

Welcome to the Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law might be the smallest at UCT, but its footprint is large – whether you're talking about the impact of its staff and students on society, the largesse of its alumni or the diversity of its research.

The faculty strives to make a significant contribution to legal education and intellectual discourse, both nationally and internationally.



Did you know?

- 1 The faculty is the oldest law school in South Africa.
- 2 It is ranked 40th in the top 100 law schools worldwide.
- 3 In the three years since the inauguration of UCT's social responsiveness award, it has twice been awarded to members of the law faculty.
- 4 The faculty has over 25 international agreements that enable students and staff to pursue exchanges in countries such as Australia, Canada, Ethiopia, Europe, Kenya, the UK and the USA.
- 5 In 2016 the Law Students' Council (LSC), the LSC president, *Altum Sonatur* (UCT law students' newsletter) and the president of the Postgraduate Students' Association all received leadership awards from the university and the Vice-Chancellor.



“Historically, South African law played an important role in creating and retaining an oppressive and divided society. Our Constitution is the driving force in creating an open, democratic and free society.

Here at the Faculty of Law we are committed to furthering the goals of the Constitution. Our aim is to train the next generation of skilled legal professionals who will ensure the maintenance and strengthening of our open, free and democratic society.”

PROFESSOR PENELOPE ANDREWS
Dean of Law

How do I apply?

Come and see what is on offer at the Faculty of Law during UCT's annual Open Day or contact the faculty to arrange a time to visit.

For details on the 2017 admission guidelines, visit www.law.uct.ac.za/law/prospectivestud/admissions_requirements

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09 Faculty of Law



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

The Faculty of Law is home to over 1 000 students, of which:



66%

are women



43%

are master's or doctoral students



49%

are black (African, coloured and Indian)

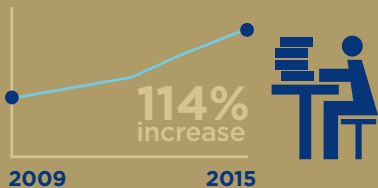


19%

are international students

Our teaching and research staff are leaders in their fields:

- The first National Research Foundation (NRF) chair in humanities was given to the law faculty.
- Two UCT law professors are NRF A-rated researchers.
- 14 UCT law professors are NRF rated.
- Our academic staff remain the leading public intellectuals in the country.
- Thanks to the generosity of alumni, the faculty is able to offer financial support to over 30 LLB students, seven master's students and one PhD candidate every year.



The law school recorded a 114% increase in the number of black South African LLB students between 2009 and 2015. At present, black students constitute 40% of the UCT student body as a whole, while 41% are white.

The faculty teaches law courses to over 3 000 students in other faculties.

Commercial Law

The Department of Commercial Law covers a wide range of legal fields. Apart from the core LLB courses – corporation law and business transactions law – the department is also responsible for professional courses in business law, company law and labour law. In this way, the department not only maintains contacts with other faculties at UCT, but every year teaches law to around 3 000 non-law students.

Private Law

The Department of Private Law is made up of active researchers whose fields of study cohere closely with our teaching. Key areas of interest include the doctrine and theory of the law of delict; customary law; land law and land redistribution; unjustified enrichment; family law, including Muslim family law; law of contract; law of succession; adjectival law, in particular civil procedure, comparative law and the nature of legal systems; various facets of legal history, including Roman law; the theory of legal education and the jurisprudential context of private law.

Public Law

The Department of Public Law is responsible for undergraduate and postgraduate courses in specialised topics within the broad fields of constitutional law, administrative law, human rights, environmental law, international law and criminal justice.

Within the Department of Public Law several research projects that have significant resonance for our constitutional democracy are currently underway. For example, one project concerns violence against women, especially the issue of rape; another looks at safety and security, particularly within local communities in Cape Town.



Socially responsible graduates

An aspect of an LLB at UCT is the community service obligation for all students, who must voluntarily complete 60 hours of unpaid service.

In addition, many law students participate in the Law Students' Council, Students for Law and Social Justice, and the Black Law Students' Forum.

Just over 50% of our graduates pursue a career in traditional legal practice; the other career paths are in the corporate world, government service, the NGO sector and academia.

Internationally recognised research

The faculty's research is recognised for its great relevance to the national and international needs of industry, government, the profession and civil society, as shown by the considerable funding of research programmes and projects.

Apart from the active research members in each department, there are a variety of research units situated in the departments pursuing specialised areas of research.

Examples of these areas of research include Comparative Law in Africa, Safety and Security Programme, Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law, New Rights and Governance, Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Development, Copyright and Creative Commons, and Nanotechnology and New Technologies.