

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
Department of Accounting
ACCT3610 Business Law

Instructor

Jing Tan

Email: actan@ust.hk

Office: LSK 6004

Office hours: By appointment through email

Course materials

PowerPoint slides and the booklet for the course are the **core** materials.

Reference book: *An Introduction to Hong Kong Business Law*, by Vanessa Stott, 5th edition.

1. Course Objective

The objective of the course is to develop students with necessary knowledge and application skills for routine professional problems in the area of law. The course is designed in line with the requirement of HKICPA and provides students with an understanding of the overall legal framework in which businesses in Hong Kong operate. This course will enable students to analyze and apply the relevant laws and principles applicable to business problems.

2. Course Overview

In this course, it will be introduced that the main principles of laws and regulations governing business activities. You will have the basic knowledge to

- analyze the principal concepts of the contract law;
- analyze the principal concepts of the law of tort and negligence;
- analyze the principal concepts of the consumer laws;
- analyze the principal aspects of regulations that govern the different business organizations;
- analyze the principal concepts of the employment laws;
- understand the principal concepts of the bribery and corruption laws;
- understand the principal concepts of the data protection laws.

3. Class Format

In our class, we have lectures, discussions, individual participation, and group participation. In order to get the most out of class sessions, it is important that you actively participate in discussions and exercises.

4. Grade

The grade components and the associated weights are as follow:

2 Quizzes, 1 Final exam	15%, 15%, 50%
In-class writing practice	5%
Assignments & mini quizzes	10%
Participation	5%

1) Quizzes

There will be 2 quizzes and 1 final exam during the semester. The scores will constitute 15%, 15%, and 50% of the final grade respectively. The quizzes will consist of short answer questions. All the questions will be based exclusively on class lectures. It should be kept in mind that many topics in the course are interrelated; thus, answering questions relating to a particular topic may require some knowledge of topics discussed earlier.

Quizzes will be open-book/open-note tests. Quizzes will be held simultaneously for each section. In order to get a convenient time for all students, quizzes have been scheduled in evenings. There will be **NO** new lectures on quiz days.

No make-up quiz will be scheduled.

2) In-class writing practice

This is a practice of answering legal issues in the legal writing style. This writing practice will not be graded on your writing skills. It will be graded on your understandings of legal principles and legal writing style.

3) Assignment

There are 10 assignments after classes and several random mini quizzes during the classes.

4) Participation

There will be activities during the lectures, such as discussing cases, answering questions, corresponding to other students.

Your participation is suggested to be constructive, positive, and active.

- 1) How constructive is your comment? Your comment is expected to be understandable to others and make solid logical sense.
- 2) How much positive influence you bring to the class discussion? Your comment is expected to inspire others to think and stimulate class discussion.
- 3) How active is your participation in class discussions?

5. Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a critical value of the university community. UST places a strong emphasis on academic integrity. To help students and staff to understand the policy, a website has been established that explains the regulations, provides assistance for students in avoiding plagiarism, and sets out the role of faculty and staff when a case of cheating or plagiarism comes to their attention. Please visit the website at <https://registry.hkust.edu.hk/resource-library/regulations-student-conduct-and-academic-integrity>

The penalty for cheating and plagiarism can range from failure of a quiz or assignment to failure of the course. A student may not collaborate with the student from another section of the course. Plagiarism is copying anything from another source without citation. You are required to provide appropriate references when you use ideas and arguments in others' works.