

Faculty of Law

LLM – Drafting and Interpretation of Contracts



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG

FACULTY OF LAW



Our Future
Reimagined

Are you interested in negotiating, drafting and executing contracts? Does the idea of studying contract law in South Africa's vibrant commercial hub appeal to you? Do you want to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in the drafting of contracts?

In a commercial atmosphere where more and more statutes propagate consumer rights and where plain language is becoming increasingly important, the drafter of modern-day contracts can no longer resort to the cutting and pasting of disjointed, archaic and even illegal phrases, thereby fudging together a contract. Rather, knowledge of current law pertaining to the drafting and interpretation of contracts and excellent language skills are the tools required by lawyers who negotiate and draft contracts. Indeed, practical as well as theoretical knowledge of drafting and interpretation of contracts are indispensable to practising lawyers.

The lecturing style in this programme is interactive. Classes are small and the programme caters exclusively for a group of students who will benefit from close contact with their lecturer and with expert practitioners from the relevant legal field. The programme is presented over two years. In the first year, students have one class per week. In the first semester of the first year, the class deals with the interpretation of contracts. The second semester of the first year deals with law and language.

The first semester of the second year is devoted to the drafting of contracts and there is one class a week. During the second semester of the second year, students are expected to finalise their minor dissertation. The University of Johannesburg has a superb library and electronic resources. These resources, together with writing assignments, assist students in writing their minor dissertations.

The course will consist of the following four modules:

- Interpretation of contracts;
- Law and language;
- Drafting of contracts; and
- A minor dissertation.

The degree is taken part time over two years. Lectures take place after 17h00 on Weekdays (Monday - Fridays) or on Saturdays in order to accommodate students who work during the day. This is not a correspondence course and the majority of classes will be presented in the form of a physical class at UJ. Class attendance is important and students are expected to attend physical classes at the Auckland Park Campus. Where necessary, classes may be presented in the form of a number of workshops on Saturdays.

Lecturers:

The course will be lectured by Prof. Michele van Eck, Prof. Eesa Fredericks and other lecturers in the field as well as experts invited to present guest lectures.

Admission Requirements:

In general, as a minimum admission requirement, students must have attained an average of 65% for the law subjects in their LLB degree.

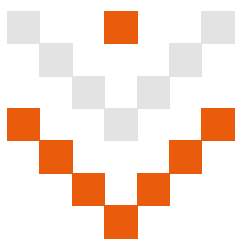
Career Opportunities:

An LLM in Drafting and Interpretation of Contracts provides graduates with knowledge and skills that will enable them to excel in this complex and dynamic field. Excellent drafting skills provide lawyers with the upper hand in the negotiation, drafting and execution of all contracts, and this skill is especially valuable in commercial practices. Those who work as legal advisers or government officials involved with procurement will find that the combination of contract theory and practical skills will provide them with the ability to excel in their fields.

For further information and enquiries regarding entry requirements, closing dates and the application procedure, as well as the content of the coursework, please do not hesitate to contact the faculty:

Auckland Park Kingsway Campus

Tel: 011 559 3843 | **Email:** ujlawpostgrad@uj.ac.za | **Web:** www.uj.ac.za/law



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