Faculty of Law LLM Corporate Law



FACULTY OF LAW



Recent substantive legislative reforms have led to increased demand for expertise in the field of corporate law. An LLM in Corporate Law provides the ideal foundation for specialising in this popular focus area.

The Master's in Corporate Law can be completed in one year for full-time students and over two years for part-time students. It consists of a minor dissertation on a corporate law topic together with three taught modules as set out below:

(i) Company Law (first semester)

This compulsory module, which anchors the LLM in Corporate Law, essentially deals with problematic aspects of corporate personality: the nature of legal personality and piercing the corporate veil; corporate capacity; corporate criminal liability; corporate social responsibility; corporate governance; directors' duties and liability; corporate groups and companies and the Constitution. Specific aspects of South African company law are considered against a conceptual or theoretical basis. This module is presented by Professor Kathleen van der Linde.

(ii) Corporate Finance Law (second semester)

In this module, the focus is on legal aspects of debt and equity financing, capital structure, and mergers and acquisitions. In addition to being an essential part of large corporate transactions, corporate finance remains relevant in even the smallest company where control and capital structure are interdependent. The principles of share capital, authorised shares, consideration for shares and the issuing of shares are traversed. Distributions, including share repurchases, are considered in detail, along with financial assistance. Aspects of debt financing are covered. Attention is also given to the corporate law regulation of takeovers and mergers and to tax aspects of corporate finance. This module is presented by Professor Kathleen van der Linde.

(iii) Corporate Insolvency Law (second semester)

The global financial crisis has heightened interest and seen an increase in calls for efficiency with respect to insolvency procedures. As a result, there is currently a high demand for law professionals with expertise in corporate restructuring and insolvency law. The emphasis of this module is mainly on corporate enterprise insolvency, paying special regard to the alternatives of business rescue and liquidation in covering both the formal law and the underlying principles and policies. The module also considers cross-border issues arising when a company's assets and liabilities are located in multiple jurisdictions. The course is presented by Professor Juanitta Calitz who specialises in insolvency law, as well as various guest lecturers who are experts in their fields.

Lectures or seminars in the taught modules are presented in the evenings on weekdays from 18h00 to 20h00 (one seminar per week per module).

The next student intake will be in February 2023. In general, as a minimum admission requirement, students must have attained an average of 65% for their law subjects in their LLB degree.

For further information and enquiries regarding entry requirements, closing dates and the application procedure, as well as the content of the coursework, please do not hesitate to contact the faculty:

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