

Law

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Course Description

(Unless otherwise specified, all are 3-unit term courses of 105 minutes of lecture and 45 minutes of tutorial per week.)

LAW 1010

Law and Society

3 Lect.

A comparative analysis of legal systems and the role of law in society; an introductory examination of several discrete areas of the law including constitutional, civil, criminal and administrative law. (Not for students who have taken GEE 256R.) (Please see Study Scheme Note 4.)

LAW 1050

Perspectives on the Basic Law

3 Lect.

This course examines fundamental issues of the Basic Law as it applies to the lives of the Hong Kong people. It aims at increasing students' constitutional consciousness of using the Basic Law to protect citizens' rights and interest. Starting from the historical and theoretical background leading to the making of the Basic Law, this course will explore important issues such as Hong Kong's relations with the central government under the "one country, two systems" formula, the importance of elections and democratic development in Hong Kong, the relationships between the executive, the legislature and the judiciary, the interpretation of the Basic Law, whether the Basic Law facilitates the Rule of Law in Hong Kong, how much freedom has been guaranteed by the Basic Law, and what kind of implications the Basic Law has had and will have on Hong Kong's social, economic and cultural life. Controversial cases involving the right of abode, flag desecration and the preservation of indigenous people's rights will also be analysed. (Not for students who have taken GEE 273R.)

LAW 2020

Legal System and Method

The course aims to prepare students for further legal studies with special emphasis on legal method and procedure and basic legal concepts.

LAW 2050

Public International Law

The course aims at a broad introduction to the principles that regulate international behaviour. This includes examination of the international law making process, as well as discrete areas of special interest in the Asian region, such as, for example, territoriality, sovereignty, nationality, human rights and environmental protection.

LAW 2060

Introduction to Chinese Law

The development of the Chinese legal system in mainland China since 1949 and its present state. Topics include: the features and evolution of socialist legal concepts and systems, legislation and codification processes, features and reform of the judicial system, the relationship of the ruling party with the judiciary branch of government, the relationship between administrative, legislative and judicial organs, the relationship between economic and political reform and the legal system.

LAW 2120

Constitutional Law

An examination of fundamental constitutional principles, institutions and rights implicated by the guarantees in the Basic Law of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, through comparison with related constitutional systems, especially in Britain, the United States and China.

LAW 2200

Criminal Law

An examination of the law of crime and punishment in modern society. The course covers some of the major criminal offences as well as the general principles of criminal liability.

LAW 2300

Understanding Human Rights

3 Lect.

The hope by this course is to expose students to the field of human rights as a cross-disciplinary sub-discipline in law and political science. It is hoped this topic will assist students to better understand the debate concerning human rights both at home and abroad. The course will cover the international law and politics issues in this field, the application of human rights in the domestic context and major problems in international human rights practice, including, for example, questions of gender discrimination, humanitarian intervention in domestic conflicts, poverty and human rights, and questions of universalism and cultural relativism. (Not for students who have taken GEE 270R.)

LAW 3040

Law and Public Administration

An examination of the nature, scope and main themes of administrative law in modern society including reference to the circumstances of Hong Kong.

LAW 3080

Selected Topics in Law

A course which may examine the legal system of particular country (e.g., Japan, India, Hong Kong, mainland China) or comparatively examine a particular area of law in several legal contexts.

LAW 3110

Criminal Law and Procedure of China

The management of criminal behaviour in the PRC. Topics include: guiding principles of criminal legislation; the concept of crime; kinds of punishment and their practical application; administrative sanctions; criminal prosecution and the trial process; and means of preventing unjust, framed up and wrong cases.

LAW 3115

Economic and Civil Law of China

The PRC legal framework for the regulation of property and personal relationships and for the management of economic relations. Topics include: civil rights and liabilities of citizens and legal persons; rights of ownership and management; contract and tort; family relationships and succession of property; rules related to state managed enterprises, rights and duties of enterprises; and bankruptcy and winding up.

LAW 3120

Constitutional and Administrative Law of China

Basic principles of the current PRC constitution and state organic structure and processes. Topics include: basic contents of the current constitution; rights and duties of citizens; the structure and inter-relationships of legislative, executive and judicial organs; central and local authorities and their relationships; minorities autonomous regions, special economic zones and special administrative regions; control of and functioning of administrative organs.

LAW 3195

Directed Research

Individual in-depth student examination of a selected legal research topic under faculty supervision culminating in the writing of a significant research paper.

LAW 3210

Gender, Law and Politics

This course is an introduction to feminist scholarship on law and politics. It studies the ways in which feminist scholars are challenging the epistemological and ontological foundations of traditional legal and political science knowledge. Issues examined will include feminist jurisprudence; feminist approaches to the issue of "equality"; feminist research method and epistemology; gender relations as a question of politics and power; gender biases in traditional political science knowledge; and feminism as a social movement.

LAW 5025

Law and Economics

This course introduces students to the law and law enforcement through the perspective of economics. Areas of law particularly amenable to this kind of treatment include the law of contract, torts and property law. Economic analysis is also informative in understanding criminal behaviour and the process of law enforcement. (Not for students who have taken LAW 2030 or GEE 262R.) Undergraduate students taking this course should first obtain teacher's consent.

(There will not be a separate course on Hong Kong Law in the Minor programme. Instead the topic will be included in all courses as appropriate.)

Study Scheme

Minor Programme

Students are required to complete a minimum of 18 units of Law (not GPA) courses, including LAW 1010 and 2020.

- Notes:
1. Units (including LAW 1010) which count towards the fulfilment of this Law Minor Programme shall not count towards the fulfilment of requirements of the Government and Public Administration Major Programme and vice versa.
 2. For Government and Public Administration Major students minoring in Law, the units earned by taking LAW 1010 can only be counted towards the fulfilment of requirements of the Government and Public Administration Major Programme. They are required to declare which Law courses will be counted towards the fulfilment of the requirements of the Minor Programme in Law at their final term of attendance.
 3. Students are advised not to take courses coded 3000 in their first year of attendance.
 4. LAW 1010 Law and Society
Law Minors are required to take LAW 1010. If a student has taken SOC 2108/GEE 260R, the units so earned will not be counted towards any requirements for graduation unless it is a course required by the student's Major/Minor programme(s). A student who has taken SOC 2108/GEE 260R before opting for the Law Minor Programme must still take LAW 1010. The units of LAW 1010 will be counted towards the Minor programme while the units of SOC 2108/GEE 260R will not be counted towards any requirements for graduation unless it is a course required by the student's Major/Minor programme(s).