

**City University of Hong Kong
Course Syllabus**

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

Part I Course Overview

Course Title: Interlocutory Advocacy and Interviewing

Course Code: PLE5050

Course Duration: Semester A (5 weeks)

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

This part of the course aims to prepare students for the practice of advocacy, interviewing and advising.

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.	Communicate orally with clients in clear, precise and appropriate language		✓		
2.	Discover by research, any new case law in the area of interlocutory applications				✓
3.	Display mastery of courtroom etiquette, practice and procedure		✓		
4.	Conduct simple interlocutory advocacy			✓	
5.	Prepare and deliver an oral argument				✓
		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	5	
Large Group – Interviewing and Advising	Students will engage in Large Groups to observe and discuss the core principles and best practices of interviewing and advising in legal matters in Hong Kong.	✓					
Large Group – Interlocutory Advocacy	Students will engage in Large Groups to observe and discuss in relation to the types of interlocutory matters in Hong Kong, the core principles of: - conducting of legal research - compliance with court room etiquette - delivery of an interlocutory oral argument		✓	✓	✓	✓	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - drafting and reviewing supporting documentation; such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ skeleton arguments ▪ chronologies; and ▪ dramatis personae. 						
Pre-reading – Interviewing and Advising	Students will read a Desk Book and course materials before the Large Group to familiarize themselves with the core principles and best practices of interviewing and advising in legal matters in Hong Kong.	✓					
Large Group – Interlocutory Advocacy	<p>Students will engage in Large Groups to observe and discuss the core principles and best practices, in relation to the types of interlocutory matters in Hong Kong, relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - conducting of legal research - compliance with court room etiquette - delivery of an oral argument - drafting and reviewing supporting documentation, being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ skeleton arguments; ▪ chronologies; ▪ lists of authorities; and ▪ dramatis personae. 			✓	✓	✓	
Guided learning – Interlocutory Advocacy	<p>Drafting of supporting documentation for interlocutory matters in Hong Kong (prepared before a small group) being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - skeleton arguments; - chronologies; - lists of authorities; and - dramatis personae. 		✓				
Small groups – Interviewing and Advising	Students will conduct interviewing and advising simulations and obtain peer feedback (both oral and written) in relation to their performances, as well as engage in formative self-evaluations. Furthermore, students will engage in group discussions, guided by the tutor, to further critically analyze the necessary core principles and best practices which arose in the tutorial.	✓					
Small groups – Interlocutory Advocacy	Students will conduct simulated practice-based role plays of applications in areas of interlocutory trial advocacy in Hong Kong and consider oral and written feedback on their performances.			✓	✓	✓	
Video-review sessions	Students in allocated pairs, will watch and discuss a video of their performances in a summary judgment application in Hong Kong.			✓	✓	✓	
Court visit report	Students are required to attend a court in Hong Kong for 4.5 hours and provide a report by a stipulated date which encompasses matters relating to court room advocacy in Hong Kong.			✓			

4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

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

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5		
Continuous Assessment: 100%							
<p>Interviewing – Satisfactory completion of designated tasks set out below:</p> <p>This is a self-assessment and review of students’ written self-assessment forms in relation to an interview and subsequent advice; and a peer review of the students’ interview and subsequent advice.</p> <p>This self-assessment and peer review does not count toward the final grade but satisfactory participation in these activities are a formative criterion for satisfactorily completing the Course.</p>	✓						The use of Generative AI tools is not allowed.
<p>Interlocutory Advocacy – 100%</p> <p>This is assessed in the Order 14 Assessment</p>		✓		✓	✓	100%	
<p>Interlocutory Advocacy/court visit report – satisfactory completion of designated tasks.</p> <p>Students, as part of their formative assessment, are required to submit a court report on a stipulated date in which they will need to reflect on their visits as a criterion for satisfactorily completing this course.</p>			✓				
Examination: _____% (duration: _____, if applicable)						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)
Order 14 assessment	Students need to achieve a mark of 50% overall in the Order 14 assessment in the Course	<p>Students should be able to reach a standard ranging from very competent to outstanding across the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discover by research, case law in the area of interlocutory application • Develop a mastery of basic courtroom etiquette and procedure • Prepare and deliver an oral argument in an Order 14 matter. 	<p>Students should be able to reach a good standard ranging from competent to outstanding across the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discover by research, case law in the area of interlocutory application • Develop a mastery of basic courtroom etiquette and procedure • Prepare and deliver an oral argument in an Order 14 matter. 	<p>Students should be able to reach a competent standard ranging from competent to very good across the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discover by research, case law in the area of interlocutory application • Develop a mastery of basic courtroom etiquette and procedure • Prepare and deliver an oral argument in an Order 14 matter. 		<p>Students have failed to reach a competent standard outstanding across the following skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discover by research, case law in the area of interlocutory application • Develop a mastery of basic courtroom etiquette and procedure • Prepare and deliver an oral argument in an Order 14 matter.

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

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.)

- Interviewing and conferencing
- Case analysis
- Theory of the case
- Affidavits/affirmations
- Dramatis personae
- Chronology
- Skeleton arguments
- Lists of authorities
- Court etiquette and procedure
- Advocacy techniques
- Interlocutory applications
- Costs issues
- Evidentiary issues
- Professional conduct issues

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.)

These include the Desk Book and all the Course Materials for this course. The other recommended and required references and reading for each topic will be found in the Desk Book and in the Course Materials for each topic.

DVD Resources

J Burke & A Ngan *“Are You Talking to Me?” DVD on Interviewing and Advising (available in Media Resources Collection Room in CityU Library on 5 hours loan)*

2.2 Additional Readings

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

- Bilingual Laws Information System - Hong Kong Ordinances and Subsidiary Legislation (<http://www.legislation.gov.hk/eng/home.htm>)
- Lexis and/or Westlaw - available through “Electronic Resources” section of the Run Run Shaw Library website
- Hong Kong Civil Procedure, (*The Hong Kong White Book*) Volumes 1, 2 (2020)
- Camille Cameron and Elsa Kelly, *Principles and Practice of Civil Procedure in Hong Kong*. (2nd Edition. Hong Kong: Thomson. Sweet and Maxwell Asia 2009)

- Allan Leung and Douglas Clark, *Civil Litigation in Hong Kong* (Fifth Edition. Hong Kong: Sweet and Maxwell 2017)
- Dave Lau, *Civil Procedure in Hong Kong. A Guide to the Main Principles* (Fourth Edition Hong Kong: Sweet and Maxwell August 2017)
- M Wilkinson and others, *Advocacy & The Litigation Process in Hong Kong*, (3rd edition. Hong Kong: Butterworths 2007)