

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Law  
with effect from Semester A 2024/2025**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Law and Technology

**Course Code:** PLE5031

**Course Duration:** Semester B

**Credit Units:** 2

**Level:** P

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Medium of Assessment:** English

**Prerequisites:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Precursors:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Equivalent Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

**Exclusive Courses:**  
(Course Code and Title) Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

Technology, business and law are often taught as distinct disciplines, but in the “real world” moving at 5G speed where “data is the new gold” and disruptive technologies and start-ups are making a paradigm shift and testing the limit of existing laws and regulations, clients and employers are looking to hire and grow with future lawyers who can master these intertwined disciplines to deliver cost-effective and forward-looking creative legal solutions. This course should offer students with more practical insights as the course will be led by a well-recognised technology lawyer who is a Partner of an international law firm covering Asia Pacific and has served in-house at leading technology companies, and he will be explaining key concepts, and be inviting technologists, entrepreneurs, business leaders and other lawyers to help students understand the interplay of these disciplines, and the practical application of technological innovations such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, cloud computing, big data, Fintech, Smart City, Metaverse and Openverse.

This course aims to provide students opportunities to study, on an intensive basis, an existing or emerging area of law so as to meet the challenges of working in a global environment.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	<b>Describe and explain</b> the basic concepts and principles related to the given seminar			✓	
2.	<b>Apply</b> the concepts and principles to solve hypothetical or real situations			✓	✓
3.	<b>Communicate</b> ideas, arguments or advice clearly and coherently both orally and in writing		✓	✓	✓
4.	<b>Critically analyse and evaluate</b> concepts, principles and policy underpinning the area of law covered by the seminar		✓	✓	✓
		100%			

A1: Attitude

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

A2: Ability

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.*

A3: Accomplishments

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

(LTAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
1	<b>Lectures or interactive seminars</b> – students will acquire basic knowledge of the relevant concept and principles, including by asking or responding to questions	✓				
2	<b>Group discussions/exercises</b> – students will get an opportunity to apply law or legal principles to practical situations; and will apply their understanding of legal concepts and principles to solve hypothetical situations		✓			
3	Oral presentations and/or written submissions; <b>Consultations</b>			✓		
4	<b>Lectures or interactive seminars</b> – students will develop critical analytical abilities by observing and participating in discussions; <b>Guided reflective pre/post-class reading</b>				✓	

A range of TLAs are likely to be employed to achieve CILOs prescribed for a seminar. The combination and duration of the TLAs will be determined as per the needs of a particular seminar, which might in a given case be taught – wholly or in part – through video-conferencing facilities. Nevertheless, below is an indicative list of TLAs.

### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Taking into account the nature of the subject and the duration of the seminar, the visiting faculty and/or the course leader has decided that the assessment will be wholly by examination.

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 0%						
Examination: 100% (duration: 3 hours)						
Assessment	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	The use of Generative AI tools is not allowed.
					100%	

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-*)	Marginal (D*)	Failure (F)
Examination at the end of the semester.	To pass this course students must obtain an aggregate mark of 50.	Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.	Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.	Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.		Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

\* **Note: The University's grades C- and D are not used in the PCLL.**

**In view of the specific nature of the course students should meet an attendance of 70% or above.**

### **Part III Other Information** (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

#### **1. Keyword Syllabus**

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

- Introduction to developments, opportunities for LawTech, ArtTech, PropTech and FinTech
- Real world applications of innovative techniques in legal system (contracts, risks, prevention, ethical and legal issues) and deployment of artificial intelligence, blockchain, cloud computing and big data etc
- Dispute resolution mechanisms. Online dispute resolution: the case study of eBRAM in HKSAR; Introduction of AALCO-HKRAC; Digital Courts and Smart Courts
- Law x technology: legal issues and response from the legal community; Important skills of a tech lawyer - thinking in a cross-disciplinary way
- Cybersecurity, data privacy and data breach
- Smart City, Web 1.0 to 3.0, Metaverse, Openverse, and endless opportunities
- E-commerce and Smart Contracts, GreenTech, and Digital Storage of Documents and Digital Signatures

#### **2. Reading List**

##### **2.1 Compulsory Readings**

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

Nil

##### **2.2 Additional Readings**

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

Nil