



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Law

Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid
Lefapha la Molao

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?

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 conduct. I possess these intrinsic values.



5. Adaptability, stamina, energy and resilience

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

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, 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 within and solutions to problems.

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!

