

# Faculty of Law

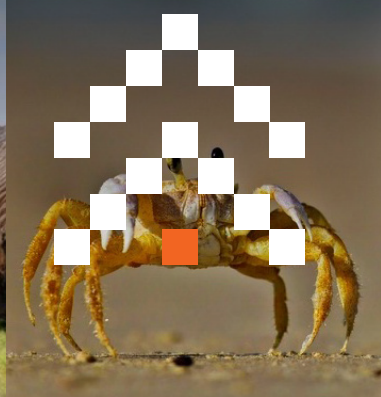
## Short Learning Programme: Foundations of Animal Law

Non-subsidised Programmes (NSP)



UNIVERSITY  
OF  
JOHANNESBURG

FACULTY OF LAW



**Our Future  
Reimagined**

## Programme Overview

The Faculty of Law: Non-subsidised Programmes Centre offers the short learning programme titled: Foundations of Animal Law. This is the third time that the animal law course is being held, after being offered for the first time in South Africa (and Africa more generally) in 2022. The course is held fully online and provides learners with a convenient and accelerated opportunity to learn about this exciting field. This programme will introduce learners to the way in which the law and policy intersects with animals and explores 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 analyses the gaps, realities and opportunities for providing greater protection for animals in law and policy.

## Programme Content

The course will be run over approximately 10 sessions during the second semester in 2025. Some of the main aspects of the programme 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 non-human 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 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 relevant international law and animals;
- Taking into account South African experience while considering foreign and comparative law that is developing around animals; and
- Exploring the relationship between protection of animals and the well-being of humans.

## Assessment

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

- A short writing assignment or assignments; and
- a longer academic style position paper relating to the subject matter of the course.

## Programme Presenter(s)

**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. Prof 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 co-founder and 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.

**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 Executive 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. She is a lecturer, research associate and LLD candidate with the University of Johannesburg. 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. Amy is an independent expert with the United Nations in Harmony with Nature Programme, which focuses 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.

### Lectures and Workshops

The programme is held online in the evenings and is broken down into approximately 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 Moodle e-Learning platform. The lecture portion of the programme will take place with one to two lectures per week with exact dates to be confirmed culminating in the requirement to write a detailed position paper at the end of the course (for which another few weeks will be provided).

### Certificate and Continuing Professional Development

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

The course has been approved for 28 CPD points with the South African Veterinary Council.

### Application Dates

Applications open from the **31 August 2024** and closes **27 May 2025**.

### Admission Requirements

- The course is open to all who may be interested, but learners are required to have at least an NQF level 6 qualification in their area of expertise.
- 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 in their second year of study or more;
- Suitable for a person who works with animals professionally (for example in organisations, in the animal industry, as animal inspectors or 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 of the intersection of animals and their area of expertise.

### Documents Required:

- certified copy of ID
- 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)

## 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](https://registration.uj.ac.za/pls/prodi41/wuj012pkg.wuj012_startup)
- The RETURNING student web link is:  
[https://registration.uj.ac.za/pls/prodi41/w99pkg.mi\\_login](https://registration.uj.ac.za/pls/prodi41/w99pkg.mi_login)
- For both processes above the “token” that must be used by applicants is **LAWSLP**
- Password/Pin reset: If you have previously created a password/pin, you will be prompted to login with that password/pin. You can click on the “Forgot Password/Pin” button if you cannot remember your password/pin and follow the instructions to reset your password/pin.

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

## Programme Fees

Fees for 2025
R11 500.00

A full upfront payment of the course fees is required upon registration. It is advised that students start making payments towards their fees by depositing money into their student account on a monthly basis upon being admitted for the programme. The course fee includes the cost of the textbook.

Non-refundable International Levy - SADC students: R1 000.00

Please contact your course coordinator for the final course fees.

Please be aware that SADC students also pay an international levy. SADC/International students must also contact the International Office of UJ on 011 559 4399 or Email: [international1@uj.ac.za](mailto:international1@uj.ac.za) prior to registration.

Students whose fees are paid by a bursary sponsor or employer must request for a tax invoice from the NSP financial officer, Mr Isaac Moagi - [imoagi@uj.ac.za](mailto:imoagi@uj.ac.za)

Students who do not pay the full fees will not be permitted to register and thus will not be able to attend classes.

## Administrative Enquiries:

For administrative assistance regarding this programme, please contact: Lefa Morwena: [lefam@uj.ac.za](mailto:lefam@uj.ac.za) or call 011 559 3631

