

2026

Undergraduate Faculty Brochure



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Law

Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid
Lefapha la Molao

The closing date for programmes
in this Faculty is **30 June**.

Make today matter

www.up.ac.za

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Welcome to the University of Pretoria's Faculty of Law

The vision of the Faculty of Law (UP Law), in alignment with that of the University of Pretoria (UP), is to be a research-intensive faculty, recognised locally, across the African continent, and globally for its quality and impact, as well as for developing people, creating knowledge and adding real value to domestic and global communities. Key to the realisation of our vision is the recognition and purposeful exploitation of the power and value embedded in our demographic, cultural, social and legal diversity, as well as our geo-political location in South Africa, Africa and the world.

The Faculty's main aim is to strive for social justice in its broadest sense on all levels as it manifests in society: inequality, discrimination, injustice. Social justice is the leitmotiv of the Faculty.

We are part of a local/national community as well as the African continent and the world. This reality is reflected in our teaching and learning and, more particularly, in student access and successful learning. We aim to produce graduates with the knowledge and skills to contribute meaningfully to society and to lead change and reform in pursuit of social justice across the entire spectrum of the law: public and private/commercial.

Our teaching and learning is informed by our research and international profile, and global engagement, with our students benefiting from comparative and international insights, as well as being exposed to other legal systems through participation in

international partnerships, such as student exchanges. For staff, national and international research collaboration is imperative for research to be impactful and to contribute to a better world, addressing the most pressing issues of our time – climate change, inequality, gender-based violence, poverty, hunger, discrimination, etc.

This logically calls upon us to take transformation seriously within our Faculty and University and to contribute purposefully to the creation of a transformed, inclusive, and equitable university community. Social justice begins at home and our research in relevant areas, such as decolonisation and anti-discrimination, is crucial in advancing transformation. In addition, a transformed and continuously transforming curriculum equips and empowers our students to be leaders and reformers in society.

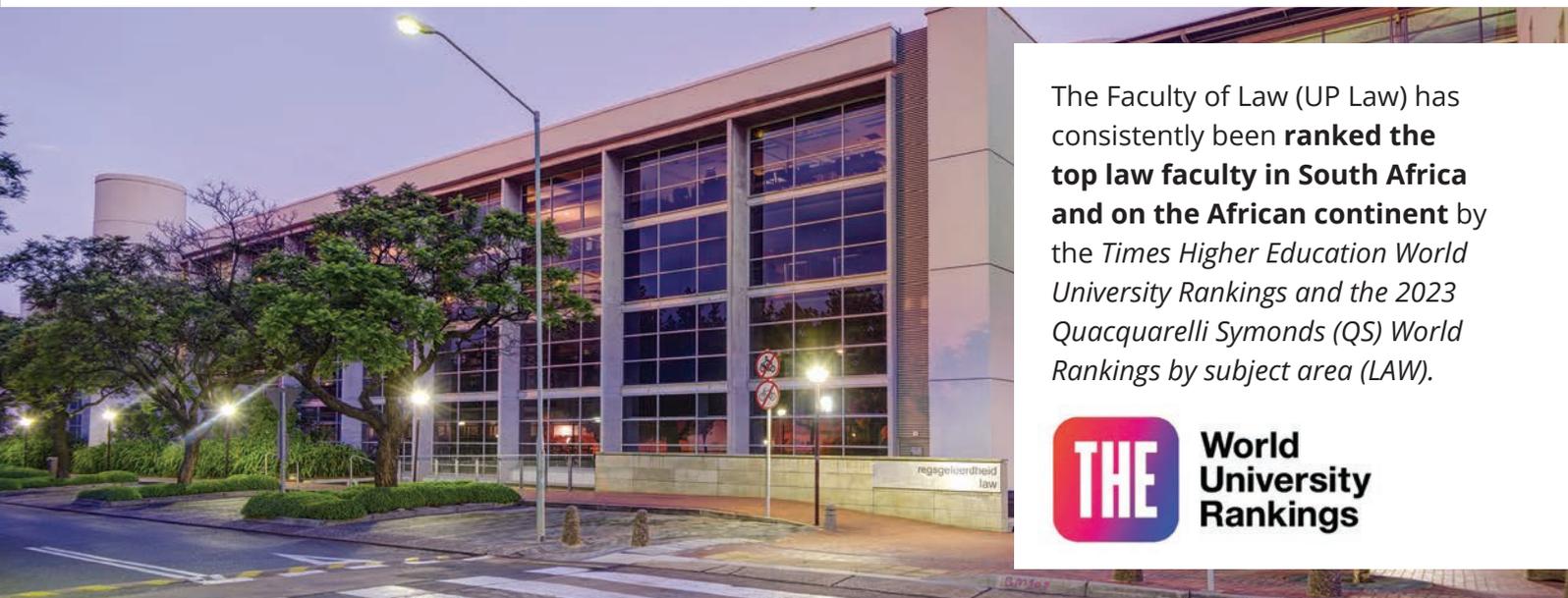
Social responsiveness and impact in society is key to the Faculty and this is embedded in our teaching and learning, and research, as well as internationalisation and global engagement. Under the overarching umbrella of social justice, the Faculty continues to intensify its engagement with society, informed by its research, to contribute at policy level, as well as more directly, by intervening in legal proceedings and actively participating in law reform initiatives.

A warm welcome to the number one Faculty of Law in Africa, and number 65 in the world!



Prof Elsabe Schoeman
Dean: Faculty of Law

CONTENT



The Faculty of Law (UP Law) has consistently been **ranked the top law faculty in South Africa and on the African continent** by the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* and the *2023 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World Rankings by subject area (LAW)*.



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Produced by the Department of Enrolment and Student Administration in December 2024.
Comments and queries may be directed to ssc@up.ac.za or tel: +27 (0)12 420 3111.

Disclaimer: This publication contains information about regulations, policies, tuition fees, curricula and programmes of the University of Pretoria applicable at the time of printing. Amendments to or updating of the information in this publication may be affected from time to time without prior notification. The accuracy, correctness or validity of the information contained in this publication is therefore not guaranteed by the University at any given time and is always subject to verification. The user is kindly requested to verify the correctness of the published information with the University at all times. Failure to do so will not give rise to any claim or action of any nature against the University by any party whatsoever.

FACULTY
WEBSITE:



POSTGRADUATE
WEBSITE:



BACHELOR OF LAWS [also referred to as LLB] ADMISSION REGULATIONS

General admission regulations that apply to all prospective students

- The admission requirements and general information provided in this Faculty brochure are applicable to students who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a National Senior Certificate (NSC) or an Independent Examination Board (IEB) qualification.
- The following persons will be considered for admission to a first bachelor's degree at the University of Pretoria:
 - Candidates who have a certificate that is deemed by the University to be equivalent to the required National Senior Certificate (NSC) with bachelor's degree endorsement;
 - Candidates who are graduates from another tertiary institution or have been granted the status of a graduate of such an institution; and
 - Candidates who are graduates of another faculty at the University of Pretoria.
- Grade 11 results are used for the conditional admission of prospective students, but final admission will depend on the NSC (or equivalent) qualification and results.
- Candidates must also comply with the specific subject and achievement level requirements and the minimum Admission Point Score (APS) for their chosen degree programmes.
- The APS calculation is done by using the NSC 1 to 7 scale of achievement. It is based on a candidate's achievement in six recognised 20-credit subjects. The highest APS that can be achieved is 42. Life Orientation is a 10-credit subject and is excluded from the calculation when determining the APS. The following subject rating scores are used for calculating the APS for NSC/IEB:

Admission Point Score (APS) Conversion

The following subject rating scores are used for calculating the APS for NSC/IEB:

| Rating code | Rating | Marks % |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------|
| 7 | Outstanding achievement | 80–100% |
| 6 | Meritorious achievement | 70–79% |
| 5 | Substantial achievement | 60–69% |
| 4 | Adequate achievement | 50–59% |
| 3 | Moderate achievement | 40–49% |
| 2 | Elementary achievement | 30–39% |
| 1 | Not achieved | 0–29% |

Example of calculation of Admission Point Score (APS) for law based on NSC/IEB qualifications

| School subject (example) | Report mark |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Afrikaans/SeTswana/IsiZulu | 5 |
| English | 6 |
| Mathematics | 6 |
| Physical Sciences | 6 |
| Life Sciences | 7 |
| Accounting | 5 |
| Life Orientation | Excluded |
| APS Total | 35 |

NSC – National Senior Certificate (completed Grade 12 in or after 2008)

IEB – Independent Examination Board

- Except in cases where modules or programmes require the use of a language other than English, all modules will be presented in English, which is the University's official language of tuition, communication and correspondence.
- Minimum requirements for admission to the relevant programmes are set out in the minimum admission requirements table in this brochure.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.
- Applicants with qualifications other than NSC and IEB should refer to the following publication:
 - The International Undergraduate Prospectus 2026: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi* (South Africa)*, available at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission information.
- School of Tomorrow (SOT), Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) and General Education Development (GED):** These qualifications are not accepted at the University of Pretoria.
- National Certificate (Vocational) (NCV) Level 4:** The University of Pretoria may consider NCV candidates, provided they meet the exemption for bachelor's status criteria and the programme requirements.



* **Umalusi** accredits South African private providers of education and training as well as private assessment bodies to offer tuition and/or assessment for qualification(s) on the General and Further Education and Training Qualifications Sub-Framework (GFETQSF). Contact Umalusi at info@umalusi.org.za or +27 (0)12 349 1510.

Note: Refer to the General Academic Regulations and Student Rules at www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home, click on 'General Rules and Regulations'.

APPLICATION AND CLOSING DATES:

- Applications open on 1 April. All study programmes at the University of Pretoria are number-limited. You are encouraged to submit your application as soon as possible after 1 April.
- The closing date for applications for all UP study programmes is 30 June. This excludes the programmes in the Faculty of Veterinary Science which close on 31 May.

APPLICATION STATUS:

- Apply with your final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.
- Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.
- Applicants can expect feedback by September at the latest.
- Please check your application status and communications regularly on the UP Student Portal at www1.up.ac.za.
- Final admission will be based on the applicant's final school-year NSC or equivalent results.

ARTICLE

Faculty of Law Student Life

The Faculty of Law has a strong student life, and students can take on a variety of leadership roles, such as sitting on subcommittees and becoming general members. Participating in societies offers UP Law students the opportunity to acquire many skills outside the lecture hall, preparing and propelling them to excel in various legal careers.

Law House serves as the Faculty's official student representation body, focusing on academics and playing a vital role in connecting students and academic staff. The society organises many kinds of activities for students, including outreach projects, fundraising, skills workshops, mentorship, and court excursions. Additionally, it promotes active participation in sports like basketball, hockey, netball, and rugby.

Other UP Law student societies include the Black Lawyers Association's student chapter, the Constitutional Tribunal, the Legal Shebeen, the UP Moot Society, the student chapter of the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (NADEL), Students for Law and Social Justice (SLSJ), the Student Disciplinary and Advisory Panel (SDAP), Women in Law, and the Pretoria Student Law Review (PSLR). These student societies organise activities that equip students with practical skills for success in the legal profession and help bridge the gap between theory and practice.

UP Law student societies collaborate closely with Faculty and other relevant university support services, such as Career Services, the Department of Student Affairs, the Division of Student Governance and Leadership, and TuksSport. This collaboration provides students with support and assistance, creating an environment in which they can thrive and succeed. UP Law societies provide a social community for students to meet, bond, and form long-lasting friendships.



BACHELOR OF LAWS ADMISSION REGULATIONS

Faculty-specific admission regulations

- Applicants who comply with the minimum admission requirements are conditionally admitted to the available places. The application process allows for diversity in admissions. With regard to first-year admissions, the Faculty strives to admit at least 50% designated (black African, Indian and Coloured) students. If the admission process leads to a situation in which fewer than 50% designated (black African, Indian and Coloured) students are admitted, the admissions should be adjusted to give preference to the most meritorious designated (black African, Indian and Coloured) candidates.
- If places are available, candidates who have graduated for another degree and can submit a certificate of satisfactory conduct, or completed the NSC (or equivalent qualification) and have an APS of 38 or higher and an achievement level of at least 6 in English may be conditionally admitted after the closing date, at the discretion of the Faculty's Admissions Committee.

Minimum admission requirements (2026)

| Degree programme | English Home Language or English First Additional Language | APS |
|---|--|-----|
| Bachelor of Laws [Also referred to as LLB] 04130012 | 6 (70-79%) | 35 |

Transferring students

Definition of a transferring student

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme at the University of Pretoria (UP)

- a) is a registered student at another tertiary institution; or
- b) was previously registered at another tertiary institution, but did not complete the programme enrolled for at that institution and is not currently enrolled at a tertiary institution; or
- c) has completed studies at another tertiary institution, but is not currently enrolled at a tertiary institution; or
- d) had started tertiary studies at UP, then moved to another tertiary institution and would like to be readmitted to UP.

Guidelines for transferring students' admission to degree programmes at UP

A transferring student will be considered for admission based on:

- a) submission of an NSC or equivalent qualification with admission to bachelor's or diploma studies (whichever is applicable); and
 - meeting the minimum faculty-specific requirements at NSC level; or
- b) having completed a degree and
 - meeting the minimum faculty-specific subject requirements at tertiary level; or
- c) having completed an HEQSF-registered (see <https://allqs.sqaq.org.za/search.php?cat=qual#>) Higher Certificate at a tertiary institution,
 - which will grant complete exemption; and
 - having passed each of the modules/subjects prescribed for the Higher Certificate with at least 60%,
 - with the faculty-specific subjects/modules passed being equivalent to the NSC subject requirements and/or
 - meeting the minimum faculty-specific subject requirements at tertiary level.

Note:

- Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission.
- Only a limited number of students will be admitted to each programme.
- Based on capacity, ranking according to academic performance may be implemented.

- d) Previous academic performance will be taken into account as per faculty regulation/promotion requirements.
- e) Require a certificate of good conduct.

Note:

- Students who have been dismissed from a previous institution due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.
- Admission of transferring students will always depend on the availability of spaces in the programme and the specific faculty.
- Students transferring from other universities must adhere to UP General Academic Regulations G.7-9 before a degree may be awarded by UP.

Closing date for applications from transferring students:

For all undergraduate non-selection programmes, online applications will be closed when admission targets have been met and in consultation with the relevant Dean.

Returning students

Definition of a returning student

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme

- a) is a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP, or
- b) was previously registered at UP and did not complete the programme enrolled for, and did not enrol at another tertiary institution in the meantime (including students who applied for leave of absence), or
- c) has completed studies at UP, but is not currently enrolled or was not enrolled at another tertiary institution after graduation.

Guidelines for admission of returning students to degree programmes at UP

A returning student will be considered for admission based on

- a) an NSC or equivalent qualification with admission to bachelor's or diploma studies (whichever is applicable); and meeting the minimum faculty-specific requirements at NSC level; or
- b) having completed a degree and
 - meeting the minimum faculty-specific subject requirements at tertiary level; or
- c) previous academic performance (should have a cumulative weighted average of at least 50% for the programme enrolled for).

Note:

- a) Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per the faculty specific requirements.
- b) Only ONE transfer between UP faculties will be allowed, and a maximum of two (2) transfers within a faculty.
- c) Admission of returning students will always depend on the availability of space in the programme and the respective faculty.

Closing date for applications from returning students:

Applications from returning students may be received until the end of June.

University of Pretoria website

www.up.ac.za/law

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Minimum admission requirements

- The closing date for applications for programmes in this faculty is 30 June.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.

University of Pretoria programme qualification verification

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.

| Programmes | Minimum requirements for NSC/IEB for 2026 | |
|---|---|-----|
| | Achievement level | APS |
| | English Home Language or English First Additional Language | |
| Bachelor of Laws [Also referred to as LLB] [4 years] | 6 | 35 |
| Candidates that fulfil the requirements for admission to this programme as set out in this brochure, will be considered. Candidates are urged to apply as early as possible from 1 April. Careers: Refer to the infographics in this brochure. | Queries relating to Bachelor of Laws applications can be directed to: Tel +27 (0)12 420 4265 Email lawadmin@up.ac.za | |
| Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law [Also referred to as BA (Law)] [3 years] | Queries relating to Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law applications can be directed to: Ms Ernika Monyeki (Faculty of Humanities) Tel +27 (0)12 420 5241 Email ernika.monyeki@up.ac.za | |
| Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law [Also referred to as BCom (Law)] [3 years] | Queries relating to Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law applications can be directed to: Ms Ronel Steenkamp (Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences) Tel +27 (0)12 420 3347 Email ronel.steenkamp@up.ac.za | |

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES



Bachelor of Laws

Bachelor of Laws (after completing Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law)

Bachelor of Laws (after completing Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law)

In 1998, the five-year LLB [currently referred to as Bachelor of Laws] degree was shortened to a four-year degree. However, it is evident that not all students can cope with the demands of the legal profession after four years of study. Therefore, it is generally recommended that UP Students first complete either the three-year Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law or the three-year Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law degree and then apply to the Bachelor of Laws degree, which will take another two to three years to complete. These students obtain two degrees in two different fields of study.



Law programmes in other faculties

Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences: Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

The purpose of this programme is to provide a broad formative education that can lead to various career options, specifically in the corporate world. This programme is a combination of Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws subjects. This programme aims to educate students as law practitioners with a broad academic background to provide an alternative route to the eventual attainment of a Bachelor of Laws degree.

Note: All first-year students take the compulsory fundamental modules in academic information management, jurisprudence and English.

Core modules (compulsory)

| 1st year | 2nd year | 3rd year |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial accounting ▪ Economics ▪ Business management ▪ Statistics ▪ Roman law ▪ Jurisprudence ▪ Law of persons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consumer protection ▪ Law of contract ▪ Law of succession ▪ Specific contracts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insolvency law ▪ Law of things ▪ Law of delict ▪ Entrepreneurial law ▪ Payment methods |

Elective modules

(Refer to the online Yearbook: www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home)

| 1st year | 2nd year | 3rd year |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business management ▪ Informatics ▪ Informatics (accounting software) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business management ▪ Economics ▪ Financial management ▪ Financial accounting ▪ Informatics ▪ Statistics ▪ Taxation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Business management ▪ Economics ▪ Financial management ▪ Financial accounting ▪ Statistics ▪ Taxation |

Please refer to the website www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home for the Yearbook of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences for more information on the Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law programme. The admission requirements for Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law are on the same web page.

Closing date for applications for Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

The closing date for applications for Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law is 30 June.

Faculty of Humanities: Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

This programme meets specific training needs that emerge from the demand for employees with specific legal knowledge, but who are also schooled in aspects of the social or human sciences. This multidisciplinary programme aims to train students as law practitioners with a broader academic background, to provide an alternative route to obtaining a Bachelor of Laws degree, to provide versatile training in both law and the social sciences or humanities, to improve students' insight into the extent, consequences and handling of national and global issues, and to academically equip students for a career in which research, decision-making and reporting on law-related matters are important requirements. This is a full-time programme, with specific modules offered after hours.

Core modules

Core modules are jurisprudence, Roman law, the law of persons, legal pluralism, legal interpretation, family law, public law, the law of succession, the law of contract and law of delict.

Elective modules

At first-year level, three Bachelor of Arts modules must be selected from the elective modules. At least one of these modules must be a language. Two Bachelor of Arts modules must be selected up to second-year level, of which at least one must be a language; and one Bachelor of Arts module must be selected up to third-year level.

Postgraduate studies

After completing a Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law degree, students may continue with a Bachelor of Laws degree or may register for an honour's degree in the core discipline they chose in the humanities.

Please refer to the website www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home for the Yearbook of the Faculty of Humanities for more information on the Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law programme. The admission requirements for Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law are on the same web page.

Closing date for applications for Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

The closing date for applications for Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law is 30 June.



Admission requirements for the Bachelor of Laws to gain access to the Faculty of Law

To gain access to the Faculty of Law, prospective students require the appropriate combinations of recognised National Senior Certificate (NSC) subjects, as well as specific levels of achievement in these subjects. A summary of the Faculty-specific requirements and the APS required for admission to the Bachelor of Laws is provided on **pages 1 to 4**.

COMPOSITION OF THE BACHELOR OF LAWS DEGREE



Exemption/credits for modules passed at other institutions

Students must apply on the prescribed form (available at the Faculty's Student Administration) for exemption from modules passed at other institutions. An academic record and the complete syllabus of the module concerned must accompany the application. Students who transfer from other universities must complete at least half (50%) of the modules needed for the Bachelor of Laws degree at the University of Pretoria and must be registered students of this University for at least two years before the Bachelor of Laws degree of the University of Pretoria may be conferred on them.



Examination

The examinations for first-semester modules take place in May and June, while examinations in second-semester modules take place in October and November.

Every student has the responsibility to consult the official examination timetable to determine when the examinations for the student's modules will be written.



Composition of the Bachelor of Laws degree

First year

| First semester | Second semester |
|--|---|
| Fundamental modules | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIM 102 Academic information management JUR 110 Jurisprudence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JUR 120 Jurisprudence |
| Core modules | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PSR 110 Law of persons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FMR 121 Family law ROM 120 Roman law |
| Plus | |
| Plus a minimum of 24 credits from the following modules: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ENG 110 English ENG 118 English for specific purposes ENG 120 English | |
| Plus a minimum of 24 credits from the following modules: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other language module offered by the Faculty of Humanities other than the required English language modules FIL 110, 120 Philosophy FRK 111, 122 Financial accounting GES 110, 120 History KRM 110, 120 Criminology PTO 111, 120 Politics SOC 110, 120 Sociology | |
| The following aspects should be kept in mind: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have to familiarise themselves with the prerequisites for modules from other faculties. The modules may not clash. Some modules have limits on the number of students who may register. | |

FMR 121 Family law (15 credits)

Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- Introduction to family law
- General principles regarding the coming into existence of a marriage
- Void, voidable and putative marriages
- The invariable consequences of the marriage
- Basic principles regarding the legal relationship between child and parent
- The variable consequences of a marriage
- Principles regarding the dissolution of a marriage
- The consequences of the dissolution of a marriage

Law of parent and child:

- Variable consequences of marriage
- Dissolution of marriage
- Consequences of the dissolution of marriage
- Customary marriages
- Domestic partnerships and religious marriages

Jurisprudence 110 (JUR 110) (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

The module has both a theoretical and skills component. All elements described below will encompass conceptual knowledge combined with practical application.

Underlying jurisprudential aspects of law/the law in general:

- A first-year definition of law/the law
- The relationships between law and society, law and history, law and politics, law and language
- Being a law student or lawyer in South Africa
- Introduction to different perspectives on the law

The South African legal system and its historical development; Sources of South African law and their historical development:

- Introduction to characteristics and components of the South African legal system
- Mixed legal systems
- The South African Constitution and its historical development
- Customary law and its historical development
- Common law and its historical development
- Primary and other sources of modern South African law
- Applying the sources of law to a set of facts and relying on the sources of law to answer a jurisprudential question

The above content forms the basis of the skills component (incorporating academic literacy skills), which consists of the following:

- Conducting research in the library
- Finding, reading and applying the sources of law
- Reading, understanding and summarising texts on topics of law
- Analysing, criticising and improving (editing) a piece of writing on the law in a theoretical sense
- Writing a well-constructed essay or paragraph on legal problems and topics of law or legal history

JUR 120 Jurisprudence (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law and Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

Basic principles of the following:

- Law of obligations (contract and delict)
- Criminal law
- Law of civil procedure
- Law of criminal procedure
- Law of evidence

COMPOSITION OF THE BACHELOR OF LAWS DEGREE

Access to justice:

- Courts and alternative dispute resolution
- Legal profession
- Access to justice and its promotion in South Africa (the idea, problems, representation in criminal matters, role of different organisations, etc).

The above content forms the basis of the skills component (incorporating academic literacy skills), which consists of the following:

- Drafting a simple contract based upon a set of facts (law of contract)
- Reading, understanding, summarising a case on the law of delict and applying the principles of legal argument and logic
- Summarising, analysing, criticising and improving (editing) a piece of writing on the law of evidence
- Understanding and applying the principles of examination in chief, cross-examination and re-examination to a concrete set of facts with a view to participation in a moot court or debate

PSR 110 Law of persons (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

The legal rules in respect of the coming into existence, private law status and termination of a natural person or legal subject.

ROM 120 Roman law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

Introduction to the Roman law of things:

- Things, real rights, possession
- Ownership, limitations, acquisition, protection
- Limited real rights, servitudes, real security

Introduction to the Roman law of contract:

- General principles of the law of contract
- Specific contracts
- Quasi-contracts

Introduction to the Roman law of delict:

- General principles of the law of delict
- Specific delicts
- Quasi-delicts



Second year

| First semester | Second semester |
|--|--|
| Core modules | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ KTR 211 Law of contract ▪ PBL 210 Public law ▪ RPK 210 Legal practice ▪ RPR 210 Legal pluralism ▪ RVW 210 Legal interpretation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ERF 222 Law of succession ▪ KTH 220 Specific contracts ▪ PBL 220 Public law ▪ RPK 220 Legal practice ▪ VBB 220 Consumer protection |

ERF 222 Law of succession (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- Intestate succession
- Testate succession
- Administration of estates

KTH 220 Specific contracts (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- Law of purchase and sale
- Law of letting and hiring of things
- Law of agency
- Law of suretyship
- Law of letting and hiring of work

KTR 211 Law of contract (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- General principles of the law of obligations
- Formation of the contract
- Content of the contract
- Interpretation of contracts
- Breach of contract
- Remedies for breach of contract
- Termination of contractual obligations
- Drafting of contracts

PBL 210 Public Law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Administration and Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

- Introduction to constitutional law and theory
- Basic principles regarding constitutional law, the law in general, the State and the individual
- Important constitutional principles and concepts
- The historical development of modern constitutional law
- Overview of recent constitutional developments in South Africa since 1952
- The different elements of State
- Sources of South African constitutional law
- The founding provisions, the legal order and symbols of the South African State
- Basic principles of cooperative governance in South Africa
- The South African president and the National Executive Authority
- The National Legislative Authority
- Provincial Government

COMPOSITION OF THE BACHELOR OF LAWS DEGREE

PBL 220 Public Law 210 (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Administration and Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

- (a) Situating constitutional rights within the statist-liberal and multicomunal approaches to constitutionalism
- (b) Conceptualisation: Human rights; fundamental rights and constitutional rights; universality versus cultural specificity
- (c) Structure and outline of the Bill of Rights
- (d) Standing
- (e) Interpretation with specific reference to transformationism
- (f) Application: The rights bearers and duty-bearers of constitutional rights
- (g) The structure of a dispute involving constitutional rights and limitation
- (h) Capita selecta of specific rights in liberal, communitarian and transformationist contexts, including:
 - Equality and non-discrimination
 - Freedom of religion, belief and opinion
 - Freedom of expression and other selected individual freedoms
 - Socio-economic rights
- (i) Enforcement
 - Communal consent
 - Judicial enforcement; South African courts and their jurisdictions; capita selecta of judicial remedies
- (j) Chapter IX institutions
- (k) Critical notes

RPK 210 Legal practice (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) An overview of the origin and development of the various legal professions
- (b) Statutory provisions applicable to the legal profession
- (c) Professional conduct and ethics
- (d) Professional costs and fees
- (e) Professional liability of legal practitioners
- (f) Research skills
- (g) Writing skills (letter of advice to client, office memorandum and heads of argument)

RPK 220 Legal practice (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Practice management
- (b) Taking of instructions
- (c) Bookkeeping for legal practices
- (d) Aspects of trial advocacy
- (e) Practical application
- (f) Research skills
- (g) Writing skills (letter of advice to client, office memorandum and heads of argument)

RPR 210 Legal pluralism (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

- (a) Indigenous culture groups, their culture, and the definition of "legal pluralism"
- (b) Law of persons and family law of indigenous culture groups
- (c) Indigenous law of delict
- (d) Indigenous law of succession
- (e) Indigenous law of contract
- (f) Legal conflict and court structure
- (g) Legal systems based on religion in South Africa

RWV 210 Legal interpretation (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Administration and Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

Statute law:

- (a) General introduction: the relationship between text and context
- (b) What is legislation? Categories and types of legislation
- (c) The structure and format of legislation (enacted law texts)
- (d) Commencement, amendment and demise of legislation

Principles of interpretation:

- (a) How to interpret legislation: various theories and methods of interpretation and the influence of the supreme Constitution on statutory interpretation
- (b) Internal and external aids to determine the legislative purpose
- (c) So-called peremptory and directory provisions
- (d) Statutory interpretation and judicial law-making
- (e) Basic principles of constitutional interpretation

VBB 220 Consumer protection (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- (a) Basic principles of the National Credit Act 34 of 2005
- (b) Aspects regarding the law applicable to credit agreements
- (c) Basic principles of the Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008

Third year

| First semester | Second semester |
|--|---|
| Core modules | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BLR 310 Tax law ▪ BWR 310 Law of evidence ▪ ISR 310 Insolvency law ▪ JUR 310 Jurisprudence ▪ PBL 310 Public law ▪ SAR 310 Law of things | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BWR 320 Law of evidence ▪ DLR 320 Law of delict ▪ IGZ 320 Intellectual property law ▪ ODR 320 Entrepreneurial law ▪ PBL 320 Public law ▪ RHP 320 Research methodology ▪ VHD 320 Payment methods |

BLR 310 Tax law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Foundations of income tax
- (b) Calculation of income tax payable
- (c) Capital gains tax

BWR 310 Law of evidence (8 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Introduction – Historical development and sources of the Law of Evidence
- (b) Decolonisation and transformation of the Law of Evidence
- (c) Relevance and admissibility
- (d) Previous consistent statements
- (e) Similar fact evidence
- (f) Character evidence
- (g) Opinion evidence
- (h) Hearsay and res gestae

COMPOSITION OF THE BACHELOR OF LAWS DEGREE



BWR 320 Law of evidence (7 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Privilege
- (b) Competence and compellability
- (c) Kinds of evidence: Oral, real, documentary and sui generis
- (d) Informal admissions, pointings-out and confessions
- (e) Unconstitutionally obtained evidence in criminal trials
- (f) Burden of proof, quantum of proof, and the effects of presumptions
- (g) The evidentiary aspects of trial practice

DLR 320 Law of delict (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- (a) General principles of the law of delict
- (b) Capita selecta from the principles applicable to specific delicts

IGZ 320 Intellectual property law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) General principles of intellectual property law
- (b) Copyright
- (c) Law relating to inventions and designs
- (d) Trademark law
- (e) Law relating to plant breeders' rights
- (f) Law of competition

ISR 310 Insolvency law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- (a) General introduction and historical background
- (b) The process of sequestration
- (c) Effects of sequestration
- (d) Voidable and void dispositions
- (e) Overview of administration of insolvent estates
- (f) Composition, rehabilitation and offences
- (g) Liquidation of insolvent companies and close corporations

JUR 310 Jurisprudence (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law

An overview of the most important jurisprudential approaches, including natural law, positivism, realism, critical legal theory, and modern and postmodern approaches. The theoretical and practical value of these approaches is investigated within a post-apartheid context.

ODR 320 Entrepreneurial law (12 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- (a) Company law
- (b) Law relating to close corporations
- (c) Partnership law

PBL 310 Public law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Administration

An overview of judicial review of administrative action in light of the Constitution and the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000, with a focus on the legitimate scope of such judicial review and the grounds for judicial review.

PBL 320 Public law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) The historical development and theory of international law
- (b) Sources of international law
- (c) Territory
- (d) International legal personality
- (e) Jurisdiction, immunity from jurisdiction and extradition
- (f) Self-contained legal regimes and state responsibility
- (g) Judicial settlement of international disputes
- (h) International law in municipal law

RHP 320 Research methodology (5 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

The module has two main components: generic research skills and methods and perspectives concerning legal research.

Generic skills:

- (a) How to plan a research project
- (b) How to write a research proposal
- (c) Drafting of chapters
- (d) Language
- (e) Citation, ethics of citation, presentation

Methods and perspectives concerning legal research:

- (a) The nature and purpose of comparative law, the advantages, disadvantages, and pitfalls of comparative research, dogmatic and functional approaches to legal comparison, types of comparative studies and the comparative method
- (b) Legal historical research
- (c) Legal pluralism
- (d) Socio-legal approaches
- (e) Broad theoretical perspectives

SAR 310 Law of things (15 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- (a) General principles of the law of things
- (b) Constitutional aspects
- (c) Control (possession and holdership)
- (d) Ownership (including joint ownership and sectional-title property)
- (e) Limited real rights (including servitudes, limiting provisions, public servitudes, mineral rights and real security rights)

VHD 320 Payment methods (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law

- (a) Elements of negotiability, the bill of exchange, cheques and promissory notes; parties to bills, cheques and notes
- (b) Requirements for validity, negotiation, holdership and acceptance
- (c) The banker-client relationship, crossings and additions to crossings, the legal position of the drawee and collecting bank
- (d) Electronic payment methods

CORE MODULES

Fourth year

| First semester | Second semester |
|--|--|
| Core modules | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ABR 410 Labour law ▪ ESS 400 Research: Essay and seminar ▪ PBL 410 Public law ▪ SIP 410 Civil procedure law ▪ SPR 411 Criminal procedure law | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PBL 420 Public law ▪ PVR 420 Private law ▪ SIP 420 Civil procedure law ▪ SPR 412 Criminal procedure law |
| Plus four elective modules. | |

ABR 410 Labour law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Individual labour law
- (b) Collective labour law
- (c) Resolution of labour disputes

ESS 400 Research: Essay and seminar (25 Credits)

The essay deals with a subject from the field of law. The research proposal is due after the Easter recess in the first semester and the final essay is due by the end of lectures in the second semester.

- (a) An electronic or printed copy of the essay of between 8 000 and 10 000 words (with an indication of the number of words on the last page of the essay), must be submitted
- (b) Each available lecturer supervises a maximum of 15 students annually. The topics chosen by these students must preferably be thematically linked. At the beginning of the year, all registered students as a group attend one compulsory lecture on the approach to and writing of an essay. Following this, each lecturer organises one seminar of two hours with their group of students, during which students submit the topics and basic structure of their essays.

After completion of the essays, a copy of each essay is made available to students. The lecturer then organises a further series of seminars, where each student presents their conclusions for the group to criticise. At these seminars, the lecturer may also involve another faculty member or expert. The evaluation is as follows:

- Research proposal: 20%
- Final essay: 70%
- Participation in seminar: 10%

PBL 410 Public law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

Introduction to criminal law:

- (a) Criminal law and the legal system
- (b) Criminal law and Law of delict
- (c) The concepts 'criminal law' and 'crime'
- (d) The history and sources of our criminal law
- (e) Determinism and indeterminism
- (f) The purpose and function of the criminal law and crime
- (g) The classification of criminal law and crimes

General principles of criminal law: elements of criminal liability:

- (a) Legality
- (b) The deed
- (c) Unlawfulness
- (d) Capacity
- (e) Fault
- (f) Multiple defences

PBL 420 Public law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

Specific crimes:

- (a) Attempt, incitement and conspiracy
- (b) Participation and accessories after the fact
- (c) Crimes against life
- (d) Crimes against bodily integrity and parental authority
- (e) Crimes against reputation and dignity
- (f) Crimes against property and freedom of will
- (g) Crimes against sexual morality and family life
- (h) Crimes against public morality and religious feelings
- (i) Crimes against the administration of justice and public administration
- (j) Crimes against the state

Punishment:

- (a) Theories of punishment
- (b) Forms of punishment

PVR 420 Private law (10 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

Capita selecta from any of the following:

- (a) Enrichment
- (b) Estoppel
- (c) Personality rights

CORE MODULES

SIP 410 Civil procedure law (8 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) STUDY UNIT 1 Introduction to civil procedure and the structure of the courts
- (b) STUDY UNIT 2 Consultation, legal representation, demand and prescription
- (c) STUDY UNIT 3 General principles of jurisdiction
- (d) STUDY UNIT 4 Jurisdiction of the High Court
- (e) STUDY UNIT 5 Jurisdiction of the Magistrate's Court
- (f) STUDY UNIT 6 Jurisdiction of the Small Claims Court
- (g) STUDY UNIT 7 The parties
- (h) STUDY UNIT 8 Applications
- (i) STUDY UNIT 9 Summons, particulars of claim and declaration
- (j) STUDY UNIT 10 Service of process
- (k) STUDY UNIT 11 Judgment at an early stage
- (l) STUDY UNIT 12 Summary judgment

SIP 420 Civil procedure law (7 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) STUDY UNIT 13 Defective processes and non-compliance with the rules
- (b) STUDY UNIT 14 Settlement offers, security for costs and mediation
- (c) STUDY UNIT 15 Pleas, counterclaims, replications, counterpleas and close of pleadings
- (d) STUDY UNIT 16 Amendment of pleadings
- (e) STUDY UNIT 17 Preparation for trial
- (f) STUDY UNIT 18 The trial and judgment
- (g) STUDY UNIT 19 Provisional sentence
- (h) STUDY UNIT 20 Appeals and reviews

- (i) STUDY UNIT 21 Execution
- (j) STUDY UNIT 22 Debt collections and administrations
- (k) STUDY UNIT 23 Legal costs
- (l) STUDY UNIT 24 Interdicts, Mareva injunctions and Anton Piller orders

SPR 411 Criminal procedure law (8 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Introduction
- (b) The courts and the prosecuting authority
- (c) Pre-trial procedures for children
- (d) Attendance of accused at court
- (e) Interrogation, interception and establishing the physical features of a person
- (f) Search and seizure
- (g) Bail and release on warning

SPR 412 Criminal procedure law (7 credits)

For Bachelor of Laws

- (a) Alternative procedures to finalise a criminal case
- (b) Indictments and charge sheets
- (c) Pleas
- (d) Plea of guilty
- (e) Plea of not guilty
- (f) Trial and verdict
- (g) The sentence
- (h) Review proceedings
- (i) Appeals



'I had and still have an amazing support network, which includes my family, friends, living on campus, coaching, and mentoring. These people and things refilled my cup day after day. They taught me to be brave and trust the process, to laugh and enjoy life, to live a balanced life, and that there is so much more to be gained when you give with an open heart. Mama always taught me that there is no quick road to success; it requires hard work, attention, discipline, and effort, all of which contributed to my academic achievement.'

The legal world is both large and small. Make sure you take up space where you're meant to be, make your presence and goals known (for the right reasons), contribute to those spaces and the people you meet, be a safe pair of hands that people can rely on to produce good work, never be afraid of being seen trying, advocate for yourself and others, and, most importantly, stay true to the 'why' you chose to pursue the legal journey.'

Sibulele Zandile Gando – Vice-Chancellor and Principal's Awardee and highest weighted average in the prescribed modules during all four years of the LLB programme

ELECTIVE MODULES

Plus four modules selected from the following list (10 credits each, unless otherwise indicated):

AGF 420 Alternative dispute resolution

Theory on negotiation, mediation and arbitration, as well as the theoretical and practical implementation thereof in various legal fields, such as criminal law, matrimonial law, international law, labour law and sectional title law.

AMR 410 Law and transformation

Introductory debate on the universality and cultural specificity of human rights, historical overview of human rights in Africa, the African Union and human rights, an overview and analysis of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and a comparative analysis of human rights situations in African countries.

ANO 410 Deeds and notarial practice

Prerequisite: SAR 310 Law of Things

- (a) An overview of the origin and development of the professions of conveyancer and notary
- (b) Statutory provisions applicable to conveyancers and notaries
- (c) Professional responsibility and ethics
- (d) Aspects surrounding the transfer of immovable property, registration of mortgage bonds, servitudes and real rights
- (e) Practical drafting of deeds and notarial documents

BLP 420 Tax practice

- (a) Transfer duty
- (b) Value-added tax
- (c) Diverse tax matters

CLW 420 Law and the community

The module has both a theoretical and a community engagement component.

Theoretical:

- (a) Law and the community
- (b) Street law
- (c) Popular justice
- (d) Access to justice

Community engagement:

- (a) Involvement in local community projects
- (b) Presentation of lectures with legal themes at schools, factories, prisons and other local communities
- (c) Drafting of information booklets and conducting research on topics of law for local community bodies

CNL 420 Construction and engineering law

The topics covered include:

- (a) General principles of the construction contract
- (b) National and international pro forma industry contracts
- (c) Specific remedies for breach of contract
- (d) Dispute resolution

EIL 420 Extractive industry law

This module offers an introduction to various legal aspects related to the contemporary exploitation of mineral resources. A capita selecta of topics include different legal issues in mine development and production; associated environmental and social challenges; mineral resource governance, and the interplay between the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the mining sector.



'When I started my LLB degree, my goal was to complete it knowing I had given it my all. I understood that achieving this would need dedication, consistent effort, and holding myself accountable by reminding myself of my long-term goals. As a result, I owe my academic achievement to my focused approach.

I am fortunate to have a great network of family and friends who have supported me during difficult times. Implementing daily planning enabled me to properly visualise my tasks and divide them into manageable steps, helping me to maintain a well-balanced life while dealing with test anxiety.

Breathe and be kind to yourself. Although being a law student is an important aspect of your identity, it should not define you completely. Spend time doing activities you enjoy, and make time for the people you care about the most.'

Daniella Maia de Figueiredo – Overall top achiever in the LLB class of 2023

ELECTIVE MODULES

DRL 420 Introduction to disability rights

This module offers an introduction to various legal aspects relating to the contemporary challenges of persons with disabilities as a multi- and interdisciplinary field of study. A *capita selecta* of topics include different legal issues pertinent to the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in South Africa, the social construct of disability, the relevance of international human rights and the CRPD (and its Protocol), and the interplay between the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the rights discourse.

GHR 420 Land and land reform law

- (a) Introduction to the land and land reform law
- (b) Capita selecta of policy documentation, constitutional and other statutory measures in respect of the use of land and land reform law
- (c) Relevant aspects of conveyancing law

GRG 410 Medical law

- (a) General foundations of forensic medicine
- (b) Legal basis of the relationship between doctor/hospital and patient
- (c) Grounds of justification for medical interventions
- (d) Medical negligence and vicarious liability
- (e) The patient's privacy and medical confidentiality
- (f) Artificial human procreation
- (g) Liability for wrongful conception/birth/life
- (h) Transsexualism and sex-change operations
- (i) The moment of death and euthanasia
- (j) Aspects of medical disciplinary hearings

IET 411, 412, 413 and 414 International elective module

Please consult the Yearbook at www.up.ac.za/yearbooks/home for further details.

IPR 410 Private international law

- (a) Theoretical and historical background
- (b) Conceptual problems
- (c) Determination of foreign law
- (d) Conflict rules for the determination of an appropriate norm of the following:
 - Family law
 - Law of contract
 - Law of delict
 - Law of things
 - Law of succession
- (e) Recognition and enforcement of foreign judgements

JUR 420 Jurisprudence

The module focuses on various jurisprudential approaches, including philosophical perspectives, critical theory, and other inter- and transdisciplinary perspectives on law and their response and relation to contemporary issues.

KID 410 Child law

- (a) The status of children in South African law
- (b) The constitutional protection of children
- (c) General principles of the Children's Act 38 of 2005
- (d) Parental responsibilities and rights
- (e) Children's courts
- (f) Adoption and alternative care
- (g) International instruments on children's rights
- (h) Intercountry adoption and international abduction
- (i) Children and the criminal justice system

KUB 420 Information and communications technology law

- (a) Introduction to the study of information and communications technology law:
 - The place of information and communications technology law in the legal system
 - The nature and scope of information and communications technology law
 - Sources of information and communications technology law
 - Inception and influence of the Internet
- (b) Regulation of the Internet:
 - National/international
 - Jurisdiction
- (c) Aspects of intellectual property law and the Internet
- (d) E-commerce activities and the Internet:
 - Aspects of jurisdiction and signing of contracts
 - Data protection and encryption
 - Liability of Internet service providers
- (e) Advertising and the Internet
- (f) Criminal liability in information and communications technology law
- (g) Constitutional aspects of information and communications technology law:
 - The right to privacy/freedom of expression and information

LBF 410 Law of banking and financial institutions

- (a) Law on selected financial institutions
- (b) Banking law
- (c) Insurance law

LLB 491, 492 and 493 Special elective

Selective modules as determined by the Dean that are not presented annually.

LOC 410 Law of securities

- (a) Legal principles in respect of the regulation of the primary security markets
- (b) Legal principles in respect of secondary security markets

MDR 420 Media law

Capita selecta from media and communications law in the light of the Constitution, including the following:

- (a) The philosophical foundations and history of freedom of speech, and the role of the media in a democracy
- (b) Section 16 of the Constitution, and various limitations on freedom of expression
- (c) A comparative legal study of freedom of expression in the USA, Canada and Germany
- (d) Defamation (including online defamation)
- (e) Privacy
- (f) Journalistic privilege in South African law
- (g) Regulation of advertising
- (h) The Films and Publications Act 65 of 1996
- (i) Child pornography

MRG 410 Municipal law

- (a) Introduction to local government law in general
- (b) Process of local government transformation
- (c) Status, objects and challenges of local government
- (d) Legal nature and duties of municipalities
- (e) Cooperative government
- (f) New institutional models in local government
- (g) Demarcation of local government jurisdictions
- (h) Composition and election of local government structures
- (i) Role of traditional leaders in local government
- (j) Powers and functions
- (k) Political structures
- (l) Municipal services and other functional activities
- (m) Human resources and labour issues
- (n) Municipal finances and fiscal management
- (o) Development, planning and unique local government law matters

ELECTIVE MODULES

ISL 420 Capita selecta of insurance law

The topics covered include:

- Insurance supervision and governance
- General principles of insurance contract law
- Specific aspects of the insurance relationship
- Specific aspects of insurance claims
- Dispute resolution

OMR 410 Environmental law

- The nature and scope of environmental law
- The Constitution and the environment
- Environmental framework regulation
- Planning law
- Environmental assessment
- Water law
- Pollution control and waste management
- Mining and energy sources
- Biodiversity and conservation of forests, plant resources and wild animals
- Heritage resources
- Living marine resources

ONR 420 Education law

- Introduction to the nature and role of the law of education
- Fundamental right to education and constitutional principles relevant to education
- Certain specific rights of students, learners, parents and educators
- Basic legal principles of education management in public schools
- Basic legal principles regarding tertiary education
- Other relevant aspects of the law of education

PRR 400 Practical law (20 credits, two electives)

- Practical legal work according to a duty roster at the University's Law Clinic during the academic year, including consultations with clients, drafting of pleadings and attendance at trials
- Discussion classes regarding cases that are being dealt with at the Law Clinic
- Assignments

PUR 420 International humanitarian law

- What is international humanitarian law (the law of war)? The distinction between *ius ad bellum* and *ius in bello*
- The historical development and sources of international humanitarian law (IHL)
- Different types of armed conflict: the distinction between international and non-international armed conflicts
- Distinction between combatants and civilians
- The prisoner of war (POW) status: soldiers, spies, mercenaries and guerrillas
- Conduct of hostilities: legal restraints on how war is to be waged (including the prohibition of certain weapons and the targets that may be engaged during hostilities)
- The distinction between genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes
- Winners or losers: war, international politics and the implementation of IHL
- The protection of women and children during armed conflict
- Accountability or impunity: the prosecution of war crimes by national courts, ad hoc tribunals (the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and the International Criminal Court (ICC)
- The devil made me do it: superior orders and command responsibility in war
- The role of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

RPR 410 Advanced legal pluralism

This module offers an in-depth analysis to various legal aspects relating to the contemporary challenges and benefits of applying and recognising African Customary law as an independent legal system as championed by the Constitution. A capita selecta of topics include different legal issues pertinent to the field of African Customary law in South Africa, ranging from public, private and procedural law matters.



ELECTIVE MODULES

RHV 410 Legal problems of HIV and Aids

An introduction to the medical and social aspects of the disease, and aspects of the legal position of people with HIV/Aids, seminar assignments (mini-dissertations) about problems of a moral and legal nature, such as the criminalisation of HIV infection as a separate statutory offence, implications of the right to health care, notification of HIV/Aids and the limits of privacy, as well as aspects arising from medical experimentation and the development of a vaccine

SGR 410 Law of damages

- General principles and doctrines of the law of damages
- Specific principles regarding delictual damages
- Specific principles regarding contractual damages
- Procedural principles in the law of damages

SKH 420 Moot court

Students who officially represent the Faculty at the annual African Human Rights Moot Court Competition or the Phillip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, or any other moot court competition approved by the Dean obtain credit for 420 Moot Court during the year of official participation.

SCL 420 Law of competition

Section A: Law of Unlawful Competition – the Common Law of Competition

The following aspects will be dealt with:

- The role of competition in commerce
- The concept and definition of commerce
- The historical development of the law of unlawful competition
- Rights affected by unlawful competition
- The common law basis for action against unlawful competition
- Capita selecta (recognised forms of unlawful competition):
 - Passing off and leaning on
 - Deception concerning one's enterprise, goods or services
 - Interference with a trader's enterprise or business affair
 - Misappropriation of confidential information
 - Counterfeit goods
 - Ambush marketing
- Defences against unlawful competition



Section B: Statutory Competition Law – the Competition Act, 1998

The following aspects will be dealt with:

- The development of statutory competition
- The Competition Act: goals and scope of application
- The administrative framework of the Competition Act
- Practices and transactions governed by the Competition Act
 - Restrictive horizontal practices
 - Restrictive vertical practices
 - Abuse of dominance
 - Mergers
- Other necessary enforcement and administrative procedures
 - Corporate leniency
 - Exemptions
 - Criminalisation of cartel conduct
 - Market inquiries
 - Private damages claims

SMI 410 Statutory crimes

Crimes:

Capita selecta from:

- Computer crimes
- Liquor and drug offences
- Economic offences
- Sexual offences
- Offences within the family and against children
- Offences against animals
- Offences relating to dangerous weapons, firearms and explosives
- Police and prisons offences
- Offences against the public safety and order
- Offences against the safety of the state
- Offences against the environment
- Traffic offences
- Minimum sentencing

Forensic criminalistics:

- Components and objectives of criminal investigations
- Identification, comparison and individualisation
- Information-gathering through communication
- Serological examinations
- Odonatological examinations
- Dactyloscopic examinations
- Trichological examinations

SOR 420 Social security law

- Scope and functions of social security
- Old-age grants and insurance
- Employment injuries and unemployment insurance
- Sickness, invalidity and health care
- Child and family maintenance

SRR 420 Sports law

- Delictual liability
- Contractual liability
- Criminal liability
- Diverse aspects arising from sports

TBR 420 Transnational business law

- International contracts of sale
- International contracts of carriage
- Insurance contracts in international transactions

TBS 410 Trusts and estates

- Aspects of trust law
- Aspects of administration of deceased estates

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION



'What kept me motivated was knowing that I was not alone in my academic journey; I was surrounded by an abundance of supporters, including my parents, siblings, aunts and uncles, and friends. I am privileged that those around me were always eager to provide inspiration and a listening ear when I needed them.

Learning online was an adjustment. What I valued most of all was the ability to manage my schedule. I was able to adapt my schedule to accommodate this. The biggest problem for me was a lack of interaction. I learn best by questioning. Returning to campus allowed me to engage with lecturers, ask questions, and get a better understanding of complex topics. Typing a question in a chat window or sending an email after studying a PowerPoint presentation wasn't always effective.

Moving away from home was a significant change for me. Being an international student made me feel homesick at times. Making UP my home, I found fellowship at church, participated in student societies, and made friends. This positively affected my academic life, turning studying into a more enjoyable experience.

My recommendation to first-year students: do what works best for you. Investigate different study approaches and seek assistance if necessary. To succeed, you need to explore various approaches, learn from them, and stick with what works for you.'

Ruvarashe Tendai Hwengwere – Third-highest achiever in the LLB class of 2023

ARTICLE

UP Law Moot Society Team Claims Victory at the National Rounds of the Philip Jessup Competition

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition is the world's biggest and most prestigious Moot Competition. Through this competition, students from different law faculties worldwide can compete against one another. The UP Law Moot team won the national rounds of the Jessup competition and represented the University of Pretoria and South Africa during the Jessup International Law Moot competition that took place in Washington D.C, United States of America.

There were four preliminary rounds in which the team argued, twice as applicants and twice as respondents, before making it to the final round. This competition featured seven South African universities, and the UP Law Moot team came out on top after defeating all the other teams, including the University of Johannesburg, which also made it to the final round. The team won the best memorials for both arguments as applicant and respondent. In addition, Comfort Ayeloni won the award for best speaker. This team won every award the competition had to offer!

Despite the competition occurring over two days in March, the team had to work through Christmas and New Year's as they had to submit competition memorials by January. They demonstrated a commendable work ethic, especially considering that they are still students and have to balance schoolwork with preparing for the competition.

The team also highlighted that the UP Moot Society contributed significantly to their success. The UP Moot Society has an amazing organizational structure. They also have a proper memorial writing structure and process. Thus, it comes as no surprise that the team won the best memorials. The UP Moot Society also conducted mental health workshops to ensure the team's well-being. During moot competitions, judges constantly criticize the students' arguments at different stages, which can affect their mental health. It is, therefore, crucial to have mental health resources to help one stay healthy. The team is extremely appreciative of the resources provided by the University of Pretoria.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

A law degree does not limit graduates to pursuing careers as attorneys or advocates. There are many and varied career options available to law graduates. Examples are as follows:

A broad outline of the Attorneys' profession versus the Advocates' profession

In our modern society and under our present constitutional dispensation, laws regulate every aspect of our daily life, from the cradle to the grave. We are in constant contact with the law, ranging from drawing up a will or contract, getting married or divorced, paying or collecting debts, buying a house or new vehicle, or appearing in a civil or a criminal court, etc. This is where the legal profession comes into play to assist all members of our society.

In the private sector and under the new Legal Practice Act No. 28 of 2014, South Africa has two basic kinds of legal practitioners, traditionally referred to as either advocates or attorneys. The distinction between the profession of attorney and advocate in South Africa mirrors the distinction between the profession of solicitor and barrister in other Commonwealth countries, with attorneys having broadly equivalent roles to solicitors and advocates having broadly equivalent roles to barristers. Although both professions provide legal services, they do so in different ways.

An attorney is a general practitioner and could even be specialising in a particular field. Attorneys have a direct relationship with their clients by either assisting them with legal advice or providing a wide range of legal services. An attorney is the first port of call whenever one requires any legal services or if one has a legal problem. Accordingly, an attorney needs to be readily accessible to everyone and the services he/she provides need to be broad enough to cover a wide field of legal matters. To cater for these needs, some attorneys form partnerships or establish incorporated legal firms. Attorneys are required to open trust accounts where they would hold deposits from clients. For clients to be covered against theft of trust monies, attorneys are also required to have the trust account audited annually. If there are no queries after the audits, attorneys would be issued a Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund Certificate which authorises such attorneys to practice for the next year and to hold trust money on behalf of clients.

Traditionally attorneys only had the right of appearance in the lower courts, that is the district or regional courts and not in the high courts, as these were reserved for advocates. However, this changed in 1995 when attorneys who complied with certain requirements, were also granted the right to appear in the High Courts. In 1995 it became possible for certain attorneys to obtain the same right.

An advocate is more of a specialist practitioner and provides legal services by way of specialised expertise in various areas of the law—sometimes by providing an opinion on a legal issue based on research, but especially in the presentation of cases in the higher courts.

On 1 November 2018, the advocates' profession was also divided into two streams by the new Legal Practice Act. An advocate who provided services in the organised legal profession could until 31 October 2018 only accept a case upon referral by an attorney. This requirement still binds the first of the two branches of the advocates, and if an advocate belongs to this branch, such advocate may not have a trust account and does not have to have a Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund Certificate. This 'non-trust account' advocate may not accept any instruction directly from any member of the public. Only an attorney may instruct this kind of advocate.

Thus, an attorney engages or contracts the services of such an advocate so that the advocate stands in an indirect relationship with the clients of the attorney. These advocates are reliant on attorneys for briefs (mandates or instructions) from attorneys. The attorney is responsible for the bill of the advocate. The client is responsible for the bill of the attorney and the advocate; therefore, attorneys recover advocates' fees from their clients.

The second branch of the advocates' profession in terms of section 34(2)(b) of the Legal Practice Act will have a trust account and is in terms of section 84(1) required to have a Fidelity Fund Certificate. These advocates are referred to as 'trust account advocates'. To become a member of this branch, the advocate must first complete a legal practice management course approved by the Legal Practice Council. An advocate who practices as a trust account advocate does not have to be briefed by an attorney anymore and may accept instructions directly from members of the public.

Attorneys may practice in partnership with other attorneys or as directors of incorporated legal firms, but advocates may only practise as sole practitioners. Advocates may not practice in partnerships or as directors of incorporated legal firms.

Public prosecutors/state advocates

Public prosecutors are representatives of the National Directorate of Public Prosecutions. They conduct prosecutions in criminal proceedings in the magistrate's courts. A public prosecutor decides whether a person should be prosecuted and presents evidence in court to prove the state's case against an accused. It is a prerequisite for all prosecutors to complete the Bachelor of Laws degree.

A public prosecutor may be promoted to senior public prosecutor or state advocate. There are also opportunities to move into different positions in the various structures of the National Prosecuting Authority.

State advocates appear in the High Court on behalf of the state in criminal cases. The work that they perform is similar to that of public prosecutors. State advocates prepare criminal cases and furnish legal opinions. A state advocate must have a Bachelor of Laws degree, be admitted as an advocate, and have undergone training with the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development. A state advocate may be promoted to the position of senior state advocate. State advocates are not obliged to become members of the Bar.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Legal advisors

Legal advisors are often qualified attorneys or advocates or persons who have completed law degrees. They work in an advisory capacity at corporations, companies and other organisations. A legal practitioner cannot be employed as a legal advisor while he or she is registered on the roll of practising attorneys or advocates.

Academics

Law graduates can also elect to pursue careers as lecturers in the legal field. Law lecturers at the various universities or colleges are teachers and researchers of the law. Their duties include the facilitation of lectures, the assessment of students, conducting research for, and publishing articles and contributing to the publication of papers and textbooks in their fields of specialisation. Many lecturers have experience as practising attorneys or advocates.

A lecturer can be promoted to senior lecturer, associate professor or full professor, or may be appointed as head of a department or law school, or dean of the faculty. Legal practitioners, who are practising attorneys serving at law clinics, are also employed as lecturers in legal subjects in addition to providing legal aid to the public.

Judicial officers (magistrates or judges)

Judicial officers include magistrates and judges. Magistrates preside in the magistrate's courts, and judges preside in the high courts. A magistrate also performs various administrative functions, such as acting as a marriage officer. A magistrate may be promoted to senior magistrate, chief magistrate and regional court magistrate.

Judges are normally appointed in the various local and provincial divisions of the High Court, the Supreme Court of Appeal and the Constitutional Court. Traditionally, judges were appointed from the ranks of advocates only. After 1994, judges have increasingly been appointed from the ranks of senior attorneys and academics. The Judicial Services Commission appoints judges.

Please refer to the *Legal Practice Act 24 of 2014 and Implementation of Parts 1 and 2 of Chapter 10* on 1 February 2015 for the possible impact this new legislation might have on the structured profession and vocational training at www.lssa.org.za/about-us/about-the-attorneys-profession/becoming-a-legal-practitioner and www.lpc.org.za.

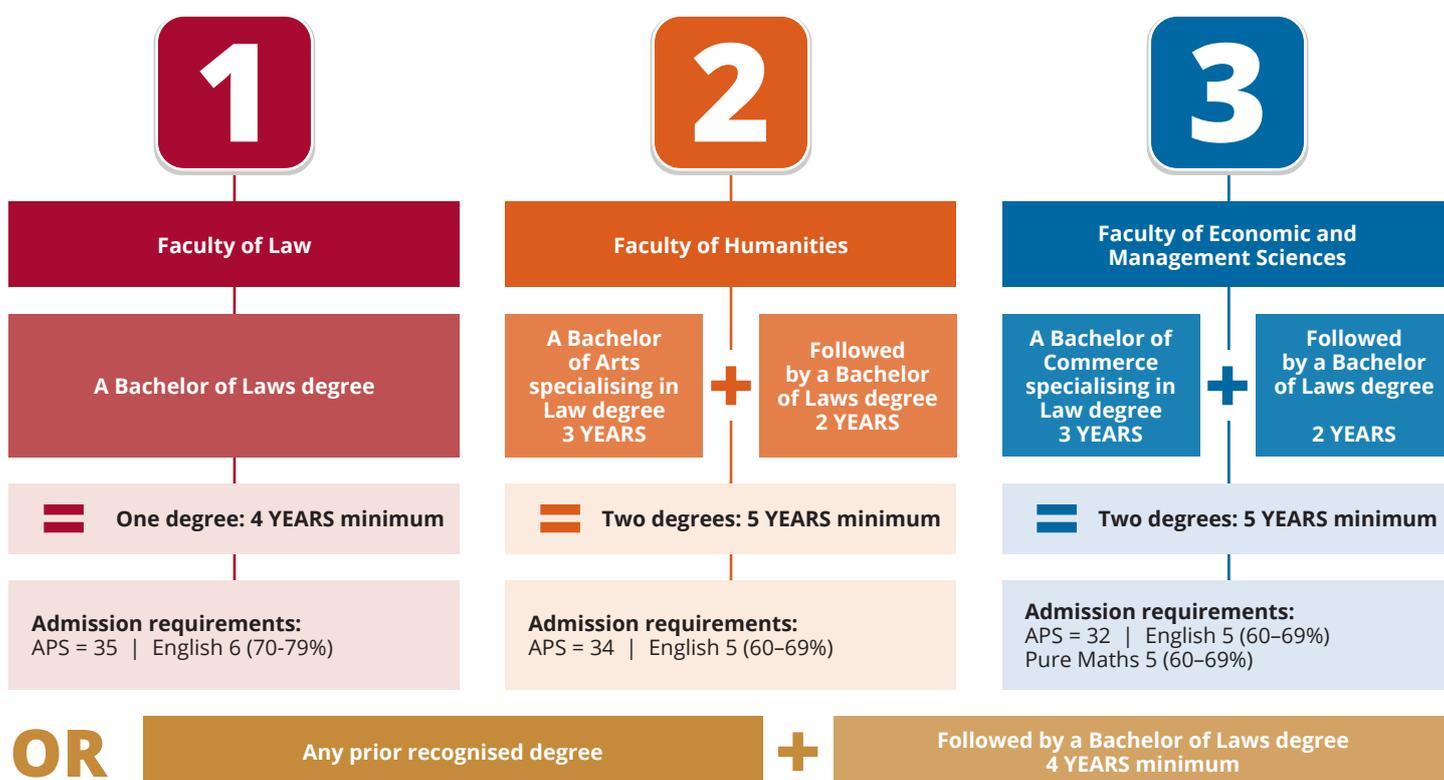
Also, refer to the Infographics in this brochure for more information.



DEGREE CHOICE

How to choose between a Bachelor of Arts specialising in Law, Bachelor of Commerce specialising in Law or straightforward four-year Bachelor of Laws degree?

As explained here, there are **three direct routes** to a recognised legal qualification and eventual admission as an attorney or advocate in South Africa with a Bachelor of Laws degree behind your name, given the *status quo* in South Africa in 2019 and excluding forthcoming amendments to the Legal Practice Act, 28 of 2014:



If you are interested in a career in **patent law**, you should first pursue a science degree (Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Engineering) degree, and/or followed by an honours degree in Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Engineering, followed by a Bachelor of Laws degree, or vice versa. Here you are looking at a minimum period of seven years of studying. However, this will prepare you for the Patent Examination Board, as required in Section 21 of the Patents Act, 57 of 1978, as amended, for a career as a patent attorney. However, it is important to note that admission as a patent advocate or attorney is subject to passing the Bar Examination for pupils or the Competency-based Examination for Admission as an Attorney too. Should you be interested in this field of law, you may find more relevant information on the websites of patent attorneys, the South African Institute of Intellectual Property Law (SAIPL) and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

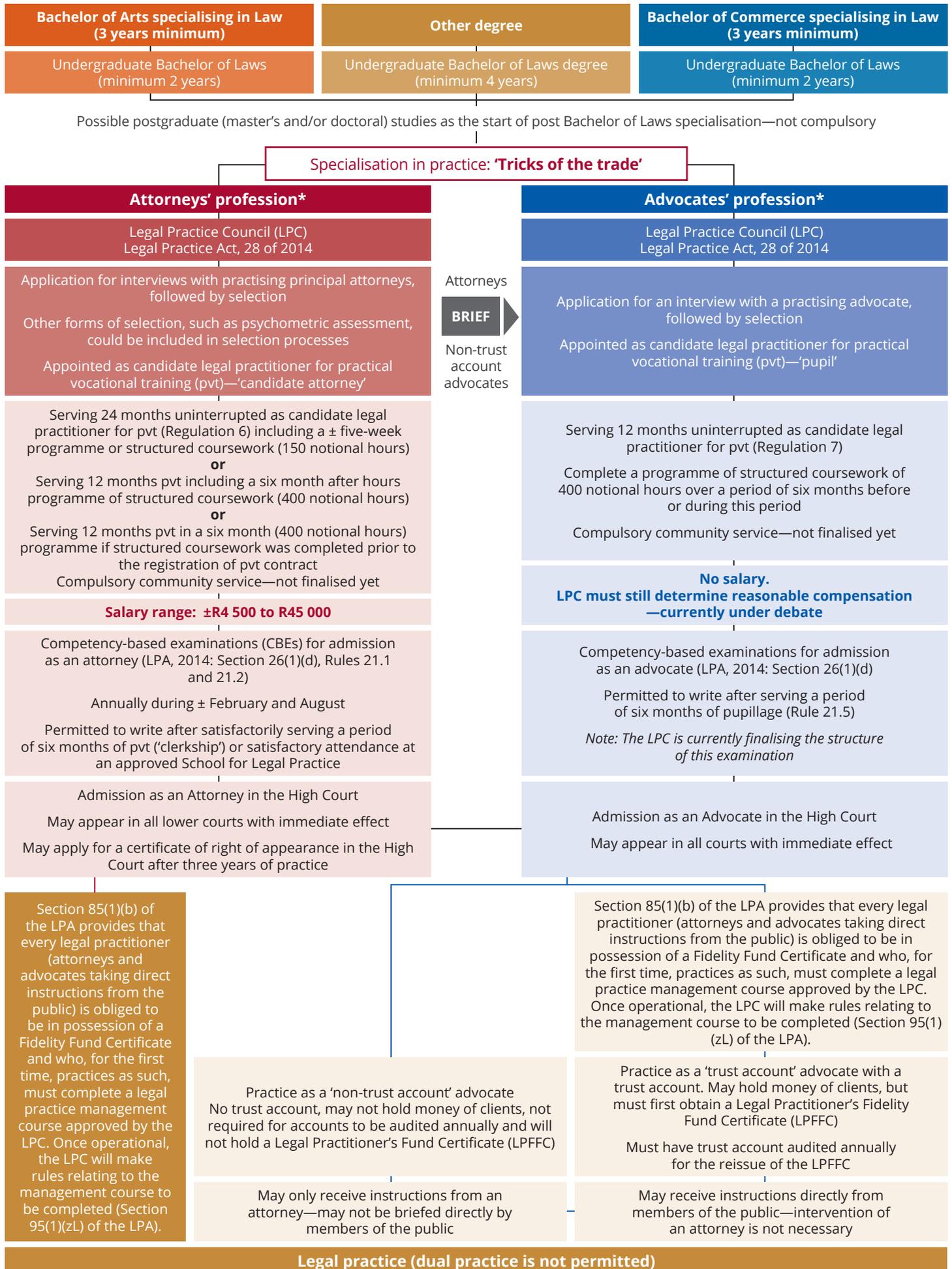


Hereafter, should you qualify, you could consider pursuing a **master's degree** in law (optional).

Master's programmes are presented as follows:

- Coursework: evening classes, examinations and a mini-research dissertation; or
- Correspondence: comprehensive master's dissertation.

The duration of a master's degree at UP is minimum one year.

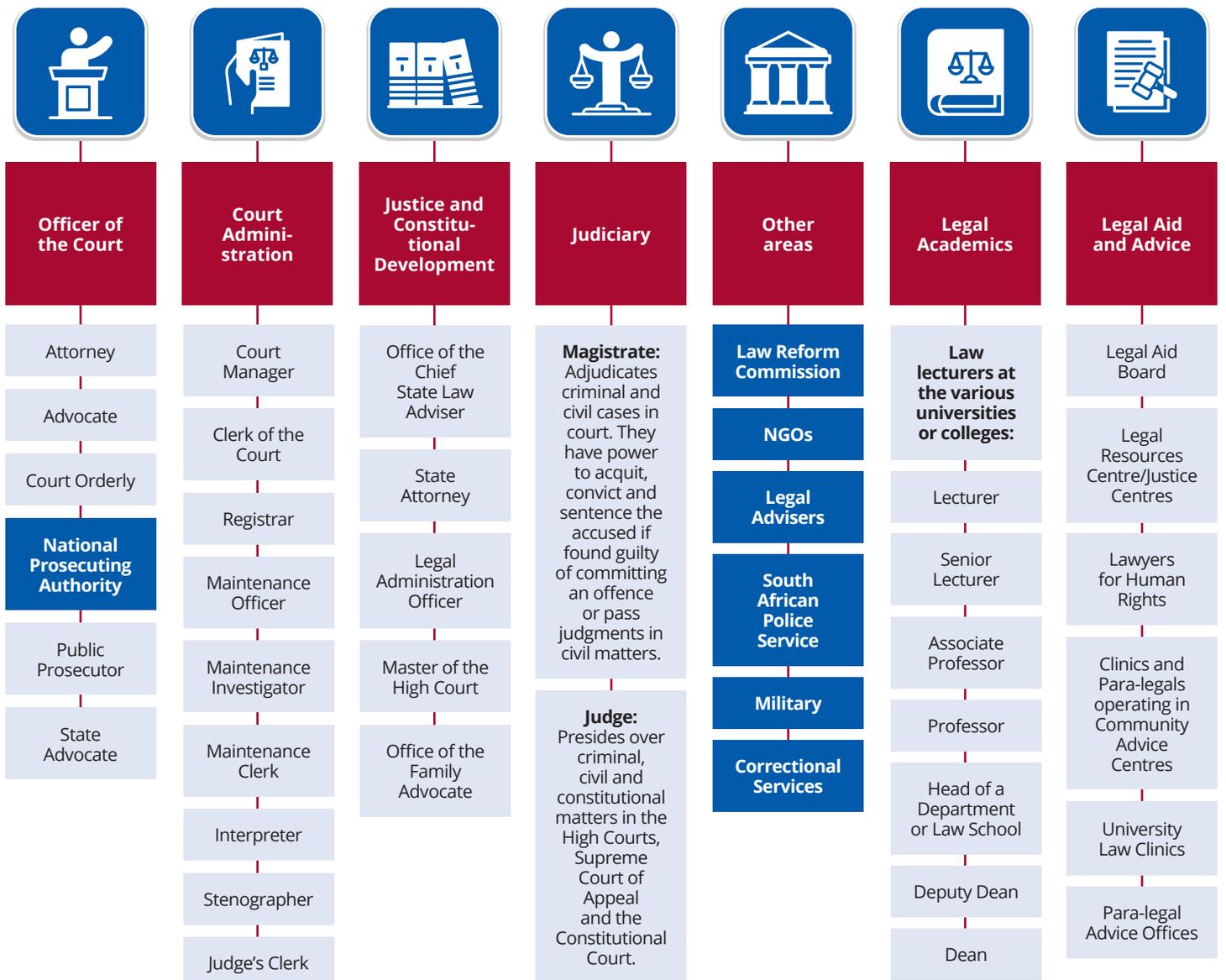


Note: Postgraduate specialisation (master's and/or doctoral studies) may be pursued at any time after completion of a Bachelor of Laws degree, subject to admission requirements, namely before commencement of practical vocational training (pvt), during pvt, after pvt, and in fact, shortly or many years after graduation and in practice. As always, continuing education, professional development and lifelong learning are key components for success and thus highly recommended for all legal practitioners.



Career opportunities in the LEGAL profession with at least a Bachelor of Laws degree:

Admission as an attorney or advocate is highly recommended before pursuing careers outside the organised profession!



CHECKLIST

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

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, solve their (legal) problems, and ready to make an impact on society? Complete the aptitude test below to see how you fare.

(Tick the appropriate box)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1. Motivation <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 spurious TV series. | | <p>6. Digest and convert loads of information, scientific data and paperwork generated by cases <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare strategies that require absorbing and comprehending vast quantities of information and distilling that into something manageable, relevant, valid and useful. Employ logic to construct arguments and draft legal documents. |
| <p>2. Good listening and interpersonal skills, proficiency in languages, writing ability and literacy <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. | | <p>7. Mental agility and reasonable, logical analysis, assumptions and conclusions <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw reasonable, logical conclusions and assumptions from limited information and analyse complex facts, versions, stories, hearsay, information, testimonies, etc. to identify the most crucial issues. Think like a lawyer. 'It is a form of swift reasoning, cool logic, effortless problem-solving skills and precision analysis. The kind of calculated mental weaponry that shields you from unhelpful, inflammatory emotions while actively disarming your opponent with one slash of your sharp verbal or written blade.'¹ |
| <p>3. Logical reasoning, persuasiveness and sound judgment <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. | | <p>8. Problem Solver-in-Chief <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not become overly emotional when facing problems and explore options. Approach and view problems as challenges or life experiences and proactively and objectively address them. Solve problems, using a combination of intuition and logic to create solutions and finding opportunities. |
| <p>4. Value honesty and integrity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I am aware that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lawyers are subject to the highest degree of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct. I should possess intrinsic values such as work ethic, ethical conduct and integrity. I should always maintain the highest standard of honesty, integrity and fairness towards clients, courts, colleagues and all those with whom I shall come into professional contact with. | | <p>9. Time management <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I have the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritise tasks and manage time effectively. Comprehend that the legal profession is based on procedures and limitations with accompanying prescriptions. |
| <p>5. Adaptability, stamina, energy and resilience <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I am:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative, determined, enthusiastic, energetic, and possess drive, emotional intelligence and perseverance. Able to manage and run a profitable practice. | | <p>10. Attention to detail <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An administrator of note and have an eye for detail. After all, I realise that lawyers do detail! |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

INFOGRAPHIC

FACULTY OF LAW

AT A GLANCE

The University of Pretoria (UP) is one of Africa's top universities and the largest contact university in South Africa.

- We produce socially impactful research to find solutions for the world's most pressing issues.
- We have a high quality of teaching and learning in the classroom, online, or in communities.
- We have support in place for our students to graduate on time as well-rounded, responsible citizens, fully prepared for the world beyond university.

Our degrees are locally accredited and internationally recognised. We have agreements in place with the relevant legal accreditation bodies around the world to ensure the recognition of our programmes.



VISION

To be a leading research-intensive university in Africa, recognised internationally for its quality, relevance and impact, as also for developing people, creating knowledge and making a difference locally and globally.



MISSION

In pursuing recognition and excellence in its core functions of research, teaching and learning, and integrating engagement with society and communities into these, the University of Pretoria will use quality, relevance, diversity and sustainability as its navigational markers.

The Faculty of Law strives to be an internationally recognised leader in socially relevant legal research and education in South Africa and the world. In pursuing its vision, the Faculty's mission is the creation and sustenance of a research and education environment that is grounded in the values of social justice and excellence.

ACADEMIC OFFERING

LLB

FOUR-YEAR
UNDERGRADUATE
PROGRAMME

LLM/MPhil

Master's programmes available
through course work or research
LLD/PhD

Niche programmes in human rights, children's rights, trade and investment law, intellectual property law, education law, banking law and extractive industries law as these fields relate to Africa.



RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Research Chairs, Centres, Units and Institutes

- ABSA Chair in Banking Law in Africa
- UNESCO Chair in Education Law in Africa
- SARChI Chair in International Constitutional Law
- Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa (ICLA)
- Centre for Intellectual Property Law (CIPL)
- Centre for Human Rights

JOIN A WORLD-CLASS INSTITUTION

#1

Law faculty in South Africa
Ranked 65th globally
Times Higher Education
World University Rankings by
Subject 2024

TOP SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTION TO STUDY LAW

LAW CLINIC

1980

Established in 1980
by UP law students
to serve indigent
community
members

2

Community-
based branches
in Hatfield and
Hammanskraal

TOP

Ranked among
the best in
South Africa

CENTRE FOR CHILD LAW

1998

Established in 1998
as a children's
rights strategic
impact litigation
organisation that is
registered as a law
clinic with the Legal
Practice Council

2009

Hosts the Annual
Child Law Moot
Court Competition
since 2009

TRAINING

Provides training
and capacity
building for
professionals and
community-based
workers on child
rights-related
issues

CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

1986

Established in
1986 as a network
of practising and
academic lawyers,
civil servants and
human rights
practitioners
across Africa

9

Research and
advocacy units



10

Advanced human
rights courses

Member of Global
Campus of Human
Rights

- Centre for Sport and Entertainment Law
- Centre for Child Law (CCL)
- Centre for Medicine and Law
- International Development Law Unit (IDLU)
- Extractive Industry Law in Africa Unit (EILA)
- Unit for Insurance Law in Africa
- Unit for Banking Law in Africa
- Unit for Business Rescue and Insolvency Law (UBRIL)

2026



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Faculty of Law

Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid
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