

Criminal Process and Human Rights

Masters course @ UCT Law

The Course

In Africa approximately 90% of the sub-continent litigates in largely unregulated traditional courts; the bottom 17 of 30 of the most corrupt countries in the world are located in Sub-Saharan Africa; and the Criminal and Procedural branches of Criminal Justice are entangled in complex intersections between Common Law, Continental and Indigenous traditions. This makes it a unique context in which to study criminal process.

The new *Criminal Process and Human Rights* LLM course explores decolonial perspectives on criminal justice and contemporary intersections between Criminal Justice and Human Rights. The course will interrogate current developments and challenges in criminal justice. This will be done within the wider theoretical and material context in which the criminal process is situated.

The Focus

The course provides a unique focus on criminal justice in Africa. Wherever possible, the course will be taught in a contextual scenario that makes the connection between theory and practice more explicit.

The LLM Programme

Criminal Process and Human Rights complements a wide range of courses and is available for students registered in the following programmes: Criminology, Law and Society; Human Rights Law and Public Law

The Students

Criminal Process and Human Rights should be of interest to legal practitioners in the private, public and NGO sectors, as well as to postgraduate students who work (or intend to work) in the fields of Human Rights and/or Criminal Justice.

The Experts

The lecturers in this course, Dr Tshepo Mosaka & Professor PJ Schwikkard, work together to combine youth, experience, and practical and theoretical knowledge with a large quantity of enthusiasm for understanding and improving the criminal justice system.



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The Course Value

At the conclusion of the course, students should have an enhanced understanding of contemporary substantive, procedural and evidential criminal justice issues. The manner in which the course will be taught will also foster critical thinking skills, case analysis and legal argumentation.

A deeper understanding of the criminal process should assist both prosecutors and those representing accused persons to carry out their responsibilities more effectively. It will equally be of assistance to those working in the NGO sector to better pursue their goals. Furthermore, it will provide a sound grounding for those who wish to pursue doctoral studies in the field of criminal justice. Theorists who are generally interested in the jurisprudential questions underlying criminal justice will also find this course valuable.

Two participants in the course will be selected to participate in the annual Interschool Criminal Justice Summer School (convened in the Western Cape).

Related Resources

UCT's dedicated Law Library provides access to the full range of international publications and journals in this area of the Law. In addition, students are able to participate in seminars and initiatives hosted by the Law Faculty's research units, including the Centre for Law & Society, the Centre of Criminology, and the Democratic Governance & Rights Unit.



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