

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

Instructor

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Course materials

PowerPoint slides 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. Intended Learning Outcomes

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

- 1) analyze the principal concepts of the contract law;
- 2) analyze the principal concepts of the law of tort and negligence;
- 3) analyze the principal concepts of the consumer laws;
- 4) analyze the principal aspects of regulations that govern the different business organizations;
- 5) analyze the principal concepts of the employment laws;
- 6) 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:

Final exam	80%
In-class writing practice	5%
Assignments & mini quiz	10%
Participation	5%

1) Final exam

The final exam will constitute 80% of the final grade. The exam will consist of short answer questions. All the questions will be based exclusively on class lectures.

The final exam will be open-book/open-note tests.

No make up exam will be scheduled unless the ARO approves.

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 4 assignments after classes and 1 random mini quiz during the classes.

The mark given for assignments will be reduced by 50 percentage points for work submitted after the deadline.

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. Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessed	Task Mapped ILOs	Explanation
Final exam	IOL 1), 2), 3), 4), 5)	The final exam is designed to assess students' foundational understanding of legal principles (ILO 1 - 5) and their ability to analyze legal cases with these principles.
In-class writing practice	IOL 1)	This task assesses students' ability to understand and apply relevant contract law principles to specific legal issues and report the issue in legal writing style with reasonable solutions.
Assignments	IOL 1), 2), 3), 4), 5), 6), 7)	Assignments are designed to help students review concepts and applications of legal principles.
participation	IOL 1), 2), 3), 4), 5), 6), 7)	This task assesses students' ability to understand and apply relevant legal principles to specific legal issues and create quick responses.

6. Final Grade Descriptors

Grades	Short Description	Elaboration on subject grading description
A	Excellent Performance	Demonstrates a comprehensive grasp of legal principles, expertise in problem-solving, and significant creativity in thinking. Exhibits a high capacity for scholarship and collaboration, going beyond core requirements to achieve learning goals.

B	Good Performance	Shows good knowledge and understanding of the main legal principles, competence in problem-solving, and the ability to analyze and evaluate issues. Displays high motivation to learn and the ability to work effectively with others.
C	Satisfactory Performance	Possesses adequate knowledge of core legal principles, competence in dealing with familiar problems, and some capacity for analysis and critical thinking. Shows persistence and effort to achieve broadly defined learning goals.
D	Marginal Pass	Has threshold knowledge of core legal principles, potential to achieve key professional skills, and the ability to make basic judgments. Benefits from the course and has the potential to develop in the discipline.
F	Fail	Demonstrates insufficient understanding of legal principles and lacks the necessary problem-solving skills. Shows limited ability to think critically or analytically and exhibits minimal effort towards achieving learning goals. Does not meet the threshold requirements for professional practice or development in the discipline.

7. Course AI Policy

The use of Generative AI in assignments is NOT permitted and will NOT be contributed to the students’ work.

8. Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST’s Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to [Academic Integrity | HKUST -Academic Registry](#) for the University’s definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.

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.