Subject Description Form

Subject Code	COMP4531
Subject Title	Emerging Topics in FinTech
Credit Value	3
Level	4
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite / Exclusion	
Objectives	The objective of this subject is to: 1. introduce the emerging developments or selected topics in FinTech and their implications. The subject covers the current state of the major thematic areas in FinTech, including its ecosystem, trends and opportunities; and 2. fulfil PolyU's lifelong learning objective, this subject also seeks to develop students' independent learning and critical thinking capabilities using research-informed teaching and other innovative teaching/learning methods.
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: *Professional/academic knowledge and skills* (a) understand how the current states impact the major thematic areas in FinTech; (b) understand and discuss the recent research advances of emerging technologies for financial services; (c) evaluate recent financial technologies and their impact on the future of financial services; and (d) learn how to learn and to analyze a FinTech-related topic with independent learning and critical thinking capabilities.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	Topics will be selected according to the recent developments in FinTech and may be varied in different offerings of the subject. Some potential topics are illustrated below. 1. Current state of the major thematic areas in the FinTech ecosystem such as infrastructure (e.g., identity, privacy, security), crowdfunding (e.g., types, platforms, applications), e-trading (e.g., algorithmic trading), and peer-to-peer (P2P) lending. 2. Trends and opportunities for shaping the FinTech ecosystem. 3. Trends in FinTech innovation, including e-payment, digital banking, cybersecurity, virtual currency, disruptive financial services, crowdfunding, P2P lending and regulatory challenges can influence the short-term and long-term developments of various industries.

	4. Trends in the field of FinTech that will have the most significant impact on the future.
	5. Latest development and popular topics in FinTech.
	With research-informed teaching and learning approach, students are encouraged to progressively become active enquirers, rather than passive learners accruing knowledge.
Teaching/ Learning Methodology	Class activities include lectures, labs and tutorials/seminars (when applicable). In addition to the fundamental knowledge and principles, classes cover the advanced/particular topics based on research-informed teaching and learning approach. Students will learn and experience parts of the research process by studying the selected research articles and exploring new research on the basis of their own interests. Student groups will present what they learn from their own research studies during classes (i.e., using reproducible research or research review and survey). Each class will focus more on discussion and problem-solving.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed			
		a	b	c	d
Continuous Assessment	**55%**				
1. Assignments, Project and Quiz		✓	✓	✓	✓
Examination	**45%**	✓	✓	✓	
Total	100 %				

Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:

Continuous assessments (assignments, project and quiz) are designed to facilitate students to achieve the intended learning outcomes. The project is designed to enhance students' ability to a deeper understanding of a problem of a larger-scope and solve it systematically. Quizzes are given to ensure the students' understanding of the basic concept and application.

Examination will provide a summative evaluation of the overall ability and understanding of the students in the topics.

Student Study Effort Expected

Class contact:	
▪ Lectures / Tutorials / Labs	39 Hrs.
Other student study effort:	
▪ Self-study and class preparation	26 Hrs.
▪ Assignment, Project, Quiz and Examination	52 Hrs.

Total student study effort	104 Hrs.

Reading List and References	**Reference Books:**

1. Chishti, Susanne and Barberis, Janos, *The FINTECH Book: The Financial Technology Handbook for Investors, Entrepreneurs and Visionaries*, Wiley, 2016.

2. Schulte, Paul, *The Next Revolution in our Credit-Driven Economy: The Advent of Financial Technology*, Kindle Edition, Wiley, 2015.

3. Tavlas, Tolga, *Digital Banking Tips: Practical Ideas for Disruptors*, Kindle Edition, Amazon Digital Services, Inc., 2015.

4. Odame, Paul and Jubi, Gloria, *IT Financial Management: Corporate Financing, IT Value Realization Budgeting & Planning, ITIL Capacity Management*, Kindle Edition, FRENIQ BOOKS, 2015.

5. Taylor, Kevin C., *FinTech Law: A Guide to Technology Law in the Financial Services Industry*, Bloomberg BNA, 2014.

6. Khanna, Ayesha, *Straight Through Processing for Financial Services: The Complete Guide* (Complete Technology Guides for Financial Services), 1st Edition, Academic Press, 2007.

7. Freedman, David M. and Nutting, Matthew R., *A Brief History of Crowdfunding*, Retrieved Nov. 2015.

8. Lawton, Kelvin and Marom, Dan, *The Crowdfunding Revolution: How to Raise Venture Capital Using Social Media*, McGraw-Hill, 2013.

9. Allen, Franklin, McAndrews, James and Strahan, Philip, *E-Finance: An Introduction*, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 2001.

10. Dresner, Steven, *Crowdfunding: A Guide to Raising Capital on the Internet*, New Jersey-Wiley, 2014.