

Dual Bachelor of Law Degree curriculum in collaboration with Peking University

Credit unit statement

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 courses 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 36 contact 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. Some of the courses are assessed with 100% continuous assessment. For courses assessed by a combination of coursework and examination, the actual percentages may range from 20% to 80% of respectively continuous assessment and in-hall examinations or vice versa. The Head of Department, 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 taught mainly in lecture/tutorial or large seminar format and assessments are in the form of periodical assignments, short research papers with a total output of approximately 5000 to 6000 words and/or in-hall examinations (with coursework ranging between 20% - 80% and examinations 80%-20%)

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 are assessed 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 5000 to 6000 words (coursework 20%-80%, examinations 80%-20%)

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

These courses offer specialize/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 by way of a combination of class presentation, take-home examination, in-hall examination and/or research papers, with a total output of approx. 5000 to 6000 words per course.

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

These courses aim to provide students with the theoretical insights, 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. These courses aim 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 (for a 6- credit course) or a combination of a research paper and a class presentation.

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

Experiential courses include internships and placements in Hong Kong and Mainland China, and the clinical legal course. These courses aim to familiarize students with the social environment in which law operates and the practical dimension of legal studies. They aim to offer opportunities for students to apply and test their legal knowledge and the critical and analytical legal skills they have learned in other courses. Students in this category of courses are assessed by a report of approx. 5000 words with intensive feedback from academic staff and/or practitioners.

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

Compulsory moot competition 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, plus mediation and advocacy skills. Students in this course are assessed by their written submission and a mediation report of approximately 2,500 words each and performance in mediation and advocacy.