

SYLLABUSES FOR THE DOUBLE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF LAWS

These syllabuses apply to students admitted to the BA&LLB in the academic years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

The BA and LLB curriculum comprises 300 credits of courses as follows:

- (a) 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);
- (b) 156 credits of Professional Core comprising 120 credits of law compulsory courses, 18 credits of disciplinary electives¹, 6 credits of capstone, 6 credits of advanced interdisciplinary elective (LALS3xxx) and 6 credits of advanced interdisciplinary core course (LALS5xxx);
- (c) 36 credits of Free electives (any courses from Arts/ Law/ any other disciplines);
- (d) 36 credits of University requirements, including 6 credits of CAES1000 Core University English, 6 credits of CART9001 Practical Chinese for Arts students, and 24 credits of Common Core; and
- (e) any other non-credit bearing courses as required.

As a graduation requirement, students need to complete a capstone experience for the Literary Studies major viz any one of the courses from the advanced interdisciplinary elective list by the end of the fourth or fifth year, and another capstone experience for the LLB Professional Core, LLAW3187. Mooting and dispute resolution (6 credits), in the fourth or fifth year.

Please refer to the Syllabus for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts for the Arts course descriptions and the Syllabus for the Degree of Bachelor of Laws for the Law course descriptions.

FIRST YEAR (60 credits)

Literary Studies (18 credits)

12 credits of introductory Literary Studies electives, which can be any introductory level courses offered by the programmes of Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, Comparative Literature, English Studies, and Translation; and
6 credits of any course offered in the Faculty of Arts.

[Note: Students are advised to refer to the BA syllabuses for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.]

Law (30 credits)

- LLAW1001. Law of contract I (6 credits)
- LLAW1002. Law of contract II (6 credits)
- LLAW1008. The legal system of the Hong Kong SAR (6 credits)
- LLAW1009. Law and society (6 credits)
- LLAW1013. Legal research and writing I (6 credits)²

University Requirements (12 credits)

¹ Law electives listed in the syllabus for the degree of LLB.

² A pass in both “LLAW1013 Legal research and writing I” and “LLAW2017 Legal research and writing II” shall be deemed to satisfy the “English in the Discipline” requirement under UG5(a) of the Regulations for First Degree Curricula.

- CAES1000. Core University English (6 credits)³
CCXXxxxx. Common Core (6 credits)

SECOND YEAR (60 credits)

Literary Studies (12 credits)

12 credits of introductory Literary Studies electives, which can be any introductory level courses offered by the programmes of Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, Comparative Literature⁴, English Studies, and Translation.

[Note: Students are advised to refer to the BA syllabuses for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.]

Law (30 credits)

- LLAW1005. Law of tort I (6 credits)
LLAW1006. Law of tort II (6 credits)
LLAW2001. Constitutional law (6 credits)
LLAW2017. Legal research and writing II (6 credits)⁵
LLAW3093. Administrative law (6 credits)

Introductory Interdisciplinary Core Course (6 credits)

LALS2001. Introduction to law and literary studies (6 credits)

[Note: Successful completion of “LALS2001 Introduction to law and literary studies” will also fulfill 6 credits (List B) of the advanced ENGL course enrollment requirement for English non-majors. For details of this requirement, please refer to the syllabus of the School of English for the 4-year ‘2012 curriculum’.]

University Requirements (12 credits)

CCXXxxxx. Common Core (12 credits)

[Note: A student who in the Second Year opts not to proceed to the LLB programme will be required to complete two more 6-credit Common Core courses and “CAES9202. Academic English: Literary Studies (6 credits)” in the Third Year to fulfill the University requirements for the BA Degree as prescribed in the BA Regulations for the 4-year ‘2012 curriculum’.]

THIRD YEAR (60 credits)

Literary Studies (12 credits)

12 credits of advanced Literary Studies electives, which can be any advanced level courses offered by the programmes of Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, Comparative Literature, English Studies, and Translation, or any advanced courses offered by the Faculty of Arts that are specified on p.4 below.

[Note: Students are advised to refer to the BA syllabuses for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.]

Law (30 credits)

³ 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*.

⁴ Subject to availability. Note that BA&LLB students are permitted to enroll in advanced CLIT courses without completing the introductory level courses, but they are encouraged to do so only in their third year or above.

⁵ Please refer to note 2.

- LLAW2003. Criminal law I (6 credits)
- LLAW2004. Criminal law II (6 credits)
- LLAW2009. Introduction to Chinese law (6 credits)
- LLAW2013. Land law I (6 credits)
- LLAW2014. Land law II (6 credits)

Advanced Interdisciplinary Electives (6 credits)

- LALS3001. Law and literature (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2118 and LLAW3128)
- LALS3002. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2126 and LLAW3161)
- LALS3003. Language and the law (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2127 and LLAW3190)
- LALS3004. Law and film (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3141)
- LALS3005. Legal fictions: United States citizenship and the right to write in America (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2165 and LLAW3226)
- LALS3006. Advanced legal theory (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3205)
- LALS3007. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2160 and LLAW3225)
- LALS3008. Law, history and culture (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3233)
- LALS3009. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2161 and LLAW3249)
- LALS3010. The beginnings of English law and literature (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2164 and LLAW3251)
- LALS3011. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2168 and LLAW3264)
- LALS3012. Law and Social Theory (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3172)
- LALS3013. Art and law (6 credits) (cross-listed as GLAS2102)
- LALS3014. Shakespeare and the Law (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2174 and LLAW3274)
- LALS3015. Art and crime (6 credits) (cross-listed as GLAS2134)
- LALS3016. Legal language in Hong Kong: issues and directions (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3275)
- LALS3017. Law and Colonialism (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3285)

University Requirements (12 credits)

- CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts students (6 credits)⁶
- CCXXxxxx. Common Core (6 credits)

FOURTH AND FIFTH YEARS (120 credits, 60 credits per year)

Literary Studies (12 credits)

12 credits of advanced Literary Studies electives, which can be any advanced level courses offered by the programmes of Chinese History and Culture, Chinese Language and Literature, Comparative Literature, English Studies, and Translation, or any advanced courses offered by the Faculty of Arts that are specified on p.4 below.

[Note: Students are advised to refer to the BA syllabuses for course descriptions and course enrollment requirements.]

Law (54 credits)

- LLAW2012. Commercial law (6 credits)
- LLAW3001. Introduction to legal theory (6 credits)

⁶ 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.

- LLAW3010. Business associations (6 credits)
- LLAW3094. Equity & trusts I (6 credits)
- LLAW3095. Equity & trusts II (6 credits)
- LLAW3187. Mooting and dispute resolution (6 credits) (Capstone)⁷
- LLAWxxxx. Disciplinary electives (18 credits)[†]

Advanced Interdisciplinary Electives (12 credits)

- LALS3001. Law and literature (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2118 and LLAW3128)
- LALS3002. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2126 and LLAW3161)
- LALS3003. Language and the law (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2127 and LLAW3190)
- LALS3004. Law and film (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3141)
- LALS3005. Legal fictions: United States citizenship and the right to write in America (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2165 and LLAW3226)
- LALS3006. Advanced legal theory (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3205)
- LALS3007. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2160 and LLAW3225)
- LALS3008. Law, history and culture (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3233)
- LALS3009. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2161 and LLAW3249)
- LALS3010. The beginnings of English law and literature (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2164 and LLAW3251)
- LALS3011. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2168 and LLAW3264)
- LALS3012. Law and Social Theory (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3172)
- LALS3013. Art and law (6 credits) (cross-listed as GLAS2102)
- LALS3014. Shakespeare and the Law (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2174 and LLAW3274)
- LALS3015. Art and crime (6 credits) (cross-listed as GLAS2134)
- LALS3016. Legal language in Hong Kong: issues and directions (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3275)
- LALS3017. Law and Colonialism (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3285)

Advanced Interdisciplinary Core Course (6 credits)

Select one course from below:

- LALS5001. Research project in law and literary studies (6 credits)
- LALS5002. Internship in law and literary studies (6 credits)

Free electives (36 credits)*[†]

[†] For the purpose of PCLL admission, a candidate must satisfactorily complete Evidence I (or Evidence II), and comply with any other requirements as may be specified in the PCLL regulations from time to time.

* Free electives are courses offered within the same curriculum (both Law and Arts) or another curriculum offered by other faculties/departments/centres.

Course List of Advanced Literary Studies Electives Offered by the Faculty of Arts

All courses listed below carry 6 credits each.

- AFRI2007. African Nobel Laureates in literature
- AFRI2010. Introducing contemporary African literatures

⁷ This may be substituted by participation in Jessup mooting or any other international moot competition approved by the Head of the Department of Law. The course Mooting and dispute resolution fulfils the requirement of LL3(d) shall be graded with pass/fail and shall not be counted in the calculation of the GPA.

AFRI2019. African cinema: "Film'in" Africa
 AFRI3006. Representations of Blackness in Asia
 AFRI3007. African art(s): Articulating and performing human experiences
 AMER2002. The road in American culture
 AMER2014. A dream in the heart: varieties of Asian American culture
 AMER2022. What's on TV? Television and American culture
 AMER2033. Asia on America's screen
 AMER2038. American film, from Golden-Age Hollywood to New Hollywood and beyond
 AMER2039. The art of crime and its detection in the United States
 AMER2040. Creating culture in the world: American creative industries in the age of globalization
 AMER2041. How the West was won: The frontier in American culture and literature
 AMER2042. Consuming culture: decoding American symbols
 AMER2045. Film beyond the mainstream: American art cinema
 AMER2048. American literature
 AMER2049. Immigrant nation: The cultural legacy of immigration in the United States
 AMER2050. Foundations of American Studies, II: Reconstructing the nation
 AMER2055. African-American history and culture
 AMER2057. African American cinema
 AMER2060. US/Latin American cultural interactions
 AMER2061. Argentina and Chile dictatorship: Building resistance in literature and film
 AMER2062. Disability and human rights in American Studies
 BSTC2021. Buddhist ethics
 BSTC2023. History of Buddhism in India
 BSTC2024. History of Chinese Buddhism
 BSTC2025. Early Buddhist philosophy
 BSTC2026. Mahāyāna Buddhist philosophy
 BSTC2027. Tibetan Buddhism
 BSTC2028. Chan Buddhism
 BSTC2029. Reading Chinese Buddhist texts
 BSTC2030. Chinese Buddhist Calligraphy
 EUST2014. Classical roots of European civilization
 EUST2015. From cinema to society: Understanding Europe through film
 EUST2016. Creative industries in Europe in a global context
 EUST2017. World War I
 EUST2030. The modern imagination in Europe
 EUST3020. The making of the West: From Descartes to Rorty
 FINE2027. The formation of modernity: Art in Europe, 1840-1890
 FINE2028. Vision in crisis
 FINE2080. Art in conflict
 FINE3012. Cross-cultural interactions in the 19th century
 FREN3021. Francophone literatures and identities
 FREN3022. French and Francophone cinema
 FREN3024. Modern French literature
 FREN3026. Conveying otherness: French imaginings of Asia
 FREN3028. The art of brevity in French
 FREN3031. Maupassant's short stories
 FREN3035. Painters and writers in modern France
 FREN3036. Portraits of the French language
 FREN3037. France and the World
 GCIN2011. Understanding Hong Kong TV industry
 GCIN2026. Applied law to creative industries and laws: An introduction
 GCIN2027. Intellectual property, knowledge and creativity: Mapping out the legal issues
 GCIN2028. Understanding Asian cinema: History, culture, and industry
 GCIN2031. Reinventing tradition: Cultural production in contemporary China
 GCIN2033. Gender and Creative Industries: An introduction

- GCIN2034. Political communication, cultural policy and creative industries
- GCIN2035. Digital economy, media and entertainment
- GCIN2038. Entertainment markets and digital audiences in Asia
- GCIN2039. New media and global popular culture industry
- GCIN2051. Understanding cultural politics
- GEND2003. Gender generation and leadership
- GEND2004. Gender in visual and material culture
- GEND2005. Religion, gender, and sexuality
- GEND2007. Sexuality and culture
- GEND2008. Queer Theory and women's perspectives
- GEND2009. Feminist and queer literature in Asian contexts
- GEND2010. Feminist science and technology studies
- GEND2011. Feminism in popular culture
- GRMN3026. Fairytale princes, nature lovers and revolutionaries – The German Romantics
- GRMN3028. Kino! Studies in German cinema
- GRMN3032. From Goethe to Grönemeyer – German reading course
- HIST2031. History through film
- HIST2063. Europe and modernity: Cultures and identities, 1890-1940
- HIST2069. History of American popular culture
- HIST2070. Stories of self: History through autobiography
- HIST2081. Gender and history: Beauty, fashion and sex
- HIST2082. Europe and its others
- HIST2083. Gender, sexuality and empire
- HIST2085. The history of modern sexual identity and discourse
- HIST2113. New worlds: Exploring the history of Latin America
- HIST2119. Changing lives: Women's history from Fin-de-Siècle to the interwar years
- HIST2126. The American family: Histories, myths, and realities
- HIST2130. The civilizing mission and modern European imperialism
- HIST2131. Growing up 'girl': Histories, novels, and American culture
- HIST2139. Greek religion, society and culture in the Classical Age
- HIST2158. Women in Hong Kong history: Private lives and public voices
- HIST2160. Visualizing history
- HIST2161. Making race
- HIST2162. Saving the world: A history of global humanitarianism
- HIST2163. China after Mao: A people's history, 1976-2002
- HIST2165. Protest and politics in modern U.S. history
- HIST2166. Gender and sexuality on trial: A global history of sex and scandal, 1690-1990
- HIST2167. Anarchism, radicalism, utopianism: Actors, communes and movements in the modern world
- HIST2170. The making of the Islamic world: The Middle East, 500-1500
- HIST2171. American legal history
- HIST2172. Revolutionizing health in modern China
- HIST2173. American antistatism
- HIST2174. Hell in the pacific: The Japan-America War and its legacies today
- HIST2175. Medicine, propaganda and colonialism in Asia: 1895-1945
- HIST2177. The economic history of modern China, 1800 to the present
- HIST2178. Trials of history: The courtroom from historical perspective
- HIST2179. Law, empire and world history: From pirates to human rights?
- HIST2180. The origins of scientific thought
- HIST2181. A sea of stuff: Commerce and colonialism in the Indian Ocean, 1500-2000
- HIST2182. Seascapes and skylines: Environment and infrastructure in Asia
- HIST2184. China and Japan since the 19th century
- HIST2185. A history of propaganda in East Asia
- HIST2188. The making of modern South Asia
- HIST2189. Terrorism: A global history from anarchists to ISIS

HIST2191. History of Chinese Christianity
 HIST2196. Race, gender, and sexuality in American Empire since 1898
 HIST2197. The Chinese Revolution, 1921-1949: A documentary approach
 HIST2205. Digital history: From concordances to big data
 HIST2207. Printer, typesetter, reader, scribe: A global history of books
 HIST3077. Gandhi: A global history
 HIST3025. Hitler and the National Socialist ideology
 HIST3027. Natural disasters in history, 1700 to present
 HIST3077. Gandhi: A global history
 HIST3078. Cold War science fiction
 HIST3080. Historical gaming
 HIST3083. Intellectual history of early modern East Asia
 HKGS2001. Speaking of Hong Kong: Global voices
 HKGS2002. Hong Kong identities in local, national and global contexts
 HKGS2008. Introduction to Hong Kong Cantopop lyrics
 HKGS2015. Understanding Hong Kong through mass media
 ITAL2024. Italian cinema
 ITAL3021. Contemporary Italian literature
 JAPN2031. The media and Japan
 JAPN2050. Creative industries in East Asia (Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea and Japan)
 JAPN2071. Introduction to modern Japanese literature
 JAPN2074. China in the Japanese Literary Imagination
 JAPN2075. Introduction to postwar and contemporary Japanese literature
 JAPN2081. Japanese literature
 JAPN2082. Japanese film and society
 JAPN2084. Studies in Japanese culture
 JAPN2085. The films of Ozu Yasujirō
 JAPN2086. Writing cities: Urban space in modern Japanese literature
 JAPN2087. Introduction to Japanese literature: Beginnings to 1900
 JAPN2095. Gender and sexuality in modern Japanese literature
 JAPN2097. Introduction to Japanese literary modernism
 JAPN2098. Of courtesans, samurai, and vengeful ghosts: Japanese literature of the early modern period
 JAPN3019. Reading Japanese literature in Japanese: Twentieth-century fiction and poetry
 JAPN3027. Comparative study of phonetics in Japanese and Cantonese
 JAPN3032. The formation of literary modernity in Japan: The Meiji period (1868-1912)
 JAPN3036. Medicine and disease in Japanese history
 JAPN3041. Creative writing and speaking skills in Japanese
 JAPN3067. Japanese pragmatics: Understanding the hidden meaning
 KORE2027. Creative industries in Korea in a global context
 KORE2032. Korean literature in translation
 KORE2033. Modern and contemporary Korea
 KORE2034. Gender, sexuality, and family in Korea
 KORE2038. Global Korean pop culture
 KORE2044. The Korean War: Origins, aftermath, reconstruction, and remembrance
 KORE3026. Special topics in modern Korean literature
 KORE3036. Crime, passion, love: Korean popular culture before K-pop
 KORE3041. Chinese-Korean translation
 KORE3043. Border-crossing literature from Korea and beyond
 LING2003. Semantics: Meaning and grammar
 LING2009. Languages of the world
 LING2013. Language typology: The study of linguistic diversity
 LING2022. Pragmatics
 LING2023. Discourse analysis
 LING2040. Languages in contact

LING2050.	Grammatical description
LING2056.	Sociolinguistics
LING2059.	Writing systems
LING2065.	Endangered languages: Issues and methods
LING2066.	Variation analysis
LING2067.	Natural language processing
LING2068.	Computational approaches to language
LING2069.	Origins of language
LING2070.	Historical linguistics: Languages, genes and human migrations
LING2072.	Advanced statistics for the humanities
LING2073.	Advanced topics in syntax
LING2074.	Introduction to second language research
LING2075.	Issues in language documentation
LING2076.	Mind and body: A holistic approach to the sounds of language
MUSI2044.	Film music
PHIL2027.	Political philosophy of Jean-Jacques Rousseau
PHIL2030.	Kant's critical philosophy
PHIL2075.	The semantics/pragmatics distinction
PHIL2077.	Habermas
PHIL2095.	Truth and propaganda
PHIL2100.	Paradoxes of decision
PHIL2101.	Paradoxes of cooperation
PHIL2105.	Vagueness, indeterminacy, and uncertainty
PHIL2260.	Seminar in mind and language
PHIL2310.	Theories of morality
PHIL2312.	Probability, epistemology, and ethics
PHIL2315.	Value theory
PHIL2324.	Philosophy of humor
PHIL2340.	Moral problems
PHIL2341.	Bioethics
PHIL2345.	Social contract theories
PHIL2355.	Theories of justice
PHIL2360.	Political philosophy
PHIL2362.	Liberal democracy
PHIL2365.	Philosophical problems of modernity
PHIL2375.	Philosophy of art
PHIL2380.	Philosophy and literature
PHIL2430.	Chinese philosophy: ethics
PHIL2435.	Traditional Chinese political thought
PHIL2443.	Xunzi
PHIL2445.	Mohism
PHIL2470.	Moral psychology in the Chinese tradition
PHIL2610.	Philosophy of language
PHIL2650.	Bad language: the philosophy of non-ideal language use
PHIL2651.	Bad language: the philosophy of non-ideal language use
PHIL2652.	Language of the internet
PHIL2900.	Formal epistemology
SINO2007.	Creative industries in China in a global context
SINO2009.	Popular protest and social movements in China
SINO2013.	Women and gender in Chinese history
SINO2017.	Nationalism, ethnicity and identity in contemporary China
SPAN2027.	Cultural icons from the Hispanic world
SPAN2029.	Introduction to the cultures and history of Latin America
SPAN3023.	Hispanic visual and literary cultures
SPAN3032.	Hispanic sociolinguistics

SWED3003. Swedish reading course

A. Interdisciplinary Courses

i. Introductory Interdisciplinary Core Course

LALS2001. Introduction to law and literary studies (6 credits)

This course introduces students to the different ways in which literary and legal texts can interact. Topics include literature as a humanizing supplement to the law, the history of ‘discipline’ as a concept, legal versus literary interpretation, linguistic dimensions of court judgments, confessions, and psychological processes implicit in legal reasoning. The course is deliberately designed as a team-taught course so that students enrolled in the double degree will be exposed to the approaches of different faculty members involved in the programme from an early stage in their academic careers.

Assessment: 100% coursework

ii. Advanced Interdisciplinary Electives

The successful completion of any of the advanced interdisciplinary courses below by the end of the Fourth or Fifth Year will fulfill the capstone experience for the Literary Studies major.

LALS3001. Law and literature (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2118 and LLAW3128)

This course explores the complex interactions between literature and the law. Even though the two disciplines may seem distinct, both law and literature are products of language and have overlapped in significant and interesting ways in history. Why do legal themes recur in fiction, and what kinds of literary structures underpin legal argumentation? How do novelists and playwrights imagine the law, and how do lawyers and judges interpret literary works? Could literature have legal subtexts, and could legal documents be re-interpreted as literary texts? We will think through these questions by juxtaposing novels, plays, court cases, and critical theory.

Pre-requisite: a previous course in legal and/or literary subject.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LALS3002. Law, meaning, and interpretation (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2126 and LLAW3161)

This course is concerned with meaning in verbal discourse. What makes the course distinctive, however, is that its interest in interpretation will be comparative, not between different languages but as regards how verbal discourse is interpreted in settings that bring different interpretive norms to bear on linguistic data: e.g. in literary and film interpretation, in religious interpretation, and in legal interpretation. The course begins with an introductory review of topics and approaches in semantics and pragmatics, then traces how meanings are ascribed differently in a selection of disciplinary and institutional settings. A final stage of the course is concerned with how approaches to interpretation engage with one another and the controversies and debates that arise when they do. No specialized knowledge of linguistics, law, or religious interpretation is needed; the course will provide a multidisciplinary introduction to the fields under discussion. In doing so, it will draw extensively on contributions made by students who are taking or have taken relevant courses in linguistics, literary criticism, and other cognate fields.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LALS3003. Language and the law (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2127 and LLAW3190)

Language plays an essential role both in creating law (e.g. in how specific laws are drafted) as well as

in the implementation of law (e.g. in how language is deployed but also contested - in court). This course examines how language plays these important social roles, and addresses topics, including: different linguistic registers and genres which shape our concept of what legal language is; communicative strategies, adopted in the courtroom by speakers occupying different roles (judge, barrister, defendant, witness, etc.); how language is used and understood in legal drafting and interpretation; submission of language data as evidence in some court cases; and linguistic and legal issues that arise in bilingual and multilingual jurisdictions (i.e. in systems that formulate and apply their law in two or more different languages). Together, such aspects of language use form the subject matter of an increasingly researched and studied interdisciplinary field, known as 'language and law' or 'forensic linguistics', to which this course provides an accessible introduction.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LALS3004. Law and film (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3141)

Legal actors, institutions and problems have fascinated filmmakers since the early days of cinema. This course examines the ways in which the law and the legal system have been represented in a variety of films, and also considers the ways in which films engage with legal debates and controversies. This course is cross-listed between the Department of Law and the Department of Comparative Literature; it aims to encourage reflection on the cultural lives of the law and also on a central theme in film studies. No prior background in film studies or the law will be assumed.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LALS3005. Legal fictions: United States citizenship and the right to write in America (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2165 and LLAW3226)

In 1776, the idea of self-evidence grounded the philosophical assertion that "all men are created equal." And yet, political, economic and social equality in the democratic republic of the United States has often proven less of a guarantee and more of a promise. Beginning with Thomas Jefferson's writing of the "Declaration of Independence," the recognition of a person as fully human in the United States has depended on assumptions regarding race, class and gender. The course examines the changing definition of United States citizenship by putting legal texts (the U.S. Constitution, federal and state laws, Executive Orders, Supreme Court decisions) in dialogue with literary writings and film. In this course we will read stories by people whom federal and or state law barred from full citizenship. Through autobiographies, fiction, poetry and speeches, we will examine the cultural legacy of legal terms such as "domestic dependent nation," "illegal alien" and "unlawful enemy combatant." The course themes may include: property and democracy, slavery, westward expansion and Indian Removal, immigration (with particular focus on China and Asia), the right of women to vote, and the wartime powers of the Executive Office. Our goal will be to pay careful attention to the language and genres of the American legislative and judicial system, and conversely to contextualize literature in relation to the legal history through which the U.S. Constitution has been reinterpreted and amended to broaden its terms of equality. We will read writers who used words to protest against and revise the historical circumstances in which they had to fight for legal standing. We will also consider how different kinds of writing -- legal, scientific, autobiographical and fictional -- employ different rhetorical strategies to reach audiences, affect readers and influence the world.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LALS3006. Advanced legal theory (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3205)

This course provides an in-depth analysis of a number of key themes and texts in legal theory. Each year a core theme is introduced to provide a coherence to the study of several perennial problems in legal theory. This year the theme will be 'Liberty and Obligation'. It has been chosen to allow students to engage with certain key claims and demands that are made by or on behalf of contemporary law and

legal institutions, exploring the more or less paradoxical relationship between the binding qualities of law and the promise of liberty it holds out.

The course will work in a sustained way through a range of questions and perspectives so that students gain a deeper knowledge of legal theoretical issues and how they bear on contemporary problems of law in society. These will be explored through a series of engagements with texts, contexts, representations and contestations.

The course is seminar-based and will be taught through a range of materials and disciplinary approaches. These will include conventional scholarly texts in law, politics and philosophy, but may also draw on non-standard resources. The classes will be discussion-based.

Students are expected to pursue their own interests and insights on the issues raised in the course in a 5,000 word research essay. The subject of the essay will be devised by each student individually in consultation with the course convenor. An oral presentation will allow students to articulate their understanding of the ideas being analysed, as well as to answer questions on it.

As this is an advanced level course it is expected that students will normally have already studied some aspect of legal theory or a cognate subject. However, this is not a prerequisite.

Assessment: 100% coursework

LALS3007. Sovereignty in law, theory and culture (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2160 and LLAW3225)

Sovereignty is a centrally important concept for both law and politics, to which recent debates in Hong Kong testify. In this course we will assess the meaning and significance of sovereignty by drawing on resources from across the arts, humanities and social sciences. We will read and discuss materials from law, political theory, philosophy, urban studies, literature and the visual arts in order to answer the following questions: What is sovereignty and how is it related to the history of the state? How is our understanding of sovereignty changing in the context of contemporary challenges like globalization, climate change and international terrorism? And what would law and politics look like without sovereignty? The course takes a broad historical sweep, from early-modern conceptions to the present day. We will look at key theorists of sovereignty like (the authoritarian) Thomas Hobbes, (the Nazi-sympathizing) Carl Schmitt and (the anarchist philosopher) Giorgio Agamben as well as explore thinkers who are trying to imagine law and politics ‘without’ or ‘beyond’ sovereignty. Throughout the course, we supplement theoretical and legal debates with insights from literature and the visual arts. The plays of William Shakespeare; poetry written by inmates within the Guantanamo detention centers; 17th century emblems and images; and an early-twentieth century novel will all help us understand the meaning of sovereignty and explore possibilities for its critique.

The course will be of particular interest to students who have enjoyed classes in legal theory, law and literature, law and film, or constitutional law. But the course is open to all who are excited to explore the possibilities of interdisciplinary scholarship and want to find out more about the elusive but crucially important notion of sovereignty. This course hopes to broaden the scholarly horizons of students by bringing students together from different disciplinary backgrounds. The course will provide participants with valuable cross-disciplinary reading, rhetorical and evaluative skills.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3008. Law, history and culture (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3233)

This course will enable students to research and examine the history of law and its connection with social, political and economic development of Hong Kong and China in the 19th and 20th centuries through students’ first-hand exploration of archival documents and images stored in libraries and the Public Records Office. Students, through a close reading of archival materials, will be asked to reflect critically on their conventional basic ideas about the legal system, social customs and culture of Hong Kong and China. These ideas include, among others: ‘Imperial China lacks the rule of law’; ‘Hong Kong’s rule of law is a British colonial legacy’; and ‘Chinese traditionally preferred settling disputes

through mediation than resorting to the law'. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach, this course will explore how the notion of law functions as a site of discourse in the expression of identity as well as the articulation of ethnic, cultural and socio-economic differences.

Assessment: 100% class participation, 90% research essay

LALS3009. Language rights and linguistic justice (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2161 and LLAW3249)

The first part of the course offers a broad picture of linguistic diversity and cultural preservation, traces the evolution of language rights and explores the historical connections of such evolution with nation states, warfare, and globalization. The second part of the course surveys international and national legal regimes in the protection of language rights, covering both minority language rights and official language rights, and their manifestations as negative and positive rights. We will examine how some of these rights are realized in the domains of education, legal processes and public services across jurisdictions, as well as the limitations of their reach. The third part of the course focuses on the philosophical and moral basis of language rights, addresses sources of contention, and queries the concept of 'linguistic justice'. Such discussions provide a lens through which tensions between liberalism and diversity may be probed.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3010. The beginnings of English law and literature (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2164 and LLAW3251)

Students completing the course will have a strong sense of the history and development of English statute and common law, familiarity with many of the canonical literary texts and authors of the medieval and renaissance periods, and a critical understanding of the interactions of pre-modern law and literature, as well as the ability to undertake legal and literary research using primary texts and documentary artefacts from manuscript libraries and archives. The course focuses on developing students' skills in developing arguments about a range of canonical literary texts, but also on the ways in which literary approaches can be the basis for understanding text traditionally considered to be 'non-literary': legal and archival materials. An innovation of this course is its centralization of the material archive of books and documents. As part of its training in legal and literary history, the course introduces students to the history of the book as an academic discipline, and to the skills of pre-modern archival research – paleography, codicology, diplomatic, and textual scholarship, among others. In this way, the course (while reinforcing the general skills of legal and literary research and argument necessary for the successful completion of the LLB or BA) should also prepare students to take on postgraduate work in a new range of disciplines focusing on the pre-modern period, and thus open to them a greater number of career paths after their time at HKU.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3011. The law of signs: Interpretative controversies in legal semiotics (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2168 and LLAW3264)

This course investigates the way that law treats verbal and visual signs. The study of signs is termed semiotics. By sign is meant here the visual and verbal bearer of contentious meanings and/or of disputed cultural significance. Through the study of decided cases, the courses analyzes how verbal and visual signs encounter law's definitions, registration regimes, prohibition, censorship, or protection. Among the legal domains involved are: trademark and copyright law; employment and discrimination law; censorship, free speech and obscenity law; blasphemy; public order law; human rights law. The course will be divided into sections by topic (not all of which will be taught for each iteration): (i) names and marks (legal limits on the right to choose, registration regimes in relation to personal and corporate

names, marks, titles, licence plates, domain names); (ii) art (art works and customs regulations, legal definitions of art; art works and forgery, e.g. artistic images of currency; art works and parody; art and taboo; song lyrics and taboo meanings); (iii) flags, insignia and symbols (laws against flag desecration; banned political symbols; triad society symbols; gang insignia); (iv) speech versus conduct (gestures; public order offences involving swearing, insulting language or behaviour; contempt of court; the definition of speech under the First Amendment); (v) clothing and hair-styles (e.g. employment law; sumptuary laws; contempt of court); (vi) cultural appropriation and identity (the commercial use of indigenous linguistic materials and cultural symbols); (vii) language in public spaces (regulations on signage; noise and nuisance; the definition of public). The course focuses on the underlying legal, socio-political, and semiotic doctrines that are at play, but also the implicit or explicit theory of the sign, the understanding of how signs communicate, how the ownership of signs and images is understood, and how law assigns authorial and interpretative responsibility for meanings.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3012. Law and Social Theory (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3172)

Amongst the most powerful of contemporary analyses of law and legal institutions are those which draw on the tradition of social theory. These trends now constitute a discrete area of academic enquiry that is of growing importance and relevance. This course offers a series of readings which draw on that tradition and think them through in relation to contemporary legal problems.

This course will develop students' knowledge of the basic paradigms of social theory as it relates to law and place the development of law in social theoretical and historical context. By developing a critical understanding of the relationship between law and social theory students will assess the differences between diverse theoretical approaches and be able to develop and articulate their own understanding of the appropriate paradigms for analysis in legal and social theory. The aim is therefore to enhance students' understanding of contemporary law and legal institutions.

Topics to be covered may include: competing theories of law and modernity; analyses of alternative approaches to power and security; the role and consequences of processes of juridification; and theories of globalization.

Assessment: 20% presentation, 80% research essay.

LALS3013. Art and law (6 credits) (cross-listed as GLAS2102)

Art and law (Art + Law) is distinct from the practice of art law. While the latter occupies the field of art business, the former considers how art and law might be mutual endeavors, one informing the other. This class focuses on the former, considering how artists have provoked, represented, wielded, refined, tested, expanded, and unconventionally complied with private and public law. This intersection of art and law invites questions: Who or what authorizes or bestows the label of art? What is the basis for this authority and how are artworks influenced by, and/or function in opposition to, such authorizing forces? Can and how has the law been represented in art? How have artworks and artists disrupted legal regimes through civil disobedience (the breaking of a law); and how has dissent been expressed through uncivil obedience (the following of a law in a hyperbolic, literalistic, and unanticipated manner)? Although global in outlook, the cases under discussion are largely (although certainly not exclusively) Western in focus. Yet, the topics considered in this class might be applied to any number of geographic and cultural arenas. This course is not a history of art law, and neither is it a history of art symbolically looking at law; rather, this class examines the mutually influencing spheres wherein art activates, images, provokes, interacts with, and even interferes with the law.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3014. Shakespeare and the law (6 credits) (cross-listed as ENGL2174 and LLAW3274)

Shakespeare made extensive use of legal terms, ideas, and procedures in his drama. In this course, we will examine the connections between Shakespeare and the law in two broad ways. First, we will look at how law, and legal reasoning, contributed to Shakespeare's construction of drama, including his famed creation of vivid, life-like characters. We will explore how legal notions of intention, suspicion, and inference informed the "inwardness" or "interiority" of Shakespeare's characters. Students will be asked to bring early modern legal cases (such as *Hales v Petit*) and land law (*Domesday Book*) to bear on their analysis of Hamlet's much discussed "delay". We will consider both how early modern legal training – including forensic rhetoric and evidentiary reasoning – informed Shakespeare's dramatic technique, and how literary, narratological, and affective strategies informed the development of English law.

Second, the course will explore the interrelationships between language, law, and power. The relationship between the crown and the law (*rex v lex*) was much debated in early modern England and was a central focus of Shakespeare's history plays. We will examine the intersection of law and power politics in *2 Henry VI*, a play famous for the rebel cry: "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers". The line speaks to deep social grievances concerning the role and nature of law, the place of the commons, and the nature of authority. Students will examine important texts in the early modern understanding of kingship and authority, including case law (*Calvin's Case*, *Case of the Duchy of Lancaster*, *Willion v Berkley*), legal theory (Edward Coke's foundational writings on the common law and Ernst Kantorowicz's *The King's Two Bodies*), and Elizabethan political theology (*Homily on Obedience*, *Homily Against Disobedience*). *2 Henry VI* also offers an opportunity to examine Shakespeare's treatment of the legal trial, the criteria for interpretation and judgement, and the connection between trial jury and theatre audience.

Pre-requisite: a previous course in legal and/or literary subject.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3015. Art and crime (6 credits) (cross-listed as GLAS2134)

Art and crime (Art + Crime) is a gripping intersection. It overlaps with but also remains distinct from art crime. This class will consider key issues in art and crime such as: the valuing mechanisms of the art market, financial regulation, cultural property and repatriation, art heists, speculative crime, looting and illicit trade, true crime, forensic architecture, vandalism, and the world of counterfeits and forgeries. We will discuss the events surrounding The Gardner Museum heist (1990) and its afterlife in various narratives (*Hacking the Heist*, *Empty Frames*) and artworks (Sophie Calle, *Last Seen...*), and creative projects by Janice Kerbel, Barton Lidice Beneš, J.S.G. Boggs, Tom Sachs, Maurizio Cattelan, Dennis Oppenheim, Ulay, Richard Prince, Ann Messner, Ricardo Dominguez, Kathryn Clark, Núria Güell and Levi Orta, Robert Rauschenberg, Banksy, and Gordon Parks, among others. We will analyze how art is caught up in criminal activities as well as how it re-enacts, visualizes, and/or participates in such activities. In other words, this class considers not only art crime, but also those artworks for which crime is subject, content, and/or medium of expression.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework.

LALS3016. Legal language in Hong Kong: issues and directions (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3275)

This course aims to introduce law students to language issues arising out of the legal context in Hong Kong (for example, the Hong Kong legal system and legal practice), as a unique jurisdiction which practises the common law and uses both Chinese and English as official languages. The course looks at how law affects the use and development of legal language in Hong Kong, and vice versa. It consists of both general seminars on the legal and linguistic theories pertinent to the analysis, and special sessions devoted to discussing topical issues or other areas of interest. Typical issues include bilingual legislative texts, courtroom interpretation, and the translation of court judgments and legal texts in Hong

Kong. Guest lecturers (including judges and legal practitioners) are invited to provide practical perspectives. Texts and sources from other jurisdictions, including Mainland China and Taiwan are also studied to provide comparative perspectives. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to apply newly acquired knowledge and multidisciplinary perspectives, in order to critically analyse and propose the way forward on the use of language in the Hong Kong legal context.

Students taking the course will be assumed to be reasonably proficient in traditional Chinese (written) and Cantonese (oral).

Assessment: 10% class participation, 30% group project and presentation, 60% research essay.

LALS3017. Law and Colonialism (6 credits) (cross-listed as LLAW3285)

The course critically examines the relationships between law and colonialism, drawing on disciplinary knowledge and methods in law, anthropology, history, cultural studies, and political and social theory. The focus is on modern European colonisation, particularly the British Empire in the nineteenth century and its continuations into the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Topics will include how law has been used as an *instrument* of colonial and anti-colonial processes; how law has been the *product* of colonisation, as well as *productive* of colonial forms of authority and subjectivity; how law has been a *site* of colonial struggles, transformations and movements; how law has been part of a social *imaginary* implicated in ‘Orientalisms’ old and new; and how law has been treated as a *gift* of colonisation as well as a measure of its ‘achievements’. These topics will be taught across the following modules:

- Origins of the field: anthropological and historical studies from the “North”.
- Origins of the field: political and literary studies from the “South”.
- Law as an instrument of colonial power: “the cutting edge of colonialism”.
- Law as an instrument of resistance, self-determination, and repair.
- Law as a product of colonisation: the making of “customary law”.
- Law as productive of colonisation: authority, subjectivity, territory, order.
- Law as a site of colonisation: from courts to trade routes.
- Law as part of a colonial imaginary: “Orientalisms” old and new.
- Law as a “gift” of colonisation and as a measure of its “achievements”.
- Extensions of the field: international law and development into the 21st Century.

Students of all disciplinary backgrounds are welcome.

Assessment: 100% coursework.

iii. Advanced Interdisciplinary Core Courses

LALS5001. Research project in law and literary studies (6 credits)

The final-year research project enables students to pursue their individual interests in any aspect of the intersection between literary and legal discourses under the supervision of a faculty member. The project will culminate in an extended essay of approximately 5,000 words. Students are expected to meet with their supervisors regularly and to present their work-in-progress to their supervisors in the course of the semester.

Assessment: 100% research paper

LALS5002. Internship in law and literary studies (6 credits)

This internship course encourages students to contribute to socially impactful projects using the skills and knowledge they have acquired in their interdisciplinary undergraduate studies, and provides them with an opportunity to broaden their undergraduate education through experiential learning. Students

will acquire invaluable work experience, hone transferrable skills for a wide range of careers, and develop sharper awareness of social issues and legal challenges.

We will offer both internships with external partners (including but not limited to PEN International Hong Kong) and in-house internships. An example of in-house internships is Digital Manuscript Studies Research Network - Research Assistant Internship in Law and Literature, led by Dr. Anya Adair, a partnership with University of Sydney on digital humanities and legal manuscripts. Students enrolled into the course might work on legal and archival research, fact checking, interviewing people, grant-writing and fund-raising, event management, writing legal documents, reports or copy for publication, translation and communication, interpersonal speaking and writing, networking and outreach.

Under the guidance of the course supervisor, students must write an application (consisting of a statement of intent and a resume) to the organization of their choice before the beginning of the semester in which they plan to enroll into the internship course. They must pass an interview with the organization before being allowed to register with the course. The duration of the internship will depend on the arrangement between the student and the organization, but should involve at least 40 hours of service for the organization (approximately 3 hours per week). Students will be assessed by the organization contact and will receive a letter of reference from the organization at the end of the internship.

At the end of the internship, students need to submit a written report (approximately 2000 words) on work/project(s) conducted during the internship and a critical reflection on the internship experience, signed by the organization contact. The report should reflect on how their interdisciplinary training integrates with the workplace experience, and how the experience enhances their personal development and growth, including whether the experience has helped them identify their strengths and areas in need of improvement.

During the semester, students will meet with the course supervisor at least twice to discuss the internship progress and the written report.

The assessment of their performance is not based on specific assignments but their ongoing workplace experience, the evaluation provided by the host organization, as well as the written report. This course is credit-bearing but will not be counted in the calculation of the GPA as it is graded on a pass/fail basis. Assessment: 100% coursework (graded on a pass/fail basis).

B. Law Electives

Please refer to the courses listed as “disciplinary electives” in the syllabus for the degree of LLB.

C. Chinese Language Enhancement Course

Students are required to successfully complete the 6-credit Chinese language enhancement course (CART9001) for graduation, except for

- (a) Non-local Putonghua/Mandarin-speaking candidates who should take “CUND9002 Practical Chinese and Hong Kong Society” or “CUND9003 Cantonese for Non-Cantonese Speaking Students”; and
- (b) Students who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education or who have not attained the requisite level of competence in the Chinese language to take CART9001 should seek approval from the Board of Studies for exemption from the Chinese language enhancement requirement, and
 - (i) Take a 6-credit Cantonese or Putonghua language course (CHIN95xx) offered by the School of Chinese especially for international and exchange students; OR
 - (ii) Take an elective course in lieu.

CART9001. Practical Chinese for Arts Students (6 credits)

This course is designed to promote the students’ professional use of Chinese language in the workplace. The course will familiarize students with modern Chinese grammar, the correction of mistakenly written

Chinese characters and various types of practical Chinese writings in professional contexts. Students are required to complete a series of communication- rich oral and written assignments and an examination. Special emphasis is given to the style and rhetoric of reader-based writings to heighten students' linguistic sensitivity.

This course will be offered in the second semester of the third year.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

CUND9002. Practical Chinese and Hong Kong society (6 credits)

This course is specifically designed for the students from the Mainland. With Putonghua as the medium of instruction, it aims to underscore the characteristic styles and formats of practical Chinese writings in the workplace context in Hong Kong. Topics addressing the rhetorical strategies for reader-oriented professional writings are included to strengthen the students' command of the language. The evolution of Cantonese and the lexical and phonetic systems of this dialect will be explored. The local history and culture of Hong Kong will also be considered. On-site visits are organized to deepen the students' understanding of local traditions and, more importantly, to enhance their ability to appreciate and accept cultural and regional differences. Students will be able to apply the concepts and skills to accomplish different tasks effectively and persuasively in diverse and complex issues in oral and written forms as well as to produce good-quality practical writing.

Assessment: 50% coursework, 50% examination.

CUND9003. Cantonese for non-Cantonese speaking students (6 credits)

This course is designed specifically for Putonghua speaking students that are proficient in the use of the Chinese language. It aimed at enabling students to learn the characteristics of Hong Kong written and spoken Chinese language, to discover the differences in vocabulary and expression between the Cantonese dialect and Putonghua. Through a comparative analysis of Putonghua and Cantonese, this course will familiarize students with traditional and simplified Chinese characters, strengthening their communication skills in everyday life, and to have a proper understanding of the culture, traditions and people in Hong Kong. This course is essential to students who must adapt to lifestyle in Hong Kong within a short period of time.

Assessment: 60% coursework, 40% examination.
