UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

FACULTY OF LAW

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR
LLB APPLICANTS: 2021

UCT is aware that the current crisis related to COVID-19 will impact the regular operational timelines. Given the fluid situation that prevails all dates contained in our publications and correspondence are subject to change.

ORIENTATION

The Dean, staff and students of the Faculty of Law look forward to welcoming you to the Faculty in 2021. In anticipation of your arrival at UCT, the Faculty has organised an exciting student-centred Orientation programme that we know will really help you to settle quickly into all aspects of university life. Orientation is compulsory for all students coming into the Faculty – it is the lifeline that will introduce you to the campus, the life of the University and the Law Faculty. It will offer you guidance with your course choices and the registration process.

The registration and orientation dates are subject to change so please check the latest registration and orientation information at**: http://www.law.uct.ac.za/orientation-and-registration-dates**

The details of the orientation programme are as follows:

The three-day programme will cover topics including:
- An introduction to key staff in the Faculty of Law, including the Dean and first-year teaching staff
- Talks about the study and practice of law
- An overview of campus life
- An overview of student societies and organisations on campus
- Information on the registration process
- A tour of the campus, including the Law library
- Computer orientation

You will be assigned to a small group of fellow students led by an Orientation Leader, a senior student, who will take you on a campus and library tour, and offer assistance with the registration process. All first year law students will be assigned a mentor who is a senior law student for the entire first year of studies.

In the past, the Law Faculty Orientation programme was voted as AMAZING by attendees! Join us and make 2021 an even MORE amazing Orientation session. Refreshments and lunches will be provided on each day of attendance.

REGISTRATION

Once you have completed the Orientation programme you will need to register for the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree. Registration is the process by which you sign up for courses which you must complete to be awarded the degree. Registration dates for 2021 may be found on the UCT website from the end of September 2020. http://www.students.uct.ac.za/students/current-students/registration

NUMERACY – NOT APPLICABLE FOR 2021 INTAKE
All Law graduates are required to demonstrate the level of numerical proficiency deemed appropriate for lawyers. LLB students are expected to complete a course [MAM1013F] Law that Counts: Quantitative Literacy for Law. Those who demonstrate satisfactory numeracy skills (66% and above) in the NBT Quantitative Literacy test may be exempted from the course. High grades in Mathematics at school or successful completion of Maths-related courses at university do not exempt you from MAM1013F. Graduate LLB students (those who already have undergraduate degrees) are exempt from MAM1013F and therefore do not need to take the NBT Test.

LAPTOP REQUIREMENTS

All students entering first year law studies at UCT are required to have a laptop for use during class as well as for personal study and access to online materials throughout the degree.

The specifications for these laptops have been set so that they enable you to manage the demands of digital literacy expected in the senior years of the LLB degree. The basic requirements to operate on the UCT network are:

- Intel Core i3 (or i5 if budget allows)
- 4 GB RAM (8 GB if budget allows – the advice is that more RAM & i3 is better than less RAM & i5)
- Go for the longest battery life that you can afford. For maximum advantage, machines with solid state drives (SSD) have much longer battery life than machines with mechanical parts (e.g. disk drives and DVD drives) and also weigh less, which is quite an advantage when carrying bags around campus).
- IEEE 802.11 wireless
- Windows OS (UCT has moved to the Windows 10 environment)

Apple Mac users running MacOS will have to get virtual desktop software, and UCT's ICTS department can advise on this.

Further details of the laptop specifications and Information Technology facilities offered by UCT are available at: http://www.icts.uct.ac.za/student-computing - please ensure you are familiar with these requirements.

Students receiving financial aid from NSFAS or UCT will be assisted in this regard. Please check in with Undergraduate Financial Aid, 3rd Floor, Kramer Building (Middle Campus).
http://www.dsa.uct.ac.za/student-funding-administration/financial-assistance/financial-aid

The use of laptops is intended to promote 'paperless' teaching in the interests of a greener, more sustainable environment - and to equip you with the skills to access cases and readings online; to enable you to access UCT learning systems to download information and course materials; as well as using software to check for possible plagiarism.

These career-related skills are a critical skills component for every UCT graduate.

TRANSFER OF CREDITS OBTAINED ELSEWHERE (for applicants transferring from other universities)

We will grant credit for courses completed at another university, assuming these are considered equivalent to those offered at the University of Cape Town. The decision is at the discretion of the Chair of the Admissions Committee at the Law Faculty. The Law Faculty policy regarding credits is available via the link http://www.law.uct.ac.za/rules-policy-credits-and-exemptions Applications for courses to be considered for credits must be made on the ACA036 Form which can be downloaded from the UCT website.

There are statutory restrictions on the number of credits we may recognise. Therefore, if you have more than the equivalent of a full first year in credit, you should consult the faculty office for details.

It is your responsibility to obtain from the relevant UCT departments signed approval of credit and exemption for the courses you wish to transfer. You will need to negotiate possible credits with the relevant departments before you register. Please bring along your full academic transcripts as well as course outlines providing details of the syllabus for each subject passed at another university. These will be used to determine whether they are equivalent to the courses offered at UCT. Sworn translations are required for transcripts and syllabi details when these are not in English or Afrikaans.

If you wish to discuss this with the Chair of the Admissions Committee before coming to UCT, you should contact him/her by email. Contact details can be obtained from the Law Faculty office.

LAW for NON-LAWYERS (**only for students who already have undergraduate degrees**) In addition to the Orientation Programme, graduate LLB students are invited to attend the Law for non-lawyers Preparatory

Workshop. **Applicants who will complete Grade 12 in 2020 must not attend this workshop. It is aimed at GRADUATE students only.**

The purpose of this workshop is to introduce some of the foundational concepts of South African law to first year graduate LLB students. First year graduate LLB students are required to take Prelim B subjects (subjects taken by undergraduate LLB students in their second year) in their first year of study. Prelim B subjects build on foundational legal concepts from the Prelim A (first year) subjects. This workshop assists first year graduate LLB students to acquire fundamental knowledge necessary for the understanding of all courses in the first year. In addition, it provides support with the development of the necessary skills for success in law school. Details of the workshop will be available via the link **http://www.law.uct.ac.za/orientation-and-registration-dates** from the end of September 2020.