



The South African Medico-Legal Association



UCT Law @ work
Professional Development Project

FOUNDATIONS OF MEDICO-LEGAL PRACTICE

27 January to 16 June 2018

The South African Medico-Legal Association and UCT Law@work, in collaboration with Function Venues, are pleased to present a training course in medico-legal practice.

ABOUT THE COURSE

This first of our intended certificated courses will combine the benefits of highly-experienced lecturers with open discussion and diverse input. The scope relates to medico-legal disputes in personal injury matters as well as clinical negligence matters, and to resolution of medico-legal disputes through litigation and mediation.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The course is intended for professionals in all fields who engage in, or wish to engage in, medico-legal practice in South Africa.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

The course will be presented over six months, with sessions taking place on eleven Saturdays. There will be three lectures each day of the course, of 2.5 hours each (a ± 1.5 hour lecture and ± 1 hour supervised discussion), resulting in 33 lectures and 82.5 hours face-to-face learning time. An optional exam will follow in July 2018.

The six subjects that will be covered are:

- South African law applicable to personal injury litigation
- Ethical conduct in medico-legal practice
- Psychology and communication in medico-legal practice
- Logical reasoning
- Medical science applicable to medico-legal practice
- Other sciences applicable to medico-legal practice

As we are mindful of the benefits to be had from participatory education where participants learn from each other, ample provision will be made for open discussion time. In this way everybody learns, and the most senior participant may learn from the most junior. All lectures will be recorded for future reference. Video recordings will be made available to participants on request and at a fee to be determined.

COURSE DATES

27 January	Session 1
10 February	Session 2
24 February	Session 3
10 March	Session 4
17 March	Session 5
14 April	Session 6
21 April	Session 7
5 May	Session 8
19 May	Session 9
2 June	Session 10
9 June	Session 11

EXAM

An optional exam will be hosted on UCT's online platform in July. Dates and further details will be given during the contact sessions.

COURSE PRESENTERS

The lecturers on this course are all highly experienced and successful practitioners in their fields, who have generously agreed to share their knowledge, insights, experience and methods. The lecturers are a diverse group and we look forward to the personal enrichment of all by active listening to men and women of all colours, cultures, religions, backgrounds and regions. The overall goal is to strengthen the competence and confidence of all participants, and in so doing, to elevate the standard of medico-legal practice in South Africa.



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VENUES

By partnering with Function Venues, and with advanced technical input and support by Douglas Reed and Michael Jackson, we are able to present the course simultaneously in five locations (Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban, Port Elizabeth and Bloemfontein), all linked by professional quality live video-conferencing facilities. The provisional five major venues are **Focus Rooms Sunninghill, Oliver Tambo Moot Court at UCT, Bloemfontein Southern Sun, PE The Boardwalk, and Garden Court Umhlanga**, subject to change in accordance with the number of participants who register for each city. To be confirmed by Function Venues after the close of registrations.

On 13 May 2017 a remarkably successful SAMLA National Seminar was held in these five centres, in effect a dress rehearsal for the course in 2018. This event was a first of its kind for all concerned, and permitted the ironing out of teething troubles. At the same time Douglas Reed tested a parallel mechanism to present the course at smaller satellite venues in addition to the five major venues. We are therefore very pleased to be able to announce that the course will also be available to those who reside far from the major centres.

Registration for satellite venues is offered at the same registration fee as that for the major venues, subject to the following:

- Each satellite venue must be more than 150 km from the nearest major venue
- Participants at satellite venues will provide their own venue (e.g. lounge, study or office), catering, computer (desktop or laptop) and audio-visual equipment (i.e. computer monitor or television set plus webcam, microphone and speakers – most modern laptops have all that is required). The necessary infrastructure, in the form of the requisite internet access and guaranteed bandwidth, will be provided to satellite venues by Function Venues with the assistance of Douglas Reed.
- Satellite venues must be applied for, and at least five participants must register for each satellite venue, by the end of August 2017. (This is to cover the costs and provide sufficient lead time for provision of the necessary infrastructure to each venue).

CERTIFICATES

Participants who attend the lectures and successfully complete the examination will receive a serialised certificate of completion from UCT, as well as a certificate from SAMLA. Those who elect not to write the examination will obtain a certificate of attendance. In addition, CPD points will be included on certificates provided to all healthcare practitioners who attend the course.

To be eligible for a certificate of completion or certificate of attendance, participants must attend a minimum of eight sessions (i.e. 24 lectures) and must certify that they have obtained and viewed the video recordings of the missed days. For maximum benefit, however, participants are urged to attend all eleven sessions (i.e. 33 lectures).

It will also be possible to attend selected days of the course, in which case neither of the certificates will be awarded, but a letter confirming CPD points will be provided.

REGISTRATION

Participants are hereby invited to register for the course with UCT Law@Work.

- **Full course, major venues:** The registration fee for the full course of 33 lectures is R22,000. Registrations close 8 December 2017. **An early bird discounted fee** of R19,950 will apply to all registrations received and paid for by 31 October 2017.
- **Full course, satellite venues:** The registration fee is R19,950. The closing date for satellite venue registrations is 31 August 2017.
- **Single day, all venues:** The fee for attending single days will be R2,000 per day if paid for by 31 October 2017. After this date, registrations will be accepted up to seven days before the lecture day, at a registration fee of R2,500, and subject to availability of seating.

CANCELLATION

Please note that the course will not proceed if there are less than 150 paid-up registrations by the cut-off date, i.e. the minimum number required to cover the fixed costs of presenting the course. Should the course be cancelled, registration fees will be refunded in full.

SPONSORSHIP

The SAMLA Faculty would like to offer sponsorship of part of the registration fee to disadvantaged SAMLA members in good standing who wish to attend. The capacity to offer sponsorships will depend on the number of fully paid registrations and approval by the SAMLA Board. Further announcements in this regard will be made on 9 December 2017.

For details of the SAMLA Faculty, subject sub-committees, curriculum, reading list, provisional timetable, overall course outcome and individual subject outcomes, please go to: **<http://www.lawatwork.uct.ac.za/foundations-medico-legal-practice>**

For registration and enquiries please contact Law@work, UCT Faculty of Law:

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