

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF LAW

Dual Bachelor of Laws Degree curriculum
in collaboration with Peking University

Credit Unit Statement

(applicable to students admitted in the academic year 2024-25 and thereafter)

HKU admitted students will spend the first two and half years of study at HKU and proceed to PKU in the last two and half years of the curriculum whereas PKU admitted students will spend the first two and half years of study at PKU and proceed to HKU in the last two and half years of the curriculum. Students will be awarded 126 credits in total, by way of credit transfer, for the two and half years of study taken and passed at PKU.

The HKU part of the curriculum consists of six different types of law course which are taught in distinctive learning modes. All courses in the HKU LLB curriculum are 6-credit in value. We use 150 hours of student learning activities (including contact hours ranging from 33 to 36 hours) as the norm for a 6- credit course, except for the experiential courses which normally involve 120 to 150 hours of student learning activities (around 36 contact hours). Assessment is by a combination of continuous assessment (0% - 100%) and examination (0% - 100%). The Faculty of Law, on this basis, will ensure a proper balance in the allocation of weight to different modes of assessment. The six categories of law courses are summarized as follows:

1. Introductory courses (6 credits, 150 hours of student learning activities)

These are mostly first and second year courses under a regular LLB curriculum emphasizing foundational legal concepts; basic institutional framework; essential legal skills such as case reading, legal research and writing and communication skills, and statutory interpretation. They also include courses on cross-disciplinary knowledge, as well as linguistic/technical skills. Introductory courses are mainly taught in lecture/tutorial or large seminar format and assessments are variously conducted by way of periodical assignments, short research papers with a total output of approximately 5,000 to 6,000 words, and in-tutorial participation, and/or in-hall examinations.

2. Foundation/survey courses (6 credits, 150 hours of student learning activities)

These courses are the core building blocks of legal education and the foundation for legal practice. Each course in this category provides a comprehensive survey of a specific area of law. These courses are mainly taught in lecture/tutorial format and assessments are mainly in the form of in-hall examinations combined with varying elements of coursework such as research papers and term papers with a total output of approximately 5,000 to 6,000 words, and in-tutorial participation.

3. Seminar courses (6 credits, 150 hours of student learning activities)

These courses offer specialized/advanced legal or cross-disciplinary knowledge. They are mainly taught in seminar format with heavy reliance on extensive reading before the seminars and active participation in class discussion. These courses aim to further enhance students' knowledge of legal concepts as well as analytical and evaluative skills.

Assessment for this category of courses is variously by way of a combination of in-class presentation, take-home examination, in-hall examination and/or research papers, with a total output of approximately 5,000 to 6,000 words.

4. Research courses (6 credits, 150 hours of student learning activities)

These courses aim to provide students with deeper theoretical insights enhanced cross-disciplinary and cross-jurisdictional knowledge in different legal aspects, as well as an opportunity to pursue advanced and independent research in two different jurisdictions. One of the key objectives of courses in this category is to help students develop original and critical thinking through independent research. Research courses are assessed by a single research paper of at least 6,000 words or by a combination of a research paper and a class presentation.

5. Experiential courses (6 credits, 120 to 150 hours of student learning activities)

Experiential courses include internships and placements in Hong Kong and Mainland China, and various clinical legal courses. Courses in this category aim to familiarize students with the social environment in which law operates and the practical dimension of legal studies. They offer students opportunities to apply and test both their legal knowledge and also the critical and analytical legal skills they have learned in other courses. Students in this category of course are assessed by a report of approximately 5,000 words with intensive feedback from academic staff and/or practitioners.

6. Moot competition and mediation training (6 credits, 150 hours of student learning activities)

Moot competitions and mediation training aim to train students to integrate legal knowledge with various types of legal skills including conducting legal research, writing of submissions and memorandums, mediation and advocacy skills. Students in this category of course are variously assessed by their written submissions and mediation reports of approximately 2,500 words each, and performance in mediation and advocacy.

The study load of 150 credits in the Law Professional Core in the two and half years of study of LLB at HKU usually requires approximately 825 to 900 contact hours, and approximately 3000 to 3750 student learning hours in total.