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# Doctor of Laws [LLD]

- [University of Pretoria](#)
- [Study at UP](#)
- Doctor of Laws [LLD]

## Programme Code

04260003

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## Closing Dates

- **SA** - 31/05/2026
  - **Non-SA** - 31/05/2026
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## Admission Requirements

### General Admission Regulations:

Refer to the UP Institutional Admissions Policy as well as the General Academic Regulations and Student Rules (Go to <https://www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home> and click on General Rules and Regulations, then on General Academic Regulations and Student Rules)

1. All applications must be accompanied by the following documents:
    - a. Certified full academic transcripts from undergraduate to current level;
    - b. Certified copy of ID or passport;
    - c. A research concept note (not applicable to honours or coursework master's degrees): A description of the proposed research field indicating a research topic and the broad scope of the proposed study, not exceeding 500 words.
  2. All applicants with international qualifications must submit the following documents, subject to provision number 9:
    - a. A SAQA evaluation of the completed qualification or a comprehensive Foreign Qualification Report
    - b. \*TOEFL or IELTS or Pearson Test of English or Oxford Test of English test results (if applicable)
    - c. Certified copy of passport.
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3. All postgraduate applications are subject to departmental admissions processes.
4. Admissions is based on the content of and performance in the prior degree, bridging arrangements (where required), academic merit and prior work experience (if applicable).
5. Admission to all qualifications is subject to supervisory capacity and/or research projects in the field of specialisation in a department, therefore the relevant department has the right to limit the number of students per year.
6. Complying with the minimum admissions requirements, does not automatically guarantee admission to the degree.
7. Proposed research studies for masters and doctoral applicants should align with the research focus of the relevant department.
8. *If a qualifying candidate has expressed an interest in a field of study that the relevant department cannot accommodate, the applicant may be considered for an alternative project.*
9. All postgraduate applicants must be proficient in English as English is the official language of tuition, communication and correspondence at the University of Pretoria. Candidates who cannot provide evidence that previous studies were completed in English, must submit TOEFL or IELTS or Pearson Test of English or Oxford Test of English test results with their application.
10. All applicants must be computer literate.
11. All students need to have access to an internet enabled device, as well as consistent email and internet access.
12. Allowance will be made for the diversity profile of students in accordance with the University strategy.

### **Minimum admissions requirements:**

1. Relevant master's degree  
or  
Relevant degree from a foreign university that allows entrance to a doctoral degree (SAQA level 9)
2. An average of at least 65% for the research component at master's level  
or  
below 65% for the research component at master's level:
  - a. relevant work experience
  - b. other academic qualifications and
  - c. the merit of the research topic
3. A portfolio consisting of:
  - a. copy of the preceding master's research component
  - b. recent research-based essays or assignments
  - c. a letter of motivation

Note: An admissions examination may be required

## Minimum duration of study

2 years, full-time

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## Faculty Notes

The University of Pretoria's (UP) [Faculty of Law](#) has once again achieved the highest ranking in Africa and secured a remarkable 65th position globally in the 2024 Times Higher Education (THE) Subject Rankings, which were announced on 26 October 2023.

### **This is the seventh year that the Faculty of Law at UP leads the rankings on the continent.**

This prestigious recognition is a testament to the University's unwavering commitment to legal education and its success in cultivating a rigorous academic environment. UP's Faculty of Law is renowned for its comprehensive curriculum, distinguished faculty and its contribution to legal research, scholarship and advocacy. The University's leading position in this field underscores its vital role in promoting social justice, equity and legal literacy, setting a high standard for legal education globally.

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## Enquiries about the programme

[Click Here](#)

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## How to apply



# Online Application





Note: Also consult General Rules and Information on the Yearbook website for additional information.

Disclaimer: Due to the continuous restructuring of the Faculty and this website, some of the information displayed here may not fully reflect the most recent developments in the Faculty. Any discrepancies that are experienced may be taken up with Student Administration of the Faculty.