

# Law



## Dear prospective law student

If you are reading this, you are probably considering studying towards a career in law and justice. Are you fueled by a desire to help others and ready to make an impact on society?



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

## Faculty of Law

Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid  
Lefapha la Molao



## Checklist:

Do you have what it takes to become a successful law student and lawyer?

(Tick the appropriate box.)



### 1. Motivation

I am:

- Committed to a successful, honourable career in law and justice.
- Passionate about law and my decision to pursue a career in law and justice is based on something concrete such as spending time in a law firm or court and taking a real interest in societal interests linked to law and justice instead of being misled by some spurious TV series.



### 3. Logical reasoning, persuasiveness and sound judgment

I have the ability to:

- Analyse and think critically, to follow a chain of logic to identify potential trouble areas in arguments and to spot weaknesses in the reasoning of others.
- Exercise sound judgment in deciding the best course of action to pursue.



### 2. Good listening and interpersonal skills, proficiency in languages, writing ability and literacy



I have the ability to:

- Persuade people to follow advice or convince them to negotiate a resolution.
- Read people and figure out the best approach.
- Adapt appropriate communication style.
- Communicate clearly and effectively in court, in writing, face-to-face or over the telephone.
- Manage and run a profitable practice.



### 4. Value honesty and integrity

- I am aware that lawyers are subject to a high degree of honesty, integrity and ethical behaviour. I possess intrinsic values such as work ethic, ethical conduct and integrity.



### 5. Adaptability, stamina, energy and resilience

- I am creative, determined, enthusiastic, energetic, and possess drive, emotional intelligence and perseverance.



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### 6. Digest and convert loads of information, scientific data and paperwork generated by cases

#### I have the ability to:

- Prepare strategies that require absorbing and comprehending large amounts of information and distilling that into something manageable, relevant, valid and useful.

### 7. Mental agility and reasonable, logical arguments, assumptions and conclusions

#### I have the ability to:

- Draw reasonable, logical conclusions and assumptions from limited information.
- Analyse complex facts, versions, stories, hearsay, information, testimonies, etc.
- Analyse complex facts to identify the most crucial issues.



### 8. Problem Solver-in-Chief

- I have the ability to not get overly emotional when facing problems and explore options.
- I usually view problems as challenges or life experiences and pro-actively and objectively address them.
- I am a good problem solver, using a combination of intuition and logic to create solutions and finding opportunities.

### 9. Time management

- I have the ability to prioritise tasks and manage time effectively.
- I realise that the legal profession is based on procedures and limitations with accompanying prescriptions.



### 10. Attention to detail

- I am an administrator of note and have an eye for detail.
- After all, I realise that lawyers do detail!



Look at our Faculty's checklist below and we are sure that you will agree that Tuks is the place to study law in South Africa. Criteria for an excellent faculty of law:

#### 1. Leading academics

- Who are housed in the Departments of Jurisprudence, Mercantile Law, Private Law, Procedural Law, Public Law and the Centre for Human Rights.
- Who publish articles and textbooks covering a range of topics in the legal field.
- Resulting in active partnerships and collaborations with a number of international universities and organisations.

#### 2. Specialised research centres and chairs

- **Centres for:** Advanced Corporate and Insolvency Law, Child Law [with representation on the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child], Extractive Industries Law in Africa, Human Rights, Intellectual Property Law, International and Comparative Law [with representation on the United Nations Human Rights Committee], Law and Medicine and Sports and Entertainment Law.
- **Law Clinic**
- **Chairs in:** Intellectual Property Law, Barclays Africa Banking Law in Africa, Education Law in Africa, International Development and African Economic Relations, International Constitutional Law and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

#### 3. Inquiry-led approach teaching

- Values and aims to develop and improve the research skills of our students.
- One of a few faculties in South Africa who prescribes a research essay for final-year LLB-students.

#### 4. Equips students with knowledge, skills and perspectives

- Produces highly sought-after graduates who display leadership and critical thinking abilities and are aware of their social and ethical responsibilities.
- Students are trained by experienced past mooters resulting in peer teaching and skills transfer.

#### 5. Best mooters on the African continent

- Law students of the Faculty's Moot Society excel in local and international moot court competitions and our teams regularly achieve top honours at these events.
- Students are trained by students resulting in peer teaching and skills transfer.

#### 6. Vibrant student life and active student bodies

- Students serve the University of Pretoria's student community through the Constitutional Tribunal and Student Disciplinary Advisory Panel. You may also join and/or serve on the management committees of Law House, Legal Shebeen, Moot Society, Pretoria Student Law Review and Students for Law and Social Justice.
- As a TuksLaw student, you will be part of a vibrant faculty, university and community.

#### 7. Social consciousness and practical legal training

- Boasts a Law Clinic, established in 1980 by law students, that ranks among the best in the country, which provides basic legal services to indigent members of society.
- Provides superior clinical legal education to final-year law students as a final-year elective.

#### 8. Acclaimed accredited legal journals and publications

- Such as De Jure, the Journal for Contemporary Roman-Dutch Law (THRHR), the African Human Rights Law Journal and the African Human Rights Law Reports.
- The Pretoria Student Law Review, which publishes articles by students, is funded and supported by the Faculty and managed by law students. Academic books and publications are also published in the Faculty by the Pretoria University Law Press (PULP).

#### 9. Modern and impressive facilities

- A Law Building, designed to reflect the transparency of the legal world – a modern and impressive feature on the Hatfield Campus of the University of Pretoria.
- The Law Building accommodates the well-equipped, and "law student only", Oliver R Tambo Law Library, which includes the unique Law of Africa Collection.
- To enhance learning, leisure and interaction, students have access to social learning spaces such as the TuksLaw Kiosk and two quads.

#### 10. Delivers top alumni and highly sought-after graduates

- Protecting legal rights, the Constitution and ensuring a just society for all.