

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	BRE262
Subject Title	Project Studio
Credit Value	3
Level	2
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite / Exclusion	Nil
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a platform for students to integrate knowledge and to develop critical thinking and problem solving skill in the context of controversial issues and practical problems in the building and real estate industry. 2. Nurture a sense of social responsibility through the application of professional knowledge. 3. Encourage student-centred learning and develop their generic and professional competence. 4. Provide basic and practical training in construction drawing skills.
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students should be able to:</p> <p><u>Academic Outcomes</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Understand construction and real estate industry in Hong Kong and identify key issues and problems the industry faces. b. Evaluate current issues and policies in a systematic and analytical manner. c. Synthesize various sources of information to search for creative solution to contemporary issues and practical problems. d. Reflect on the roles of professionals in the relevant fields of professional practice in the construction and real estate industry. e. Propose course of action for problems emerging from a rapidly changing urban environment of Hong Kong. f. Demonstrate skills in construction drawing and master AutoCAD in project work. <p><u>Generic Outcomes</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gather and analyze relevant information using appropriate technology. 2. Communicate the arguments in a clear and articulated manner. 3. Develop critical and creative minds. 4. Work independently and identify needs for self-learning and self-improvement. 5. Co-operate with others in a professional team working environment to excel for the common goal.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<p>This course examines important issues and policies in construction and real estate industry of Hong Kong, allowing for the city's unique socioeconomic milieu and development trajectories. It starts with a review of urban development pathway of Hong Kong and its implications for land, housing and real estate development. It is followed by an in-depth appreciation of current issues in the field of construction and property development, with particular reference to Hong Kong as a high-density city with an executive-led government. The latest development trends (for instance, public consultation on Hong Kong 2030+, building up age-friendly city and the central government initiated belt and road initiatives, etc.) will be reflected to shed light on the development prospect of the city and industry. Besides, students are expected to undertake Industrial Centre training and master construction drawing skills.</p>

	<p><i>Examples of contemporary issues/ policies in building and real estate industry:</i></p> <p>Urban development and sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing and land use policy • Population ageing and ageing in place • Urban renewal • Spatial justice and “right to the city” • Building control and safety • Sustainability, urban development and the society <p>Technology and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smart city and big data • Professional practice, industrial organization and innovations • The structure of the industry and the competitive environment • Assets and property management <p>Construction and real estate industry in prospect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The “belt and road initiatives” • Infrastructure development
<p>Teaching/Learning Methodology</p>	<p>This subject comprises two components: (a) BRE Professional Studies & Evaluation (2 credits); and (b) Industrial Centre (IC) training (1 credit).</p> <p>I. BRE Professional Studies & Evaluation</p> <p>This component consists of lectures and tutorials.</p> <p>Lectures will revisit the contemporary issues and latest policies on town planning, building and property industry. The students are expected appreciate the issues using proper theories and models, as well as to reflect on their personal/professional development through synthesizing the subject matters. After finishing the lectures, students are required to submit an essay.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to explore and identify issues in relation to construction and real estate development of Hong Kong through group project and thus enhance their problem-solving skills. Each group should give an in-class presentation during the tutorial sessions. Floor students are required to ask questions and/or make comments after the presentation.</p> <p>II. Industrial Centre (IC) Training</p> <p>This component is delivered by the Industrial Centre and involves training workshops and practical project works in construction drawing.</p> <p>It involves technical demonstrations, followed by self-assessments to ensure students’ acquisition of the skills.</p> <p>Student attendance to the demonstrations is compulsory.</p>

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

I. Assessment Overview

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Academic Outcomes)					
		a	b	c	d	e	f
1. Group project	25%	√	√	√	√	√	
2. Essay	45%	√	√	√	√	√	
3. IC Training	30%						√
Total	100%						

II. Assessment Procedures

The emphasis of the course will be on active participation: students are encouraged and expected to read widely, assess critically the relevant literature and contribute to lecture and class discussions.

Essay

A term paper of 1,000 words (excluding reference) on identified issues of Hong Kong. The paper should demonstrate active engagement in lecture contents and reading materials, as well as add values to the understanding of current practices and policies in at least one of the following areas:

- urban planning
- building and construction
- real estate development

Group project

Students are expected to work in group and to accomplish one study based on the topic they choose. It is encouraged to conduct on site investigation and consult the relevant reading materials and websites for data collection. Each group should give one presentation during tutorial sessions and critically comment on their peer's work. Students should maintain regular discussions with tutors and/or course instructors regarding the progress of the project.

Weighting: 20% for the group presentation plus 5% via peer assessment (by fellow group members)

III. Assessment Criteria

The following evaluation criteria are adopted:

Essay:

- **Addressing the task:** identify and address clearly the main question(s).
- **Knowledge:** demonstrate comprehensive understanding of relevant concepts and theories; the analysis, synthesis and application of knowledge is consistently clear and effective.
- **Argumentation:** examine the question/issue/ problem from important perspectives. Overall logic is clear. Premises or evidence should support conclusions.
- **Structure:** introduction states clearly writer's thesis or position, and conclusion clearly summarizes main arguments. Paragraphing is logical and appropriate.
- **Mechanics:** grammar and vocabulary are properly used. Conventions of academic writing (e.g. citation, references, footnotes, etc.) are followed.

	<p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge: ability to contribute new and relevant information using a variety of learning resources. • Concepts: a capacity to use different concepts to attain a thorough understanding of the development processes. • Logical thinking & reasoning: ability to critically assess data and information and draw justifiable conclusions. • Communication skills: ability to communicate and articulate ideas or ask questions. • Presentation skills: ability to use multi-media means in presentation. • Self-improvement: ability to recognize own strengths and weaknesses and take appropriate actions to correct areas requiring attention. <p>Research integrity: Softcopy will be submitted to <i>Turnitin</i> for plagiarism check. (User Guide: http://edc.polyu.edu.hk/PSP/SG_Turnitin.pdf). Any assignment that is reported as plagiarism will be marked Zero. Please refer to University's explanation on plagiarism and advices to avoid it: https://www.polyu.edu.hk/ogur/academic_integrity/Plagiarism_Booklet.pdf</p>	
<p>Student Study Effort Required</p>	Class contact:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lectures (2-hour lecture per week, week 1-6) 	12 Hrs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tutorials (including presentation) 	12 Hrs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Industrial Centre Training Workshop 	26 Hrs.
	Other student study effort:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reading / self-study 	30 Hrs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment: group project 	30 Hrs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment: essay 	30 Hrs.
Total student study effort	140 Hrs.	
<p>Reading List and References</p>	<p>Indicative Reading List:</p> <p>Brenner, N., Marcuse, P. & Mayer, M. (2012). <i>Cities for People, Not for Profit: Critical Urban Theory and the Right to the City</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Huang, H. & Chan, E.H.W. (2000). <i>Building Hong Kong: Environmental considerations</i>. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.</p> <p>Chiang, Y.H., Anson, M. & Raftery, J. (2003). <i>The construction sector in the Asian economies</i>. London: Spon Press.</p> <p>Ganesan, S., Hall, G. & Chiang, Y.H. (1996). <i>Construction in Hong Kong: Issues in labour supply and technology transfer</i>. Aldershot, Hants, England: Avebury.</p> <p>Gurran, N., Gallent, N. & Chiu, R.L.H. (2016). <i>Politics, planning and housing supply in Australia, England and Hong Kong</i>. New York: Routledge.</p>	

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- Lai, L.W. & Ho, C.D. (2002). *Planning buildings for a high-rise environment in Hong Kong: A review of building appeal decisions*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
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- National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of China. *Vision and actions on jointly building silk road economic belt and 21st-century maritime silk road*. Available at <https://eng.yidaiyilu.gov.cn/qwyw/qwfb/1084.htm>
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- Poon, T.N.T. & Chan, E.H.W. (1998). *Real estate development in Hong Kong*. Hong Kong: PACE Pub.
- Reed, R. & Sims, S. (2015). *Property development*. London: Routledge.
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- UN-HABITAT (The United Nations Human Settlements Programme). (2016). *New urban agenda: Quito declaration on sustainable cities and human settlements for all*. Available at <http://habitat3.org/wp-content/uploads/N1639668-English.pdf>.
- Wong, Y.C.R. (2015). *Hong Kong land for Hong Kong people: Fixing the failures of our housing policy*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.
- Yung, B.R. (2008). *Hong Kong's housing policy: A case study in social justice*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Websites:

Topical papers and reports in relation to Hong Kong 2030+. Available at http://www.hk2030plus.hk/explore_a.htm

IC Student Handbook. Available at [https://www.polyu.edu.hk/ic/lt/pdf/UI/ACT20160118%20IC%20Training%20-%20IC%20Student%20Handbook%20\(2016%20Edition\).pdf](https://www.polyu.edu.hk/ic/lt/pdf/UI/ACT20160118%20IC%20Training%20-%20IC%20Student%20Handbook%20(2016%20Edition).pdf)

IC Training Material. Available at <https://www.polyu.edu.hk/ic/lt/hkpu.htm>