Subject Description Form

Subject Code	APSS5788					
Subject Title	Law and Social Work					
Credit Value	2					
Level	5					
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	Nil					
Assessment Methods	100% Continuous Assessment	Individual Assessment	Group Assessment			
	1. Quiz 1	25%				
	2. Quiz 2	25 %				
	3. Written Assignment	50 %				
	 The grade is calculated according to the percentage assigned; The completion and submission of all component assignments are required for passing the subject 					
Objectives	The subject aims to equip the students with basic legal knowledge relevant to social work practice and possible issues involved. They should be able to understand the general legal principles in selected areas and apply them to problems or cases. Moreover, they should be able to understand the legal rights and obligations of the social workers and their service users. This understanding can facilitate both parties to assert their legal rights and discharge their legal obligations with the mobilization of suitable support. Students should not lose sight of the primary responsibility of promoting social betterment with the knowledge of the legal framework of practice.					
Intended Learning	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:					
Outcomes	a. attain essential understanding of the legal system in Hong Kong and the core values held;					
	b. attain core legal concepts in the areas of contract law and employment law, to law, family law, mental health and guardianship, criminal law and protection human rights;					
	 c. appreciate the legal rights and obligations of service users in selected contexts; d. appreciate the legal rights and obligations as social workers; 					
	e. apply legal concepts and knowledge to analyze legal problems and practical issu encountered in the social work context of Hong Kong;f. utilize legal knowledge and resources in the best interest of the clients.					

Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus

Law and Social Work

- Law and Ethics
- Legal framework for professional practice

The legal system of Hong Kong

- The source of laws
- The common law legal system
- The difference between criminal law and civil law
- The different forms of legal assistance
- The court system
- The core values of the legal system

Basic legal concepts and legal principles as related to different social work contexts

- Contract Law
- Tort Law
- Criminal Law
- Family Law (including Family Mediation and Child Protection)
- Mental Health and Guardianship
- Human Rights
- Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance
- Anti-Discrimination and Equal Opportunities

Teaching/Learning Methodology

Professional lawyers may be invited to be responsible for some of the lectures. Students will be equipped with basic legal knowledge in a wide range of areas. Students will have chance to apply legal principles to analyze well-designed cases. Moreover, they will have to search the Laws of Hong Kong and to study some important and relevant decisions of the courts.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)					
		a	b	с	d	e	f
1. Written assignment	50 %		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Quiz 1	25 %	✓	✓			✓	✓
3. Quiz 2	25%	✓	✓				
Total	100 %			•		•	•

The combination of 3 types of assessments facilitates the students to know better the legal principles in different areas of law and to identify the legal rights of the people. There is good emphasis on application of the legal principles on case studies, court decisions and relevant legal issues.

Student Study Effort Expected	Class contact:	
	■ Lecture	26 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	Prepare for lecture	10 Hrs.
	■ Preparation for quiz 1 and 2	20 Hrs.
	Preparation for written assignment	20 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	76 Hrs.

Reading List and References

Essential

Dickens, Jonathan (2013). Social Work, Law and Ethics. Oxon: Routledge.

Lo, Stefan H.C., Kevin Kwok-yin Cheng, and Wing Hong Chui. (2020). *The Hong Kong Legal System* (2nd revised ed.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

陳弘毅、陳文敏等(編)(2015)。香港法概論。香港:三聯書店(香港)有限公司。

Supplementary

Brayne, H., Carr, H. & Goosey, D. (2021). *Law for Social Workers* (16th ed.) Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Chan, Sherlynn G. (2019). A Practical Guide to Mental Health Law in Hong Kong. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Chui, Wing Hong and Wing Lo. (2017). *Understanding Criminal Justice in Hong Kong* (2nd ed.). New York: Routledge.

Fisher, M.J., & Greenwood, D.G. (2018). *Contract Law in Hong Kong* (3rd ed.). Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Glofcheski, Rick. (2017). Tort law in Hong Kong (4th ed.) Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell.

Glofcheski, R., Farzana A., & Duncan, A. (2016) *Employment Law and Practice in Hong Kong* (2nd ed.) Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell/Thomson Reuters.

Hewitt, Philippa (2019). *Family Law and Practice in Hong Kong* (3rd ed.) Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell/Thomson Reuters.

Ho, Wai-kin Victor. (2019). *Criminal Law in Hong Kong* (3rd ed.). The Netherlands: Kluwer Law International.

Ip, Eric Chi Yeung. (2019) *Law and Justice in Hong Kong* (3rd ed.) Hong Kong: Sweet & Maxwell/Thomson Reuters.

Loveland, I. (2018). *Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, and Human rights: A Critical Introduction* (8th ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

Mau, Stephen D. (2016) *Contract Law in Hong Kong: An Introductory Guide* (2nd ed..) Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Mau, Stephen D. (2016) *Tort Law in Hong Kong: An Introductory Guide*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Rivlin, Geoffrey. (2015) *Understanding the Law* (7th ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

趙文宗、洪雪蓮、莊耀洸 (編著) (2012) 。 社會福利與法律應用: 溝通與充權 (第 3 版)。香港: 紅出版圓桌文化。

江仲有(2016)。婚姻法與家事調解(第二版)。香港:香港大學出版社。