

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES OFFERED - SEPARATE SECTION TO FACULTY ENTRY

In the Faculty of Law

Bachelor of Laws (LLB), a four year degree.

First year students are required to register for a BA, BCom or BSc with courses in Legal Theory. Students who successfully pass their first year subjects may apply to transfer to the Faculty of Law. Students may also follow a five year curriculum, obtaining two undergraduate degrees – a BA, BSocSci, BCom or BSc in the first three years, followed by a two year LLB – provided that they have obtained sufficient law credits in their first degree. To obtain sufficient law credits in the first degree, students will be required to major in Legal Theory. Students who have an undergraduate degree without any law credits will be required to register for a three year LLB programme.

FACULTY REQUIREMENTS

| FACULTY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS | POINTS | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| BACHELOR OF COMMERCE and BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS Mathematics level 4 or above Maths Literacy will not be considered | 40 points and above will receive a firm offer | Between 35-39 points admission will be at the Dean's Discretion. Various factors will be taken into consideration. | Between 30-34 points applications will be considered by the Dean for the extended studies programme. | 29 points and below - the application is likely to be rejected |
| BACHELOR OF BUSINESS SCIENCE Mathematics at Level 6 or above | 45 points and above will receive a firm offer | 40-44 points admission will be at the Dean's Discretion | | |
| BACHELOR OF ARTS, BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM, BFA and BMUS | 40 points and above will receive a firm offer | 36-39 points admission will be at the Dean's Discretion. | 30-35 Candidates in this range may be considered for the Extended Studies programme | 27 points and below - the application is likely to be rejected |
| BACHELOR OF SCIENCE Mathematics at Level 5 or above Life Sciences at Level 4 or above OR Physical Sciences at Level 4 or above | 40 points and above will receive a firm offer | 30-39 points admission will be at the Dean's Discretion | | 29 points and below - the application is likely to be rejected |

| FACULTY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS | POINTS | | | |
|--|---------------|--|--|--|
| BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CONTINUED Maths Literacy at Level 6 or above may be considered if candidates select subjects such as Geography / HKE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (Inf Sys) | | | | |

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|---|---|--|--|---|
| <p>and</p> <p>BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (Software Dev)</p> <p>Mathematics at Level 6 or above</p> <p>Mathematical Literacy will not be considered.</p> <p>Physical science is not required for BSc(S) or BSc(D)</p> | | | | |
| <p>BACHELOR OF PHARMACY</p> <p>Mathematics at Level 4 and above</p> <p>Life Sciences at Level 4 and above</p> <p>Physical Sciences at Level 4 and above</p> <p>Mathematical Literacy will not be considered</p> | <p>40 points and above will receive a firm offer</p> | <p>30-39 points admission will be at the Dean's Discretion</p> | | <p>29 points and below - the application is likely to be rejected</p> |
| <p>LAW</p> | <p>First year candidates are not accepted directly into Law. They are required to obtain 3 non-law credits through the Humanities, Commerce or Science route. A minimum of Mathematics level 4 or Mathematical Literacy level 5 is required to be considered for Law studies.</p> | | | |
| <p>ALL FACULTIES</p> | <p>Life Orientation is not counted for points in any Faculty, but you are required to obtain at least a level 4 in Life Orientation for acceptance.</p> | | | |

FACULTY SECTION

LAW AT RHODES

The Faculty of Law is one of the oldest Law Faculties in the country and was the first to have a full-time Professor of Law. Successive law graduates have served with distinction in law, commerce and industry, not only in Southern Africa, but also in other countries. At the First Year level the Law Faculty offers all students an integrated academic development programme aimed at bridging the gap between school and university. Small group teaching and learning in tutorials assist students in realising their full academic potential. The Faculty offers three degree programmes – the LLB, LLM and PhD degrees. Students who wish to broaden their education are encouraged to do so, and are able to follow a five-year programme during which they will obtain two degrees for example a BA, BCom or BSc as well as an LLB. For more information on the history of the Faculty, visit our website:

<http://www.ru.ac.za/law/history/>

THE FACULTY OF LAW

The Rhodes Law Faculty has a sound reputation for excellence. Our researchers are well-known and respected, and three staff members have through the years been awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Research Award.

The Faculty's goal is to produce high-quality graduates who are capable of becoming leaders both in the practice of law and in other areas, such as commerce, industry, politics and academia. Our aim is to inculcate a sense of justice, fairness and equity in all our students, irrespective of the courses they follow, and to provide sound teaching and research so that our graduates will be responsible, productive and ethical practitioners who are capable of being instruments for social change.

We have a reputation for producing graduates who show initiative, are good communicators and who have a sound knowledge of the law, an excellent grasp of legal principles, and some exposure to practical aspects during their education. Our graduates are known to have good social skills and are sought after among the profession. Almost all those graduates who seek employment are successful.

In all, the Rhodes Law Faculty offers a unique educational experience. Because of its small size and its extremely favourable staff/student ratio, students receive personal attention from our staff. We are proud of the service we offer to our students and will continue to encourage academic excellence.

Career training enhancement at Rhodes

Law Students at Rhodes University are provided with numerous opportunities to acquaint themselves with aspects of the practice of Law. These training opportunities have proved to be invaluable once our students embark on demanding careers in society. The following are a sample of learning opportunities in this area:

- The Law Clinic provides students with the opportunity of giving legal advice under the supervision of qualified lawyers.
- Moot courts and mock trials give students the opportunity to run cases in circumstances similar to real courts.
- Our students are assisted in competing in various moot and mock trial competitions held in different parts of Africa.
- Students who qualify have the opportunity to participate in international student exchange programmes.
- Judges, practitioners, subject experts and visiting professors are involved in Faculty activities on a regular basis and expose our students to a wealth of professional and academic experience.

BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB)

The LLB degree is the minimum academic qualification for practising law in South Africa. At Rhodes, the LLB degree is offered as a four-year programme, a two-year programme, or a three-year programme.

Only in exceptional circumstances will students who enter university for the first time register in the Faculty of Law at Rhodes. In their first year, all prospective LLB students register for a general degree in another faculty (Humanities, Science or Commerce) where they do some non-law courses as well as two law courses. Students may select courses from a wide range of subjects and a variety of permutations exists. Only in their second year, after obtaining sufficient information to make a proper decision, do students decide which route to follow. It also enables students who discover in their first year that they are not suited to a career in law to change their study direction without forfeiting a year of study.

The Faculty's resources are limited and students' academic results play an important role when applications for admission into the LLB are considered.

1. A five year combined Law and Humanities OR Law and Commerce OR Law and Science LLB stream

Students enter this stream with the intention of following a programme in Law and Humanities OR Law and Commerce OR Law and Science, leading to a BA/BSocSci or BCom/BBusSc or BSc and thereafter a two-year LLB. The objective of a broad-based education is achieved in this stream by including courses which ensure that students have a thorough grasp of at least one discipline outside Law. Students register for a BA, BSocSci, BCom, BBusSci or BSc in their first year of study and continue with that degree with Legal Theory as a major subject.

Having obtained the first degree, students then register for the LLB, to be completed over two years. To do so, one must have obtained sufficient law credits in the first degree, which is usually the case if one has majored in Legal Theory.

Normally candidates who obtained at least 60% in their Legal Theory major will be admitted, as will candidates from other universities who obtained an average of at least 60% in their previous year of study. Where a candidate has not met these requirements, the Dean of Law has the discretion to admit that person, on good cause shown and subject to availability of Faculty resources. Preference will be given to those candidates who obtained their first degree at Rhodes University.

2. A four year LLB stream

In their first year of university study students will be required to register in any one of the Faculties of Humanities, Science and Commerce, according to their subject choices. After their first year of study, those who meet the academic criteria may choose between following a five-year (eg, BA or BCom LLB) curriculum, or a four-year LLB curriculum. Those who don't meet the academic criteria must follow the five-year combined route.

Candidates who do not have a degree may be admitted to the second year of study for the LLB degree, provided that they have passed both the law courses offered in their first year of study (Foundations of Law and Introduction to Law) with an average of 60% as well as have obtained an overall average of 60% for three non-law courses studied in that year. (Students who do not meet these criteria must follow the five-year route.)

3. A three year LLB for graduate students

Students enter this stream after having completed a Bachelor's degree without law subjects, or with insufficient law credits. They may be admitted to the second year of study for the LLB degree, provided that they obtained 60% for their major subjects. Where a candidate has not met this requirement, the Dean of Law has the discretion to admit that person, on good cause shown and subject to availability of Faculty resources.

EXAMPLES OF SOME CURRICULA

(please check the latest 'Law Faculty Survival Guide' for any updates in the curriculum since this Handbook went to press)

THE LLB CURRICULUM: 4 YEARS

| 1ST YEAR | 2ND YEAR | PENULTIMATE YEAR | FINAL YEAR |
|---|--|---|---|
| Three non-law courses | One non-law course at Second Year level | | |
| First Semester Foundations of Law | First Semester Constitutional Law A; Law of Contract A; Law of Persons; Law of Property A; Legal Interpretation; | First Semester Civil Procedure A; Company Law A; Criminal Law A; Criminal Procedure A; Law of Delict A; Legal Skills; Public International Law Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester) | First Semester Administrative Law A; Civil Procedure B; Criminal Procedure B; Individual Labour Law; Law of Sale and Lease; 2 Electives from the first semester list |
| Second Semester Introduction to Law | Second Semester Constitutional Law B; Law of Contract B; Customary Law; Law of Life Partnerships; Law of Property B; | Second Semester Company Law B; Criminal Law B; Jurisprudence; Law of Delict B; Law of Evidence A; Law of Partnerships and Trusts; Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester) | Second Semester Administrative Law B; Law of Evidence B; Law of Insolvency and Winding up of Companies and Close Corporations; Law of Agency, Insurance and Credit Agreements; Law of Succession and Administration of Estates; 2 Electives from the second semester list |

BA, BCOM, BSC CURRICULUM: (3 YEARS), TO BE FOLLOWED BY A 2 YEAR LLB

This curriculum exempts one from the first two years of the LLB degree. The LLB curriculum following this degree will therefore be the same as that for the Penultimate and Final years of the LLB curriculum.

| 1ST YEAR | 2ND YEAR | 3RD YEAR |
|--|---|--|
| Any three non-law courses | One non-law course at Second Year level; Two non-law courses at First Year level or Second Year level. | One non-law course at Third Year level |
| Legal Theory 1 First Semester Foundations of Law | Legal Theory 2 First Semester Constitutional Law A; Legal Interpretation | Legal Theory 3 First Semester Law of Contract A; Law of Persons; Law of Property A |
| Second Semester Introduction to Law | Second Semester Constitutional Law B; Customary Law | Second Semester Law of Contract B; Law of Life Partnerships; Law of Property B |

THE LLB CURRICULUM FOLLOWING A BA, BCOM OR BSC (LAW CURRICULUM): 2 Years

THE LLB CURRICULUM FOLLOWING ANY DEGREE WITH NO LAW COURSES: 3 Years

This route is for students who have a degree but either have no law credits at all, or insufficient law credits to qualify for the two-year option.

Details of the degree structure and requirements for the LLB degree can be found in the Faculty of Law section of the University Calendar, and are obtainable on request.

LIST OF ELECTIVES WHICH COULD BE TAKEN IN THE FINAL YEAR OF STUDY:

In both the first and second semesters, a research paper may be completed for one semester credit. All electives will not necessarily be offered every year. The availability of options will depend upon teaching arrangements in the Faculty of Law. For the same reason electives may be taught in different semesters.

| First Semester | Second Semester |
|---|--|
| Copyright and Trade Marks | Arbitration |
| International Trade Law | Collective Labour Law |
| Introduction to Conveyancing | Competition Law |
| Law of Banking and Payments | Constitutional Litigation |
| Law of Unjustified Enrichment | Environmental Law |
| Legal Accounting | IsiXhosa for Law |
| Negotiation and Mediation | Law of Patents, Designs and Geographical Indications |
| International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law | Law of Tax and Estate Planning |

ALASTAIR KERR LAW LIBRARY

The law library is centrally situated on the ground floor of the main building of the Faculty of Law. The library collection comprises an extensive collection of South African legal publications, as well as Anglo-American, Canadian and other foreign legal publications and journals, covering all aspects of international and comparative law.

A modern thirty-station computer laboratory provides access to major electronic publications and on-line access to the Internet and E-mail, legal databases like Lexis Nexis, electronic catalogues and word processing programs. Laser printing and photocopier facilities are available in the library.

The library is equipped with numerous study cubicles, where students are encouraged to spend as much time as necessary. An extension, the PPS Wing, was added in 1999, with the specific goal to provide an attractive, comfortable, quiet study area.

The library offers non-credit research courses and workshops to develop and improve legal research skills to enable each student to become an effective and efficient legal researcher.

LAW CLINIC

The Law Clinic provides free legal services to indigent people and hands-on practical experience and training to law students. It operates as a fully-fledged attorney's office.

Apart from free legal services to poor people, the Clinic currently conducts three other human rights projects:

- An Advice Office Project, which provides training and back-up legal services to about fifty paralegal advice offices throughout the Eastern Cape Province.
- The Queenstown Rural Legal Centre, a branch office of the Law Clinic; and
- Community legal and human rights education: the Clinic trains facilitators and its staff also conduct community workshops.

The Legal Practice course is closely linked to students' work at the Law Clinic, with the main focus on skills such as consultation and communication, file and case management, drafting of letters, pleadings and other court notices, trial advocacy as well as professional ethics.

Legal Practice is a compulsory one semester course. A pro forma letter confirming attendance is given to all students who work at the Law Clinic, whether for one semester or more. Students who have successfully completed Legal Practice may apply to serve as Student Mentors and also as Clinic Interns during vacations.

There is also a financial award to the most dedicated student at the Law Clinic.

PRACTISING LAW IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Qualifications of Legal Practitioners Amendment Act of 1997 provides that the LLB degree will be the universal legal qualification for admission and enrolment as an advocate or attorney. The Act of Parliament regulating admission to practise law is likely to be replaced in the next few years, which might change the requirements.

Advocate

Normally those who wish to enter private practice as advocates will be required to become members of a Bar Association by undergoing a period of training in pupillage with a practising member of the Bar and by sitting an admission examination.

Attorney

Before admission as an attorney, an LLB graduate must serve as a candidate attorney with a practising attorney for two years. Attendance at a five month practical legal training course reduces the period required to serve articles to one year. Thereafter candidates write a professional examination.

Language Proficiency

There are no statutory language requirements for the practice of law. Language proficiency is, however, very important for the study and practice of law. Prospective lawyers are encouraged to include courses in the national languages (particularly English) in their curricula.

PRACTISING LAW ABROAD

A South African LLB is not sufficient for practising abroad, but some credits are recognised elsewhere. Each country has its own rules. See, for example, the following websites:

United States

The American Bar Association: <http://www.abanet.org>

United Kingdom

Law Society: <http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/home.law>

The Bar Council: <http://www.barcouncil.org.uk>

General Information

For general information about studying law see <http://www.ru.ac.za/law>

See also the law students Survival Guide at <http://www.ru.ac.za/law/studentinterests/studentbooklets/>