

Justice Centre Hong Kong

Lawyer for a Day: Mock Trial Experience 2023 - Information Sheet

ABOUT

Justice Centre Hong Kong is a local non-political, non-profit organisation that has been providing legal and psychosocial support to refugees, asylum seekers and other forced migrants in the Hong Kong SAR for 15 years.

Our vision is an inclusive Hong Kong where all displaced people live with legal rights and dignity.

Together with lawyers from prominent law firms we assist different groups of forced migrants including:

Refugees

Asylum
Seekers

Survivors
of Torture

For more details of our work, please see [our website](#).

MOCK TRIAL EXPERIENCE

Today's curious and ambitious minds are tomorrow's lawyers providing legal representation to those forced to flee their homes. Justice Centre has been delivering clinical legal education programmes to university and school students since 2009.

In our Mock Trial Experience students receive professional training and support from internationally qualified lawyers and law students from local universities as they prepare for a mock trial — a simulation of the Torture Claims Appeal Board. Students will be 'judged' by an esteemed panel of experts in asylum law in Hong Kong.

“Justice Centre's Mock Trial helped me immensely in laying the building blocks for a potential future in law, asylum law and fighting for the rights of refugees.”

----- Evelyn, Expert Witness participant, Mock Trial 2021

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Mock Trial is to:

- Introduce students to the legal system and practice of law in Hong Kong through hands-on experience in reviewing legal documents and formulating legal arguments
- Broaden high school students' exposure to international refugee law with an opportunity to work with experienced practitioners
- Develop students' debate and public speaking skills as well as their legal writing and critical thinking skills
- Raise awareness of issues facing forced migrants such as refugees and asylum seekers in Hong Kong

PROGRAMME DETAILS

The Programme will run for two full days:

Day 1/ Training Workshop

3 April 2023 (Monday) | 10:00-17:00

Location: Linklaters, Central

The training will cover-

- International law and legal principles
- The legal basis of claiming asylum in Hong Kong
- Legal and country of origin research skills
- Credibility and use of expert evidence
- Trauma informed lawyering skills

Day 2/ Mock Trial

6 April 2023 (Thursday) | 10:00-17:00

Location: Linklaters, Central

Students will be assigned roles, and engage in trial-style advocacy, which replicates a hearing at the Torture Claims Appeal Board.

Certificates



Students will be awarded certificates in recognition of the completion of the Training Workshop and participation in the Mock Trial.



www.justicentre.org.hk



<https://twitter.com/justicecentrehk>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/Justice-Centre-Hong-Kong>



www.facebook.com/JusticeCentreHongKong/



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ROLES

Students will be assigned a role for the mock trial:

● Lawyers

- Students will act as lawyers, representing either the Immigration Department or an asylum seeker. They will prepare questions for the asylum seeker and expert witnesses. They will participate in advocacy – eliciting evidence in-chief, undertaking cross examination/ re-examination, and delivering closing arguments.

● Experts

- Students will act as medical or country experts. They will undertake research to better understand their roles and areas of expertise. They will give evidence and be subject to questioning by lawyers and the adjudicators.

Roles will be assigned upon the acceptance of students' applications.

ELIGIBILITY

The Mock Trial Experience is open to secondary students based in Hong Kong, currently in Form 4 / Grade 10 / Year 11 or above. It is aimed at those interested in a career in law, refugee protection, politics, or public policy. Students are not required to have prior public speaking, mooting or advocacy experience. However, as places are limited there is a selection process that will review the motivation and eligibility of each applicant.

PARTICIPATION FEES

The fee for this training is HKD \$4000 per student. Payment details will be provided once students' places have been confirmed.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Interested students should make individual applications by sending the completed application form to events@iusticecentre.org.hk.

KEY DATES

17 FEBRUARY	Applications open
13 MARCH	Deadline to submit applications
20 MARCH	Successful applicants notified
31 MARCH	Fees due
3 APRIL	Training Workshop
6 APRIL	Mock Trial

For further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us via email: events@justicecentre.org.hk.