



# MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Law Handbook



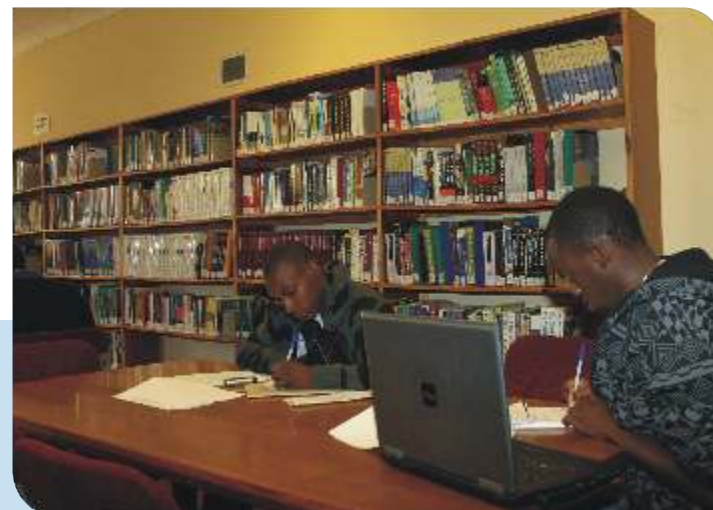
Pioneering for a Better Legal Frontier

[www.msu.ac.zw](http://www.msu.ac.zw)

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## VISION

To be a unique, development-oriented, pacesetter and stakeholder driven University that produces innovative and enterprising students

## MISSION

- Commitment to a culture of problem solving through quality research, teaching and training by means of flexible packaging, work related learning and strategic partnerships with the University' stakeholders for the immediate and ultimate benefit of humanity;
- Commitment to improving the performance of the community through the promotion of managerial skills and generation, dissemination and application of knowledge;
- Commitment to the recruitment, motivation and retention of staff in an environment of a caring institution;
- Commitment to the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and the virtual classroom, as principal teaching and training modes of delivery and research;
- Commitment to gender equality and equity in student admissions and staff recruitment policies;
- Commitment to enhance the quality of people's lives through new ideas and skills for sustainable utilisation of resources; and
- Commitment to promotion of quality research through both taught and research post graduate studies as means of generating new knowledge.

## CORE VALUES

Driven by honesty, integrity, hard work and passion for excellence tempered by self discipline and care for others;

Driven by sensitivity to gender equality and equity, needs of the disadvantaged, African culture and devotion to self-sufficiency and professionalism.

## Dean's Foreword

The Midlands State University Law School is located in Gweru in the Midlands Province of Zimbabwe. It is situated about 5 kilometers from the City Centre. It is located at the Graduate School of Business Leadership, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Commerce Campus. The Faculty averages a student enrolment of 200 students across all levels. Designated by the Council for Legal Education on the 7th of March 2007, the Midlands State University Law School marks an important chapter in Zimbabwean academic history as it is the first law school to be successfully established in post-independence Zimbabwe.

Driven by our motto 'Pioneering for a better legal frontier' we have cultivated a culture of hunger for more knowledge as we believe that knowledge is power. Our wide network is made possible, by our enterprising Vice Chancellor, and teaching staff who hail from diverse legal backgrounds. We have ingrained this culture in our alumni who are ever widening their circle of influence while advertising their cradle in the regional and international arena.

The Law School is geared towards providing quality legal education that is relevant to the needs of the country and the world. From the first day of orientation to the final gathering at graduation, the Law School offers an extraordinary experience. Producing legal professionals that are meticulous, conversant, diverse and adaptive within the global village is the law school's passion. In addition to our library, our unmatched lecturer-student ratio allows us to offer a vast array of courses. With an average class size of below 25 students and countless opportunities for independent research, writing, and student-organized discussion groups, the school offers a conducive environment for studying law.

The Law school also seeks to expand its networks by establishing partnerships with other academic institutions worldwide. In pursuit of the objective of cross pollinating ideas, the Faculty of Law is a member of the International Association of Law Schools (IALS) [www.ialsnet.org](http://www.ialsnet.org), and has a Student and Staff Exchange Agreement with Rhodes University, South Africa. The Faculty of Law also co-operates with partner universities in the Disability Rights and Law Schools Project which is funded by OSISA.



Executive Dean of Law  
Mr G Manyatera

# General Information

## Officers in the Faculty



Gift Manyatera

LLB (UZ), LLM (Turin, Geneva), MSc  
CLEF (IUC Turin), LLD Candidate (UP)



Reginald Chidawanyika

LLB (UZ), LLM (UNISA), LLD  
Candidate (UNISA)



Valentine Mutatu

LLB (UZ), MBA (MSU), LLM  
Candidate (UNISA)



Lloyd Mhike

Faculty Administrator



Batanai T. Chokuda

LLB (UZ), LLM (Cape Town)



Mrs S Mlauzi

Faculty Chief-Secretary



# Departments and Units

## PUBLIC LAW DEPARTMENT

Acting Chairperson

V Mutatu

LLB (UZ), MBA (MSU), LLM (candidate)

### Academic Staff

Professor S.V Mubako

LLB and BCL-University College, Dublin; LLM and MPhil –London School of Economics, UK ; LLD-Knightsbridge University, UK; BA History and Political Science, UNISA; Diploma in International Relations, University of Oslo

Dr V.G Guni

BA (Law) University of Botswana, LLM –University of Buckingham, UK; DPhil, University of Buckingham, UK; PGDCE, University of London, UK

Dr J Tsabora

LLB (UZ), LLM (UKZN), PhD Rhodes University

Dr T Madebwe

LLB & LLM (Rhodes University), PhD University of Strathclyde, UK

T Kasuso

LLB (UZ), LLM candidate (UNISA)

C Hamadziripi

LLB (MSU)

## PRIVATE LAW

Acting Chairperson

B. T. Chokuda

LLB (UZ), LLM (Cape Town)

### Academic Staff

Dr T Mutangi

LLB (UZ), LLM & LLD (UP)

R Katsande

LLB (UZ), LLM (Women's Law, UZ), PhD candidate

Ms S Chirawu

LLBS (Hons) UZ, LLM- Washington College of

Law, USA, Msc IR- UZ, PhD Candidate (UNISA)

A. Takawira

LLB (UZ), LLM (Stellenbosch)

F. Gundu

LLB (UZ), MIP (AU)

F. Chakauya

LLB (Wits), LLM (Cape Town)

E Mandipa

LLB (UZ), LLM (UP)

L Muyengwa Mapuva,

LLB & LLM (UWC), Dip Tech- VOC Education, Gweru Polytechnic, HND & Dip in Accountancy, Bulawayo Polytechnic, NC, Bulawayo Polytechnic

P Manatsa

LLB (MSU)



# Departments and Units

## PROCEDURAL LAW

### Acting Chairperson

Reginald Chidawanyika

LLB (UZ), LLM (UNISA), LLD Candidate (UNISA)

### Academic Staff

#### C Mashoko

LLB (UZ)

#### B Dube

LLB (UZ), LLM Candidate (Open University, Tanzania)

#### I Hore

LLB (UZ)

#### L M Mhishi

LLB (UZ), MBA (UZ)



# LLB Programme

The LLB degree provides students with a sound knowledge of the general principles of the Zimbabwean legal system, and an ability to use legal materials effectively. The LLB enables graduates to critically interpret and apply the law in the context of the ever changing global dynamics.

## Admission Requirements

To become a student in the Faculty, prospective students require five 'O' passes levels including English Language with a 'B' grade or better and three 'A' level passes with a 'B' grade or better in English Literature, History and any other arts or commercial subject.

## Application Procedure

A prospective student has to download and complete an application form which is

available on the University's home page. Acceptance of an application is communicated via an offer letter. New students may only be permitted to register once their application and admission processes are approved. The Faculty has an intake of students twice a year in February and in August.

## Duration

The LLB programme is done over a period of 5 years with the fourth year dedicated to work related learning.

## Examinations

The examinations for the first-semester module take place in May/June while examination for the second semester take place in November/December.

## Work Related Learning (WLR)

In the fourth academic year,

students go on work related learning which is a programme designed to develop students' clinical and practical skills by affording them an opportunity to experience the practical application of the law in the context of real life situations.

The work related learning programme is divided into two stages and is done over a minimum period of ten (10) months. The first stage of the work related learning programme is done over a six month period. In this first stage the students will be attached at the Magistrates Court (both criminal and civil) where they work in the various departments of the Magistrates courts as interns.

The second stage is done over a minimum period of four (4) months and in this second stage the students are attached to either law firms or companies with legal departments or civil society organisations.





# Structure of the LLB Degree

## First Year

### First Semester

Basics of Communication Skills (CS101)  
Introduction to Law (LB101)  
Introduction to Information Technology (HCS 115)  
Interpretation of Statutes (LB108)

## Second Year

### First Semester

Criminal Procedure (LB201)  
Law of Evidence (LB202)  
Property Law (LB203)  
Commercial Law (LB204)

## Third Year (3 Elective Modules)

### First Semester

Compulsory Modules  
Law and Corporate Governance (LB305)  
Accounting for Legal Practitioners (LB302)  
Jurisprudence (LB303)  
Clinical and Practical Skills Training (LB505)

## Fourth Year

Work Related Learning Report (LB401)  
Academic Supervisor's Report (LB402)  
Employer's Assessment Report (LB403)

### Second Semester

Contract Law (LB105)  
Criminal Law (LB106)  
Constitutional Law (LB107)  
Law of Delict (Lb109)

### Second Semester

Civil Procedure (LB205)  
Family Law (LB206)  
Company Law (LB207)  
Public International Law (LB208)  
Gender and the Law (LB209)

### Second Semester

Compulsory Modules  
Conveyancing (LB304)  
Human Rights Law (LB 306)  
Labour Law (Lb309)  
Advanced Civil Procedure (LB504)1



# Structure of the LLB Degree

## Fifth Year (4 Elective Modules)

### First Semester

Dissertation (LB501)

### Second Semester

Dissertation (LB501)

Notarial Practise (LB502)

Legal Ethics (LB503)

## Elective Modules (Subject to availability of Lecturers)

Intellectual Property (LB310)

Law of Taxation (LB314)

Banking Law (LB312)

Law of Succession (LB313)

International Humanitarian Law (LB318)

Law, Democracy & Good Governance (LB549)

Telecommunications Law (LB552)

Computer Law (LB521)

E-commerce Law (LB524)

International Investment Law (LB527)

Mental Health Law (LB530)

Professional Negligence Law (LB532)

Law and Development (LB534)

Consumer Law (LB537)

Penology (LB544)

Environmental Law (LB548)

Disability Rights (LB 323)

International Criminal Law (LB 325)

Law of Insurance (LB311)

Alternative Dispute Resolution (LB315)

Administrative and Local Government Law (LB316)

Law of Insolvency (LB317)

International Economic Law (LB553)

Media Law (LB551)

Mining Law (LB520)

Energy Law (LB523)

International Trade Law (LB526)

Advocacy (LB529)

Medical Law (LB531)

Social Security Law (LB533)

Customary Law (LB537)

Criminology (LB543)

Conflict of Laws (LB546)

Biotechnology and Law (LB550)

Child Law (LB 324)



# MSU Legal Aid Clinic



The Midlands State University (MSU), Faculty of Law, Legal Aid Clinic was established in 2012. Although the Clinic aims to improve access to justice for indigent persons in general using the 'means test', it has a particular focus on the rights of Persons With Disabilities (PWDs). The Legal Aid Clinic is funded by the Foundation Open Society Institute (FOSI) and aims to improve access to justice by PWDs in Zimbabwe. Of great significance is the participation of law students in the Clinic's work wherein the students gain practical experience from real life cases. The Clinic's work is complemented by the teaching of Disability Rights and the various community engagement activities which are integral to the Disability Rights and Law Schools Project. The Disability Rights and Law Schools Project is funded by the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) and is in the second year of implementation.

## Contact Us

Faculty of Law  
Senga Road  
Gweru

Tel: +263 54 223205

Email: [chokudabt@msu.ac.zw](mailto:chokudabt@msu.ac.zw)

# Faculty of Law Library

## Your Gateway To Research Information

The Law Library provides services to staff and students as from 9:00am to 10:30 pm Monday to Friday and 8:00am to 5:00pm Saturday and Sunday during the semester. During the vacation, it opens from 8:00am to 4:45pm Monday to Thursday and 8:00 to 15:45 on Fridays. The library is closed during weekends.

Services On Offer:

Loan Services; Reading Facilities; Photocopying Services; Internet Services; Reference/Information Services; Information Literacy Skills Training

Resources Available in the Law Library

There are hard copy books; Print journal titles; E-book databases and e-journal databases; Institutional repository; Pastex- past examination papers; Electronic newsletter – the legal brief today as well as the Digital Institutional Repository.

E-Book Databases: Dawsonera ; E-Book Library (E.B.L.); E-Brary; Ebscohost E-Books; OUP E-Books International Law In Domestic Courts ; OUP E-Books Oxford; Scholarship Online; Project Muse E-Books; Springerlink E – Books; AGORA;

E-Journal Databases: Annual Reviews: Ebscohost; Gale Thompson; Heinonline; Jstor; Oxford Journals; Oxford International Law Court; Project Muse; Sabinet; Sage; Taylor And Francis; Westlaw Databases; Wiley Online Library





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