

## QUALITY IN TEACHING-LEARNING, RESEARCH AND SERVICE DELIVERY

The Faculty of Law at the North-West University provides quality legal education, undertakes focused research, and is involved in the community. The faculty's goal is to equip law students with the knowledge, ethics and skills that they will need in their professional lives, and also to expand the science of law through the research our staff and postgraduate students conduct in the service of justice and democracy. We offer law programmes across our three campuses, and also a community law centre in Mahikeng and a law clinic in Potchefstroom. We therefore have a presence in, and understanding of, urban and rural environments.

In our undergraduate studies we incorporate public law, legal philosophy and a sound exposure to private and mercantile law underpinned by criminal and procedural law. The postgraduate offerings on master's-degree and doctorate levels encompass diverse fields, including environmental law and governance, estate law, international child law, labour law, public law and legal philosophy, criminal law and procedural and international trade law.

## NWU - AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED UNIVERSITY

The NWU proudly represents the African continent on the global stage as one of the largest and most sought-after universities in the world. Well known for its excellence in teaching-learning and research, the University boasts a student population that is representative of 66 different nationalities. The latter bears testament to the NWU's global competitive advantage.

Through strategic international collaborations with experts and other institutions of higher learning, the NWU further ensures a global footprint of distinction and quality. Consequently, the NWU takes great pride in the worth of its comprehensive undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, as well as its proven research track record

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Faculty of Law has different application requirements for the respective degree programmes. Please refer to the link below for detailed information:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/undergraduate-studies/fields-study>

### HOW DO I APPLY?

Please refer to our website for online application.  
<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/studies/apply>

### MONEY MATTERS

For a wide range of bursaries and financial support, please contact 018 299 2672 or visit <http://law.nwu.ac.za/undergraduate-studies/bursaries>



## ON GOOD AUTHORITY

A message from the  
executive dean,  
Prof Stephen de la Harpe

"The Faculty of Law NWU, which has three sites of delivery, namely at the campuses in Mahikeng, Potchefstroom and Vaal Triangle, wishes to welcome each and every law student to the faculty. We are proud of the people involved in the faculty – staff, students and alumni alike. We strive for excellence in our core business, namely teaching and learning, research and community engagement. At our faculty you can be assured of quality ethical legal training, forward-looking relevant research and meaningful community engagement, taking into account the need for social justice. We are committed to make a positive contribution to each and every student, the law and our society."

## WE HAVE THE FACTS!

- 50% of academic staff members of the faculty hold doctoral degrees and their fields of expertise cover a wide spectrum of legal disciplines.
- Profs Christa Rautenbach and Anél du Plessis have recently been appointed by the Minister of Justice and Correctional Services as advisory committee members of the South African Law Reform Commission.
- Prof Leon Kotzé is the recipient of the prestigious European Commission Marie Curie fellowship grant.
- Ms Biandri Joubert (LLD candidate) received a research fellowship from the United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning.
- The faculty partners with the Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany to conduct research on the globalisation of urban governance and its relationship with international and domestic legal systems.
- The faculty annually hosts the Juta Mock Trial competition and participate in numerous other moot court competitions.

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



Phone 018 299 1921 (undergraduate) or  
018 299 1952 (higher degrees)



E-mail [LAW@nwu.ac.za](mailto:LAW@nwu.ac.za)



Web <http://law.nwu.ac.za/>



Faculty of  
**LAW**



## THE NUMBERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES



**Male:**  
1 463



**Female:**  
1 739



**Master's degrees:**  
179



**Doctorates:**  
94



**African students:**  
1 975



**International students:**  
146



**Academic staff:**  
80



**NRF-rated researchers:**  
10



**Total students in faculty:**  
3 202



■ **Undergrad:** 2 867  
■ **Postgrad:** 331  
(Occasional students: 4)

## UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES:

sharpening your pencil towards a professional law career

### UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

In our undergraduate programmes we are committed to academic excellence, have an innovative approach to the teaching of law and aim to offer high-quality instruction in law subjects.

The faculty offers the following qualifications across its three campuses:

**Bachelor of Arts in Law (BA in Law):** Allows the student to acquire knowledge of the South African legal system, private law, constitutional law and customary law. The subject groups Private Law, Public Law, Mercantile Law and Criminal and Procedural Law exist in order to assist in the academic administration of the programme. If you hold this degree, you can enrol for the LLB degree. (Potchefstroom and Vaal Triangle Campus)

**Bachelor of Commerce in Law (BCom in Law):** Recommended to students who have a dual interest in law and business. This degree complements the LLB, as it provides a broader perspective on commerce, in particular. The subject groups in a BCom in Law are exactly the same as in the case of the BA in Law, the only difference being that modules relating to commerce are also included. (Mafikeng, Potchefstroom and Vaal Triangle Campus)

**Bachelor of Laws as first degree (LLB):** The difference between the LLB, and other law degrees is that generally LLB students spend their

entire course studying the law, while students in other law programmes also spend time studying modules outside of law. This LLB degree programme is also offered as a second degree for students already in possession of a BA in Law or a BCom in Law. Career opportunities includes working as an attorney, advocate, state prosecutor, magistrate, working in government, the commercial sector as legal adviser. (Mafikeng and Potchefstroom Campus)

**Extended Bachelor of Laws as first degree (LLB):** The differences between the four-year LLB and the extended LLB are that the law modules are spread over a period of five years rather than four and that in the first year specific modules are included, to bridge the gap between school and university, and to enhance the skills needed to be able to successfully complete the degree. The career opportunities are exactly the same as for the four-year LLB degree.

### COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE ON THE MAFIKENG CAMPUS

At the community law centre we are committed to provide quality legal assistance to the community, primarily to indigent people who qualify for free legal assistance. This service is combined with practical legal training for students, who are empowered to apply their acquired legal skills. This specialised unit is principally responsible for our community service and outreach programmes.

The centre provides free legal aid to indigent people in the communities surrounding Mahikeng and offers professional and technical assistance to paralegal offices and advice centres in the province. The centre also trains candidate attorneys for admission as attorneys.

### LAW CLINIC ON THE POTCHEFSTROOM CAMPUS

The law clinic is involved in a number of projects concerning free legal services, community outreach, and capacity-building programmes, as well as advisory services. The law clinic operates in the provinces of North-West and Mpumalanga. It offers practical legal training to students, short courses for lawyers and paralegals, and training to members of the local communities. The law clinic also provides free legal services to poor and vulnerable people in the above provinces. It further provides advisory services to members of the community to promote a "rights-based" society, and to, convince them that, instead of taking the law into their own hands, they should use the law to enforce their rights.

### SHORT LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Any member of the public may enrol for any of these courses, should they comply with the admission criteria for the specific programme. All programmes have been approved by the NWU Institutional Committee on Academic Standards. The programmes comply with the prescribed 40-hour formal training and standards set by the court-annexed mediation rules as one of the requirements for registration as a mediator. We will gladly offer any of these as an in-house training programme adapted to your particular needs. Programmes offered includes:

#### Short learning programme on:

- Practical Mediation
- Civil Mediation
- Legislative Drafting

## POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES AND RESEARCH

The Faculty of Law offers three main options for postgraduate studies:

### MASTER'S DEGREES

#### LLM in:

- Comparative Child Law
- Environmental Law and Governance
- Estate Law
- International Trade Law
- Labour Law
- Criminal Law and Procedure

- Public Law and Legal Philosophy
- LLM by Research

#### MPhil in:

- Environmental Law and Governance

### PHILOSOPHIAE DOCTOR IN:

- LLD obtained by writing a thesis

### POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS

- Postgraduate Diploma in Labour Law

## RESEARCH

### NWU research entity:

#### Research Unit for Law, Justice and Sustainability

This unit addresses developmental and legal challenges in South Africa. All full-time academic staff members of the Faculty of Law and a number of international postdoctoral fellows participate in the work of the research unit, which has five active research projects. The faculty is also proud to have a number of distinguished international scholars associated with our research projects. The various projects in the unit deal with cutting-edge and cross-cutting issues pertaining to both the public and the private sector. Examples are trade, innovation and development, land issues, poverty alleviation, social security and labour rights matters, environmental governance, jurisprudence, the challenges of law in practice, the realisation of socio-economic rights, religion and culture.

### Research chair:

#### DST/NRF South African Research Chair in Cities, Law and Environmental Sustainability (CLES)

The objectives of CLES are to develop a new theoretical framework for the future description, analysis and development of urban law and governance in South Africa with a focus on environmental sustainability; to research and analyse the legal foundations of urban development and the legally justifiable expectation that governments (including the South African government) should create communities that are safe, sustainable, resilient and inclusive; and to equip a new cohort of highly-skilled and connected young legal scholars who can spearhead this work in academia and legal practice, in South Africa and beyond.