

*'at its core, education is about active engagement of students with inherited knowledge, with new research, and with more senior academic guides and mentors. Of course, education is also about preparing students for life in the wider world, for careers, and for making a contribution to the community.'* (Prof Stephen Toope, [The future of UK universities](#))

This project, entitled 'Developing students' collaborative skills – micro-modules', is an important building block in the creation of a collaborative, inquiry based learning model that encourages students to engage actively with knowledge, and develop themselves as critical, creative and caring thinkers through constructive discourse with their peers in the learning process.

With the project funding, the team was able to produce five micro-modules for undergraduate law students to learn how to work in collaborative groups; how to frame their research questions through purposeful discussions with team members; what to expect in terms of group dynamics; and the importance of collaboration in professional practice. Interviews with recent CUHK Law alumni were conducted between Sept 2018 – Nov 2018 to help us and students understand the importance of collaboration to legal practitioners. The preliminary findings were presented at CUHK Learning Expo 2018.

These five micro-modules were incorporated into the project leader's Issues in Property Law Course (IPL) in Term 2 2018/19 in which 26 students are enrolled. The IPL course is transformative in two ways 1) it has changed the traditional information transmission model to a student centered active inquiry model, where students have to work in collaborative groups or independently for 70% of their course time; 2) it truly supports peer learning by pairing postgraduate research students – facilitators – with the undergraduate students in collaboration sessions. By doing so, the undergraduate students may learn research skills and build brother/sister bonds with their seniors and the facilitators are given the opportunities to develop their own pedagogical skills.

Since the course is still in progress as this project ends, the project team has not yet able to collect and evaluate the students' perceptions. The project team will publicize the results after the completion of this course in the form of blog posts and articles, and/ or presentations at seminars and conferences. There several ways to stay in touch with the project team: you are welcome to subscribe to our –

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Facebook page(<https://www.facebook.com/learning.cuhklaw>);

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([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJbv\\_UaqBJW13GJKn6iDG0A](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJbv_UaqBJW13GJKn6iDG0A)); and

LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/learningcuhklaw>) where we have constant updates on blog posts and teaching and learning events, you may find the micro-modules produced on our blog site and youtube channel.