# Faculty of Law Short Learning Programme: Foundations of Animal Law



UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG

FACULTY OF LAW







## **Introduction:**

For the first time on the African continent, the Faculty of Law at the University of Johannesburg will be offering a short learning programme, **Foundations of Animal Law**. This is the first animal law course (to our knowledge to be offered) in South Africa and Africa more generally. The course will be held fully online and provide you with a convenient and accelerated opportunity to learn about this exciting field. This programme will introduce you to the way in which the law and policy intersects with animals and explore cutting-edge legal developments in this area. It will provide an understanding of the main regulatory framework governing animal law in South Africa and further analyse the gaps, realities and opportunities for providing greater protection for nonhuman animals in law and policy.

# How Will You Learn?

The programme is held online in the evenings and is broken down into 10 sessions. It features a range of interactive content, including live video lectures, a selection of materials and case studies and access to various further educational resources. The programme is presented on the Blackboard e-Learning platform. After successful registration, students will receive their personal log-in details and will gain access through the uLink portal. The duration of the lecture portion of the programme is 5 weeks with two lectures per week (May 2022 – June 2022) culminating in the requirement to write a detailed position paper at the end of the course (for which another few weeks will be provided).

# **Continuing Professional Development:**

 Delegates who successfully complete the programme will qualify for a certificate from the University signalling their completion of the course.

# Admission:

- Ideal for a person who has legal credits in their degree or has a degree such as an LLB or a degree in public policy;
- Open to a current student of law who is at least in their third year of study;
- Suitable for a person who works with animals professionally (for example in organisations, in animal industry, as animal inspectors or as veterinarians) who has some legal knowledge and background and who must have at least an NQF level 6 qualification in their area of expertise; or
- Suitable for academics and practitioners in other areas who wish to expand their knowledge their knowledge of the intersection of animals and their areas of expertise.

# **Documents Required:**

- certified copy of ID Document
- certified copy of Marriage Certificate (If applicable e.g. your Surname is different on your Grade 12 Certificate to what appears on your Tertiary Qualification Certificate/s)
- certified copy of Matric / Senior Certificate / School Leaving Certificate
- *certified* copy of Tertiary Qualification Certificate/s (If applicable)
- certified copy of Academic Record of your qualification/s obtained (If applicable)
- CV

# Assessment:

#### Each participant will be required to write:

- two short writing assignments (either in the form of a blog, or other appropriate short writing format) about the material covered during the course on a discussion forum which will be assessed; and
- a longer position paper utilising their knowledge and research to argue for one specific law reform in South Africa relating to animals.

# **Course Fees:**

The Course fees for 2022 are as follows:

Course Fee	SLP in Animal Law		R 15 440.00
Non-Refundable	Registration Levy and ICT Levy		R 1 040.00
	First Minimum payment – all students	R16 480.00	
	TOTAL		R16 480.00
Non-Refundable	International Levy – SADC Students (Residing outside South Africa)		R1 000.00
	TOTAL – SADC Students		R17 480.00

In accordance with a council decision, all fees are subject to change without notice.

The University reserves the right to change fees without prior notice or without providing reasons thereof.

## **Course Fees Plus Levies**

#### \*\*First Minimum Payment: R 16 480.00 for registration

**NB!!** All students, including students whose fees are paid by sponsors or employers, must pay a minimum amount 5 days prior to the date of the academic registration.

#### The banking details are as follows:

Bank: FNB Account holder: University of Johannesburg Account number: 62615873199 Branch code: 210-554 Branch name: Client Services Account Type: Cheque Account Swift Code: FIRNZ AJJ

N.B. Ensure that you use only your Student Number as the reference

#### **Applications:**

The closing date for applications is 25 April 2022

#### **Administrative Enquiries:**

For administrative assistance regarding this programme, please contact:

Esmeralde du Plessis: esmeraldedp@uj.ac.za (Course coordinator)

#### **Course Leaders:**

**Professor David Bilchitz** is a Professor of Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Law at the University of Johannesburg and Professor of Law at the University of Reading. He is also Director of the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC) and Vice-President of the International Association of Constitutional Law. He is also a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa. Bilchitz has a BA (Hons) LLB from the University of the Witwatersrand and an MPhil and PhD from the University of Cambridge. In relation to animal law, Prof Bilchitz is a director of Animal Law Reform South Africa and has been involved actively in changing the plight of animals in South Africa. He has also written several articles considering the changes that the new democratic constitutional order - that emerged in South Africa in 1994 - should bring about in relation to the status and entitlements of animals.

Attorney Amy P. Wilson is an attorney and the first South African to graduate with a master's degree in Animal Law. Amy has BCom, LLB and LLM degrees and previously practiced corporate commercial law as a senior associate before leaving practice to focus on social justice in academia and research. Amy is co-founder and director of the first dedicated animal law nonprofit in the country – Animal Law Reform South Africa and holds several leadership roles in animal protection nonprofits throughout Africa. Amy has worked as a fellow at UCLA School of Law in Los Angeles, California and at the world's premier animal law programme at Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon. She has consulted for academic and international animal protection organisations. She was recently appointed as a United Nations in Harmony with Nature Independent Expert for South Africa, a programme focusing on the rights of nature in law and policy. She has published in international peer reviewed journals and books and presented to audiences around the world.

# **Course Outline:**

The course will be run in 10 sessions which will cover some of the main aspects of animal law. Some highlights will include:

- An introduction to key notions and concepts in the field such as animal welfare, animal rights and defining key terms including animal law;
- Exploring the philosophical, ethical and legal foundation for rights, duties and obligations and how these concepts apply to nonhuman animals and exploring the particularities of African philosophy and animals;
- Exploring the place of animals in the South African Constitution and the possibilities that exist for their protection with a focus on key case law and jurisprudence;
- An overview of the main animal welfare laws and policy in South Africa and their gaps in providing
  protection for animals;
- Exploring the connection between the environment and animals including the main environmental issues arising (from climate change, to pollution) and key laws and case law surrounding these issues;
- Probing practical issues relating to wild animals such as trophy hunting, the wildlife trade, the captive lion and other wildlife industry and the management of wild animals;
- Examining the plight of captive animals (both wild and domestic) and the legal framework governing them;
- Engaging with the issues and legal framework surrounding animals in agriculture including
  practices such as factory farming and the live export of animals;
- Considering the need for global regulation around animals and engaging with some of the main International Law instruments that affect animals including CITES, and the Convention on Biological Diversity; and other internationally regulated issues such as health, trade and climate change;
- Considering foreign and comparative law that is developing around animals and key judgments that have emerged protecting animals, including analysing key developments in North America; Europe; Australia, Asia and South America; and
- Exploring the relationship between protection for animals and the well-being of humans including some of the social justice issues raised by our use of animals.

# **Online Application**

TO MAKE AN ONLINE APPLICATION (No Application Fee is payable)

- The Course Code is: S4ANMO
- For a quicker and easier application process for first-time (new) applicants use the link below: Short Web Application
  - https://registration.uj.ac.za/pls/prodi41/wuj012pkg.wuj012\_startup
- And the RETURNING student web link is: https://registration.uj.ac.za/pls/prodi41/w99pkg.mi\_login
- For both processes above the "token" that must be used by applicants is LAWSLP

For assistance regarding Applications please contact the University call centre on (+27) 11 559 4555 or at mylife@uj.ac.za