

## **REGULATIONS FOR THE DOUBLE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) AND BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB)**

*These regulations apply to students admitted to the BA&LLB curriculum in the academic year 2021-22.*

*(See also General Regulations and Regulations for First Degree Curricula.)*

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### **Admission to the degree**

AL 1 To be eligible for admission to the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws, candidates shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
  - (b) comply with the Regulations for First Degree Curricula; and
  - (c) satisfy all the requirements of the curriculum in accordance with these regulations and the syllabuses.
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### **Period of study**

AL 2 The curriculum for the double degree of BA and LLB shall normally require ten semesters of full-time study, extending over not fewer than five academic years, and shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of eight academic years, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (hereinafter referred to as the 'Board of Studies').

AL 3 Candidates who opt out of the LLB programme before the end of the second semester of the Second Year should from the next semester on refer to and comply with the relevant Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts for students admitted to the BA 4-year '2012 curriculum' according to their admission year.

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### **Selection of courses**

AL 4 Candidates shall select their courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines specified in the syllabuses before the beginning of each semester. Changes to the selection of courses may be made only during the add/drop period of the semester in which the course begins, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript of the candidate. Requests for changes after the designated add/drop period of the semester shall not normally be considered.

AL 5 Withdrawal from courses beyond the designated add/drop period will not be permitted, except for medical reasons approved by the Board of Studies. Withdrawal without permission will result in a fail grade in the relevant course(s).

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### **Curriculum requirements**

AL 6 To complete the curriculum, candidates shall have:

- (a) complied with the General Regulations;
- (b) satisfied the requirements prescribed in UG5 of the Regulations for First Degree

Curricula<sup>1</sup>, including:

- (i) 6 credits in Core University English<sup>2</sup> in the First Year;
  - (ii) 6 credits in Chinese language enhancement<sup>3</sup> in the Third Year;
  - (iii) 24 credits of courses in the Common Core Curriculum within the first three years, selecting one course from each Area of Inquiry (AoI);
  - (iv) successful completion of a capstone experience for the Literary Studies major by the end of the Fourth or Fifth Year;
  - (v) successful completion of a capstone experience for the LLB professional core in the Fourth or Fifth Year; and
  - (vi) successful completion of any other non-credit bearing courses as required; and
- (c) passed no fewer than 300 credits from the First Year to the Fifth Year including:
- (i) 72 credits for the Literary Studies major comprising 24 credits of introductory Literary Studies electives, 6 credits of course offered by the Faculty of Arts, 6 credits of LALS2001 Introduction to law and literary studies, 24 credits of advanced Literary Studies electives and 12 credits of advanced interdisciplinary electives (LALS3xxx);
  - (ii) 156 credits of the LLB professional core comprising 126 credits of compulsory courses, 18 credits of disciplinary electives<sup>4</sup>, 6 credits of advanced interdisciplinary elective (LALS3xxx) and 6 credits of advanced interdisciplinary core course (LALS5xxx);
  - (iii) the abovementioned UG5 requirements (i), (ii), (iii) and (vi); and
  - (iv) 36 credits of free electives as prescribed in the syllabus; and
- (d) achieved an overall Graduation GPA of 1.00 or above.

- AL 7 (a) Candidates shall normally be required to take not fewer than 24 credits nor more than 30 credits in any one semester (except the summer semester) unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies, or except in the last semester of study when the number of outstanding credits required to complete the curriculum requirements may be fewer than 24 credits.
- (b) Candidates may, of their own volition, take additional credits not exceeding 6 credits in each semester, and/or further credits during the summer semester, accumulating up to a maximum of 72 credits in one academic year. With the special permission of the Board of Studies, candidates may exceed the annual study load of 72 credits in a given academic year provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 360 credits for the normative period of study specified in AL2, save as provided for under AL7(c).
- (c) Where candidates are required to make up for failed credits, the Board of Studies may give permission for candidates to exceed the annual study load of 72 credits provided that the total number of credits taken does not exceed the maximum curriculum study load of 576 credits for the maximum period of registration specified in the curriculum regulations.

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<sup>1</sup> Successful completion of the Law core courses LLAW1013. Legal Research and Writing I and LLAW2017. Legal Research and Writing II in the First and Second years will fulfill the English in the Discipline (ED) requirement of the double degree.

<sup>2</sup> Candidates who have achieved Level 5 or above in English Language in the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination, or equivalent, are exempted from this requirement, and Core University English is optional. Those who do not take this course should take an elective course in lieu, see *Regulation UG6*.

<sup>3</sup> Candidates who have not studied the Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CART9001 may apply to the Board of Studies for exemption and take a credit-bearing Cantonese or Putonghua language course offered by the School of Chinese (especially for international and exchange students), or take an elective course in lieu.

<sup>4</sup> Law electives listed in the syllabus for the degree of LLB.

## **Advanced standing**

AL 8 Subject to the approval of the Board of Studies, advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the University in accordance with UG2 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula, but advanced credits will not be included in the calculation of the GPA or the honours classification of the degrees of BA and LLB.

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## **Assessment**

AL 9 Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any combination of coursework, written examinations and/or any other assessable activities. Only passed courses will earn credits. Grades shall be awarded in accordance with UG8 of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

AL 10 Candidates are required to make up for failed courses in the following manner as prescribed in the curriculum regulations:

- (a) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course to be held no later than the end of the following semester (not including the summer semester); or
- (b) re-submitting failed coursework, without having to repeat the same course of instruction; or
- (c) repeating the failed course by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessments; or
- (d) for elective courses, taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.

AL 11 Candidates shall not be permitted to repeat a course for which they have received a D grade or above for purposes of upgrading.

AL 12 Courses in which a candidate is given an F grade shall be recorded on the transcript, together with the new grade obtained if the candidate chooses to repeat the failed course. All fail grades shall be included in the calculation of the GPA and shall be taken into account for the purposes of determining eligibility for award of the BA and LLB degrees, honours classifications and whether a candidate be recommended for discontinuation of their studies.

AL 13 Candidates shall be recommended for discontinuation of their studies if they have:

- (a) failed to complete successfully 36 or more credits in two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester), except where they are not required to take such a number of credits in the two given semesters; or
- (b) failed to achieve an average Semester GPA of 1.00 or higher for two consecutive semesters (not including the summer semester); or
- (c) exceeded the maximum period of registration.

AL 14 Candidates who are unable, because of illness, to be present at the written examination of any course may apply for permission to present themselves at a supplementary examination of the same course to be held before the beginning of the First Semester of the following academic year. Any such application shall be made on the form prescribed within seven calendar days of the first day of the candidate's absence from any examination. Any supplementary examination shall be part of that academic year's examinations, and the provisions made in the regulations for failure at the first attempt shall apply accordingly.

AL 15 Candidates suspended under Statute XXXI shall not be allowed to take, present themselves for, and participate in any assessments during the period of suspension, unless otherwise permitted by the Senate.

AL 16 There shall be no appeal against the results of examination and all other forms of assessment.

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### **Credit transfer**

AL 17 Subject to the approval of the Board of Studies, credits may be transferred in recognition of studies completed at other institutions at any time during their candidature. Transferred credits may be recorded on the transcript of the candidate, but shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA or the classifications of honours.

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### **Award of Degrees**

- AL 18 (a) To be eligible for the award of the degrees of BA and LLB, candidates shall have successfully completed the curriculum as stipulated under Regulation AL6.
- (b) The degrees of BA and LLB shall be awarded in five divisions: First Class Honours, Second Class Honours Division One, Second Class Honours Division Two, Third Class Honours, and Pass.
- (c) The classifications of honours shall be determined by the Boards of Examiners for the degrees in accordance with the following Graduation GPA (GGPA) scores, with all courses taken (including failed courses) carrying weightings which are proportionate to their credit values, among which at least 240 credits are counted towards each of the BA degree and LLB degree<sup>5</sup>:

Class of honours	GGPA range
First Class Honours	3.60 – 4.30
Second Class Honours	(2.40 – 3.59)
Division One	3.00 – 3.59
Division Two	2.40 – 2.99
Third Class Honours	1.70 – 2.39
Pass	1.00 – 1.69

- (d) Honours classifications may not be determined solely on the basis of a candidate's GGPA and the Boards of Examiners for the degrees may, at their absolute discretion and with justification, award a higher class of honours to a candidate deemed to have demonstrated meritorious academic achievement but whose GGPA falls below the range stipulated in AL18(c) of the higher classification by not more than 0.1 Grade Point.
- (e) A list of candidates who have successfully completed all the requirements of the two degrees shall be posted on Faculty noticeboards.

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<sup>5</sup> Any additional credits taken over the minimum curriculum requirement of the BA&LLB curriculum (i.e. over 300 credits), regardless of pass or fail, are also counted towards the honours classification of the degrees of BA and LLB.