

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Micro-Module Courseware Development Grant

Scheme 1: Basic Scheme

Final Report (2016-17)

Report due 30 April 2018

Please return by email to The Ad hoc Committee on Planning of eLearning Infrastructure
mmcd@cuhk.edu.hk

PART I

Project title: Understanding Company Law

Principal supervisor: King Fung Tsang

Co-supervisor(s): NA

Department / Unit: Faculty of Law

Project duration: From May 2017 to April 2018

Date report submitted: 30 April 2018

1. Project objectives

The project is to create a series of videos which are organized in five micro modules to facilitate the teaching of the Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101) course.

Is the project on track to meet its objectives? Yes

Have the objectives been changed as a result of the experience of working on your MMCDG project? No

2. Process, outcomes or deliverables

Please specify the number of micro modules produced, and the course(s) (with course codes and titles) that have used the micro modules in Part IV, and provide more detailed descriptions here. Must specify duration of each micro-modules (in terms of students online contact hours), total duration time of all deliverables and style. (With reference to the "Summary of video presentation styles" developed by CLEAR)

In total, as described in the proposal, five mirco modules have been produced.

Each mirco-module contains videos that last approximately five minutes.

As specified in the grant letter, three micro-modules have been completed in the first six months after the grant. To collect students' comments, videos of the three first three micro-modules are uploaded to Blackboard for students in Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101). In addition, videos have also been made available for students in Chinese Company Law (LAWS6104). Formal feedbacks have been sought from students in Chinese Company Law through filling out a questionnaire in Blackbaord voluntarily. The questionnaire is set forth below:

1. The content of the video is good

1. Strongly Agree 2. Agree 3. Neither Agree nor Disagree 4. Disagree 5. Strongly Disagree 6. Not Applicable

2. The visual effect of the video is good

1. Strongly Agree 2. Agree 3. Neither Agree nor Disagree 4. Disagree 5. Strongly Disagree 6. Not Applicable

3. The video is helpful to the understanding of the course

1. Strongly Agree 2. Agree 3. Neither Agree nor Disagree 4. Disagree 5. Strongly Disagree 6. Not Applicable

4. You will welcome more videos of this type for this course

1. Strongly Agree 2. Agree 3. Neither Agree nor Disagree 4. Disagree 5. Strongly Disagree 6. Not Applicable

5. Any other suggestions

Below is the summary of responses for the first four questions:

		Agree or Above	Strongly Agree
Q1	The content of the video is good	100%	83%
Q2	The visual effect of the video is good	100%	67%
Q3	The video is helpful to the understanding of the course	100%	50%
Q4	You will welcome more videos of this type for this course	100%	67%

Selected comments for Q5: “The videos provide a succinct summary of the topics covered. It can be served as a introduction before class or a summary after lecture. It's easy to understand even though for non-law students.”; “suggest that more videos like this will be provided to help students understand the content of the course.”

Overall, students have very positive responses to the videos.

Has the nature of the deliverables been changed? No

Have you adjusted your timeline? No. It is expected that the micro-modules will take 12 months to produce and they are completed in time, and they will be available to my students

in 2018-2019 academic year. In a way, I have pushed the timeline forward by providing videos of the micro-modules to the students in 2017-2018 to improve the modules (see feedbacks above).

Overall, was the project completed satisfactorily?

Yes, see feedbacks above.

3. Evaluation Plan

Have you altered your evaluation plans? No.

What monitoring data did you collect? See feedbacks above.

Does your evaluation indicate that you have achieved your objectives? Yes, see feedbacks above.

4. Dissemination, diffusion and impact

Please provide examples of dissemination: website, presentations in workshops or conferences, or publications.

The videos of the micro-modules have been made available to students in Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101) and Chinese Company Law (LAWS6104) in 2017-2018 academic year through Blackboard.

Please provide examples of diffusion: how the project results/process/outcomes/deliverables have been used in your unit and other parts of CUHK or other institutions?

Please see below links to some sample videos:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/v6ldejpt250o84u/companylaw4_directorsduty_20180206.mov?dl=0

https://www.dropbox.com/s/50nzfc3t6yx3dd6/companylaw_piercingcorporateveil_FIXED_20171205.mov?dl=0

https://www.dropbox.com/s/vqvix517d25xsn6/companylaw3_boardofdirectors_fixed.mov?dl=0

Please provide examples of impact: how the project results (micro modules) can be adapted to other disciplines.

Knowledge of company law is helpful not only to law students but arguably students from all disciplines. These videos are created to facilitate the teaching of company law with both law students and non-law students in mind. With the right adaptations, they could be used as part of the teaching materials for non-law students as well (e.g. potential GE courses). In addition, when creating the videos, I am also mindful of the potential to use them not only for the teaching of Hong Kong company law, but also company law of other jurisdictions. They have been used for example in my Chinese company law course.

PART II

Financial data

Funds available:

Funds awarded from MMCDG	\$ 100,000
Funds secured from other sources (please specify _____)	\$ 0
Total:	\$ 100,000

Expenditure:

Item	Budget as per application	Expenditure	Balance
Engagement of Production Company to produce one Module-Introducing Video*	5	95,000	5,000
Nominal payment to student helper	1	4,850	150
Total:		99,850	150

PART III

Lessons learnt from the project

Please describe your way forward.

The micro-modules will be officially used for the teaching of Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101) in Fall, 2018. Unlike the 2017-2018 academic year in which the PI only served as a tutor for the Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101), the PI will teach both the lectures and tutorials of the course. This will allow more flexibility to fit the curriculum of the course with the mirco-modules.

Please describe any of the following item(s) accordingly:

- *Key success factors, if any*

The videos aimed at making it easy to the students to prepare and thus understand the various topics of company law. Accordingly, the key success factors are interesting scripts and visual presentations.

- *Difficulties encountered and remedial actions taken, if any*

Even a short video will take a long time to produce and refine to ensure quality. Experience in working with the video contractor certainly smooths out the process over time.

- *The role of other units in providing support, if any*

The Blackboard unit provides excellent supports in helping to upload videos on Blackboard.

- *Suggestions to CUHK, if any*

- *Example: what should be done differently?*

Can consider expanding this project to other courses, e.g. Companies and the Law II.

PART IV

Information for public access

Summary information and brief write-ups of individual projects will be uploaded to a publicly accessible CUHK MMCDG website. Please extract from Part I the relevant information to facilitate the compilation of the publicly accessible website and reports.

1. Keywords

Please provide five keywords (in the order of most relevant to your project to least relevant) to describe your micro-modules/pedagogies adopted.

- (Most relevant) Keyword 1: Company law
 Keyword 2: Hong Kong Company Law
 Keyword 3: Incorporation
 Keyword 4: Piercing the Corporate Veil

 (Least relevant) Keyword 5: Director Duties

2. Summary

Please provide information, if any, in the following tables, and provide the details in Part I.

Table 1: Publicly accessible online resources (if any)
<p>(a) Project website: NA</p> <p><i>If a publicly accessible project website has been constructed, please provide the URL.</i></p>
<p>(b) Webpage(s): NA</p> <p><i>If information of your project is summarized in a webpage (say a page in the department's or faculty's website), please provide the URL(s) here.</i></p>
<p>(c) Tools / Services: NA</p> <p><i>If you have used any tools or services for the project, please provide names of the tools or services in here.</i></p>
<p>(d) Pedagogical Uses: NA</p> <p><i>If any flipped classroom activities have been conducted, please provide information in here. If relevant, please indicate how your project output can be used to support flipped classroom activities.</i></p>
<p>(c) Others (please specify): Blackboard</p>

Table 2: Resources accessible to a target group of students (if any) NA

If resources (e.g. software) have been developed for a target group of students (e.g. in a course, in a department) to gain access through specific platforms (e.g. Blackboard, facebook), please specify.

<u>Course Code/ Target Students</u>	<u>Term & Year of offering</u>	<u>Approximate No. of students</u>	<u>Platform</u>
LAWS2101	1 st term 2017-2018	80	Blackboard
LAWS6104	2 nd term 2017-2018	70	Blackboard

Table 3: Presentation (if any) NA

Please classify each of the (oral/poster) presentations into one and only one of the following categories

	Number
(a) In workshop/retreat within your unit (e.g. department, faculty)	-
(b) In workshop/retreat organized for CUHK teachers (e.g. CLEAR workshop, workshop organized by other CUHK units)	-
(c) In CUHK ExPo jointly organized by CLEAR and ITSC	-
(d) In any other event held in HK (e.g. UGC symposium, talks delivered to units of other institutions)	-
(e) In international conference	-
(f) Others (please specify)	-

Table 4: Publication (if any) NA

Please classify each piece of publication into one and only one of the following categories

	Number
(a) Project CD/DVD	-
(b) Project leaflet	-
(c) Project booklet	-
(d) A section/chapter in a booklet/ book distributed to a limited group of audience	-
(e) Conference proceeding	-
(f) A chapter in a book accessible internationally	-
(g) A paper in a referred journal	-
(h) Others (please specify)	-

3. A one-page brief write up

Please provide a one-page brief write-up of no more than 500 words and a short video.

The project aims at creating teaching videos which are organized in five modules to facilitate the teaching of the Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101) course.

Traditionally, law students are assigned a number of cases to read prior to the lectures. They are expected to derive the legal principles from the cases themselves and to discuss these cases critically at the lecture. However, this model has not always been successful due to the lack of preparation by the students. The project therefore facilitates students' class preparation through short videos that are created for multiple key topics of the course ("Micro-Modules") to help student prepare for the classes. These key topics include: (1) company organs; (2) piercing corporate veil; (3) the relationship between company and director; (4) the relationship between company and shareholders; and (5) insolvency. The first three micro-models have been completed by November 2017 and the rest by April 2018.

Specifically regarding the funding granted, it has been applied mainly to engage a contractor to create short videos (approximately 5 minutes each) that are interesting to the students. To reverse the perception of Company law being dull and boring, a lot of animation and effects have been used in these videos. A-Studio, a company founded by a LLB graduate of CUHK has been engaged to produce these videos (after going through a competitive quotation process). The PI drafted all the scripts which provided detailed content and visual effects desired, and passed them on to A-Studio for production. Each video has gone through multiple drafts and refinements. Please see below links to some sample videos:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/v6ldcjpt250o84u/companylaw4_directorsduty_20180206.mov?dl=0

https://www.dropbox.com/s/50nzcfc3t6yx3dd6/companylaw_piercingcorporateveil_FIXED_20171205.mov?dl=0

https://www.dropbox.com/s/vqvix517d25xsn6/companylaw3_boardofdirectors_fixed.mov?dl=0

Finished videos were uploaded to Blackboard for the access of students in Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101) and Chinese Company Law (LAW6104) for their comment and review. Feedbacks have been collected from students of Chinese Company Law by asking them to fill in a voluntary questionnaire. Most students found *inter alia* the content of the videos to be good (agree or above 100%; strongly agree 83%). Upon further refinements, the micro-modules will be made available in 2018-2019 academic year to students in Companies and the Law I (LAWS2101) for which the PI will serve as both the lecturer and tutor. The PI would like to thank once again the Micro-Module Courseware Development Committee for approving the grant and the excellent support provided by the Blackboard support staff. The micro-modules will not happen with the generous support.