



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

FACULTY OF LAW

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*Inspiring excellence. Transforming lives.
Inspireer uitnemendheid. Verander lewens.*

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA
FREISTATA



UFS·UV
LAW
REGSGELEERDHEID



This Faculty of Law at the University of the Free State is rated amongst the best in the country. Its location in the judicial capital, Bloemfontein, means that students do not only get a thorough grounding in legal theory, but also a sound practical foundation. The LLB four year curriculum is also offered via e-learning for students who are unable to attend classes.

The expertise of judges and legal practitioners is shared with the students. The high academic standard of the Faculty of Law has always been its pride.

Successful attendance of the School for Legal Practice (Free State) after obtaining a LLB degree shortens the period of articles for candidate attorneys. Furthermore, the faculty provides compulsory practical legal training in the Law Clinic, which gives Kopsie Law students an additional advantage.

This faculty offers a unique opportunity of study at national, as well as international level, because of the close ties the faculty have with international universities and their various exchange programmes. You are able to specialise in your field of interest with the wide range of electives at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. All prospective Law students must have proven reading, writing, and numerical skills to succeed in the legal career.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Faculty of Law at the University of the Free State produces a number of sought-after graduates annually. An active placement programme for graduates into suitable positions, managed within the faculty, ensures a good future for the successful student who makes use of this opportunity.

The School for Legal Practice (Free State), where graduates receive further vocational training, also actively facilitates the placement of candidate attorneys in vacancies. However, a legal qualification does not mean that you are limited to becoming either an advocate or an attorney. Many jurists follow successful careers in other professions.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND EMPLOYERS INCLUDE:

- South African Law Commission
- Academic law career Messenger of the Court
- Department of Correctional Services National Directors of Prosecution
- Human Rights Commission
- Public Protector
- Attorneys
- Advocates
- Companies, Patents and Trademarks
- Commission for Reconciliation, Mediation and Arbitration
- Directors of Public Protection (State advocates and prosecutors)
- Masters of the High Court
- Registrars of the High Court
- State attorneys
- Clerks of the Magistrates' Court
- Legal Aid Board
- South African Police Service
- Legal aid and Legal advice
- State legal advisor
- Law Clinics at universities

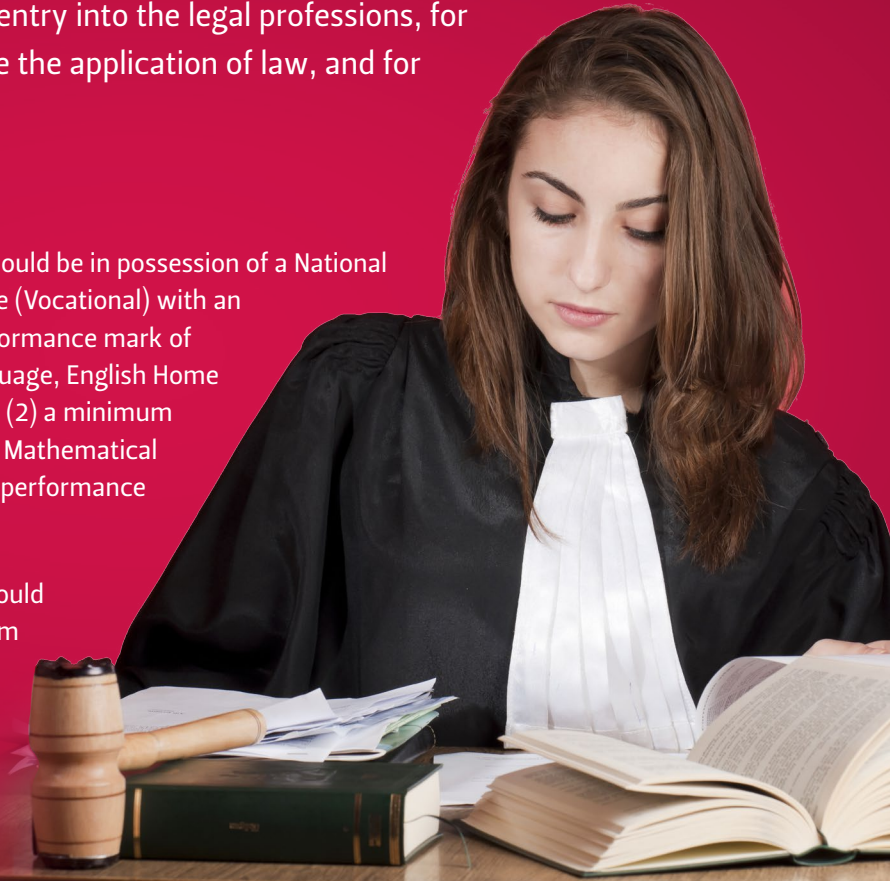
BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB)

The LLB degree prepares students for entry into the legal professions, for a wide range of careers which require the application of law, and for postgraduate studies in law.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be admitted to the four-year LLB, a candidate should be in possession of a National Senior Certificate (from 2008) or National Certificate (Vocational) with an AP score of at least 33 points, with a minimum performance mark of 70% (performance level 6) in Afrikaans Home Language, English Home Language or English First Additional Language, and (2) a minimum performance mark of 70% (performance level 6) in Mathematical Literacy or a minimum performance mark of 50% (performance level 4) in Mathematics.

To be admitted to the five-year LLB, a candidate should be in possession of a National Senior Certificate (from 2008) or National Certificate (Vocational) with an AP score of at least 28 points, with a minimum performance mark of 50% (performance level 4) in Afrikaans Home Language, English Home Language or English First Additional Language.



Being a Judge

The pinnacle of a career in the legal profession is an appointment to the bench! Being a judge in any one of South Africa's courts is a very great honour and an opportunity for the legal practitioner to make a contribution for the benefit of the country. Judges are appointed by the Judicial Services Commission and are selected from applicants who have a long and distinguished legal career.

Being a judge is a huge responsibility. A judge's legal knowledge and understanding needs to be diverse and extensive. Furthermore, in order to be an effective and fair judge, the appointee must be able to deal with matters objectively and without bias. Personal feelings, prejudices, likes and dislikes cannot influence the judge's decisions. In assuming the role of Judge, you agree to uphold and protect the Constitution and the values it entrenches and to apply the law without fear or favour.

An LLB degree is a prerequisite in order to become a judge in any of South Africa's courts. The attainment of this qualification is thus the first step on the road to achieving this ambition. The qualification must be combined with extensive experience and an impeccable track record if the objective is to be achieved. If you want to be a judge, start on the path to realizing your dream by making the decision today to register for law studies at the University of the Free State.

Prof Caroline Nicholson
Dean of the Faculty of Law

LANGUAGE, WORDS, COMMUNICATION... & LAWYERS

Let me to tell you about this beautiful profession called law. But I start in the wrong place, for reasons I hope will soon become clear. So here goes.

The economist measures supply and demand, the geographer maps the lines of longitude and latitude, the physicist has laboratories and black holes and the doctor, the stethoscope. The dancer has lithesome grace, the musical composer uses notation, chords and scales, and the singer...the singer uses melody, tone, rhythm, harmony, tempo, range and improvisation.

This story of the law is also the story of what has happened for me professionally over the last 31 years, a story about what a law qualification has done for me, what it could do for you and why you should get one too.

Like economics, geography, physics, medicine, music and dance, every other vocation has its 'stock in trade', by which I mean the means and tools to perform its function in society, the economy and the world. What then is the 'stock in trade' of the law? They are language and words. Whether arguing in court for the weak or the strong, negotiating disputes, drafting wills, preparing contracts, composing laws, providing legal opinions, solving client problems, delivering judgment or performing any number of other professional functions, we always employ language, words. Thus, lawyering is about communication - and the way to construct, interpret and convey meaning - through language and words. Lawyering is communication.

It is, then, this special facility with language that sets lawyers apart. The ability to choose words, design sentences and manipulate language, variously in composing writing and speech and delivering oral communication and interpreting these, that ability defines our professional activity and success. So, the skill and confidence are instilled in us to manipulate words and bend language to our will, in sum, to treat them like putty or play dough. So much of our activity requires persuasive communication, communication so attractive that it convinces opponents, judges and the public that our point of view, our case, our client, our legal opinion is right.

Here lies the value of exact language use and of crafting communication carefully and with exemplary accuracy, precision, clarity, meaning and effectiveness. The lawyer's language is also moving emotionally. It paints pictures so clear as to be almost visual. I suspect this is how law took me to places that are, still today, the stuff of dreams.

So, here are some of my key career headlines. I worked in an attorney's office. I lectured at North-West University, Wits University and the University of Cape Town. I was a legal adviser, and later senior legal adviser at Southern Life, one of the hundred largest companies listed on the Johannesburg Securities Exchange. I became an assistant general manager in that company. I went on to become a divisional executive director and CEO in that company. I also became a non-executive director of four companies in that great business, FirstRand, the owner of FNB, recently been voted the coolest bank in South Africa, and possibly beyond. I have been on a non-executive director of a wide range of institutions and companies, including a bank. I have been struck by the high demand for legal skills in organisations, and on company boards and their variety of committees, ranging from audit, risk, governance and human resources through to nominations. Anyway, I later became the founder CEO of a state owned corporation. I have done strategy and management consulting. I have had the exhilaration of working alongside management consultants, before becoming one myself, turning a major business around. I have been a business owner. I have worked in law, insurance, investment management, pensions, strategy consulting. Now I am back doing what I love best: teaching law to bright young minds like you, people who can build on the job my generation cannot finish on our own, the job of changing the world.

What made all this possible? It is the gift of a law degree - and the central skill I believe it taught me - to communicate with acuity and confidence.

Mr. Khanya Motshabi
Faculty of Law
University of the Free State
Park West
Bloemfontein



A CAREER IN MEDICAL LAW

Medical law, which is my field of expertise, is the intersection between the law and medicine or even science and new medical technologies. This may range from private issues such as medical negligence and malpractice to public concerns such as the national health system, criminal matters such as inquests and it could also include experimentation on human subjects as well as drug and medicine production and control.

Think medical instruments left inside a person's body after an operation, abortion, euthanasia, medical marijuana

human beings being used as guinea pigs in drug trials and robot limbs for example! These are only a few areas which fall under medical law.

My particular field of interest and research is related to biotechnology. This includes stem cells, organ printing, human biological products and so much more.

Having an LLB has opened so many doors for me and has enriched me significantly. One of the greatest opportunities awarded to me after completing my LLB was the opportunity to pursue studies abroad. So I went. Living and studying abroad, at some of the most inspiring universities in the world, would not have been possible without my law degree. It opens doors, it gives you life experiences and it inspires you to become better. A degree, in my case my LLB, and the growth as a person while pursuing it is something that no one will ever take away from you.

- Dr Larisse Prinsen

A CAREER IN INSURANCE

To spend your legal career in the insurance industry will make sure that you'll always be at the center of the action. That's because insurance industry lawyers are part of the team that develop new products, devise business strategies and make sure the company complies with the relevant legislation.

The main concept of insurance is to identify the financial risks your client may be exposed to that need to be mitigated or avoided. The insurance industry is divided into mainly short-term insurance and long-term insurance. In the short-term insurance industry, you will insure against clients' actual financial loss due to (for example) a motor vehicle accident. The insurer will pay out the exact amount of the loss the client suffered to his car due to the accident. Long-term insurance covers instances for example the client's life or for the eventuality that the client loses a

limp in an accident or gets a critical illness. The insurance company will compensate the client with an agreed upon monetary value for the loss they suffered. When the client submits an insurance claim, the insurer will therefor assess the damage or loss and make an award to the client.

A career in insurance is therefore a satisfying career in that you can see the positive impact you make in your clients' lives when he needs it most.

For a career in insurance you should be a very good communicator, have good negotiation skills, be extremely reliable as well as observant. You should have a strong financial knowledge as well as a knowledge of the newest laws and products, which is why a postgraduate qualification in financial planning law is recommended and will open up even more possibilities in the insurance industry.

Someone with a law degree would be able to work at any institution which offers insurance products to clients such as a broker firm or any financial institution.

- Dr Rika van Zyl

LABOUR LAW

and how a LL.B made it possible:

59,2% of persons participate in the labour force of South Africa by either performing a job, by looking for a job or by providing a job. Labour law therefore occupies an important part of the stage across all commercial and social contexts. Labour law is sub-division of mercantile law. As such labour law aims to regulate the relationship between employer and employee as well as the collective relationship between employers/employer organisations and employees/trade unions. The commencement (advertising, appointments etc), duration (basic conditions of employment, health and safety etc) and termination (dismissal) of the relationship are regulated by different legal provisions.

A LL.B (degree in law) prepares you for specialisation in this field – not only because you study specific labour law principles and the practical application thereof, but also because you are exposed to other fields of law which are relevant to labour law, e.g. law of contract, law of delict, agency and mandate as well as common law. A knowledge of labour law does not only benefit the

labour law

practitioner

(attorney/

advocate), but

also proof to be very useful to employers, employees, workers, trade union officials, shop stewards, business owners, HR-staff, managers and businessmen.

– Ms Marelize
Conradie

TESTIMONIAL

Mrs Anthea-lee September Van Huffel

“What having an LLB degree means to me?”

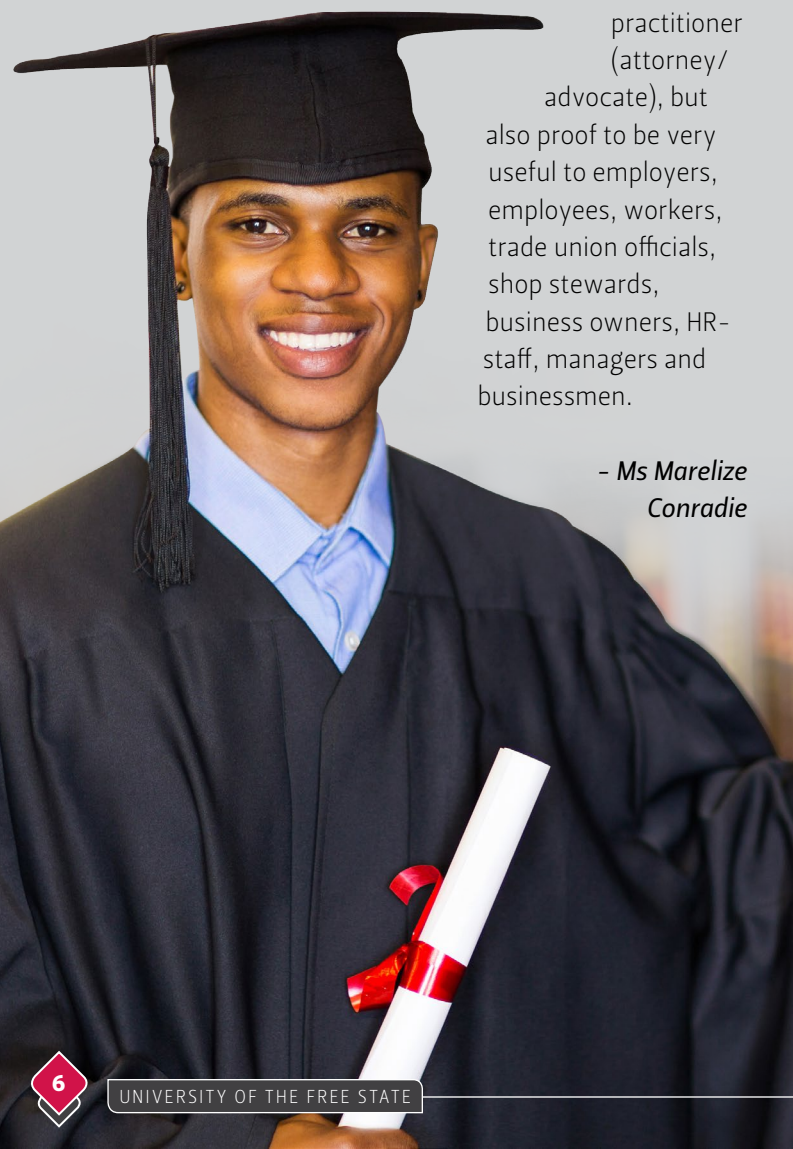
To be a good legal practitioner there are many skills you need to acquire and master but the one common characteristic trait which I believe that all legal practitioners must possess: is the desire to understand and to ask why? Legal practitioners are constantly searching for the answer and when we find it, should the answer not satisfy our expectations or sense of justice – we are brave enough to challenge the status quo either in court, in the boardroom or in publications in consideration of an alternative, better, more just and equitable solution.

If you are a problem-solver by nature then an LLB degree will not disappoint, it will open doors to a world of problem-solving, not only in one discipline but multiple disciplines, there will be no time for boredom! What equivalent degree can boast this extent of exposure and relevance to other industries?

Having an LLB degree lead me to practice as a commercial property law attorney, which in turn exposed me to a number of specialized fields which I never thought I would ever encounter (without having to obtain an additional qualification in that field) such as renewable energy in solar, wind and coal, mining, agriculture, projects, construction and engineering to name a few. The beauty of the law and an LLB therefore, is that it applies to ALL aspects of life, therefore an LLB is arguably not as linear as other tertiary qualifications.

Furthermore, an LLB degree is a qualification that is respected in the “working-world” and truly has real value to the one in possession of it – the qualification grows with you and is useful in many different institutions.

Having an LLB degree has therefore meant to me: diversity in exposure, challenges and problem solving which in turn encourages continuous professional growth.





SPORTS CONTRACTS

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORDS 'SPORTS CONTRACT'?

Possibly, your immediate thoughts are of rich football players who earn millions of Pounds or Euros playing in the English and European Leagues. Maybe you're thinking of multi-million dollar deals concerning major broadcasters like Supersport, Fox Sports, Channel 9 Sports or the BBC to obtain broadcasting rights of major sporting events. Perhaps you're thinking about sponsorships of professional sportspeople like Wayne van Niekerk, Serena Williams, Usain Bolt, Caster Semenya or Cristiano Ronaldo.

If you've thought of any of the abovementioned relationships as 'sports contracts', you are correct. The term 'sports contract' is a widely interpreted one which includes all of the above, and more.

In the media, the 'sports contract' most often reported on is the so-called 'athlete's contract' or 'player's contract'. This contract regulates the relationship between a professional sportsman or woman and the club, union or franchise that employs him or her. In terms of this relationship, the athlete in question provides professional sporting services to said club, union or franchise. In return, he or she is remunerated for these services.

Often, professional athletes enter into these contracts, which are always fixed-term contracts, while they are still relatively unknown. However, because of the public nature of sport, some of them might earn fame relatively quickly. This usually leads to these athletes being offered significantly larger salaries by competing clubs, union or franchises while still under contractual obligations with their current club.

Should the professional athlete accept an offer from a competing club while still under obligation by its current employer, said athlete would be committing breach of contract. The employer (club, union or franchise) then has certain remedies at law: it may cancel the contract and claim damages from the athlete in question, or claim specific performance of the contract in question. If the latter is granted, the athlete would be compelled to honour his or her contractual obligations.

The athlete's contract is consequently a dynamic and highly specialized legal tool.

– Dr Kenneth Mould



“The athlete's contract is consequently a dynamic and highly specialized legal tool.”

WORKING IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

After obtaining your LLB, you have the option of entering the exciting, challenging and fulfilling arena of criminal justice in South Africa.

In our criminal justice system, there are two parties to a fight:

1. The prosecution – The National Prosecuting Authority of South Africa institutes criminal proceedings on behalf of the state. It is not the purpose of prosecutors to obtain convictions, but to assist the court in finding the truth.
2. The accused – Serving as legal counsel for someone who is charged with a crime (sometimes innocently!), is vital to keep our justice system functioning optimally. You can join Legal Aid South Africa or a private law firm as an attorney, or you can complete your pupillage with the General Council of the Bar of South Africa to become an advocate.

Being a prosecutor requires very high levels of integrity, impartiality and responsibility. Before cases are enrolled for prosecution, the prosecutor assists the investigating officer in finalizing the investigation into each case. This means prosecutors are equally responsible for the completion of investigations. When the prosecution finds that a case docket has been thoroughly investigated, the matter is enrolled and the prosecutor will oversee the calling of witnesses in order to prove the case for the state.

Counsel for the defence, whether you work for Legal Aid South Africa, a firm or the Bar, must ensure that their clients receive the best possible legal advice. This includes ensuring that the manner in which their client was investigated, arrested and indicted complies with the requirements in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa of 1996. Counsel for the defence is vitally important work, as they serve as quality control for our criminal justice system.

Though not for everyone, working in the justice system is a very rewarding experience.

- Dr Jo-Mari Visser

CYBERLAW

and how a LL.B made it possible:

The LLB degree gave me the opportunity to become an attorney, help out clients from various backgrounds, cultures and beliefs. Without it, I couldn't have completed my postgraduate degree, which allowed me the opportunity to become an academic and research and develop the field of Cyberlaw, which in turn gave me the opportunity to present my research at many international conferences around the world.

My field of study is generally known as "Cyberlaw". This encompasses all legal aspects pertaining to issues including (but not limited to) social media, cyber bullying, consumer protection when participating in online deals, cybercrime, protection of privacy, online contracts, online gambling, RICA (which has to do with the regulation of communications between people and how and when these may be monitored or intercepted – Yes, I realise how paranoid this might sound) and aspects pertaining to the freedom of speech.

This is an exceptionally wide and new field of law which I can only research, interpret and understand because of what I learned while studying the LLB degree and the training it allowed me to receive afterwards. It encompasses and includes nearly all the other recognised fields of law and tries to regulate how the internet and other forms of electronic communication might influence these fields.

For example, one day you might be approached by a client that might have gotten angry with their boss and decided to take to their twitter account and tell the whole world what a rotten fudge squeegee he is. This might have serious legal consequences for your client, based on defamation, because he might've infringed on his boss' constitutional right to dignity.

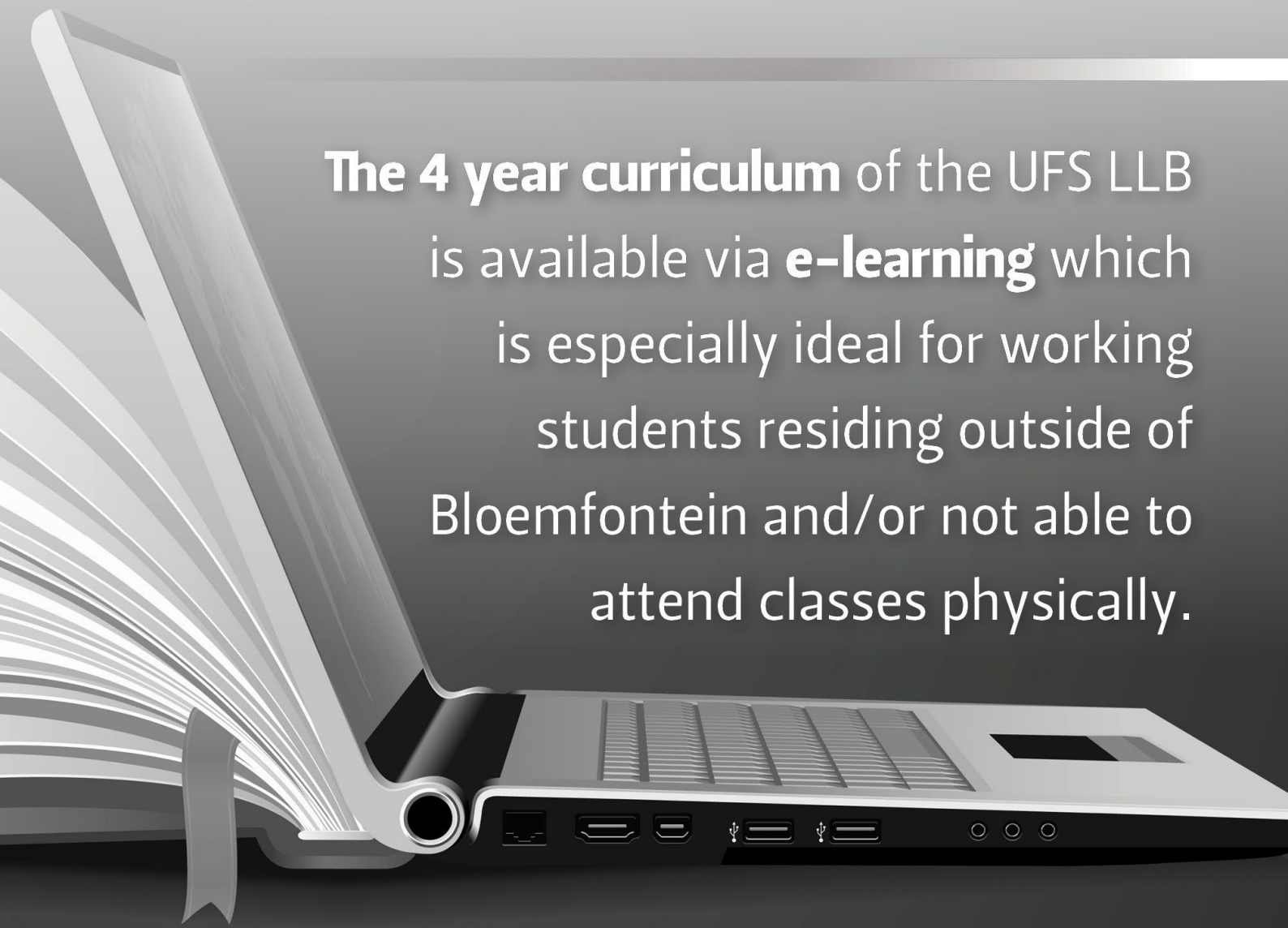
The LLB degree opens new and exciting doors and improve your thinking and arguing skills, just in case you never want to lose an argument again.

- Mr Quintin Cilliers



Make your mark in **over 75** possible careers with an LLB.

The **4 year curriculum** of the UFS LLB is available via **e-learning** which is especially ideal for working students residing outside of Bloemfontein and/or not able to attend classes physically.



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