

# Faculty of Law Undergraduate Information Brochure



UNIVERSITY  
OF  
JOHANNESBURG



# MESSAGE FROM THE FACULTY

Outstanding lawyers and a sound legal system are prerequisites of any civilised society. The legal system provides the rules within which the State's administration, the business world, individuals and organisations – indeed the whole community – operate. In any country in which the law reigns supreme, lawyers must apply legal rules and act as watchdogs to ensure that everyone adheres to the norms of society. Because the law plays such an immense and far-reaching role, legal studies cover a wide and exciting field: the rules of the tough business world and the business entities operating within it; the protection of human rights; intimate family relationships; the prosecution of criminals; and the conclusion of contracts, to name but a few. This serves as proof of the variety of disciplines to which law students will be exposed during their studies, as well as the wide-ranging experience that they will gain.

The Faculty of Law at the University of Johannesburg has a team of lecturers in the legal fraternity that provide legal education of the highest order. These lecturers are also involved in legal research, which has a huge influence on new legislation and the decisions of South African courts.

The Faculty's rankings speak for themselves. For example, the 2020 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings by Subject: Law has ranked UJ Law in the top 190 worldwide in the 151+ band of this Ranking. The Faculty of Law at UJ is one of the six South African faculties of law ranked by the 2020 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings by Subject: Law. It comes as no surprise, therefore, that our law students are well sought after in the legal and commercial worlds and in the public service. If you join this Faculty, you will become part of a rich tradition. You will also become part of a student body that values its ties with the Faculty, and we hope you will remain proud and loyal even after your studies have been completed.

## **UJ FACULTY OF LAW**

# Study law at the University of Johannesburg:

## A city university boasting excellent facilities, proud traditions and exceptional results.

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**The Faculty of Law at the University of Johannesburg has produced law graduates of distinction who are sought after in various fields of the law for a number of years.**

### **Specific reasons to study Law at UJ:**

- Contributing to the Faculty's outstanding academic results is a highly qualified and motivated team of lecturers, boasting master's and doctoral degrees in abundance.
- The UJ Faculty of Law has strong ties with some of the largest and most prestigious law firms in the country.
- The UJ Faculty of Law has effective mentor and tutor systems in place to help students succeed in their current and future legal studies.
- The Faculty of Law boasts a world-class law library.
- In the module, Applied Legal Studies, final-year LLB students obtain practical training and experience through real-life situations and working with real clients.
- Students participate in moot court competitions annually. UJ has always performed exceptionally well at these competitions, both nationally and internationally.
- Students study law in the economic hub of Africa.
- Our sterling master's degree programmes combine academic research with some of the specialised fields of legal and commercial practice, empowering students to participate authoritatively in their chosen fields.
- Unique study opportunities are available to students through international exchange programmes at overseas universities.

### **The following undergraduate Law degrees are offered at UJ:**

- BA (Law)
- BCom (Law)
- LLB

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## What's the difference?

Degree	LLB	BCom (Law)	BA (Law)
Duration	4 Years	3 Years	3 Years
Degree information	<p>The LLB degree is the minimum academic qualification for practising law in South Africa. To become an attorney or advocate you need an LLB degree.</p> <p>The LLB degree will equip students with both practical and theoretical skills to enter the legal profession. This is a focused degree, with emphasis on legal subjects and lays a solid foundation for a career and future in law.</p>	<p>Students interested in commerce, economic and management sciences and business subjects are ideal for the BCom (Law) degree.</p> <p>Core subjects within the Faculty of Economic and Financial Sciences and the Faculty of Management are covered together with specific legal subjects. This degree ensures a broad perspective on both legal and commercial issues and lays an excellent foundation for a more advanced study of the law.</p>	<p>The BA (Law) degree is ideal for students with a keen interest in languages and social sciences. Studying BA (Law) enriches your understanding of human behaviour and social issues, while it lays an excellent foundation for a more advanced study of the law.</p> <p>The BA (Law) degree is compiled in such a way that you take law modules and a number of non-law modules in each year of study.</p>

**Take note:** After **completing** a 3-year **BCom (Law)** or **BA (Law)** degree, students can register for an **LLB** degree and will be able to complete this degree within a further **2 years**, thus obtaining two qualifications within 5 years. This gives you the opportunity to practise as an attorney or advocate with an even broader academic background.

## Things you might not know...

- After completing a BA (Law) or BCom (Law) degree, it is possible to do an honours degree in a specialised discipline other than law.
- After completion of your LLB degree, you can enrol for a specialised Master's degree in Law (if you comply with the relevant selection and admission criteria).
- If you are currently in Gr. 12, you apply to study at the University with your final Gr. 11 results, not your Gr. 12 results. You will, however, be finally selected or admitted on your final Gr. 12 results.
- If you have already finished Gr. 12, you apply with your final Gr. 12/matric results (thus your matric certificate).
- It is very important that you apply in time. Don't miss closing dates as the Faculty only accepts a certain number of students per year.
- What is an APS? APS is short for Admission Points Score. This is the score used to determine whether a prospective student can be admitted to study a degree in the Faculty of Law. It is easy to calculate the APS – it is basically the sum of the achievement ratings for the 6 best prescribed school subjects (each achievement rating is calculated on a sliding scale). Take note that the performance rating for the subject Life Orientation is not taken into account in this calculation. See the next page for the full admission requirements and the APS scale.



## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE FACULTY OF LAW

(Minimum APS needed and minimum score in each of the Gr. 12 subjects)

PROGRAMME	Qualification Code	Minimum APS	English	Additional Language *	Mathematics	Mathematical Literacy	CAREER	CAMPUS
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### DEGREE PROGRAMMES

#### B Degree (3 years)

<b>BA (LAW)</b>	<b>B4A01Q</b>	31 with Mathematics OR 32 with Mathematical Literacy	5 (60%+)	4 (50%+)	3 (40%+)	4 (50%+)	Legal Advisor, Career in Public Administration	APK
<b>BCOM (LAW)</b>	<b>B4C01Q</b>	31 with Mathematics ONLY	5 (60%+)	4 (50%+)	4 (50%+)	Not accepted	Legal Advisor, Career in Commerce	APK

#### B Degree (4 years)

<b>LLB</b>	<b>B4L03Q</b>	31 with Mathematics OR 32 with Mathematical Literacy	5 (60%+)	4 (50%+)	3 (40%+)	4 (50%+)	Advocate, Attorney, State Advocate, Legal Advisor, Magistrate, Public Prosecutor	APK
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\* Waived in the case of international students with a non-South African secondary school-leaver's certificate which does not include a second language.

**Take note:** Meeting the Faculty's minimum requirements for a particular programme does not necessarily guarantee admission to that programme due to space constraints.

## APS SCALE

<b>APS Scale</b>	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
<b>Percentage</b>	80%–100%	70%–79%	60%–69%	50%–59%	40%–49%	30%–39%	0%–29%

# EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

(Depending on the degree completed)

## PUBLIC SECTOR

- Prosecutors: State Advocate (High Court), Prosecutor (Magistrates' Court)
- Presiding Officers: Judge, Magistrate, Commissioner, Arbitrator
- State Attorney
- State Legal Advisor
- Court Officer
- Master of the High Court
- Registrar: Companies and Intellectual Property Registration Office
- Office of the Family Advocate
- South African Law Reform Commission
- Public Defender/Public Protector
- Human Rights Commission
- Legal Academic
- International Organisations: UN, IMF, WTO etc.

## PRIVATE SECTOR

- Attorney
- Advocate
- Conveyancer
- Notary
- Legal Advisor
- Office Personnel in a law firm
- Compliance Officer

## A frequently asked question...

### **What's the difference between an attorney and an advocate?**

Attorneys and advocates share the same qualifications (at least an LLB degree). The difference exists in the type of work done on a daily basis.

### **Attorneys**

Attorneys can be considered as the general practitioners of the legal profession. Their clients are members of the general public (both corporate entities and private individuals). The attorney consults with a client to identify the legal problem faced by the client and to analyse the various options available to the client in law to protect his, her or its rights. Much of an attorney's day is divided



between consultations with clients and advocates, drafting court documents, drafting letters, interviewing witnesses, interviewing experts, conducting research in regard to legal questions, advising clients, and generally performing the administrative tasks necessary to run a successful practice. While attorneys may specialise in a particular aspect of law (for example motor vehicle accident claims or intellectual property), often an attorney deals with a wide variety of matters ranging from matters concerning family law, to those concerning corporate law, the law of delict, the law of contract, and even matters of a criminal law nature.

### **Advocates**

Advocates, on the other hand, are said to be specialist litigators and orators. Their clients may not come from the public. They are “briefed” by attorneys in order to argue the case – in a court, tribunal or forum – of the attorney’s client. Much of the advocate’s work involves going to court to present the cases prepared by the attorney. Additionally, advocates conduct legal research, draft legal documents (or consider and amend legal documents drafted by their instructing attorney) and consult with witnesses, the attorney’s client and experts together with the instructing attorney. Once an advocate has reached a degree of seniority in the profession, he/she may be given the status of Senior Counsel (SC). Generally, in larger and more important cases, a Senior Counsel will take the lead with the assistance of a junior advocate.





# POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

## MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)

1. LLM by dissertation
2. LLM by coursework

### Possible fields:

Banking Law  
Commercial Law  
Corporate Law  
Drafting and Interpretation of Contracts  
Human Rights

Intellectual Property Law  
International Commercial Law  
International Law  
Labour Law  
Tax Law

## DOCTOR LEGUM (LLD)

Various fields

## CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

1. Postgraduate Diploma in Labour Law
2. Postgraduate Diploma in Tax Law
3. Postgraduate Diploma in International Tax Law
4. Postgraduate Diploma in Drafting and Interpretation of Contracts
5. Postgraduate Diploma in Compliance
6. SLP\* in Money Laundering Control\*\*
7. SLP\* in Compliance Management\*\*
8. SLP\* in Board Governance\*\*
9. Higher Certificate in Criminal Justice and Forensic Investigations
10. Postgraduate Diploma in Corporate Law
11. SLP\* in Business Rescue
12. SLP\* in Company Law: Fundamental Principles
13. SLP\* in Corporate Finance and Securities Law
14. SLP\* in Corporate Insolvency Law
15. SLP\* in Intellectual Property Law
16. SLP\* in Legislative Drafting
17. SLP\* in Foundations of Animal Law
18. National Diploma in Law: Paralegal Studies
19. Online: Law and Industry 4IR

\* Short Learning Programme

\*\* A stand-alone module, which can be elected to be completed either independently or as a component of the Postgraduate Diploma in Compliance

## FACULTY OF LAW: RESEARCH CENTRES AND STRUCTURES

- **CICLASS:** Centre for International and Comparative Labour and Social Security Law
- **SAIFAC:** South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law
- **RC-PILEC:** Research Centre for Private International Law in Emerging Countries
- **SARCIL:** South African Research Chair in International Law (NRF)
- **Research Unit for Banking Law**
- **Chair in Social Security Law**



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## FACULTY OF LAW

### **GENERAL LAW ENQUIRIES**

Tel: 011 559 2141 | Fax: 011 559 2049 | Email: thokozilem@uj.ac.za

### **EXECUTIVE DEAN**

Prof Wesahl Domingo | A-Ring 731 | Tel: 011 559 2135

### **HEAD OF FACULTY ADMINISTRATION**

Ms Phaladi Magongoa | Tel: 011 559 2645 | Email: phaladim@uj.ac.za

### **SENIOR FACULTY OFFICER**

Ms Monica Brits | Tel: 011 559 2662 | Email: mbrits@uj.ac.za

### **FACULTY OFFICER**

Ms Merle Banks | Tel: 011 559 2151 | Email: mbanks@uj.ac.za

### **DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES**

Ms Tersia Engelbrecht | Tel: 011 559 2027 (APK)

Ms Esmirelda Booysen | Tel: 011 559 2837 (APK)

Ms Nokwanda Shabangu | Tel: 011 559 2771 (APK)

Ms Tertia Jacobs | Tel: 011 559 1628 (APB)

Ms Prudence Pullen-Lalla | Tel: 011 559 5211 (Soweto)

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMMES**

Tel: 011 559 3739 | lawcep@uj.ac.za

### **LAW CLINIC SECRETARY (APK)**

Ms Magda Otto | Tel: 011 559 4121

### **MARKETING CO-ORDINATOR**

Mr Mbuso Mthiyane | Tel: 011 559 4084 | Email: mmthiyane@uj.ac.za

### **FEES**

Enquiries regarding fees should be directed to Student Finance in E-Ring at APK.

They can be contacted on the following numbers:

011 559 3642 / 3906 / 4035 / 3768 / 3575

**University of Johannesburg**  
**Faculty of Law**

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For Open Day and Orange Carpet info visit [future.uj.mobi](http://future.uj.mobi)