

Postgraduate Distance Education Courses for Legal Practice – 2027



WHY CHOOSE LEAD?

With 30 years of experience, the Legal Education and Development (LEAD) division of the Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) understands the needs of a modern-day law practice.

LEAD offers a wide range of top-quality courses, seminars and certificate programmes designed to give legal practitioners the knowledge and skills to manage their practices successfully.

Legal Education and Development

Tel: +27 (0)12 441 4600
 PO Box 27167 Sunnyside 0132
 Docex 227 Pretoria
 161 Lynwood Road, Corner Jan Shoba
 Brooklyn, Pretoria
 E-mail: Distance@LSSALEAD.org.za
 Website: www.LSSALEAD.org.za

Law Society of South Africa

Tel: +27 (0)12 366 8800
 PO Box 36626 Menlo Park 0102
 Docex 82 Pretoria
 304 Brooks Street, Menlo Park, Pretoria
 Website: www.LSSA.org.za

Lifelong learning towards a just society

Introduction

The LSSA joined forces with the Unisa Centre for Lifelong Learning (UCL) to offer two accredited postgraduate, distance-education 'Short Learning Programmes' to legal practitioners.

These 'Short Learning Programmes' are in the form of certificate courses and have been developed by the UCL to update or broaden a legal practitioner's skills and knowledge in specific fields where having up-to-date knowledge is essential to practice. This underscores the LSSA's commitment to provide life-long learning and assist the legal practitioner with their Post Professional Development (PPD).

It is important to note that 'Short Learning Programmes' are, by nature, short and are not formal qualifications.

Postgraduate courses

The two courses are:

- Corporate Law (NQF level: 7; Credits: 24); and
- Deceased Estates Practice (NQF level: 7; Credits: 24).

Closing date for registration is 28 February 2027

General details for both courses

Individual course details and the registration forms are found on the accompanying pages.

Tuition material

Tuition material has been compiled by the UCL in consultation with the LSSA.

Registration and administration

Student registration is done by Legal Education and Development (LEAD), the educational division of the LSSA. Course administration is done by the UCL of Unisa.

Determination of learning outcomes

A consultative process between the LSSA and UCL is undertaken to determine the needs and priorities of each course.

Assessments

The formative assessment and examination admission comply with Unisa's formative assessment rules and policies.

Method of tuition

- Tutorial letters and assignments will be available online via the Unisa Online Platform (myUnisa).
- This will enable students to access the electronic distance education facilities in order to download study material and submit assignments. Please note that the material will not be available in hard copy format.
- At least one workshop is arranged for students, provided there is enough interest in an area for financial feasibility. The workshops are facilitated by the programme presenters.

COURSE IN CORPORATE LAW

Accreditation

NQF level of module: 7
Credits : 24 (Qualification Code 76252
Module code CCPL01D)

Purpose of the certificate course

To equip students with an advanced knowledge of the provisions of the Companies Act 71 of 2008 with respect to various issues. These include the incorporation and registration of companies, company shares, shareholders and company meetings, directors and board meetings, capacity and representation of a company, public offers of securities, take-overs and insider trading, remedies and enforcement, business rescue proceedings and compromises, as well as close corporations. Revised regulations are included.

Duration

Two compulsory semesters.

Dates

March 2027 to December 2027

Closing date for registration: 28 February 2027

Target group

Students must be in possession of an LLB, or a BProc degree.

Prospective students who have any other appropriate degree or who feel that they have the necessary knowledge and practical experience to register for the course may make written submissions with the necessary supporting documents to the LEAD course coordinators for submission to the university for consideration. The applicant will be informed of the outcome in writing.

Outline of course content

Semester 1

- Introduction to companies;
- Incorporation and registration of companies;
- Corporate finance: Shares, debentures and distributions;
- Shareholders and company meetings;
- Directors and board committees; and
- Capacity and representation of a company.

Semester 2

- The registration, transfer and public offerings of company securities;
- Corporate financial reporting, auditing and enhanced accountability and transparency;
- Fundamental transactions, takeovers and insider trading;
- Remedies and enforcement;
- Groups of companies;
- Business rescue: Compromises with creditors, winding up, deregistration; dissolution; and
- Close corporation.

Assessment

The formative assessment and examination admission complies with Unisa's formative assessment rules and policies.

Formative assessment: One assignment per semester.

Summative assessment: All registered students will be required to submit a portfolio as summative assessment at the end of the second semester, which is based on the work covered during both semesters. Satisfactory completion (a final mark of at least 50 %) will qualify the student for a certificate.

Fees

The course fee excludes textbooks. Study guides and tutorial letters will be loaded on myUnisa for the course. The fee does not include travel and accommodation expenses to attend any workshop that may be held.

Course leader at Unisa

Prof Muthundinne Sigwadi BProc (UniVen), LLB (Pretoria), LLM (Pretoria), LLM (Harvard Law School - USA), LLD (Unisa). Admitted legal practitioner (SA), Mercantile Law Department.

Certificates

Certificates are issued jointly by the Unisa Centre for Business Law and the LSSA on the successful completion of the course and full payment of the fee.

Language medium

The tuition material is provided to students in English.

LEAD course coordinator

Corporate Law course: Nomsa Sethosa
E-mail: Distance@LSSALEAD.org.za
Tel: +27 (0)12 441 4600

Requirement for registration

On registration, students are to ensure they have an active individual e-mail address, as well as adequate Internet access. They will need to access myUnisa where important notices, submission and marking of assignments and relevant information about the training will be posted. No sharing of e-mail addresses is allowed, students must have individual e-mail accounts.

How to apply

STEP 1: Please complete the application form by clicking on the link supplied below and attach the following:

- a clear copy of your identity document/passport;
- a copy of your highest degree obtained; and
- proof of payment.

STEP 1: CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

STEP 2: Payment should be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT) only. Remember to upload the proof of payment as well as the other supporting documents (in PDF format) in step 1 (Online registration form).

LSSA banking details:

Account name: Law Society of South Africa
| Bank: FNB Pretoria | Branch code: 251445 |
Account no: 6200 9641 079 | Reference:
CL, Surname and initials

STEP 3: You will receive a system-generated e-mail that we have received your registration form. Course confirmation and more detail on the way forward will be e-mailed to you after the closing date.

Closing Date 28 February 2027.

Category	Full cost (VAT Inclusive)	If you would like to arrange a payment plan please contact: Nomsa Sethosa E-mail: Distance@LSSALEAD.org.za Tel: +27 (0)12 441 4600
Practising legal practitioners	R 15 580	
Non-legal practitioners	R 18 630	

COURSE IN DECEASED ESTATES PRACTICE

Accreditation

NQF level of module: 7 Credits: 24

Purpose of the certificate course

To equip students with, intestate and testate succession, the functions of the Master of the High Court, the practical knowledge and skills necessary for drawing up wills, establishing trusts and administering deceased estates.

Duration

Two compulsory semesters.

Dates

March 2027 to December 2027

Closing date for registration: 28 February 2027

Target group

Anyone wanting to practise in deceased estates. This includes: Legal practitioners, legal advisers, government officials and private sector employees working in the field of administration of estates, paralegals, and staff in law firms with sufficient practical experience.

Outline of course content

Module 1: Wills, Trusts and Reporting the Estate (WTRE01B)

- Intestate Succession;
- Testate Succession;
- Testamentary capacity;
- Formalities for a will;
- Revocation for a will;
- Capacity to inherit;
- Freedom of testation;
- Formation of the Trust;
- Formalities of registering a trust collation;
- Interpretation of will;
- Massing of estate, substitution, accrual, usufruct; and
- Administration of estate.

Module 2: Administration of Estates (WTRE02C)

Assessment

The formative assessment and examination admission complies with Unisa's formative assessment rules and policies.

Formative assessment: Two assignments per module.

Summative assessment: One four-hour examination per module.

Satisfactory completion (a final mark of at least 50 %) will qualify the student for a certificate.

Fees

The course fee excludes textbooks. Study guides and tutorial letters will be loaded on myUnisa for the course. The registration fee does not include travel and accommodation expenses to attend any workshop that may be held.

Course leaders at Unisa

Ms Boledi Maboki LLB (UNISA) Attorney of the High Court of South Africa (Module 1).

Mr CJ Meiring B.Proc (North West University) Admitted Attorney and Conveyancer of the High Court of South Africa (Module 2).

Certificates

Certificates are issued jointly by the UCL and the LSSA on the successful completion of the course and full payment of the fee.

Language medium

The tuition material is provided to students in English.

LEAD course coordinator

Course in Deceased Estates Practice:

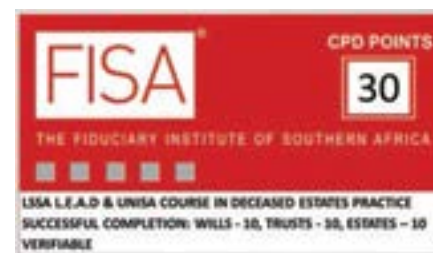
Nomsa Sethosa

E-mail: Distance@LSSALEAD.org.za

Tel: +27 (0)12 441 4600

Requirement for registration

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* Unisa is a public higher education institution established in terms of the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 and does not have or require a provider registration number at the Department of Education or South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

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