

College of Law 2027 research niche (focus) areas

1. Department of Public, Constitutional and International Law (PCIL)

The Department of PCIL's research focus area covers a wide range of subject matters, including constitutional law, fundamental and human rights (SA) and international human rights law, fundamental rights litigation, all fields of administrative and public law including education law, environmental law and natural resources law, all fields of public international law and comparative law Indigenous law or African customary law.

Name	Research focus area
1. Dr S Ndlazi	Constitutional Law, artisanal and small-scale mining
2. Dr H Coetzee	Environmental law (Energy), Constitutional law and Citizenship, Participation and Democracy
3. Ms N Dlamini-Ndwandwe	Customary/indigenous law
4. Prof BA Dube	Aviation Law, Public International Law, and International Criminal Law
5. Mr S Selelo	International Law and Administrative Law
6. Adv P Makama	Constitutional law, human rights law, and Constitutional interpretation
7. Mrs A Baffour	Environmental Law
8. Prof A Manthwa	Human Rights Law, Customary Law, and Family Law
9. Prof L Mhlongo	International economic law and international investment law.
10. Adv NC Malatsi	Interpretation of statutes, Education law, and Administrative law
11. Mr R Lephoto	International Trade Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution.
12. Ms M Mooki	Human rights law
13. Prof L Stone	Constitutional law and International law
14. Prof P Mudau	Constitutional law

15. Dr M Lefenya-Motshegare	Local government law
16. Dr MN Mpya	International Law
17. Mr M Ndou	ADR, Labour Law, Human Rights

2. Department of Private Law

The Department of Private Law provides the underpinning rock on which the entire society of law stands. The research interests of its members vary widely and span the entire field of South African **private law**, including deceased estate, private & criminal law principles of the internet, and, of course, customary law. The Department of Private Law aims to deliver innovative and transformative legal research and thinking, and fulfils this role at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Name	Research focus area
1. Prof A Roos	Data privacy protection / legal protection of personal information; Law of Succession
2. Ms TI Munyai	Property Law and Law of Contracts
3. Prof P Bakker	Customary (indigenous) family law, religious family law, contemporary families and family law in Africa
4. Chad-Lee Cameron CC. Bedeker	Financial Regulation Law
5. Prof IM Knobel	Property Law and Constitutional Property Law
6. Dr CS van der Westhuizen	Legal protection of neonates, medically assisted suicide, mediation, medical treatment of children
7. Ms Lezel Buttner	Family Law, Child Law, Law of Persons and Medical Law with special interest in surrogacy, divorce and medical negligence
8. Mr R Ismail	Law of contract and law of sale and lease
9. Mrs R Mahomed	Personal injury claims, sports law, Islamic marriage law
10. Mr K Seanego	Unjustified enrichment liability and estoppel, law of contract.
11. Prof L Kiewitz	Property Law
12. Mr M Netshitungulu	Law of contract, Law of damages

13. Prof CJ Pretorius	Law of Contract, Law of Unjustified Enrichment and Estoppel
14. Prof H Kruger	Law of persons, children's rights, parental responsibilities and rights
15. Prof J Knobel	Delictual claims, law of damages
16. Mr LM Kutu	Property Law, Land Reform and Housing Law
17. Adv M Khumalo	Law of Contract, Family Law, Labour Law, Evidence and Procedural Law
18. Prof M Mokotong	Law of Delict, Personal injuries, Law of Damages, Customary Law, and Succession law
19. Prof S Ferreira	Child law, law of persons
20. Prof R Ahmed	Law of delict, personal injury claims
21. Mr MM Ratiba	Land and Housing law, deeds law and conveyancing
22. Ms BP Maboki	Law of Succession, Deceased Estates, Medical Law and Customary Law
23. Mr PO Matsemela	Law of Succession, Deceased Estate
24. Mrs TH Nkuna	Notarial practice and Conveyancing
25. Ms M Seerane	Family law, Customary marriages
26. Mrs Contilia Bayi	Law of contract, customary law and child law
27. Miss KN Monareng	Marriage Law, Divorce Law, Matrimonial Law and Customary Law
28. Ms S Motjopi	Deeds, Transfer of movables and immovables, Notarial Practice
29. Mr Motseta Mahlo	Family law, child law and parental rights and responsibilities.
30. Ms Thabang Monyela	Law of Contract, medical law and artificial intelligence in the law and legal education
31. Ms Lindi Mtsweni	Family Law and Customary Law (Indigenous Law)
32. Prof LR Ngwenyama	Property Law; Constitutional Property Law.

3. Department of Corrections Management

Name	Research focus areas
1. Prof WFM Luyt	Comparative criminal justice; international corrections/prisons; community corrections and parole; correctional legal matters, unit management; correctional management; correctional strategic management; HIV and AIDS in corrections; correctional research ethics.
2. Prof P Muthaphuli	Corrections, Criminal Justice, Offender Rehabilitation, Offender's Rights and Sentencing.
3. Prof TD Matshaba	Community corrections, youth corrections, unit management and correctional administration/management. Parole board and parole supervision. Case management, correctional overcrowding, correctional staff development. Correctional gangsterism.
4. Prof N Mullins	Youth and Female offenders, Comparative criminal justice; international corrections/prisons; unit management; correctional management; correctional strategic management.
5. Prof L Fitz	Offender Profiling and Assessment, Correctional Services and Management, Gangsterism and Organized Crime in Correctional Centres, Law Enforcement and Use of Force and Parole and Rehabilitation.
6. Dr FCM Louw	Community Corrections, Correctional Officer Safety and Wellness, Restorative Justice, Victimology, Recidivism, and Correctional Programmes.
7. Dr A Labane	Corrections and care, rehabilitation, assessment inmates and internal role-players in corrections. Admission and release mechanism in connections, assessment of inmates, and 4th industrial Revolution in correctional security.
8. Ms DC Jonker	Social Dimensions in Criminal Justice, Restorative Justice in Correctional Environments, Special Needs Offenders, Social Work Practice in Correctional Settings, Vulnerable Victims of Crime, Role of Social Work Programmes in Offender Rehabilitation, Offender Reintegration, Recidivism Prevention, Legalities of the Correctional Services Act (DCS), ODeL Teaching in Correctional Education, Investigating pedagogical strategies, digital learning methodologies, and student support models within the ODeL environment, especially for students working within or studying corrections and Curriculum Development in Corrections Management.
9. Dr T Mdlungu	Rural Women Development, Youth Justice, Open Distance e-Learning Research, Community Corrections, Rural Criminology.

10. Mr WJ Clack	Livestock Theft; Rural Crime, Corrections Management, Correctional Skills.
11. Prof EK Sibanyoni	Human trafficking/Albino killings for body parts to create traditional medicine (<i>muthi murder</i>), gender-based violence, sexual offenses committed by children against other children, male on male sexual violence in correctional services, victim profiling, and offender profiling, violence against vulnerable group such as disabled children, children, women and grandparents.
12. Dr J Hlatshwayo	Feminist, Womanist, Bosadi theorizations.

4. Department of Police Practice

Name	Research focus area
1. Dr B Lekubu	Fraud, Corruption and Anti-Corruption Reforms/Strategies.
2. Prof MM Matlala	Policing Technologies, Crime Prevention, Post- modern Policing and Police Service delivery
3. Prof JS Horne	Human trafficking, Crimes against women and children, Forensic investigation, Serious and Violent crimes and Fraud and Corruption Criminal investigation and policing
4. Prof A Mabudusha	Migration policing in South Africa, Cross border crimes and Law enforcement and Statelessness in Africa
5. Prof MS Manamela	Policing, Crime prevention, Forensic Investigation in Commercial Crimes and Transgressions
6. Dr LL Motsepe	Crime investigation (Fraud and Commercial Crime, White collar crime) and general policing Criminal Investigations Corporate Fraud Investigations Policing caseload management socio-economic and political issues
7. Dr T Van Niekerk	Crime Investigation Domestic Violence Crimes against woman and children Drug investigations Forensic Investigation
8. Prof G Thenga	Forensic Investigation, Fraud and Corruption, Transnational Crimes and Commercial crimes, Human and economic rights violations
9. Dr MA Aphane	Cybercrime Cyber security Police training and crime prevention
10. Prof van Graan	Community policing, crime reduction and prevention, intelligence-led policing
11. Prof RJ Mokwena	Forensic Photography and Crime scene Investigation also include Fingerprints analysis
12. Prof B Benson	Cultural heritage crime, crime investigation, crimes against women and children, policing, corruption and ethics, online tuition pedagogies
13. Prof DQ Mabunda	Forensic Investigation, Policing and Community Policing
14. Dr P Machethe	Transnational crime, Criminal and forensic investigations, Illicit Drugs
15. Prof D Masiloane	Policing Crime Management

16. Dr MC Marakalala	Adapting Anti-Fraud Practices in the Generative AI Age Commercial crimes Corruption Drugs and Substance Abuse Forensic Investigation Fraud Human Trafficking Intelligence Money Laundry Biometrics Payment Technology
17. Mr G Makola	Indigenous Policing Models Violence in the e-hailing industry automated teller machine bombing crime Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Crime analysis Forensic Investigations Cellphone technology
18. Dr M Maboia	Policing, Forensic investigation, Crime information management and analysis Crime intelligence and analysis Partnership policing
19. Dr NC Dube	Criminal and Forensic Investigation Fingerprint investigation Policing Public Service/Supply Chain Management, Procurement and Human Resources Fraud
20. Dr BT Lebitso	Illegal mining activities Gender-based violence crime related issues Traditional courts disputes related matters. Human trafficking

5. Department of Criminal and Procedural Law

Name	Research focus area
1. Prof A. Saurombe	International economic law, Investment law, Indigenous knowledge systems (IKS) Intellectual Property Rights
2. Prof J Le Roux-Bouwer	General Principles of Criminal Law; Specific Offences; Gender-based violent crimes
3. Mr L Coetzee	Medical Law
4. Ms M Diseko	Gender & the Law; Human Rights; Media Law; Specific Offences; Hate crimes; Criminal Law
5. Dr B Gordon	Internet Law, International Law, Criminal Law
6. Mr K Koza	Criminal Procedure, Cyberlaw, Dispute resolution, AI
7. Dr TL Mabusela	Dispute Resolution
8. Mr B Mashabane	Legal Practice; Corporate Law; Dispute Resolution; Takeover Law
9. Ms M Mkhabela	Civil Procedure, Criminal Procedure, Applied Law for Forensic Auditors
10. Ms W Masuku	Family Law, Parental rights and responsibility
11. Dr T Mokoena	Criminal Procedure
12. Prof N Mollema	General Principles of Criminal Law, Specific crimes, Sexual Offences, Human trafficking, Human Rights, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Court interpreting, Forensic linguistics
13. Prof M Monyakane	Law of Evidence; Constitutional Criminal Law; Criminal Law; Criminal Procedure; Individual labour law; Constitutional Labour Law; Indigenous knowledge recognition as intellectual property; Forensic are measures in criminal justice system; Administrative Law; Constitutional Law; International Economic Law
14. Ms M Mothapo	Civil Procedure, Criminal law, Criminal Procedure, Corporate Law, Law of evidence
15. Ms P Museka	General Principles of Criminal Law, Specific crimes, Internet Law, Law of Evidence, Taxation Law
16. Ms R Mzitshwa	Law of Evidence and Criminal Procedure
17. Prof K Naidoo	Hate crimes, Racially & Ethnically Motivated Crimes, General Principles of Criminal Law
18. Prof B Naudé	Criminal Procedural Rights
19. Adv B Ndlazi	Civil Procedure, Child Justice
20. Mr P Nkoane	Organised Crime

21. Prof L Pienaar	Medical Law, Mental Health Law, Mental illness in the criminal justice system, Child Justice, Disability Law
22. Ms U Poyo	Criminal Procedure, Cybercrime and Financial Crime

6. Department of Jurisprudence

Name	Research focus area
1. Ms A Bauling	Transformative legal education; Online learning in law; ODeL; visual learning in law
2. Adv KH Bokaba	Critical Race theory, Pan-Africanism, Legal Philosophy, Law and Politics
3. Prof JH de Villiers	Legal Philosophy; Jurisprudence; Animal Ethics; Human Rights; Law and Literature; Feminist, Womanist, Bosadi Theorizations; Environmental Law
4. Prof MP Ferreira-Snyman	International Outer Space Law
5. Mrs A Jacobs	Fundamentals of South African Law; Roman Family Law
6. Prof M Labuschaigne	Medical law and Ethics; regulation of human tissue and tissue engineering; regulation of assisted reproduction; law and literature
7. Prof NQMabeka	Labour Law, Commercial Law.
8. Dr FM Mahlobogwane	Child Law, Family Law and Medical Law
9. Prof S Mahomed	Bioethics & Health law: international human tissue transfer; protection of personal information; and artificial intelligence.
10. Adv R Mokomane	Restorative Justice, Criminal Law, and Customary Law
11. Mr MD Moremi	Public Law; Legal Philosophy
12. Prof M Mswela	Health Law, Bioethics, Human rights
13. Dr LDM Neke	Human Rights; Clinical Legal Education; and Civil Procedural Law
14. Ms GS Nkosi	Social Welfare Law; Child Law; Customary Law
15. Ms P Nyawo	Feminist Legal Theory & Race, gender and the Law & Afrifems
16. Adv U Jiyane	Cyber law, Privacy and Data Protection
17. Adv H Raligilia	International Law, Labour Law, Law, and Politics
18. Dr NS Siphuma	Property Law and Constitutional Property Law
19. Prof M Slabbert	Medical Law; Professional Ethics; Organ Transplants & the Law
21. Dr NL Sono	Constitutional Property Law and Property Law
22. Prof M Swanepoel	Medical Law

23. Prof M Wethmar-Lemmer	Conflict of Laws; Private International Law; International Commercial Arbitration; International Sales Law and the CISG
24. Ms L Wildenboer	South African Legal History

7. Department of Mercantile Law

Name	Research focus area
1. Mr K Bapela	Tax law, Banking Law
2. Prof M Bekink	Company Law, Commercial Law, Child and Family Law
3. Prof R Cassim	Company Law, Corporate Governance
4. Adv H De Ru	Child law, Aspects of contract law pertaining to children, Commercial law and Banking law
5. Prof M Du Bois	Intellectual Property Law and Constitutional Property Law
6. Prof S Ebrahim	Equal Pay Law; Employment Discrimination Law; Labour Law
7. Mrs M Fuchs	Credit Law, Commercial Law
8. Prof W Germishuys-Burchell	Labour Law, Commercial law, Specific Contracts and Law of Contract
9. Prof S Geyer	Intellectual Property Law
10. Adv N Hlongwane	Commercial Law, Intellectual Property Law and Labour law
11. Prof E Hurter	Intellectual Property Law and Information Technology Law (Cyberlaw)
12. Prof W Jacobs	Insurance law (in particular the contractual aspects of insurance law; field of specialty: liability insurance)
13. Mr B Khumalo	Labour Law, Social Security Law, Occupational Health and Safety Law
14. Adv L Kubjana	Labour Law, Occupational Health Safety Law
15. Mr T Kunene	Labour Law (Collective labour law) and Occupational health and safety law, Pension fund Law.
16. Prof V Madlela	Company Law (with a focus on corporate governance, corporate political activities, corporate auditors, mergers and acquisitions, schemes of arrangement and asset disposals).
17. Mr D Mahhumane	Company Law, Labour Law, Commercial law and Corporate Governance
18. Adv P Makakaba	Commercial Law, Banking law
19. Prof EM Maleka	Tax law and Commercial Law
20. Prof ME Manamela	Labour Law, Commercial Law and Pension Law
21. Prof T Manamela	Labour Law, Commercial Law, Pension Law, Social Security Law
22. Mrs BM Masuku	Company Law & Commercial Law
23. Mr Boaz Masuku	Intellectual Property Law, Commercial Law, Consumer Law and Company Law

24. Adv M Mathiba	Labour Law, social Security Law
25. Ms E Mbiriri	Insolvency law, Insurance law, and Company law
26. Adv MR Modiba	Company Law and Commercial Law
27. Ms MM Mulaudzi	Labour Law and Commercial Law
28. Dr D Rammila	Labour Law, International Trade Law (and investment), and Commercial Law
29. Dr RM Shay	Intellectual Property Law, Constitutional Property Law
30. Prof M Sigwadi	Company law and Pension Law
31. Prof C Stoop	Commercial law, Education Law, Child Law, Law of persons
32. Ms Z Taljaard	Insolvency Law and Commercial Law
33. Prof LG Tredoux	Income tax law, tax and emigration, corporate tax law, estate planning, international tax law, tax education, education law, comparative tax law, tax policy.
34. Prof MD Tuba	Banking Law, Commercial Law, and Insolvency Law, and Property law (Registration of Transfers).
35. Mr R van Niekerk	Commercial Law, Company law and Labour Law
36. Ms AN Wagener	Banking Law, Commercial Law,
37. Prof C Singh	Banking Law and Intellectual Property Law

8. Department of Criminology and Security Science

Research focus areas:

1. Security risk Management
2. Crime risk
3. Risk assessment
4. Femicide
5. Domestic violence
6. Cybercrime
7. Corporate investigation
8. Polygraph
9. Victimology
10. Crime reduction and control
11. Research methodologies
12. Security risk Management
13. Crime risk
14. Risk assessment
15. Domestic violence
16. Cybercrime

17. Corporate investigation
18. Polygraph
19. Victimology
20. Crime reduction and control
21. Research methodologies

Name	Research focus area
1. Dr TD Ngoveni	SAPS & CPF's collaboration in crime prevention; Police and private security officers in crime prevention, multidisciplinary crime prevention approach, Security risk control measures
2. Dr M Barkhuizen	Victimology (domestic violence; theories; hate crimes), Gender Based Violence (GBV)
3. Prof MI Schoeman	Child justice, children in conflict with the law, victimology, victim-offender overlap, restorative justice, childhood substance use and behavioural addiction
4. Prof K Pillay	Private security industry – Legislation, Regulations, oversight, training and professionalization of private security officers, crime prevention, research methodologies, security risk management. AI and the private security industry
5. Dr MS Thobane	Cash-in-Transit robberies, Armed robberies, bank-related robberies, Gender-based violence (GBV), Contemporary crime issues, Victimology, African/Critical Criminology, Decoloniality
6. Dr M Zitha	Children in conflict with the law, Diversion, Violent Crime and Profiling of Foreign nationals offending
7. Prof BW Haefele	Rhino poaching and organised crime
8. Dr S Kader	Safety and security in society; house robberies: security measures, victims of house robberies; victims of crime
9. Mr TE Banda	Psira as the regulatory body. Regulation of unregistered security service providers
10. Mrs L Van Schalkwyk	Security risk control measures, safety and security at schools
11. Dr DF Monyepao	Feminist, Womanist, Bosadi Theorisations: Substance misuse in relation to female offenders
12. Mrs E Joubert	Explanation of offending behaviour (male, female), needs and risk assessment, pre-parole

	assessment and female offenders' assessment and crimes; youth at risk
13. Prof SK Jansen Van Rensburg	Cybercrime, information security, social engineering, cyberstalking, contemporary crime, women in security, research methodology
14. Ms C Doorewaard	Offender risk assessment; explanation of offending behaviour; rural crime with specific focus on livestock theft; victimology (victims of livestock theft)
15. Mr CM Kgoale	Social media and cybercrime
16. Dr N Bougard	Victimology Risk assessment of offenders Service delivery within the criminal justice system Pre-parole reports
17. Mr M Panyapanya	An evaluation of safety and security at OR Tambo International Airport
18. Mr J Schoeman	Competencies and skills required for security managers. (Physical) The conducting of effective risk analyses at clients' sites. Residential security control measures, do's and don'ts. (Private and gated neighbourhood communities). Evaluation of existing security measures and the implementation of cost-effective counter security measures to address the shortfall. Security measures through environmental design and the implementation thereof before construction starts at a new site/premises. Therefor building security measures first into the project and not afterward.
19. Prof M Buthelezi	Community safety in general, Role of local municipalities in community safety, Role of community in crime prevention, Policing policies, and Role of private security in community safety
20. Mr A Mahambane	Corporate investigation, Safety and security, Retail security, Security risk Management, Crime risk, Risk assessment
21. Prof TO Magadze	Green Criminology, Victimology, Criminal Justice, Corrections, Community Policing, Border security, Investigation of Crimes, Security Risk Management
22. Ms AL Makatu	Security Vetting, Border security, Integrity Management, Intelligence, Military security Security Management, Community safety and security
23. Mr TP Maja	Safety and security measures.
24. Ms NP Magagula	Explanation of offending behaviour

	Youth and female offending, Criminological profiling needs and risk assessments.
25. Dr E Reddy	Cryptocurrency Crime/Fraud, DeFi crime, Corporate Investigations, Cybercrime, Cybercrime investigations, Legal and regulatory aspects of cybercrime investigation
26. Prof D Khosa	Gender and related issues, Security Governance & Compliance, Policing Ethics & Integrity; Traffic Safety & Regulation
27. Prof J T Mofokeng	Knowledge management, transnational crime, school violence, gender-based violence and femicide
28. MS LP Chokoe	Feminism, Victimology, Community justice, Cybercrime, Cybersecurity.