

## Subject Description Form

<b>Subject Code</b>	APSS454																	
<b>Subject Title</b>	Legal Aspects of Human Services																	
<b>Credit Value</b>	3																	
<b>Level</b>	4																	
<b>Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion</b>	Nil																	
<b>Assessment Methods</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">100% Continuous Assessment</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Individual Assessment</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Group Assessment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Individual Seminar Presentation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">30 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Reflection Paper</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Written Assignment</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Participation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5 %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">--</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment	1. Individual Seminar Presentation	30 %	--	2. Reflection Paper	20 %	--	3. Written Assignment	45 %	--	4. Participation	5 %	--
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned;</li> <li>The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject.</li> </ul>																		
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The subject aims to equip students with legal knowledge relevant to human service practitioners. They should be able to understand the general legal principles operated in the judicial system and apply laws in some relevant substantive legal areas. Moreover, they should be able to understand the legal rights and obligations of human service practitioners and their clients. This understanding can facilitate both parties to assert their legal rights and discharge their legal obligations with the mobilization of suitable support.</p>																	
<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. attain essential understanding of the legal system in Hong Kong;</li> <li>b. attain core legal concepts in the areas of Basic Law, contract law, tort law, labour law, family law/administrative law, criminal law, protection of personal data, as well as equal opportunities;</li> <li>c. appreciate the legal rights and obligations of service users;</li> <li>d. appreciate the legal rights and obligations as human service practitioners;</li> <li>e. apply legal concepts and knowledge to analyze legal problems and practical issues encountered in the context of Hong Kong;</li> <li>f. know how to use community resources for the interest of the clients.</li> </ol>																	

<p><b>Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus</b></p>	<p><b>The Legal System in Hong Kong</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The source of laws</li> <li>2. The common law legal system</li> <li>3. The difference between criminal law and civil law</li> <li>4. The Basic Law / National Security Law</li> <li>5. The court system</li> </ol> <p><b>Substantive legal areas</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Contract Law</li> <li>7. Tort Law</li> <li>8. Employment Law</li> <li>9. Criminal Law</li> <li>10. Administrative Law</li> <li>11. Family Law</li> <li>12. Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance</li> <li>13. Anti-Discrimination and Equal Opportunities</li> </ol> <p><b>Implications of legal knowledge for human service practitioners</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Having good legal sense in work</li> <li>15. Utilizing available legal resources</li> <li>16. Developing awareness of legal obligations and assertion of legal rights</li> <li>17. Distinguishing alternative conflict resolution from judicial action</li> </ol>																																																						
<p><b>Teaching/Learning Methodology</b></p>	<p>Professional lawyers will be responsible for some of the lectures. Students will be equipped with basic legal knowledge in a wide range of related areas. Students will have a chance to apply legal principles to analyze well-designed cases. Moreover, they will have to search the Laws of Hong Kong and to study some important and relevant decisions of the courts.</p>																																																						
<p><b>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</b></p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="432 1379 1481 1854"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="6">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>a</th> <th>b</th> <th>c</th> <th>d</th> <th>e</th> <th>f</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Written assignment</td> <td>45 %</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Seminar presentation and participation</td> <td>30 %</td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Reflection Paper</td> <td>20 %</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Participation</td> <td>5%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100 %</td> <td colspan="6"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The combination of 4 types of assessments facilitates students to know better the legal principles in different areas of law and to identify the legal rights of the citizens. Emphasis is on the application of legal principles in both seminar presentation and study of court decisions.</p>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)						a	b	c	d	e	f	1. Written assignment	45 %		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2. Seminar presentation and participation	30 %		✓	✓	✓	✓		3. Reflection Paper	20 %	✓	✓			✓	✓	4. Participation	5%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Total	100 %						
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	<p>There are two options for the written assignment. Option one is to study a selected court judgment in an area of law of their interest and write a case brief with a framework provided for legal reasoning. The length of the paper should be around 1,000 words. Option two is to study a statutory body and write a commentary on its work. The length of the paper should be around 2,000 words.</p>	
<b>Student Study Effort Required</b>	Class contact:	
	▪ Lecture	27 Hrs.
	▪ Seminar	12 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	▪ Preparation for seminar	25 Hrs.
	▪ Preparation for written assignment	35 Hrs.
	▪ Preparation for Reflection Paper	12 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	109 Hrs.
<b>Reading List and References</b>	<p><b><u>Essential</u></b></p> <p>Ho, Stefan. H.C. , Cheng, Kevin K.W. &amp; Chui, W. H. (2020). <i>The Hong Kong Legal System</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>陳弘毅、陳文敏等 (編)(2015)。香港法概論 (第三版)。香港：三聯書店(香港)有限公司。</p> <p><b><u>Supplementary</u></b></p> <p>Chui, Wing Hong and Wing Lo. (2017). <i>Understanding Criminal Justice in Hong Kong</i> (2nd ed.). New York: Routledge.</p> <p>Dickens, J. (2013). <i>Social Work, Law and Ethics</i>. Abingdon: Routledge.</p> <p>Fisher, M.J., &amp; Greenwood, D.G. (2018). <i>Contract Law in Hong Kong</i> (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.</p> <p>Fu, H. &amp; M. Hor. (2022). <i>The National Security Law of Hong Kong: Restoration and Transformation</i>. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.</p> <p>Gittings, D. (2016). <i>Introduction to Hong Kong Basic Law</i> (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.</p> <p>Walsh, P., Tam, J., &amp; Wong, S. (2017). <i>Hong Kong Employment Law: A Practical Guide</i> (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Hong Kong: Wolters Kluwer (HK) (formerly CCH)</p> <p>Ho, Victor W. K. (2019). <i>Criminal Law in Hong Kong</i> (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). Hong Kong:</p>	

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Hotten, Keith. (2021) *Hong Kong Family Law Practice and Procedure*. (4<sup>th</sup> ed.) Hong Kong: LexisNexis.

Ip, Eric Chi Yeung. (2022) *Law and Justice in Hong Kong* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.) Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell/Thomson Reuters.

S, Jhaveri, Ramsden, M. & Scully-Hill, A. (2014). *Hong Kong Administrative Law* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) Hong Kong: LexisNexis.

Mau, Stephen D. (2016) *Tort Law in Hong Kong: An Introductory Guide*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Rivlin, G. (2015). *Understanding the Law* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Srivastava, D.K., Sharma, C., Lui, A., & Tsui, S. (2020). *The Law of Tort in Hong Kong* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Hong Kong: LexisNexis.

江仲有 (2016)。 *婚姻法與家事調解 (第二版)*。香港: 香港大學出版社。