

City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus

offered by Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering
with effect from Semester A 2024 / 2025

Part I Course Overview

Course Title:	Postgraduate Seminar
Course Code:	CA8004
Course Duration:	1 Semester (Some courses offered in Summer Term may start a few weeks earlier than the normal University schedule. Please check the teaching schedules with CLs before registering for the courses.)
Credit Units:	3
Level:	R8
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)	BC8004 Postgraduate Seminar
Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title)	Nil

Part II Course Details

1. Abstract

The course gives students training of conducting research and strengthens the presentation and communication skills through technical paper writing, oral presentation and discussion with their fellow students.

2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	To build up the background knowledge in various building and construction disciplines		✓		
2.	To cultivate students' capabilities on conducting research including presentation and communication skills		✓	✓	
3.	To practise technical paper writing skill		✓	✓	
4.	To organize and discuss the research findings			✓	✓
		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)

LTA	Brief Description	CILO No.				Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	
Lectures	Elevate the techniques on conducting research including presentation and communication skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Tutorials	Build up research paper writing skill	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Seminars	Practice the oral presentation and communication skills	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Semester Hours:	3 hours per week
Lecture/Tutorial/Laboratory Mix:	Lecture (3); Tutorial (0); Laboratory (0)

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.				Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4		
Continuous Assessment: 100%						
Assignment	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%	
Examination: 0%						
					100%	

5. Assessment Rubrics

Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
Assignment	Ability to organize and present the research finding and communicate with fellow students on the research work	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B)	Marginal (B-, C+, C)	Failure (F)
Assignment	Ability to organize and present the research finding and communicate with fellow students on the research work	High	Significant	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

Part III Other Information

1. Keyword Syllabus

This module will cover all the research areas in this department currently including building services, building surveying, construction management, materials quantity surveying, and structural dynamics. The presentation topic will be selected according to the research area of the student after consulting his/her supervisor.

2. Reading List

2.1 Compulsory Readings

1.	Nil
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2.2 Additional Readings

1.	Preece, R. A. 1994, Starting research: an introduction to academic research and dissertation writing. Pinter Pub., London.
2.	Leedy, P. D. & Ormrod J. E. (8th ed.) 2005, Practical research: planning and design, Pearson/Merrill Prentice Hall New York.
3.	Lester, J. D. (10th ed.) 2002, Writing research papers: a complete guide. Longman, New York.
4.	Lewins F. W. (1993), Writing a thesis: a guide to its nature and organization, ANUTECH, Canberra, ACT.