Amendment Ordinance 2000;
- Universal service obligation; numbering and portability; key principles and issues in interconnection; interconnection charges and agreements; access; cost allocation; unbundling the local loop; tariffs;
- The regulation of anti-competitive conduct; sector-specific provisions vs competition laws (US, EU and Hong Kong approaches compared);
- The regulation of broadcasting in Hong Kong - an overview;
- The convergence of telecommunications, broadcasting and computer technologies - challenges for the regulator. Proposals for dealing with convergence compared. The Internet - a prototype of the converged media;
- The challenges posed by the Internet; Internet telephony - various approaches compared; the licensing of Internet Service Providers.

**LLAW6125 The law of E-commerce**

This course includes some of the following topics :

- History and theories of the ‘new economy’
  - Electronic transactions – under legislation and at common law
  - Other legislation/international agreements concerning e-commerce
  - Banking and payment systems for cyberspace transactions (including smart cards, e-cash, encrypted payment systems etc)
  - Consumer protection issues
  - Selected transactions types (e.g. share trading; bills of lading and other negotiable instruments)
  - Revenue issues and implications for states (taxation of Internet transactions, customs etc)
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**LLAW6126 e-Finance : Law and Regulation**

This course presents an introduction and analysis of the legal and regulatory issues arising from the use of electronic technology in the provision of financial services. The course will be comparative and interdisciplinary in nature, emphasising US, European and Hong Kong regulation, with some lectures presented by professionals in the field.

The course focuses on challenges to traditional models of financial regulation posed by the Internet and electronic communications. Topics covered include the development and regulation internet banking, securities and insurance activities. Specific topics covered include market access, virtual financial intermediaries, Electronic Communications Networks (ECNs), product offerings through the Internet, and enforcement issues. The course will also address specific transactional issues such as financing of technology companies.

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**LLAW6128 International trade law I**

International trade terms and the use of documents in export sales; contract issues in the international trade context; China trade comparisons; attempts at standardisation, codification and unification; Hong Kong regulation of international sales transactions; bills of exchange; collections; documentary credits; bank guarantees and performance bonds; export credit insurance.

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**LLAW6129 International trade law II**

Carriage by sea; carriage by air; multi-modal transport and containerisation; marine insurance; commercial arbitration regimes in Hong Kong and abroad; public regulation of international trade including aspects of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and Multi-fibre Agreement.

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**LLAW6130 Law, justice and ideology**

Social theory and the sociology of law: Pound, Erlich, Durkheim, Weber; law and social change.  
 Law as ideology: law and power, Marxist theories of law and state, critical legal studies.  
 Theories of justice: utilitarianism, the economic analysis of law, Rawls, Nozick, Hayek.

**LLAW6131 Media law**

The primary objective of the course is an appreciation of the extent that law is affecting media practice. A familiarity with principal areas, such as defamation, privacy, contempt of court and various regulatory regimes governing the media will be developed. The underlying themes throughout the course are the meaning of freedom of the press, the responsibility of the media as a watchdog, and the balance between the two. Apart from a study of the local context, there will be frequent references to comparative materials, in particular the USA. The syllabus outline is as follows :

1. Introduction: the role of the press in democratic society, its relation and differences with freedom of expression, the history of, and the justification of the development.
2. Freedom of the press: freedom from what, and freedom to do what? No licensing; control by the Press Council.
3. The Law of Defamation and its defences.
4. News Gathering I: Intrusion into Privacy.
5. News Gathering II: access to information, official meetings and records, places and institutions.
6. Breach of Confidence.
7. Publication of Obscene and Indecent articles
8. Contempt of Court : Disclosure of news sources and prejudicial reporting of trial.
9. Access to the Media and the rights of reply.
10. Broadcasting regulation and the differences between broadcasting and printing media.
11. Regulated Media and Beyond: the Internet.

Media law will be a one-semester course. Seminar will be conducted, where students are expected to have prepared for class discussion.

Assessment : 60% exam, 40% class participation, a research paper of about 15 pages and a presentation on the research paper.

**LLAW6132 International and comparative intellectual property law**

This course examines the international framework within which intellectual property law operates, including copyright, patents, trade marks, designs and other forms of intellectual property. The course examines how multilateral Conventions and other agreements such as TRIPS shape national intellectual property laws, the effect of international bodies such as WIPO and WTO, the role of bilateral agreements, and other international influences on the development of intellectual property laws. Previous or concurrent study of intellectual property is recommended to students considering this course.

**LLAW6133 Introduction to international economic law**

The recent dramatic transformation of the international economic legal order is generally attributed to “globalization”, on the one hand, and liberalization, harmonization and unification of national policies and laws that affect trade, investment, and financial and commercial transactions across national borders, on the

other hand. Concerns arise as to the coherence and compatibility of these processes and efforts with respect to national and global economic development, and overall welfare. This is the domain of international economic law; the law and policy of relations between national governments concerning the regulation of economic transactions that have cross-border effects. The course will broadly introduce those areas of international law and institutions that have shaped, or are the resultant of, the recent transformation of the international economic legal order, under three general themes: international trade, investment and competition law; international financial and monetary law; international commercial transactions. It will cover the relevant activities of international organizations such as the WTO, ASEAN, APEC, NAFTA, EU and ICSID. In addition to trade, investment and competition, the subject matter will include topics dealing with banking, insurance and securities. The role of institutions such as central banks through the BIS and the Basle Committee in the development of regulatory frameworks will be examined. The activities of two Bretton Woods international institutions, the World Bank and IMF, as well as the IOSCO will be studied. Efforts to unify or harmonize laws that affect international commercial transactions by international institutions such as the ICC, UNCITRAL, UNIDROIT, Hague Conference in Private International Law and OECD will also be examined.

#### **LLAW6134      International trade regulation II : Selected issues on WTO and China**

This course is an advanced seminar on the interactions between WTO law and national measures in selected areas such as customs administration; public health and safety, consumer protection, industrial and competition policies; agricultural, textiles and clothing markets, financial services markets, telecommunications, and intellectual property rights. Each topic will include a discussion of the interactions between WTO law and national measures with respect to China. This will include examination of issues related to State trading, economies in transition and differential treatment to accommodate the special needs of developing economies. The course will begin with a review of the general principles of the WTO agreements, and a discussion of the sources of WTO law concerning China's commitments and obligations. Topics of study will include valuation for customs purposes, pre-shipment inspection, rules of origin and import licensing procedures. The WTO agreements on sanitary and phytosanitary measures and technical barriers to trade will also be considered, as will the treatment of anti-dumping measures, subsidies and countervailing duties, and government procurement. Policies related to trade in agricultural products, textiles and clothing will be addressed in the light of relevant WTO agreements. The GATS and its annexes on Financial Services with respect to banking, insurance and securities, and, Telecommunications will be examined. Finally, the course will conclude with a detailed analysis of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs Agreement) and a review of the requirements necessary for a national regime to implement the TRIPs agreement.

#### **LLAW6136      Dispute settlement in the WTO : Practice and procedure**

This course is a specialized seminar on issues that arise in the context of WTO law and its dispute settlement processes. It will unfold along three themes : the foundations of WTO law; the law and policy of dispute settlement in the WTO; and, practice and procedure before WTO dispute settlement and arbitral Panels and Appellate Body (AB). The first theme will review the sources of WTO law, its relationship with, and status within, the legal systems of WTO members. This includes an analysis of the standards of WTO review applicable to national measures applied by its Members within their own domestic legal systems, and the effects of WTO dispute settlement mechanisms on certain fundamental dimensions of national sovereignty.

The second theme will consider the provisions that establish and govern the processes and institutions for the settlement of disputes in the WTO. The principles that govern WTO dispute settlement will be explored, and the WTO Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) will be examined in some detail. Equally, particular attention will be given to specialized rules that are applicable to the settlement of disputes arising from the operation of a number of WTO Multilateral Agreements on Trade in Goods (MTAs), the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), and the Plurilateral Trade Agreements.

The third theme will address issues concerning the scope of the jurisdiction of the WTO Panels and AB, practice and procedure related to claims and defenses, stages of pleadings involved before the Panels and AB, evidentiary requirements, adoption and implementation of the decisions (“reports”) of the Panels and AB, as well as available remedies for breach of WTO obligations, and in particular, for failure to implement a Panel or AB decision.

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**LLAW6137     Current issues in international arbitration and dispute settlement**

This course will focus on selected issues of current interest in international arbitration and dispute settlement. The topics offered will vary from year to year. The course is likely to be offered by permanent staff of the Faculty, Visiting Professors and Practitioners.

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**LLAW6138     Hong Kong arbitration law**

This course will provide a comprehensive introduction to the law and practice of arbitration in Hong Kong. The dual systems of law applicable to domestic and international arbitrations conducted in the SAR, the philosophies underlying curial intervention in the arbitral process and arbitration’s relationship with ADR will be considered in detail. The course will also focus on the recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards made overseas and in Mainland China.