

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course offered by School of Law with effect from Semester A in 2012/2013

Part I

Course Title: Sea Carriage Law

Course Code: LW4636

Course Duration: One semester

Credit Units: 3

Level: P4

Medium of Instruction: English

Prerequisites: Nil

Precursors: Nil

Equivalent Courses: Nil

Exclusive Courses: Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims at promoting the attitude of critical and effective learning in sea carriage law. Hong Kong is an international trade and shipping centre in China. Many companies are trading from Hong Kong with their international partners. It is essential for lawyers in Hong Kong to understand the basic shipping law so that they are able to advise on common shipping disputes.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Number(s) of PILOs contributed to
1.	To understand the basic law of various sea carriage contracts including bills of lading and charterparties		1,3, 5
2.	To demonstrate a general understanding of International Conventions applicable to sea carriage law by proposing solutions to cargo disputes.		1, 3, 5

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
CILO 1	Discussion of the distinct features of each type of charter parties (time, voyage and demise) and how charter parties are different from contracts of carriage evidenced by bills of lading	
CILO 1	Discussion of functions of the bill of lading and how it can be distinguished from other shipping documents	
CILO 2	Discussion of and case-study relating to the scope of application of relevant International Conventions such as the Hague Rules, the Hague-Visby Rules and the Hamburg Rules	
CILO 2	Case study to understand the handling of cargo	
CILO 2	Research on difficult issues in sea carriage law	
CILO 1,2	Discover the current news of the maritime industries, especially the sea carriage business, by group presentations	
CILO 1,2	Discover the practices of the sea carriage business by field trips and/or talks by professionals	

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

AT No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting (if applicable)	CILO Assessed	Remarks
AT 1	Assignment	50%	1-2	
AT 2	Examination	50%	1-2	3 hours

Both the assignment and the examination are asking students to demonstrate their skills in providing effective solutions to hypothetical scenario.

To pass this course students must obtain an aggregate mark of 40% and a minimum of 30% in each of the coursework and the examination elements of the assessment. The examination will be in open-book.

Grading of Student Achievement: Standard (A+, A, A-...F). Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Charter parties, bills of lading, Hague Rules, Hague-Visby Rules, Hamburg Rules, Rotterdam Rules

Detailed Syllabus

Sea carriage contracts in the form of charter parties and bills of lading will be examined.

International conventions on bills of lading will be discussed.

Legislation in Hong Kong, such as the HK Carriage of Goods by Sea Ordinance, the Bills of Lading and Analogous Shipping Documents Ordinance etc will be explained.

Legal cases in sea carriage law will be studied, especially those decided in Hong Kong and the United Kingdom.

Research skill for difficult issues will be demonstrated.

Recommended Reading

Text(s)

John J Wilson, *Carriage of Goods by Sea* (7th ed, 2010), England: Person/Longman
Felix W H Chan, & others, *Shipping and Logistics Law: Principles and practice in Hong Kong* (2002), HK: HKU Press

A D Huges, *Casebook on Carriage of Goods by Sea* (2nd ed, 1999), London: Blackstone

Journals

Journal of Maritime Law and Commerce, quarterly

Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly

The Journal of International Maritime Law

Online Resources

HK Maritime Law website <http://hkmaritimelaw.com> Seaview (bilingual journal of the Institute of Seatransport, HK) <http://www.seatransport.org/>