

**RHODES UNIVERSITY**



**COMMERCIAL LAW 102**

**GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET**

**2021**



## **1. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

### **1.1 Critical Outcomes**

The Commercial Law 1 course is designed so that the students should be able to achieve the following outcomes:

- to *communicate* legal issues verbally and in writing in the correct manner;
- to *communicate* effectively in class debate and class assignments;
- to *identify, analyse, extract* and *apply* legal principles to a simple set of facts;
- to *classify* factual situations according to the various branches of the law studied;
- to *identify* and *solve* basic practical legal problems;
- to *organise* and *manage* themselves and their work load;
- to *distinguish* the nature of rights and duties and provide an elementary explanation to a lay person;
- to *cope* with a more detailed study of commercial law; and
- to *use* technology in legal research.

## **2. CONTENT OF COURSE**

Commercial Law 1 consists of two one-credit courses, COL 101 and COL 102.

**Commercial Law 101** will cover the following areas of the law:

- Introduction to the nature of law;
- The administration of estates;
- The law of insolvency.
- General principles of contract, including special contracts;

**Commercial law 102** will cover the following areas of law:

- Partnership, close corporations and business trusts
- Introduction to business entities
- Aspects of Company law

### Commercial Law 102:

- **Section 1 (term 3)** – Prof EH van Coller
- **Section 2 (term 2)** – Adv Shuaib Rahim
- **Section 3 (term 2)** – Ms Laretta Morudu

<b>Specific Outcomes</b> <b><u>Students are expected to be able to:</u></b>	<b>Assessment Criteria</b> <b><u>Students must:</u></b>
To critically explain different concepts and principles relating to Business structures in South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify different types of Business Structures;</li><li>• Explain the nature and characteristics of the different structures (close corporations, partnerships and trusts)</li></ul>
To understand the basic principles of company law in South Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To understand the basic principles of the Companies Act;</li><li>• To be able to identify and discuss the different types of companies;</li><li>• To explain the formation of a company and identify groups of companies</li></ul>
To understand the principles applicable to corporate finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Define relevant concepts relating to corporate finance;</li><li>• Understand the essentials of company records, financial statements, public offerings, securities and financial markets;</li><li>• Understand the essentials of business rescue proceedings, company audits and reviews</li></ul>
To explain and understand the nature and function of various company role-players	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• explain the role and duty of shareholders &amp; directors;</li><li>• Understand the basics of company, board and other committee meetings;</li></ul>
To explain and understand the transactions applicable to companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Define and understand concepts relating to insider trading, fundamental transactions and takeovers;</li><li>• Understand and explain important remedies in various company transactions;</li><li>• Explain applicable procedures in the winding-up and deregistration of companies.</li></ul>
Apply the knowledge acquired during the course to solve practical problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify and discuss the relevant legal problem or issue.</li></ul>

with regard to aspects of company law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply the applicable law to the legal problem or issue.</li> <li>• Conclude with reference to remedies available, if appropriate.</li> </ul>
<b>Assessment tasks: (this can change in order to make it compatible for the online offering of the course)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class and tutorial exercises (formative assessment)</li> <li>• 2 Assignments (summative assessment)</li> <li>• Theory questions in the test and exam (summative assessment)</li> <li>• Problem and application questions in the test and exam (summative assessment)</li> </ul>	

### 3. CONTACT - Col 102

- Prof van Coller [h.vancoller@ru.ac.za](mailto:h.vancoller@ru.ac.za)
- Adv Rahim [s.rahim@ru.ac.za](mailto:s.rahim@ru.ac.za)
- Ms Morudu [l.morudu@ru.ac.za](mailto:l.morudu@ru.ac.za)

### 4. LECTURE TIMES AND VENUES

Unless indicated otherwise, lecturing will take place online through materials posted online, including:

- Slides
- Voice lectures
- Exercises and quizzes
- Assignments
- Textbook notes
- Any addition notes

### 5. THE TUTORIAL SYSTEM

Tutorial forums will be set up on RUconnected, should students wish to communicate with their tutors or ask questions online. However, students can also communicate with their tutors via email or per WhatsApp.

**Any tutorial queries must be addressed by e-mail to the Graduate Assistant:**

**Warren Naicker**  
[g18N5889@campus.ru.ac.za](mailto:g18N5889@campus.ru.ac.za)

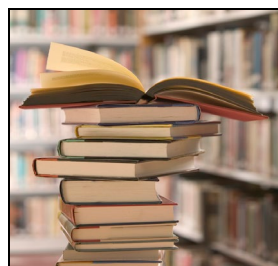
<b>TUTORS:</b>	<b>EMAIL:</b>
Hayley Warring	g16W0958@campus.ru.ac.za
Tinashe Famba	g19f2993@campus.ru.ac.za
Rudaviro Chayira	g17c4975@campus.ru.ac.za
Paula Nkosi	g17n4002@campus.ru.ac.za
Marang Montwedi	g18m6555@campus.ru.ac.za
Kgaugelo Sathekge	g17s5476@campus.ru.ac.za
Amu Machabi	g19m3548@campus.ru.ac.za

## **6. COURSE MARK**



The course mark will be updated as soon as it has been finalised.

## **7. ASSIGNMENTS**

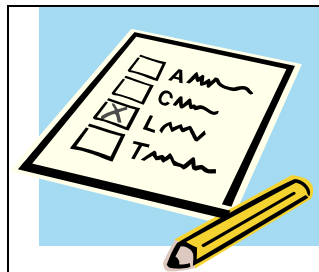


A variety of formative and summative assessments (like assignments, quizzes, exercises and other tasks) will be conducted online. Information will be communicated to students. Just because an assignment is submitted online, students must still take note of the due dates. The **due dates** thereof will still be **ENFORCED**. You need to apply for a LOA, if you submit your assignment or task late. Different due dates will apply to students who receive their study material through course packs.

If a LOA is granted for an assignment, students are still required to submit the assignment within one week after the period for which the LOA has been granted. Failure to do so will result in a student being awarded a mark of zero for the assignment.

**Due dates will be communicated to students.**

## 8. TESTS

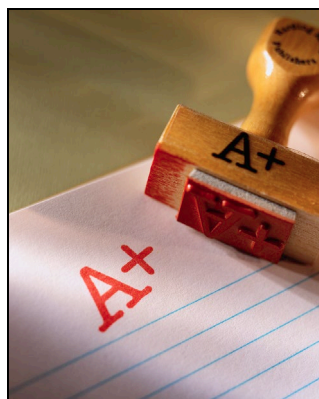


Tests might take the form of online assessments and quizzes and students will be informed of the format of these assessments and dates. The same LOA rules apply for these tasks. Writing of tests is compulsory unless a leave of absence certificate has been granted.

## TEST DATES:

**This will be communicated to students**

## 9. EXAMINATIONS



At the moment, an exam period has been set aside for online exams in November. The dates and format will be communicated to students, once details have been finalised.

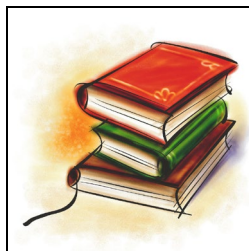
A prerequisite for entry into Commercial Law 102 is a credit or mark of above 35% for Commercial Law 101. There will be a four-hour examination for Commercial Law 102 in November.

- A pass in Commercial Law 1 counts as a credit towards a B Com, B Bus Sci, B Soc Sci and B Sc degrees.
- Commercial Law 101 and 102 are separate courses and a pass in either gives a student a half credit towards a degree. A credit in either course is not contingent upon passing the other. However, one must pass both courses, or obtain an aggregate (ACR) for Commercial Law 1, in order to proceed to Commercial Law 2.
- **A student will obtain a credit for Commercial Law 1 according to the following rules:**
- A credit will be given if a candidate has passed both courses irrespective of the year of examination in which they were passed.
- An aggregated credit (ACR) will be given if the candidate has an aggregated mark of at least 50% for both courses and has obtained at least 45% in the course failed.
- A non-continuing credit (NCR) will be given if the candidate has an aggregated mark of at least 50% for both courses and has obtained between 40% and 45% in the course failed.
- Aggregation may take place only in respect of examinations written in the same academic year.
- In the Faculty of Commerce an NCR may be given for Commercial Law 1 if a student has obtained a credit in both Legal Theory 1 and Legal Theory 2. (Rule C.6). This rule does not apply to the students registered in the Faculty of Humanities.
- A student who passes Commercial Law 1 with at least 60% may be admitted to Legal Theory 2 provided that the student registers concurrently for Foundations of Law, obtains a credit in Foundations of Law, and attends and performs satisfactorily in all the tutorials in Introduction to Law. In these circumstances a student will be exempted from obtaining a credit for Introduction to Law in the LLB degree.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY / REWRITE EXAMINATIONS**

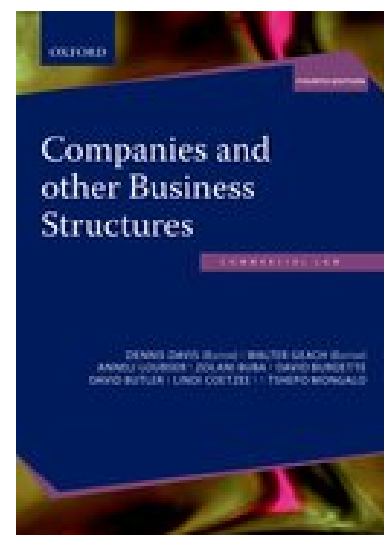
- Students in COL 101 may rewrite the subject in November, provided that they obtain at least 35% in the June examination. In such cases the mark obtained in November shall be the final result for that course, except in those instances in which a student has an ACR or and NCR and wished to obtain a credit in the course failed. No further supplementary examinations will be written in February.
- Students in Commercial Law 102 may be granted a February supplementary examination provided that they obtain at least 40% in the November examination, and provided that they otherwise qualify for a supplementary examination in the Faculty in which they have been registered.
- Students who have obtained an NCR may rewrite the subject at a subsequent examination session in order to obtain a continuing credit provided that no special examination will be set for this purpose.
- **Commercial Law 1 NCR's will not be at risk when students rewrite the supplementary examination in February. So if they do worse, the NCR credit stands. The supplementary mark supersedes the first exam mark in all cases except where a student has an NCR or ACR.**

## 10. TEXTBOOK



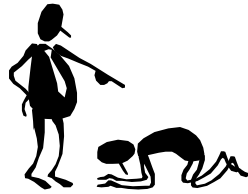
The prescribed textbook for Commercial Law 102 is the following:

**Companies and other Business  
Structures in South Africa [Commercial Law]  
4<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Dennis Davis (editor)  
Oxford University Press  
2019**





## 11. WARNING



Plagiarism and cheating of any form in assignments, tests, exams, etc. is strictly prohibited. Anyone found to have committed any of the foregoing acts will be charged under the University Disciplinary Code.

## 12. CONTACT DETAILS

Should you wish to contact the Commercial Law 1 course co-ordinator, you may do so via e-mail:

[h.vancoller@ru.ac.za](mailto:h.vancoller@ru.ac.za)

Problems of an administrative nature should first be directed by email to one of the graduate assistants. The graduate assistants will attempt to answer your query and if they are unable to do so, will refer the query to the course co-ordinators. Queries regarding the CONTENT of the course should be directed to the relevant lecturer who teaches that section. The course co-ordinator does NOT keep copies of various handouts / modules taught by other lectures, so please ensure that you consult with the relevant lecturer.

***Best wishes for the year and we hope that you will find***

***Commercial Law 102 enjoyable and rewarding!***



**RHODES UNIVERSITY**  
*Where leaders learn*

## **FACULTY OF LAW**

**Name:**

**Student no:**

**Subject:**

**Lecturer/Tutor:**

**Due Date:**

**Assignment topic:**

### **DECLARATION**

1. I know that “plagiarism” means using another person’s work and ideas without acknowledgement, and pretending that it is one’s own. I know that plagiarism not only includes verbatim copying, but also the extensive (albeit paraphrased) use of another person’s ideas without acknowledgement. I know that plagiarism covers this sort of use of material found in court judgments, textbooks, journal articles AND on the Internet.
2. I am aware of the University and the Law Faculty’s policies on plagiarism as set out in the Faculty’s *Survival Guide*.
3. I acknowledge and understand that plagiarism is wrong, and that it constitutes academic theft.
4. I understand that my research must be accurately referenced. I have followed the rules and conventions concerning referencing as set out in the Law Faculty’s *Survival Guide*.
5. This assignment is my own work, or the unique work of a group, if a group assignment.
6. I have not allowed, nor will I in the future allow, anyone to copy my work with the intention of passing it off as his or her own work. I also accept that submitting identical work to someone else (a syndicate essay) constitutes a form of plagiarism.

Signed.....

Date: .....