

Subject Description Form

Subject Code	BRE435
Subject Title	Design, Adaptation and Conversion
Credit Value	3
Level	4
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	BRE391
Objectives	To equip students with the skills necessary to undertake the conversion to existing buildings.
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify problems and constraints in the course of design for conversion and adaptation work. 2. Apply the knowledge and techniques to extend the useful life and economic return of Hong Kong buildings by means of conversion and adaptation. 3. Understand the concepts of economic and physical obsolescence for buildings for evaluation of their impacts on process of conversion work. 4. Comply with the local statutory requirements in the course of adaptation and conversion to existing buildings. 5. Use the project management and contract administration techniques for conversion and adaptation practice.
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The design and structural considerations and implications that affect the conversion, improvement and adaptation work on existing buildings in relation to users requirements. 2. The physical and economical considerations that determine the viability and feasibility of conversion or adaptation of existing buildings. 3. Relevant legislation controlling the conversion and adaptation work of existing buildings including those of architectural and historical nature. 4. The special considerations of planning the project management and contract administration for conversion and adaptation work. 5. Special considerations for the conversion and adaptation work of buildings of architectural and historical interest.
Teaching/Learning Methodology	The subject involves both theoretical and practical approaches in local context relating to project work and tutorial assignments, such as lectures, seminars, case studies, site visits, criticism of presentations and projects by peer groups and practicing professionals and etc. Some of them will be delivered by prominent professional practitioners.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>The focus of assessment is on the practical skills associated with solving the problems of adapting buildings by integrating the key learning outcomes and will therefore use case studies. The subject will be assessed by 2 pieces of coursework including project work and tutorial assignments. One will be on project basis (70% of coursework) and the other will be on written assignment (30% of coursework).</p>																																																					
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="7">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>a</th> <th>b</th> <th>c</th> <th>d</th> <th>e</th> <th>f</th> <th>g</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Project work</td> <td>35</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Continuous assessment</td> <td>15</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td></td> <td>√</td> <td></td> <td>√</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Examination</td> <td>50</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>√</td> <td></td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> <td>√</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100 %</td> <td colspan="7"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)							a	b	c	d	e	f	g	1. Project work	35	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	2. Continuous assessment	15	√	√	√		√		√	3. Examination	50			√		√	√	√	Total	100 %								
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	<p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p>(a) Appropriate report structure. (b) Participation and contribution. (c) Relevant focus and depth. (d) Analysis, synthesis and technical competence of design and construction. (e) Logic of explanation. (f) Relevance and clarity of sketches and drawings. (g) Communication skills</p>																																																					
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Reading List and References	<p>Hong Kong Government, <i>Building (Planning) Regulations, latest Edition</i>, Government Printer.</p> <p>Catt, R. & Catt, S. (1981) <i>Conversion, Improvement and Extension of Buildings</i>, London: Estate Gazette.</p> <p>Markus, Thomas A, (1979), <i>Building Conversion and Rehabilitation: Designing for Change in Building Use</i>, London: Butterworths.</p> <p>Highfield, David (1987), <i>Rehabilitation and Re-use of Old Buildings</i>, Spon.</p> <p>Cantacuzino, Sherban, (1975), <i>New Uses for Old Buildings</i>, Architectural Press.</p>																																																					