

ACADEMIC POLICY & QUALITY OFFICE

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

for the award of

LLB Law

Managed by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

delivered by the Hong Kong Management Association in collaboration with the School of Law

Date approved:	11 October 2016
Applies to students commencing study in:	September 2018

RECORD OF UPDATES

Date amended*	Nature of amendment**	Reason for amendment**
26 February 2018	<p><i>1. Section 4.1:</i> Changes to credits (from 30 to 15) for three modules Change of level from 6 to 5 for two modules (Commercial Law and Evidence)</p> <p><i>2. Section 5:</i> Module structure changed to reflect the lower credit attached to three modules</p> <p><i>3. Throughout:</i> a) Amendment of LLB (Hons) top-up to LLB Law b) Amendment of GDEHKL to GDL</p>	1)-3)(a)-c): To meet the requirements of the HK Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Awarding body:	Oxford Brookes University
Teaching institution and location:	Hong Kong Management Association (HKMA) W Haking Management Development Centre 14/F Fairmont House 8 Cotton Tree Drive Central Hong Kong
Language of study:	English
Final award:	Bachelor of Law (LLB)
Programme title:	HK LLB Law
Interim exit awards and award titles available:	
Brookes course code:	HG20
UCAS code:	N/A
JACS code:	M100, M110, M111
HECoS code:	Not yet available
Mode of delivery:	Blended: Lectures (narrated PowerPoint) Seminars(face to face)
Mode/s and duration of study:	1 (year) (maximum duration: 3 years)
QAA subject benchmark statement/s which apply to the programme:	QAA Law Subject Benchmark
Professional accreditation attached to the programme:	Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA): https://www.sra.org.uk/home/home.page Bar Standards Board (BSB): https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/ Hong Kong Education Bureau: http://www.edb.gov.hk/en/ Hong Kong Standing Committee on Legal Education: http://www.sclet.gov.hk/eng/index.htm
University Regulations:	The programme conforms to the University Regulations for the year of entry as published/archived at: http://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/ A2.5.3 Admission with Advanced Standing states:

Applicants for admission with advanced standing may be admitted to any point of a programme consistent with the level and volume of credit awarded for prior learning. However, to be eligible for an award, a maximum of two thirds of the required total credit for the award may be awarded through APL. Lower maximum limits may be set for individual programmes with the approval of AESC, and this should be stated in the programme regulations within the programme specification.

Students entering on to the LLB programme on successful completion of the HKMA and GDL programmes need only to complete 75 module credits on the LLB to pass the programme. Approved by the University AESC on 7 March 2018.

The following paragraph is added to B2.14:

For students transferring credit from an Oxford Brookes Graduate Diploma in Law to an LLB, the minimum amount of credit that must be earned on the UMP to attain the LLB is five acceptable module credits, including at least three at level 6. A student's class of degree will be determined by the average of the marks on the five modules completed on the LLB.

SECTION 2: WHY STUDY THIS PROGRAMME?

2.1 Rationale for/distinctiveness of the programme

The LLB Law programme, together with the preceding GDL programme, aims to provide the Hong Kong course students with the requisite academic stage to ensure eligibility for admission to the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws course in Hong Kong (HKPCLL). The PCLL is the professional legal qualification programme in Law in Hong Kong which law students must undertake in order to qualify for practice as a solicitor or barrister in Hong Kong.

The programme has been structured to accommodate the needs of students who are working executives and are, therefore, unable to follow the same study pattern as full-time students. The programme is delivered over two semesters during one academic year, with two intakes. The first intake commences the programme during September and the second intake begins the programme in February. Two modules are taught consecutively across each semester, hence students study for only one module at a time. This enables in-depth study of each module and accommodates the needs of employed students. This model provides also for an equal number of teaching and learning weeks across each semester and, therefore, accommodates an equally weighted and balanced programme for each intake.

The lectures are delivered through narrated PowerPoint. Lectures cover English and, where applicable in Evidence and Civil and Criminal Procedure, Hong Kong law: the lectures on English law are delivered by Oxford Brookes lecturers with relevant subject expertise and, similarly, the lectures on Hong Kong law are delivered by Hong Kong local lecturers. The use of narrated PowerPoint ensures that students have access to the lectures at a time to suit them, as well as providing the possibility of replaying the lecture to improve understanding, and also as a useful revision source. Students attend two intensive seminar weekends during each module to ensure that they have significant opportunity to discuss the lecture material, to work through pre-prepared material with peers and subject tutors, and to ask questions to aid their understanding. The HKMA module leaders and subject tutors are experienced legal professionals who also have experience of teaching law at the tertiary level. Following the first intensive seminar session, students have a coursework preparation week to work towards submission of either a formative or summative piece of coursework for each module. This provides an opportunity for feedback which feeds forward into the module's final assessment point at the end of the module.

2.2 Aims of the programme

This programme provides students with knowledge and understanding of the law in England and Wales and the opportunity to satisfy the external professional requirements for the academic stage of legal training. It enables students to develop a range of personal and professional skills and has both a strong academic and a vocational emphasis. We are committed to delivering a strong academic programmes with special emphasis on the graduate attributes.

More specifically the programme aims are:

- To provide students with at least a basic knowledge and understanding of selected foundation subjects of English law
- To provide students with at least a basic legal knowledge and understanding beyond selected foundations subjects
- To provide students with the opportunity to satisfy the requirements set out by the Bar Council and the Law Society for the academic stage of legal training
- To enable students to identify, locate and critically appraise legal materials

- To enable students to assimilate extensive documentary legal and some non-legal materials and to extract from them the material points
- To enable students to develop the ability to work with, and recognise the potential of, information technology in the context of law and legal study
- To enable students to apply the relevant principles of law and legal rules to solve and analyse practical problems and to reason logically, with reference to accepted authorities
- To assist students to develop a capacity for the critical assessment of law
- To provide students with the necessary intellectual and practical legal skills such as analysis, problem-solving, and legal reasoning, to enable them independently to achieve a basic understanding of any branch of English law, even when not previously studied
- To provide students with the necessary personal and key skills to enable them to develop as independent, autonomous and reflective individuals
- To provide students with the opportunity to enhance and develop their written and communication skills
- To prepare students for graduate employment by developing their transferable and problem-based learning skills

SECTION 3: PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of the programme, graduates will demonstrate the following Brookes Attributes:

3.1 Academic literacy

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the English legal system and processes;
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a substantial range of legal concepts, values, principles and rules;
- Demonstrate that he or she has studied the substantive law subjects in his/her programme in depth;
- Be aware of and understand current developments in the areas of law studied;
- Demonstrate ability to apply his or her knowledge to complex problems and provide cogently reasoned conclusions supported by relevant legal authority;
- Synthesise and evaluate information from primary and secondary sources, relevant to the area of study;
- Recognise and rank legal issues in terms of relevance and importance;
- Analyse, evaluate and interpret statutes and law reports and other relevant materials;
- Understand and employ English legal terminology, both written and verbally, and to explain and convey complex information, including that arising from technical legal materials, in a way which is comprehensible to others and is directed at their concerns;
- Write succinctly and within strict word limits

3.2 Research literacy

- Demonstrate a good understanding of principles and techniques of research in English law;
- Identify, locate and retrieve standard legal materials in English law in paper and electronic form. (Also relevant to digital and information literacy);
- Critically evaluate the merits of the products of their research (Also relevant to academic literacy and digital information literacy);
- Undertake independent research with minimum guidance;
- Utilise problem-solving skills in theoretical or practical contexts;

3.3 Critical self-awareness and personal literacy

- Plan his or her work and to undertake assignments with minimum guidance
- Work co-operatively and make an effective contribution when working in a group
- Reflect on his or her learning and performance and to seek and make use of feedback
- Take responsibility for his or her own learning and personal and professional development
- Manage his or her time and prioritise tasks by working to strict deadlines

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3.4 Digital and information literacy

- Utilise a range of electronic information management tools, including word processing, email, the world-wide web and some electronic retrieval systems for personal, academic and professional use

3.5 Active citizenship

- Have an understanding of the social, economic, political, historical, philosophical, ethical and cultural contexts in which law operates (also relevant to academic literacy).
- Appreciate the importance of cross-cultural awareness and valuing human diversity in order to be able to work effectively and responsibly in a global context.

SECTION 4: CURRICULUM CONTENT & STRUCTURE

4.1 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE AND REQUIREMENTS:

Code	Module Title	Credits	Level	Status	Coursework: Exam ratio
HK101	Commercial Law	15	5	Compulsory	Coursework (100%)
HK102	Company Law / Business Associations	15	6	Compulsory	Cwk/Exam (20%/80%)
HK103	Civil and Criminal Procedure	30	6	Compulsory	Exam (50%) Exam (50%)
HK104	Evidence	15	5	Compulsory	Cwk/Exam (40%/60%)

4.2 PROGRESSION AND AWARD REQUIREMENTS

All modules must be passed in order to obtain the award of Bachelor of Law (LLB).

4.3 PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge subjects (studied on the preceding GDL programme):

(Contract Law, Tort Law, Public Law, European Union Law, Land Law, Equity and Trusts Law, Criminal Law)

AND the Legal Research Project (studied as one module on the preceding GDL programme)

fully comply with the aims, learning outcomes and skills content required by the SRA for CPE/GDL programmes to meet the academic stage of legal education. These GDL subjects (excluding European Union Law)

AND the subsequent LLB Law subjects

(Commercial Law, Company Law / Business Associations, Civil and Criminal Procedure, Evidence)

cover all the eleven core subjects which are required for admission to the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws in Hong Kong (PCLL), as set out in the statement on New Entry Requirements for the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws by the Hong Kong Standing Committee on Legal Education and

Training. For entry to the PCLL, students will additionally need to pass the subjects Hong Kong Constitutional Law, Hong Kong Legal System and Hong Kong Land Law either as a visiting student in one of the three Universities awarding LLB degrees in Hong Kong or by passing the PCLL conversion examinations in these subjects .

All modules must be passed in order to achieve accreditation by the Professional Bodies.

All modules meet the requirements for FHEQ: Framework for Higher Education Qualification level 6 www.qaa.ac.uk

SECTION 5: TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT

The learning and teaching experience is designed to address the needs of graduate working students. Hence modules are taught consecutively, rather than concurrently, to enable students to focus, in depth, on one subject at a time. Teaching for each module is spread across nine weeks. The table below roughly sets out the teaching and learning structure for each module:

Module Structure

Commercial Law

Week 1	2 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	4 hours by OB*
End week 1	1 x 1-hour <u>online discussion forum</u> at the end of the first week to address any study issues or subject concerns arising from the first week of lecture delivery	1 hour by HKMA with initial support from OB
Week 2	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
Week 3	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
End week 3	4 x 1hour intensive weekend seminars to correspond to each of the lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>)	4 hours by HKMA
Week 4	Coursework preparation week (to provide opportunity for students to check understanding with subject tutors)	
Week 5	2 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	4 hours by OB
Week 6	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB

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Week 7	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
End week 7	4 x 1hour intensive weekend seminars to correspond to each of the lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>)	4 hours by HKMA
End Week 8/9	Coursework submission	By HKMA
		25 hours

*Some lectures may be delivered by HKMA academic staff to cover HK specific legal content where appropriate.

Company Law / Business Associations

Week 1	2 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	4 hours by OB*
End week 1	1 x 1-hour <u>online discussion forum</u> at the end of the first week to address any study issues or subject concerns arising from the first week of lecture delivery	1 hour by HKMA with initial support from OB
Week 2	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
Week 3	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
End week 3	4 x 1-hour intensive weekend seminars to correspond to each of the lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>)	4 hours by HKMA
Week 4	Students prepare formative or summative assessment for submission end week 4/beginning week 5 - format to be decided	
Week 5	<u>Students assignments are marked online where appropriate (by local tutors)</u> and feedback provided to the students.	(HKMA) Moderation by OB
Week	2 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at	4 hours

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5	the beginning of the week	by OB
Week 6	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
Week 7	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
End week 7	4 x 1-hour intensive weekend seminars to correspond to each of the lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>) Feedback on assignment provided to students	4 hours by HKMA
Week 8	Online revision lecture made available to students	2 hours by OB
End Week 8/9	Module examination	By HKMA
		27 hours

*Some lectures may be delivered by HKMA academic staff to cover HK specific legal content where appropriate.

Civil and Criminal Procedure

Week 1	2 x 1-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by HKMA
End week 1	1 x 2-hour <u>online discussion forum</u> at the end of the first week to address any study issues or subject concerns arising from the first week of lecture delivery	2 hours by HKMA with initial support from OB
Week 2	2 x 1-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by HKMA
Week 3	2 x 1-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by HKMA
End week 3	Intensive weekend taught over 2 days (6 hours per day split into 3 x 2-hour workshops on each day, to correspond to each of the 2 lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>)	12 hours by HKMA

Week 4	Students prepare formative assessment for submission week 5, format to be decided	
Week 5	<u>Students assignments are marked online where appropriate (by local tutors)</u> and feedback provided to the students.	(HKMA) Moderation by OB
Week 5	2 x 1-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by HKMA
Week 6	2 x 1-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by HKMA
Week 7	2 x 1-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by HKMA
End week 7	Intensive weekend taught over 2 days (6 hours per day split into 3 x 2 hour workshops on each day, to correspond to each of the 2 lectures taught in weeks 5-7, <u>taught by local tutors</u>) Feedback on assignment provided to students	12 hours by HKMA
Week 8	Online revision lecture made available to students	1 hours by HKMA
Week 8	HKMA available for revision	HKMA
End Week 8/9	Module examination	By HKMA Moderation by OB
		39 hours

Evidence

Week 1	2 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	4 hours by OB*
End week 1	1 x 1-hour <u>online discussion forum</u> at the end of the first week to address any study issues or subject concerns arising from the first week of lecture delivery	1 hour by HKMA with initial support from OB
Week 2	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB

Week 3	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
End week 3	4 x 1-hour intensive weekend seminars to correspond to each of the lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>)	4 hours by HKMA
Week 4	Coursework preparation week (to provide opportunity for students to check understanding with subject tutors)	
Week 5	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
Week 6	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
Week 7	1 x 2-hour <u>online lecture</u> will be made available to students at the beginning of the week	2 hours by OB
End week 7	3 x 1-hour intensive weekend seminars to correspond to each of the lectures taught in weeks 1-3, <u>taught by local tutors</u>)	3 hours by HKMA
Week 8	Coursework submission Online revision lecture made available to students	2 hours by OB
Week 8	HKMA available for revision	HKMA
End Week 8/9	Module examination	By HKMA
		26 hours

*Some lectures will be delivered by HKMA academic staff to cover HK specific legal content where appropriate.

Lectures are delivered online through narrated PowerPoint. This ensures that the students have access to the lectures at a time best suited to them, are able to repeat sections of the lecture for understanding, and also act as a useful revision aid. The lectures cover both English and Hong Kong Law, hence the lectures are delivered by a combination of Oxford Brookes lecturers who lecture on the home LLB programme and HKMA lecturers with subject expertise.

The significant majority of study time is spent in independent study. Hence opportunities are included for student interaction with tutors to address any study concerns. The programme ensures that students have significant face-to-face contact. At the end of week one, students take part in an hour online

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discussion forum with a subject tutor. Students attend intensive weekends for face-to-face tuition by local subject specialists twice per module. Each weekend consists of seminars which correspond to the lectures delivered in the preceding weeks. Additionally students are placed in study groups to enable online discussion of understanding, ideas, to share learning materials, and so on. This will provide a further opportunity for students to articulate and enhance their understanding.

Students prepare for formative or summative coursework during week 4. This provides opportunity for students to receive feedback on their work which feeds forward into the end of module assessment in week 9.

Oxford Brookes School of Law has recently undertaken an assessment strategy which ensures that each Law programme reflects the Oxford Brookes Assessment Compact at programme and individual module level. Hence assessment is designed at programme level both to ensure the development of key skills at an early stage and to further develop those skills throughout the programme. The development of core skills is essential to successful completion of the LLB Law programme and the preceding GDL programme. The programme team expects that students will have gained core legal study skills in the preceding GDL programme (including case analysis, legal problem solving and legal research).

Each module on the programme includes a coursework preparation week in week 4. This follows the first intensive period of teaching on each module and provides an opportunity for students to prepare formative or summative coursework to ensure understanding of key aspects of the module and to receive feedback on that work prior to the end of module assessment. The coursework is structured to include a variety of essay and hypothetical problems in order to provide students with the opportunity to further practice their legal writing and to receive feedback on their work prior to formal examinations.

The Hong Kong Education Bureau and the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) require that the assessment modes on collaborative provision modules are the same as for those offered by the partner institution. Hence students will submit summative coursework in Commercial Law (100%), Company Law / Business Associations (20%) and Evidence (40%). Students will submit formative coursework for Civil and Criminal Procedure which is assessed through two examinations (50% each). The formative and summative courseworks include a variety of essay and hypothetical problems in order to provide students with the opportunity to further practice their legal writing and to receive feedback on their work prior to formal examinations.

The spread of examinations, together with strategically situated coursework, ensures that students are aware of the standard at which they are working from an early stage. This enables students to seek tutor support if they wish to improve grades and hence every student has the opportunity to perform at their maximum potential.

All written assessments on each programme are marked anonymously. HKMA offers support to students with specific learning difficulties and other disabilities. Programme handbooks, the Programme Manager, and academic advisers will provide information to students about the available support to those who require this. Students are able to receive appropriate support, including special examination arrangements and extended coursework deadlines where required and on production of medical evidence. Assignment tasks are checked by each module team and by external examiners to ensure that assignments are inclusive. For example, an inclusive range of names is used in legal hypothetical problem questions. Learning materials are provided in a range of formats, including PowerPoint, pdf and word handouts on Moodle.

SECTION 6: ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAMME

6.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Academic requirements:
Graduate Diploma in Law

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Students from the HKMA and the University GDL programmes are admitted on to the LLB Law programme under the Admission with Advanced Standing regulations, A2.5.3 (at: <https://www.brookes.ac.uk/regulations/current/core/a2/a2-5/>). An exception is made to the requirement that students admitted with advanced standing may transfer a maximum of two-thirds credit through accredited prior learning. Students from these two programmes are required to study 75 credits on the LLB Law programme.

6.2 DBS AND OTHER PRE-COURSE CHECKS REQUIRED

Not applicable.

SECTION 7: PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

As set out at Section 2 and Section 4.3, the programme, together with the preceding GDL, is designed to meet the academic stage requirements for admission to legal professional training in Hong Kong, with the exception of competence which is required to be demonstrated in the additional Hong Kong Legal Subjects of HK Legal System, Land Law and Constitutional Law.

Additionally, students are taught by legal professional tutors in Hong Kong who will be able to give responses to queries about a career in law. HKMA will also arrange seminars and talks by legal professionals to discuss legal careers.