Postgraduate law at HKU

Corporate & Financial Law

Compliance & Regulation

Agenda

• Programme highlights & composition
  – CFL & CR
  – Understanding the course selection process
• Applying to study law at HKU
  – Preparing your application
• Our expectations of postgraduate students
• Studying law at HKU
• Questions ….?

Today’s briefing

• Number of registrations — 350
• Mainly local part–time applicants
  – Many backgrounds from the commercial & official sectors
  – Law firms, in–house practitioners, compliance professionals, bankers, investors, HKSAR government, current students …
• Only a minority have studied academic law
  – CFL & CR offer optional introductory courses on core law principles, legal practices & study

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Masters in Corporate & Financial Law

CFL programme composition

- Finance orientation
  - International & comparative law & regulation of securities, banking, & financial derivatives
  - Current issues in Hong Kong law & regulation
- Corporate law orientation
  - Governance, practice & regulation
- Mainland China orientation
  - Finance, corporate governance, trade & investment law & practice

CFL curriculum choices

- Select CFL courses according to academic or professional interests
- “Pure finance” courses usually require prior knowledge of contract & commercial law
  - Or relevant & current professional insight
- Some local & many non–HK students prefer “traditional” common law courses
- Advanced standing given only rarely, for success in similar programmes

CFL programme requirements

- 72 course credits, equivalent to eight courses
- Law of International Finance 1 (compulsory)
- One (or more) of three courses
  - Comparative Corporate Law & Theories
  - PRC Company Law & Securities Regulation
  - Regulation of Financial Markets
- At least four CFL electives
  - Choice of 35 include sovereign debt, aviation law, contract theory & drafting, project finance …
- At least one ‘capstone’ (of four) or a dissertation
why the CR programme

established 2016

- changes in the landscape
- law depts, CEOs and compliance
- responding to needs in the industry
- growing body of case law and literature

different foci to CFL

- laws and regs
- rationale for regulatory development
- international cf. local
- responses to drivers
- future directions

why the CR programme

academic staff
industry/adjunct lecturers and speakers
events, public lectures, AIIFL.com
contacts & networking

your commitment

72 credits required

= 8 courses x 9 credits per course

typical:

PT (2 years) = 2 courses x 3hr = 6 teaching hours/week
= 2 courses per semester, 2 semester/year

FT (1 year) = 4 x 3 hr = 12 teaching hours per week
= 4 courses per semester, 2 semester/year
selecting courses

- content
  - interest
  - utility
  - expanding the horizon
  - look at programme as a whole - LLM(CR) structure

- class sizes and teaching method
  - quotas
  - interaction, lecture format
  - what gets graded

- do your course research

structured programme

- compulsory
  - 2 courses

- core CR
  - ≥ 2 courses

- specialized topics
  - ≥ 1 course

- capstone
  - ≥ 1 course

- other LLM courses
  - 0 to 2 courses

course selection guideline

For 2018-2019, see (check for updates):

selecting courses

- regular semesters
  - semester 1 – Jan – May
  - semester 2 – Sep – Dec
  - January and June semesters

- offered courses
  - first check what’s available
  - new courses being added
  - dissertations

- planning your progression
  - prerequisites
  - sample problems

- add/drop period

APPLYING TO STUDY LAW AT HKU
Applications

- What to consider in preparation
- Key elements
  - Academic qualifications & transcripts
  - Professional history & other relevant interests
  - Personal statement, up to 500 words
  - Referees, at least one university lecturer who knows your academic work
  - Course preferences
  - English competence

Our expectations

- Academic excellence
- Substantive experience
- Reasoned analysis & argument
- Intellectual curiosity
- Commitment to study
- Since these are not vocational programmes

application process

details are on the law faculty website

check your application carefully
- attachments
- don't plagiarize
- references
- personal statement

competitive process

make the deadline
- 12:00nn (HKT), 28 February 2018

2018–19 total enrolment

2018–19 qualified applications

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Studying at HKU

• What to expect of HKU’s law faculty
• Orientation
• Lectures & study time
• Library & online resources
• Your fellow students
• Faculty events
  – Many conferences & seminars through the year
  – Distinguished academics, jurists & practitioners
• Networking opportunities, student panels

LLM Corporate & Financial Law
LLM Compliance & Regulation

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Application Deadline
12:00nn (HKT), 28 February 2018