

STADIO

HIGHER EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF LAW

BACHELOR OF LAWS

NQF 8 | 490 CREDITS | SAQA ID: 122316 | MIN. 4 YEARS

MODE OF DELIVERY: DISTANCE LEARNING

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

• LEGAL ADVISORS

• PROSECUTORS

• ATTORNEYS

• ADVOCATES

• JUDGES

• COMPANY SECRETARIES

• MAGISTRATES

DESCRIPTION

This qualification recognises the skills and knowledge expected of stakeholders or individuals seeking positions in the law environment. The programme is designed to equip students for the demands of the legal and academic environments in democratic South Africa, as well as taking responsibility in relevant societal contexts.

The Bachelor of Laws degree is aimed at producing competent, skilled and dynamic legal graduates, equipped with a firm knowledge and understanding of the relevant legal principles. It furthermore provides the foundation for Master's level study and develops research capacity in the methodology and techniques of the discipline.

Flexibility is provided with a choice of electives such as Intellectual Property Law, Law Related to Business Distress and Legal Strategy, in order for graduates to specialise in specific fields of the law.

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 world-class 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 distance-learning 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.

OUTCOMES

Students who completed the programme will be able to:

1. Apply the knowledge base, theory, methodology of discipline and application relevant to the field.
2. Implement the values and principles of law as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.
3. Demonstrate critical thinking and analytical reasoning as required in the law profession.
4. Apply the law accurately in a range of environments including professional and career contexts.
5. Act as responsible South African and global citizens.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The admission criteria for the Bachelor of Laws are:

- a Senior Certificate (SC) with degree endorsement; or
- a National Senior Certificate (NSC) with a minimum of 50% in four 20-credit subjects, and a minimum of 40% in English Home Language or 50% in English First Additional Language (students who did not 50% in English First Additional Language have to complete a bridging module in English); or
- a National Senior Certificate – Vocational Level 4 (NC(V)) with a minimum of 50% in three fundamental subjects including English; and minimum 60% in four vocational subjects; or
- a Higher Certificate (NQF 5), Advanced Certificate (NQF 6) or Diploma (NQF 6) in the field of law, management or commerce.

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.

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.

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.**

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.

ARTICULATION POSSIBILITIES

The programme provides access to the legal industry to individuals who want to practice as legal practitioners. The programme also serves the entry qualification into a Master of Laws (LLM).

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	4th YEAR
Compulsory (All)	African Studies AFS201 (20 credits)	African Customary Law LAC262 (10 credits)	Administrative Law ADL372 (10 credits)	Civil Procedure LCP482 (20 credits)
	End-User Computing EUC152 (10 credits)	Human Rights Law HRL372 (10 credits)	Company Law COL372 (10 credits)	Criminal Procedure LPR482 (20 credits)
	Family Law LFL162 (10 credits)	Introduction to Leadership and Ethics LDE152 (20 credits)	Constitutional Law LCO262 (20 credits)	International Law LIT482 (10 credits)
	Introduction to Law ITL152 (15 credits)	Labour Law LLA262 (20 credits)	Criminal Law LCR372 (20 credits)	Law of Damages LDA482 (10 credits)
	Law of Persons LOP162 (10 credits)	Law of Contract LOC262 (20 credits)	Insolvency Law LIS372 (10 credits)	Law of Evidence LEV482 (20 credits)
	Legal Foundations LFD152 (20 credits)	Law of Succession LOS262 (20 credits)	Jurisprudence in an African Context LJU372 (10 credits)	Legal Research Essay LRM482A (20 credits)
	Legal Skills LSK152 (15 credits)	Statutory Interpretation SIL262 (20 credits)	Law of Delict LOD372 (20 credits)	Legal Research Methodology LRM482B (10 credits)
	Social Justice LSJ152 (20 credits)		Law of Property LPY372 (20 credits)	
			Special Contracts SPC372 (10 credits)	
Electives (choose one)				Intellectual Property Law IPL482 (10 credits) OR Law Relating to Business Distress LBD482 (10 credits) OR Legal Strategy LLS482 (10 credits)
CREDITS P/YEAR	120	120	130	120

MODULE PREREQUISITES

- Legal Research Methodology (LRM482B):
 - First complete Legal Research Essay (LRM482A).

MODULE DESCRIPTION

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and principles of Administrative Justice. Students are familiarised with legal principles related to the nature, development and sources of administrative law, the separation of powers, transformative constitutionalism, the legal subjects in administrative law and the administrative relationship, the concept “administrative action” and categories of administrative actions. The module is also concerned with the enforcement of administrative actions, administrative authorities, the duties of administrators and the requirements as to the procedure and fairness of administrative actions. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Administrative Justice to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

AFRICAN CUSTOMARY LAW

This module aims to instil an awareness of the principles of African Customary Law that will enable reasoning, and the identification and application of the principles that will guide decision-making and action in the African context. In this module students are familiarised with basic concepts, terminology and principles of African Customary Law. Students are also familiarised with the rules and principles of African Customary Law related to private law and criminal law, the role of traditional leadership and traditional courts and to the ascertainment and proof of customary law.

AFRICAN STUDIES

This module is aimed at establishing an awareness with students regarding the historical barriers on being African. Students will be exposed to colonialism and the rise of African consciousness. The nature of African culture and identity will be discussed. Contemporary African issues and the challenge of migration will be addressed. Lastly, current challenges in South Africa will be discussed.

CIVIL PROCEDURE

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and procedures related to Civil Procedure. The module is also concerned with the structure of courts, jurisdiction, parties, citations and service, applications and actions, pleadings, trials, executions, appeals and reviews and legal costs. The module equips students to extract rules and principles from the Civil Procedure and to 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 Company Law to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and principles of Constitutional Law. The module is also concerned with the sources of Constitutional Law, the nature of the State, separation of powers and the branches of government. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Constitutional Law to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

CRIMINAL LAW

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and principles of Criminal Law. The module is concerned with the elements of a crime, grounds of justification, criminal capacity and different crimes. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Criminal Law to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and procedures related to Criminal Procedure Law. The module is concerned with the jurisdiction of criminal courts, prosecution, rights of an accused, bail, charge sheets, the criminal trial, sentencing and appeal and/or reviews. The module equips students to extract rules and principles from the Criminal Procedure and to apply them to factual situations.

END USER COMPUTING

Students entering Higher Education come from a variety of backgrounds, and some may have had limited opportunities to develop the computer literacy skills they will need to cope with tertiary studies. End User Computing includes an online training component which allows student 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.

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED

FAMILY LAW

This module provides students with insight into the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Family Law. Students are familiarized 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 the Family Law.

HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

This module aims at instilling an awareness of the principles of Human Rights Law that will enable reasoning, and the identification and application of the principles that will guide decision-making and action in the South African context. In this module students will be familiarized with rights contained in the Bill of Rights (Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, constitutional values and the interpretation and application of the Bill of Rights. Students will also briefly be familiarised with human rights at a global and regional level.

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 to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

This module provides students with advanced knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of Intellectual Property Law. The module is concerned with copyright, trademarks, patents, designs, counterfeit goods, unlawful competition, traditional knowledge, and Intellectual Property Law in a digital environment. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Intellectual Property Law to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

INTERNATIONAL LAW

This module provides students with advanced knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of International Law. The module is concerned with interstate relations, enforcement of International Law, jurisdiction and territory in International Law and the international protection of human rights. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of International Law to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

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 various sources of law and the classification of the law. In this module students are shown 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 for them to form informed opinions about the law and legal systems. The module also exposes students to the courts, legal profession and to the implications of the transformative Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

INTRODUCTION TO LEADERSHIP AND ETHICS

This module covers transformational leadership, authentic leadership, team leadership, women and leadership, culture and leadership, and leadership ethics. The themes handled in the module will lay the foundations for future studies in leadership. Students will acquire the necessary knowledge and analytical skills needed to continue their studies in leadership and ethics. These skills in analysis, argumentation, and problem solving can also be implemented in other fields of study. Each theme also includes a practical exercise or thought experiment, which will enable the student to apply their knowledge and hone their analytical and critical thinking abilities.

JURISPRUDENCE IN AN AFRICAN CONTEXT

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of theories, philosophies, and principles of African Jurisprudence. The purpose of this module is to instil an awareness of the principles of Jurisprudence in the African Context that will enable reasoning, and identification and application of the principles that will guide decision-making and action to practice jurisprudence in the African context.

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED

LABOUR LAW

This module provides students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Labour Law. Students are familiarized 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 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 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 DAMAGES

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and principles of the Law of Damages. The module is concerned with the types of damages, the calculation of damages and procedural matters in respect of the Law of Damages. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of the Law of Damages to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

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 to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

LAW OF EVIDENCE

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the concepts, terminology and principles of the Law of Evidence. The module is also concerned with the types of evidence, the methods of presentation of evidence, trial rules, evaluation of evidence and the verification and admissibility of evidence. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Law of Evidence 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 familiarized 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 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.

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 to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations.

LAW RELATING TO BUSINESS DISTRESS

This module provides students with advanced knowledge of the concepts, terminology, and principles of Law relating to Business Distress. The module is concerned with business rescue proceedings and compromises. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources Law relating to Business Distress 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.

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS CONTINUED

LEGAL FOUNDATIONS

This module provides students with an overview of the origins of the South African legal system. The module provides an outline of the Roman foundations of South African law of property and obligations and the development of the common law considering the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996. The module also addresses the importance of the continuous development of the modern South African considering the values of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996. Specific focus is placed on transformative constitutionalism and ubuntu.

LEGAL RESEARCH ESSAY

In this module students will, with the assistance of a supervisor, undertake in-depth legal research essay based on a research proposal drafted in the Legal Research Methodology module. In this module students will apply their research skills to conduct an analysis and evaluation of the legal rules in primary and secondary sources related to a specific topic.

LEGAL RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of the theoretical methods and principles applicable to the study of law. In applying these methods and principles a student will compose a descriptive and detailed analysis of the legal rules in primary and secondary sources. The module equips students with knowledge and skills to enable them to extract principles from primary and secondary sources on an identified topic to conduct research on the topic and draft a research proposal.

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. The module exposes students to study skills needed to complete a qualification in law. The module also basic numeracy skills, research skills, reading skills, writing skills, interviewing skills, and advocacy skills. The module is aimed at learning and practicing skills required by law students and prospective practitioners.

LEGAL STRATEGY

This module aims to close the gap between law and corporate strategy of businesses, increase the importance of internal legal capabilities and to provide students with integrated knowledge and skills to develop an appropriate framework for developing a legal strategy for a business. The module helps law students with knowledge of strategic management to understand how companies can proactively use the law to craft and execute strategy, and ultimately achieve competitive advantage.

SOCIAL JUSTICE

This module provides students with integrated knowledge of what Social Justice is and of various aspects related thereto. The module is concerned with the concepts of white privilege, racism, oppression, sexism, classism and ableism. The module equips students with knowledge of the sources of Social Justice to enable them to extract principles from these sources and apply them to factual situations with specific reference to case law and the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996.

SPECIAL CONTRACTS

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

STATUTORY INTERPRETATION

Laws are not self-executing and self-explanatory. Consequently, students must be taught how to interpret and apply the law by giving lawful meaning to their purposes and requirements. In this module students are instructed on the basic skills to interpret and apply legislation. This module provides students with knowledge of the basic concepts, terminology, and principles of Statutory Interpretation. Students are familiarized with legal principles related to the drafting of legislation, judicial law-making, the principles of interpretation of legislation and approaches of interpretation. Students are introduced to the sources of Statutory Interpretation 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 interpretation of legislation.

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