



RHODES UNIVERSITY  
*Where leaders learn*



Faculty of Law



**RHODES UNIVERSITY**  
*Where leaders learn*

**Department of Law**  
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Regsdepartement

# Why choose Law?

Law is foundational to the organization of society. It creates the structures of governance and regulates the relationships between the organs of state it creates. It furthermore regulates the relationships between the members of society and the state, and those that exist between members of society in their various interactions with one another. Law thus shapes and permeates every aspect of our lives – from the personal (marriage and divorce) to the commercial (business law), and from the public (constitutional law, criminal law) to the private (concluding contracts). Its study thus provides students with knowledge and insight into the reach and the possibilities for change that law creates.

The LLB degree is the minimum academic qualification for practising law in South Africa. However, legal education at Rhodes provides more than the entry ticket into the legal profession. Our discipline-based formative degree approach allows students to combine their interest in studying law in a BCom, BSc, BA or BSocSci degree before focusing their attention on law in the LLB.

An LLB degree opens up many career possibilities, including that of a legal practitioner (an attorney or an advocate) in private practice or in the employ of the state as a prosecutor or state advocate.





# The Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law is the smallest of the six faculties at Rhodes University.

LLB (Bachelor of Laws), LLM (Master of Laws) and PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) students are registered in the Faculty. In 2017 there are 177 students registered in the Faculty.

The LLB degree has a set curriculum and in the final year of study students may choose some elective courses. The choices include Alternative Dispute Resolution, The Law of Banking and Payments, Competition Law, Copyright and Trade Marks, International Trade Law, International Human Rights Humanitarian Law, Legal Accounting and Constitutional Litigation.

The LLM and PhD degrees in the Law Faculty are offered by thesis only.



APPLICANT

RESPONDENT

# The Department of Law

Students registered in the Faculties of Humanities, Commerce and Science many combine their Law major (called Legal Theory) with any major subject on offer in their respective faculties. Thus one could major in Law with a BA, BSocSci, BCom or BSc degree.

While the Faculty is small, the Law Department is big, with around 750 students registered for Legal Theory 1, 2 and 3. We also teach Commercial Law 1 and 2 as service courses to students registered in the Commerce Faculty, with about 320 students registered for these courses.





# The LLB degree

The LLB degree is registered at NQF Level 8.

Different routes exist to obtaining this qualification:

## **Three plus two (BA/BCom/BSocSci/BSc, LLB)**

This route provides students with a formative discipline-based degree in which they pursue Legal Theory as one of their majors, together with another major subject of their choice on offer in their respective faculties.

## **Three plus three (BA/BCom/BSocSci/BSc, LLB)**

This route allows students to complete the LLB after completing a first formative degree without any or sufficient law subjects.

## **The four year LLB (LLB)**

A small number of students choose to follow the four year LLB to focus their attention only on law.



## Three plus two (BA/BCom, BSocSci/BSc plus LLB)

The majority of students at Rhodes University follow this route, which provides our students with a formative discipline-based degree in which they pursue Legal Theory as one of their majors, together with another major subject of their choice on offer in their respective faculties.

Students are free to combine any subject the timetable will allow, with Legal Theory, as their majors. Popular choices for the second major include Economics, Environmental Science, Politics, Psychology and Sociology. Our students are thus able to choose a major suited to their personal interests and enhance their knowledge and expertise beyond law.

On completion of the formative discipline-based degree, students apply for admission to the LLB and they are admitted on the basis of their academic performance. Law courses passed as part of their Legal Theory major are recognised as self-standing courses for LLB purposes. Students complete their LLB degree in two years after obtaining their first degrees.

FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR	THIRD YEAR
<p>Any three non-law courses</p> <p>Legal Theory 1, consisting of:</p> <p><i>First Semester:</i> Foundations of Law</p> <p><i>Second Semester:</i> Introduction to Law</p>	<p>One non-law course at second-year level; Two non-law courses at first-year level or second-year level.</p> <p>Legal Theory 2, consisting of:</p> <p><i>First Semester:</i> Legal Interpretation Constitutional Law A</p> <p><i>Second Semester:</i> Constitutional Law B Law of Persons</p>	<p>One non-law course at third-year level</p> <p>Legal Theory 3, consisting of:</p> <p><i>First Semester:</i> Law of Contract A Law of Property A Law of Life Partnerships</p> <p><i>Second Semester:</i> Law of Contract B Legal Pluralism Law of Property B</p>
PENULTIMATE YEAR (FOURTH)		FINAL YEAR (FIFTH)
<p><i>First Semester:</i> Civil Procedure A Company Law A Criminal Law A Criminal Procedure A Law of Sale and Lease Public International Law Legal Skills Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester)</p> <p><i>Second Semester:</i> Company Law B Criminal Law B Jurisprudence Law of Agency, Insurance and Credit Agreements Law of Evidence A Law of Partnerships and Trusts Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester)</p>		<p><i>First Semester:</i> Administrative Law (first half) Civil Procedure B Criminal Procedure B Labour Law Law of Delict (first half) 2 Electives from the first semester list</p> <p><i>Second Semester:</i> Administrative Law (second half) Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law of Evidence B Law of Delict (second half) Law of Succession and Administration of Estates 2 Electives from the second semester list</p>



# Three plus three (BA/BCom, BSocSci/BSc plus LLB)

A small number of LLB students complete the LLB via this route, after completing a first formative degree without any or sufficient law subjects.

Non-law courses completed as part of a first degree are recognised for LLB purposes, and candidates complete the LLB degree over three years.

FIRST YEAR	PENULTIMATE YEAR	FINAL YEAR
<i>First Semester:</i> Foundations of Law Constitutional Law A Legal Interpretation Law of Contract A Law of Life Partnerships Law of Property A	<i>First Semester:</i> Civil Procedure A Company Law A Criminal Law A Criminal Procedure A Public International Law Law of Sale and Lease Legal Skills Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester)	<i>First Semester:</i> Administrative Law (first half) Civil Procedure B Criminal Procedure B Labour Law Law of Delict (first half)  2 Electives from the first semester list (subject to note 3 above)
FIRST YEAR	PENULTIMATE YEAR	FINAL YEAR
<i>Second Semester:</i> Introduction to Law Constitutional Law B Law of Contract B Law of Persons Law of Property B Legal Pluralism	<i>Second Semester:</i> Company Law B Criminal Law B Jurisprudence Law of Agency, Insurance and Credit Agreements Law of Evidence A Law of Partnerships and Trusts Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester) 1 Elective from 2nd semester list	<i>Second Semester:</i> Administrative Law (first half) Civil Procedure B Criminal Procedure B Labour Law Law of Delict (first half)  2 Electives from the first semester list (subject to note 3 above)

# The four year LLB (LLB)

A small number of students choose to focus their attention only on law.

In 2018, students will only be able to apply to the four year stream after being registered in another faculty in their first year, with Law as one of their majors. From 2019 onwards, a small number of first-time university entrants will be admitted to LLB1, provided that they meet the admissions criteria and subject to limited space.

FIRST YEAR BA/B Com/BSc	SECOND YEAR	PENULTIMATE YEAR	FINAL YEAR
<p>(From 2019 Limited LLB 1 spaces available)</p> <p>Three non-law courses</p> <p><i>First Semester:</i> Foundations of Law</p>	<p><i>One non-law course at second-year level</i></p> <p><i>First Semester:</i> Constitutional Law A Legal Interpretation Law of Contract A Law of Property A Law of Life Partnerships</p>	<p><i>First Semester:</i> Civil Procedure A Company Law A Criminal Law A Criminal Procedure A Law of Sale and Lease Public International Law Legal Skills Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester)</p>	<p><i>First Semester:</i> Administrative Law (first half) Civil Procedure B Criminal Procedure B Labour Law Law of Delict (first half)</p> <p>2 Electives from the first semester list</p>
<p><i>Second Semester:</i> Introduction to Law</p>	<p><i>Second Semester:</i> Constitutional Law B Law of Contract B Law of Persons Law of Property B Legal Pluralism</p>	<p><i>Second Semester:</i> Company Law B Criminal Law B Jurisprudence Law of Agency, Insurance &amp; Credit Agreements Law of Evidence A Law of Partnerships and Trusts Legal Practice (either 1st or 2nd semester)</p>	<p><i>Second Semester:</i> Administrative Law (second half) Ethics and Professional Responsibility Law of Evidence B Law of Delict (second half) Law of Succession and Administration of Estates 2 Electives from second semester list</p>