

# HIGHER EDUCATION

# SCHOOL OF LAW

# **BACHELOR OF COMMERCE IN LAW**

NQF 7 | 390 CREDITS | SAQA ID: 117872 | MIN. 3 YEARS MODE OF DELIVERY: DISTANCE LEARNING

## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

### MANAGER

- LEGAL COMPLIANCE OFFICER
- LEGAL ADVISOR
- INTERNAL LEGAL COUNSEL
- INSOLVENCY PRACTITIONER

- RISK MANAGER
- ENTREPRENEUR
- COMPANY LEGAL SECRETARY
- FINANCIAL ADVISOR

# DESCRIPTION

The Bachelor of Commerce in Law degree will equip you with conceptual understanding, knowledge, theory, skills, methodology and capacity to function effectively in the business and legal environment of the future.

You will gain advanced management knowledge and skills and will be able to make ethical decisions in a rapidly changing business environment driven by technological advances as well as advanced knowledge of the general rules of law in order to pursue a career in law or commerce.

# **ARTICULATION POSSIBILITIES**

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Commerce in Law a student may articulate to a Bachelor of Laws at NQF level 8 or an Honours degree in Commerce at NQF level 8.



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# **MODE OF DELIVERY - DISTANCE LEARNING**

## **DISTANCE LEARNING AT STADIO**

STADIO's distance learning programmes offer students excellent, quality education without the need to attend venue-based classes. The rapid technological advances of the past decade have transformed distance learning into an exciting study option for many students in South Africa, SADC, and internationally. However, STADIO recognises that many prospective students have only limited access to technology, with restricted connectivity, networks, and bandwidth. The STADIO distance-learning and teaching model therefore makes provision for this reality, ensuring that students can combine work and studies meaningfully, regardless of personal circumstances.

Distance learning and teaching at STADIO is built on best practices, enabled and supported by technology. This includes a worldclass learning management system where students can access their learning materials, assessments, and live online classes for each of the modules for which they have registered. In addition, in some qualifications, study materials will be provided in printed format. Key dates for milestones, such as assignment submissions and live online sessions, will be communicated well in advance to allow students to plan their studies. Online sessions are not compulsory; however, students are encouraged to participate in scheduled sessions as they are designed to promote student success. Online sessions are always recorded for convenience.

Throughout the distance-learning journey, academic support is only a click away. Questions may be asked in the online module environment, where the lecturer will provide guidance. Distance-learning students have easy access to online library facilities and an eBook library, as well as access to a variety of online databases to support their studies. There is a physical library for distancelearning students on the Krugersdorp campus. STADIO understands the potential isolation of distance learning, and further provides a range of other support services to promote academic success and general student wellbeing. The full distance-learning experience is also accessible using your mobile device.

## WHO SHOULD CONSIDER DISTANCE LEARNING?

Distance learning is suitable for students who wish to study from any location without the need to attend classes at a specific venue. Apart from the obligation to submit assessment tasks punctually, distance learning provides students with the flexibility to create their own study schedules. This option is particularly well suited for working adults, mature learners, or school-leavers who prefer learning at their own pace, reside at a distance from STADIO's campuses, or have other commitments during the day. Despite the physical distance, students still have access to expert lecturers, current study materials, and peer engagement through the online module learning environment.

That said, it is important to highlight that some assessments, including the final examination, may require attendance at one of our exam venues, available throughout South Africa and internationally. This is STADIO's commitment to ensuring the integrity of its qualifications and the credibility of its graduates.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM STADIO

Students will have access to a range of resources and facilities in person and online, designed to support not only their learning journey but also their social and emotional well-being. In most modules offered through distance learning in the schools of Administration and Management, Commerce, Law, and Policing and Law Enforcement, printed study materials are available in addition to the online study guides. STADIO offers academic support and wellness initiatives throughout the learning journey to help students realise their goals.

## WHAT STADIO WILL EXPECT FROM YOU

In addition to engaging with the study materials (whether printed or online), students are required to utilise the online learning management system on their learning journey. Students, therefore, need access to a computer and to the internet to access and submit their assessments and to access feedback. STADIO believes that the key to academic success, especially in distance learning, is motivation and consistent engagement. Students will be expected to submit their assessment tasks on time and to take part in the learning activities designed to assist their learning journey. STADIO expects all students to always act in accordance with the principles of the Student Code of Conduct and the STADIO values and to be familiar with the institutional policies and rules, especially those pertaining to student success.



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# OUTCOMES

After completing the Bachelor of Commerce in Law, qualifying learners will be able to:

- 1. Illustrate an understanding of relevant and essential knowledge of the principles, concepts and methods used by individuals in business organisations to gather, process, analyse and interpret financial data.
- 2. Understand and apply management principles in the business environment and legal fraternity.
- 3. Start and manage their own enterprises.
- 4. Demonstrate theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The admission criteria for the Bachelor of Commerce in Law are:

- A Senior Certificate (SC) with degree endorsement; or
- A National Senior Certificate (NSC) with a minimum of 40% in English Home Language or First Additional Language coupled with a minimum of 50% in four 20-credit modules; or
- A National Senior Certificate vocational level 4 (NC(V)) with a minimum of 50% in three fundamental modules including English, and minimum 60% in four vocational modules; or
- A relevant Higher Certificate or N6 National Diploma.

## NAMIBIA STUDENTS:

**Alternate Admission Requirements:** 

25 points over 5 modules

# ADDITIONAL OR SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

## Other access pathways

STADIO is committed to achieving inclusion and to overcome barriers to access and success in higher education. Applicants who do not meet the stated admission criteria, but who have relevant work experience and/or prior learning may apply for admission under the policy on Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). STADIO admits a maximum of 10% per cohort via RPL. The implementation of RPL is context-specific, in terms of discipline, programme and level. Further information may be obtained from your Student Recruitment Advisor.

# SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

## **MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS:**

- Wi-Fi: Reliable broadband Internet access (Wi-Fi is available on all of our campuses, but you may prefer access from home as well).
- Web browser: Chrome/Safari/Opera/FireFox.
- Computer/Laptop: A current Windows or Apple Mac computer/laptop capable of running the Office 365 software Office 365 includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- PDF Viewer: The free Adobe Acrobat software.
- Scanning documents: Ability to scan and upload documents (typically from your cellphone or smartphone).
- Email/cellphone for notification and communication.
- Communication: A cellphone or smartphone for receiving notifications and communication.

## Mature age exemption

Candidates who do not meet the requirements for degree studies listed above, but who have reached the ages of 23 or 45 respectively, may apply for Mature Age Exemption via the USAF Matriculation Board under the following conditions:

- Candidates who have reached/will reach the age of 23 during the first year of registration and who have achieved a Senior Certificate with a pass in at least four subjects, including one of the official languages experience and including one subject on Higher Grade.
- · Candidates who have reached the age of 45 before or during the first year of registration.

## ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY:

STADIO School of Law uses its ONLINE student administration and learning environments to provide students with materials and resources, to conduct online assessments, create discussion opportunities and render a range of administrative services.

Therefore, having continuous access to the above ONLINE facilities is essential for efficient communication, learning and success.

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# STUDENT SUPPORT FOR DISTANCE LEARNING STUDENTS

Distance learning students have access to STADIO's student support services via the learning management system. Students can access a range of presentations and online support initiatives aimed at success and wellness. At the start of the semester, new students will be invited to join the online student orientation programme to familiarise themselves with the services offered by STADIO. STADIO, in partnership with SADAG, has a dedicated STADIO student helpline providing students with free telephonic counselling, information, referrals, and support. Students will also have access to general counselling services.

# **CURRICULUM OUTLINE**

	1st YEAR	2nd YEAR	3rd YEAR
Compulsory (All)	Accounting I ACC152 (20 credits)	Accounting II ACC262 (20 credits)	Company Law LCL372 (10 credits)
	Economics I ECO162 (20 credits)	Business Law BLA262 (20 credits)	Insolvency Law IOL372 (10 credits)
	End-User Computing EUC152 (10 credits)	Economics II ECO262 (20 credits)	Law of Delict LOD372 (20 credits)
	Family Law LFL162 (10 credits)	Labour Law LLA262 (20 credits)	Law of Property LPY372 (20 credits)
	Introduction to Business Management MAN152 (20 credits)	Law of Contract LOC262 (20 credits)	Special Contracts LSP372 (10 credits)
	Introduction to Law ITL152 (15 credits)	Law of Succession LOS262 (20 credits)	Technology and Innovation Management TIM372 (20 credits)
	Law of Persons LOP162 (10 credits)	Risk Management RIM262 (20 credits)	
	Legal Skills LSK152 (15 credits)		
Electives (choose two)			Entrepreneurship ENT372 (20 credits) OR Strategic Management STM372 (20 credits) OR Strategic Risk Management RIM372 (20 credits)
CREDITS P/YEAR	120	140	130

\* This curriculum outline applies to new students only. Existing students will continue with the original curriculum outline from the year of entry.

## **MODULE PREREQUISITES**

- 1. Accounting II (ACC262):
  - First complete Accounting I (ACC152).
- 2. Labour Law (LLA262):
  - First complete Law of Contract (LOC262).
- 3. Special Contracts (LSP372):
  - First complete Law of Contract (LOC262).
- 4. Company Law (LCL372):
  - First complete Law of Contract (LOC262).
- 5. Law of Property (LPY372):
  - First complete Law of Persons (LOP162) and Family Law (LFL162).
- 6. Law of Delict (LOD372):
  - First complete Law of Persons (LOP162) and Family Law (LFL162).
- 7. Strategic Risk Management (RIM372):
  - First complete Risk Management (RIM262).

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# MODULE DESCRIPTION

### **ACCOUNTING I**

This module introduces students to the basic principles of accounting. The double-entry principle and accounting equation are addressed. In addition, students are introduced to different types of journal entries, ledger accounts and bank reconciliation statements. Different types of financial statements are also introduced.

### ACCOUNTING II

This module builds on the introductory Accounting 1 ACC152 module. It introduces the concepts of VAT and depreciation. On successful completion of this module, students will be able to prepare the Statement of Cash Flows, analyse financial statements, and prepare financial statements from incomplete financial records. Students will also learn about the different financial statements for sole proprietors and partnerships.

### **BUSINESS LAW**

The purpose of the module is also to provide students with a general understanding of specific areas of the law applied in commerce. This module provides students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of the specific areas of the law forming part of Business Law. Students will be equipped with the knowledge, skill and competencies to solve basic legal problems relating to specific contracts, insurance contract, basic aspects of intellectual property law, business enterprises, competition law, trusts and insolvency. Students are introduced to the sources of the different areas of the law forming part of Business Law in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

#### **COMPANY LAW**

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of Company Law. The module is concerned with the legal aspects of companies as a business enterprise. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of the Company Law in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

## **ECONOMICS I**

This first economics module introduces students to the meaning of economics for society as well as an institutional framework to set context. It also familiarises students with relevant microeconomic tools relating to supply and demand, the production of goods and services, as well as different market forms. Finally, students learn about non-traditional economic models, like for example the platform economy, and how businesses operate in this "new" economy.

### **ECONOMICS II**

This module is the follow-on module from Economics 1 and as such explores further concepts in the economy, after having covered economics related to businesses and industries. First, students are introduced to the profession of an economist, in order to support them in their choice of career. The next topics relate to the macroeconomic system, policies and theories, and measuring economic performance. The module also covers unemployment and inflation, as well as the current account balance and external debt of a country. Last, students will familiarise themselves with economic growth and business cycles.

#### **END-USER COMPUTING**

End-User Computing includes an online training component which allows students to practice simulated MS Office tasks at their own pace, supported by integrated feedback which helps them to identify and remedy their mistakes; and an assessment component which will count towards their overall module result. Students will also complete several assignments in which they will be expected to apply the MS Office tools that they have practiced in the online environment. The module is aimed at learning and practicing skills required by law students and prospective practitioners.

### ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This module is aimed at assisting students who aspire to starting their own businesses and want to be able to apply entrepreneurial thinking and techniques in their work and to understand the process of entrepreneurship. The module can also assist students with entrepreneurial thinking while in employment for another company, and to use the principles to achieve competitiveness, innovation and profitability for a department. At the heart of the module is the development of an in-depth sustainable business plan, including the financing of the venture. Lastly, the module will familiarise students with the role entrepreneurs play in society.

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# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED

#### FAMILY LAW

This module provides students with insight into the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Family Law. Students are familiarised with legal principles related to engagements, civil marriages, consequences of marriage, the dissolution of marriages, and the principles related to life partnerships. The module also provides students with knowledge on maintenance of a spouse or child upon divorce and the best interests of the child in divorce proceedings. Students are introduced to the sources of Family Law to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations. The module also introduces students to the influence and impact of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, on Family Law.

#### **INSOLVENCY LAW**

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of the Insolvency Law. The module is concerned with sequestration, composition, the relevant procedures, insolvent deceased estates and insolvent business enterprises. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Insolvency Law in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

#### INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

In this induction module, students are provided with the skills and knowledge required to be successful in entry-level business degree studies. The Academic reading and writing component exposes students to good reading techniques, guides them through the writing process, and helps them to write effective academic essays. The Study skills component is aimed at providing students with basic information and techniques on how to improve their study skills from preparation to the exams. The module concludes with the Numeracy component that focuses on essential business numeracy skills required for business studies.

### INTRODUCTION TO LAW

In this foundational module, first-time law students are introduced to the law as it stands, in accessible terms, with reference to the different sources of law and the classification of the law. In this module, it is demonstrated to students how the law affects the everyday lives of individuals and groups in South Africa. The module exposes students to the complexities of law, the contestability of the law and uncertainties that may exist in the law. Students are further exposed to human rights, legal comparison, aspects of legal language, legal comparison, and critical voices on existing law in order for them to form informed opinions about the law and legal systems. The module also exposes students to the courts, legal profession, and the implications of the transformative Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

#### LABOUR LAW

This module provides students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Labour Law. Students are familiarised with legal principles related to the employment contract, formation, conclusion and breach of the employment contract, dismissal, unfair labour practices, employment equity and affirmative action. Students are also familiarised with the Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995, principles and rules related to collective bargaining, statutory bargaining councils, strikes and lock outs. Students are introduced to the sources of Labour Law in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

### LAW OF CONTRACT

This module provides students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Law of Contract. Students are familiarised with legal principles related to the drafting of contracts, requirements of a valid contract, breach of contract, and interpretation of contracts. The module also provides students with knowledge on the impact of the Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008 on contracts. Students are introduced to the sources of Law of Contract in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations. The module also introduces students to the influence and impact of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, on the Law of Contract.

## LAW OF DELICT

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of the Law of Delict. The module is concerned with the elements of a delict, grounds for justification, liability and the apportionment of damages. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Law of Delict in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

### LAW OF PERSONS

This module provides students with insight into the basic concepts, terminology and principles of the Law of Persons. Students are familiarised with legal personality, how it begins and ends, what it entails and what the duties and rights associated with legal personality are. The module also provides students with knowledge on legal status and matters having an impact on a person's legal status. Students are introduced to the sources of the Law of Persons in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations. The module also introduces students to the influence and impact of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 on the Law of Persons.



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# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED

#### LAW OF PROPERTY

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of Property Law. The module is concerned with the legal principles of ownership, holdership and possession. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Property Law in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

#### LAW OF SUCCESSION

This module equips students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Law of Succession. The module therefore aims to provide students with knowledge of the law and rules which control the transfer of assets of a deceased person to successors. Students are familiarised with legal principles related to intestate and testate succession, formalities of a will, revocation of a will, contents of a will, capacity to inherit, collation, and the administration of estates. Students are introduced to the sources of the Law of Succession to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations. The module also introduces students to the influence and impact of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, on the Law of Succession.

## LEGAL SKILLS

In this foundational module first-time law students are equipped with basic legal skills they will need in their studies and in practice. This module exposes students to study skills needed to complete a qualification in law. The module equips students with basic numeracy skills, research skills, readings skills, writing skills, interviewing skills and advocacy skills.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The purpose of this module is to introduce students to the world of risk management. Globally, throughout various industries, risk management is becoming more important, and specialists are sought to work with existing and new risks. Note, however, that this is a specific and separate module on this topic, because businesses need to understand what it means to build a specific risk culture, which risks to take, and how to mitigate unwanted risks.

### SPECIAL CONTRACTS

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of Mercantile Law. The module is concerned with specific contracts and the impact of the National Credit Act 34 of 2005 and the Consumer Protection Act 68 of 2008 on specific contracts and the law of contract in general. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Mercantile Law and specific contracts in order to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

### STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this module is to introduce students to strategic management with a practical focus. After theoretical foundations are presented, students will understand how different role players influence and interact with regard to strategy. Different strategy tools and practices are covered, as well as the importance of discourse in the formulation and implementation of strategy. Through various case studies, the topic will be brought alive, from different industry perspectives.

#### STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this module is to enable students to navigate a strategic risk management environment, after having been exposed to an introduction to risk management. Students will be introduced to the topic from a top-down angle, from the middle and also operating on the ground. Last but not least, students will learn how to determine basic risk capacity and risk appetite.

#### **TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION MANAGEMENT**

This module aims to enable students to understand how technology and innovation impacts business with reference to success or failure. The module commences with introducing students to the differences between creativity and innovation. Thereafter, students are provided with opportunities to understand the innovation process, paying particular attention to how a business needs to be organised for innovation. Disruptive Innovation allows students to appreciate the importance of acting speedily and intelligently in bringing new technology to market. Social Innovation, on the other hand, provides students with a different view to how products and or services can benefit society.

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