ARACS
EXCELLENCE IN TRAINING

THE ACADEMY OF EXPERTS

ESSENTIAL TRAINING

EXPERT WITNESS TRAINING FOR HONG KONG & ASIA PACIFIC

academyofexperts.org

OUR TRAINING

"We are committed to delivering specialist training programmes that equip professionals with the confidence and clarity required to act effectively as expert witnesses. Our courses are designed and delivered by experienced practitioners, ensuring practical insight and real-world application.

Founded by Michael Cohen, a highly respected figure in the expert witness world, we aim to continue his vision of raising standards and supporting experts through high-quality, practical training.

His legacy remains at the heart of everything we do."

Nicola Cohen CAE
Chief Executive
The Academy of Experts

COURSE PROGRAMME

Our training courses, provided in partnership with ARACS, are split into two types:

- **Fundamental Training** which is suitable for Experts of all levels of experience and training
- **Advanced Courses** which require prior training and experience as an Expert Witness.

If you are a member of a 'supporting organisation' please use the code you have been given to access your special discount – alternatively email us to find out what rates are available to you at **reservations@academy-experts.org**.

Full details are available on our website **academyofexperts.org** – all courses are also available as in-house or bespoke courses.

TRAINING VENUE

Courses take place at the **Hong Kong Football Club** unless otherwise notified.

Unless otherwise shown courses start at 9.30am finishing at 5.00pm. Lunch and refreshments are provided.

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXPERT

The role of the Expert is becoming more sharply defined with the development of the new rules. This course satisfies the increasing need to know and keep 'up to date'.

- **Who and what is an Expert**
- **The role and duties of the Expert**
- **Instructions and their implications**
- **Terms of Engagement**
- **Fact Finding, early evaluation and pre-trial advice**
- **Code of Practice for Experts**
- **The Expert Report**
- **The Meeting of Experts – procedures and problems**
- **The Expert Witness tomorrow**
- **First Steps into Court**

24th March 2026

MEMBER – HK$2,750

NON-MEMBER – HK$3,650

SUPPORTING ORG – HK$2,920

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course has been designed for those wishing to become Experts and is also a valuable 'refresher' for the experienced Expert.

THE EXPERT'S REPORT

The Expert's Report is your most important piece of evidence – it may be your only evidence.

Your report needs to reflect your independence and impartiality.

- **What the Expert needs to know and do prior to writing the Report**
- **What Counsel expects from the Expert's Report**
- **What your instructing solicitor fears about Expert's Reports**
- **Errors and traps in the use of plain English**
- **Evaluating Experts' Reports**
- **Introduction to The Judicial Committee's Model Form of Expert Report**

25th March 2026

MEMBER – HK$2,750

NON-MEMBER – HK$3,650

SUPPORTING ORG – HK$2,920

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course has been designed for those wishing to become Experts and is also a valuable 'refresher' for the experienced Expert.

GOING INTO COURT

As an Expert you will be judged on the quality of your evidence – not just the quality of your opinion. The courtroom can be a challenging and confrontational environment. If you are called to give evidence in the Witness Box you need to be confident of your courtroom skills.

As well as technical accuracy you must take into account:

- **How and when to prepare for court or arbitration**
- **Giving evidence**
- **Roles, duties and conflicts**
- **How to make the best of any situation**
- **Lawyers' techniques and how to handle them**
- **How to introduce yourself and your expertise**
- **How to survive cross-examination**
- **Practical sessions and feedback**

26th March 2026

MEMBER – HK$3,150

NON-MEMBER – HK$4,200

SUPPORTING ORG – HK$3,360

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This course gives you the knowledge and experience of being in court.

You will have the opportunity to be cross-examined by a practising Barrister in a relaxed environment with a chance to learn from and to correct your mistakes, and to improve your technique before you go into the box.

Suitable as an introduction to the art of success and survival in court and also a valuable 'refresher' for the experienced Expert.

EXPERT PRESENTATIONS IN ARBITRATION

Presenting effectively is a vital skill for any Expert, particularly in arbitration where much of the evidence is delivered through oral and visual presentation. This intensive one-day course is designed to build confidence, clarity, and impact in how you present your evidence and opinions.

The training will cover best practices for structuring and delivering clear, persuasive presentations, with a focus on arbitration proceedings but also applicable to court and other professional settings. Delegates will learn how to communicate complex material with authority, respond effectively to tribunal and counsel questions, and make appropriate use of visual aids.

TBC
MEMBER – HK$3,150
NON-MEMBER – HK$4,200
SUPPORTING ORG – HK$3,360

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- **Understanding the role of the Expert's presentation**
- **What a tribunal does and does not want to see**
- **Structuring your presentation**
- **Communicating complex issues clearly and concisely**
- **Using slides and visual aids effectively**
- **Voice, tone, and body language for maximum impact**
- **Handling questions**
- **Managing nerves and maintaining authority**
- **Time keeping**
- **Handling the other side's case**
- **When are presentations appropriate?**

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This course is suitable for Experts across all disciplines who are required to present their evidence, particularly those working in arbitration and other tribunal settings. It will benefit both those new to giving formal presentations and experienced Experts wishing to refine their style.

EXPERT TESTIMONY IN RATINGS AND VALUATIONS CASES

This 2 course equips delegates with knowledge and skills for preparing and presenting Ratings and Valuation cases in Hong Kong's Lands Tribunal and High Court, including expert testimony

The course starts with an exploration of the Role & Responsibilities of the Expert, detailing the definition, qualifications, types, and primary uses of experts. The course emphasises understanding the legal requirements and guidelines practitioners must adhere to.

A significant portion of the course is committed to the crucial aspect of Conference with Counsel, encompassing objectives, preparation techniques, and the intricacies of effective collaboration with legal counsel. The Meeting of Experts segment delves into its objectives, preparation, guidelines, and the importance of memorandums in these meetings.

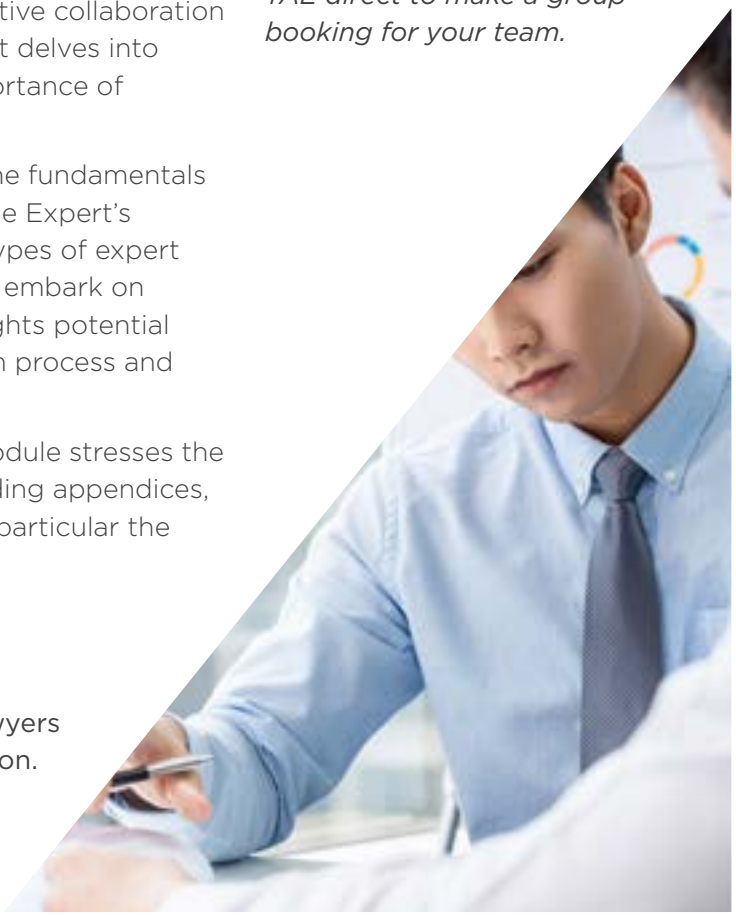
The section on The Giving of Evidence describes the fundamentals of evidence and offers a thorough breakdown of the Expert's Report. Participants will learn about the different types of expert reports, their readership, and the essential steps to embark on before initiating the report. This section also highlights potential pitfalls and challenges faced during the preparation process and offers solutions to handle them effectively.

The Aims and Features of the Evidential Report module stresses the significance of brevity, layout considerations, including appendices, typeface, margins, spacing, and pagination, and in particular the requirements of the Rule 20 Report.

March 2026
2 Day Course

CONTACT US FOR PRICING

This specialist course is primarily designed for teams training – please contact TAE direct to make a group booking for your team.



PRACTICAL SESSIONS

Practical Sessions offer real-world advice from lawyers on presenting cases and handling cross-examination. Overall, the course prepares delegates for professional excellence inthis field.

IN-HOUSE TRAINING FOR YOUR TEAM

All of our courses are available for your team as in-house training.

Offering a more flexible alternative to a public course we are able to offer bespoke training services to enable you to receive training that matches your exact needs.

From a private session of our public courses to a unique course we are able to match your requirements.

CORPORATE ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME

For larger firms we offer a special series of courses designed to aid staff development and make your team stand out.

Our in-house training programme runs in parallel to our public training course programme. It provides both primary and ongoing training for staff of medium to large size companies.

The programme is designed to be appropriate for staff:

- **Acting as Expert Witnesses**
- **Working in a supporting role to the 'Experts'**

BENEFITS INCLUDE

- **Standards** – Demonstrate to your clients and prospective clients that work is undertaken by Experts who have all been externally trained and accredited to a global standard.
- **Compliance** – Demonstrate to the judiciary and the legal professions that your team understands and complies with legal and ethical standards.
- **Professionalism** – Enable individual Experts to demonstrate to their own primary professional body that they have complied with all appropriate external standards.

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TUTORS

All of the Academy's courses are conducted under the supervision of a team of experienced Academy tutors. Their disciplines are very different and this is one of the strengths of this successful team.

We have a large selection of tutors to draw on from a variety of disciplines - some of the Academy's team are:

DOMINIC STANTON

Course Director

Dominic Stanton has many years of experience working with Expert Witnesses and organising and coordinating training courses in the public and private sector both in the UK and overseas.

He has extensive experience liaising with the public sector in addition to his training role sitting on a number of Ministry of Justice liaison committees.

He is a former Board member and Trustee of the Civil Mediation Council and Past Chairman of the National Mediation Providers Association.

KAY CHAN

Barrister

Kay graduated from City University of Hong Kong School of Law and was on the Dean's List. Shortlisted as a one of the finalists for the IBA Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year Award in 2018, Kay was later elected as a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers in 2020.

Kay is a Collaborative Professional and conducts mediation as mediator and counsel. Having built a very balanced practice in both Civil and Criminal law, Kay specialises in handling complex multidisciplinary cases often involving cross-border commercial and family relationships.

Kay frequently provides advocacy training as a trainer of the Hong Kong Advocacy Training Council and teaches part-time as a part-time lecturer at The University of Hong Kong. Kay has also delivered different types of training courses to different government departments and non-governmental organisations.

ENZO CHOW

Barrister

Enzo Chow worked as a Government Counsel for 5 years and left the Department of Justice in 2006 to join Anthony Rogers Chambers.

His current major areas of practice include land disputes (including adverse possession and easement), domestic relationship (family) related trust and property disputes, divorce and children related disputes, probate and succession disputes as well as mental health cases. He also on occasions acts as prosecutor in disciplinary proceedings in the relevant disciplinary tribunal(s)/board(s) against veterinary surgeons in private practice and public officers of the HKSAR Government.

He is a regular CPD course speaker on various topics, including family law, succession law and mental health law.

JOHN COCK

DipArb, BArch, BAppSc (BltEnv), GradDipIndDesign, FCIArb, FHKIA, FRAIA, FDIA, MAPM, MIAMA, MAE

John Cock is an architect, designer and project manager, with over 40 years' experience across Asia and Australia. He advises employers, consultants, contractors and their legal advisers in expert evidence in arbitration and court proceedings in matters relating to building defects, design and architectural professional practice and project delivery.

A Chartered Arbitrator, Accredited Mediator, Accredited Adjudicator and Accredited Expert Determiner, he also acts as a third party resolver of commercial and construction disputes.

JULIAN COHEN

Barrister (England & Wales 1990, HK 2010), Arbitrator & Mediator

Julian Cohen has over 30 years' specialist and heavyweight experience of Commercial Disputes and Arbitrations with a focus on the Construction and Engineering Sector.

He is ranked as one of the leading construction juniors at the Hong Kong Bar by Doyle's Guide, Legal 500 and Who's Who Legal. He is also ranked as a top arbitration practitioner by Who's Who Legal: China and Hong Kong. Who's Who Legal: China and Hong Kong, also ranks him in their commercial disputes section. Julian Cohen teaches and lectures internationally. He lectures and writes regularly both on construction and on arbitration law and practice.

THE ACADEMY OF EXPERTS

THE ACADEMY

Located in Gray's Inn, London, TAE was founded in 1987 with the objective of providing, for the first time, a professional body for experts to establish and promote high objective standards.

Although there is representation on the Academy's Council from the legal profession the majority of the officers, including the Chairman, are practising Experts - The Academy of Experts is run by Experts for Experts and those using them.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Academy offers a comprehensive range of training programmes to enable members to develop their expert skills, and undertake Continuous Professional Development activity. Courses range from basic Role and Responsibilities through to the requirements of Procedure Rules and the practice of Giving Evidence.

The Academy is also a training and accreditation body for ADR Neutrals, including Mediators, Conciliators and Expert Determiners.

It publishes and maintains The Register of Qualified Dispute Resolvers and awards the designatory letters QDR to those achieving the approved standard. Standards are enforced in exactly the same way as for experts.

THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

TAE's Judicial Committee is chaired by a former United Kingdom Supreme Court Judge and consists of Lords Justice of Appeal and other Senior Judges from the United Kingdom, Hong Kong and Singapore.

The Judicial Committee has been responsible for a number of important documents and guidance notes for experts.

The Judicial Committee's publications have included:

- **The Model Form of Expert's Report**
- **Guidance Notes on The Meetings of Experts**
- **Guidance Notes on Contingency Fees for Experts.**
- **Guidance on Remote Evidence**

ACCREDITATION

All applicants to The Academy who wish to become Accredited Practising Expert Witnesses undergo a rigorous vetting procedure to ensure standards of excellence are maintained.

This is the process which gives the officially recognised full accreditation as a Practising Expert. Those achieving it are awarded the designatory letters MAE.

Ethical and professional standards are underlined by Codes of Practice and enforced by a disciplinary committee.

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