



Hauser Global Law School Program

University of Cape Town Cape Town, South Africa

Exchange Program Information Package
2010-2011



Hauser Global Law School Program
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<http://www.law.nyu.edu/global/intlprograms/studyabroadprograms/index.htm>

We are pleased you are interested in New York University School of Law's overseas exchange program with the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa. This package gives a general description of the program as well as details about some of its more important aspects. The information in this pack was taken from a variety of sources made available by UT, such as their website - www.uct.ac.za, student handbook, and other informational guides. Carefully review this information before deciding whether to apply. Carefully review this information before deciding whether to apply.

Please plan to attend an information session. If you can't attend, or if you have additional questions about the program, please feel free to stop by the Hauser Global Law School Program Office (FH 340) to speak with Christine Jensch, Coordinator for Global Visitors and Exchange Programs.

Important Application Dates

January 21	NYU Application deadline
Mid-January to Mid-February	Applicants screened
Mid to late February	Selections made
March 12	Cape Town applications due

I. Program Description and Information

A. About the Program

Up to two NYU Law students may study at the University of Cape Town, one per semester. The program is open to second- and third-year students only who have spent at least one full-year at NYU School of Law. First-year students cannot participate.

While at UCT, you will be classified as an undergraduate student, as you have not yet completed a law degree. You may register for one of the following combinations of courses per semester of study:

- 2 LLM courses and 1 LLB course
- 1 LLM course and 3 LLB courses

Undergraduate students will only be permitted to register for an LLM course with the approval of the course convenor.

B. The University of Cape Town and the School of Law

The University of Cape Town (UCT) is South Africa's oldest university, and is one of Africa's leading teaching and research institutions. Founded in 1829 as the South African College, a high school for boys, the College had a small tertiary-education facility that grew substantially after 1880, when the discovery of gold and diamonds in the north - and the resulting demand for skills in mining - gave it the financial boost it needed to grow. The College developed into a fully fledged university during the period 1880 to 1900, thanks to increased funding from private sources and the government. During these years, the College built its first dedicated science laboratories, and started the departments of mineralogy and geology to meet the need for skilled personnel in the country's emerging diamond and gold-mining industries. Another key development during this period was the admission of women. In 1886 the Professor of Chemistry, Paul Daniel Hahn, convinced the Council to admit four women into his chemistry class on a trial basis. Owing to the exceptional standard of work by the women students, the College decided to admit women students permanently in honor of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1887. The years 1902 to 1918 saw the establishment of the Medical School, the introduction of engineering courses and a Department of Education. UCT was formally established as a university in 1918, on the basis of the Alfred Beit bequest and additional substantial gifts from mining magnates Julius Wernher and Otto Beit. The new university also attracted substantial support from well-wishers in the Cape Town area and, for the first time, a significant state grant. Ten years later, in 1928, the university was able to move the bulk of its facilities to the magnificent site at Groote Schuur on the slopes of Devil's Peak on land bequeathed to the nation by Cecil John Rhodes as the site for a national university, where it celebrated its centenary the following year.

Apart from establishing itself as a leading research and teaching university in the decades that followed, UCT earned itself this nickname during the period 1960 to 1990 for its sustained opposition to apartheid, particularly in higher education. The university admitted its first small group of black students in the 1920s. The number of black students remained relatively low until the 1980s and 90s, when the institution, reading and welcoming the signs of change in the country, committed itself to a deliberate and planned process of internal transformation. From the 1980s to the early 1990s, the number of black students admitted to the university rose by 35 percent. By 2004, nearly half of UCT's 20 000 students were black and just under half of the student body was female. Today UCT have one of the most diverse campuses in South Africa.

The Faculty of Law at the University of Cape Town provides strong leadership in the field of legal education both nationally and increasingly in the international arena. Undergraduate students may choose the combined BA/BCom plus postgraduate LLB or the recently introduced four-year undergraduate LLB.

The faculty's post-LLB programs are attracting increasing numbers of students from South Africa and beyond. Members of the faculty engage in critical policy research and have, since 1994, played an important role in law reform and policy revision. Faculty members provided key technical support during the drafting of the South African Constitution and staff and students continue to play a prominent role in governance.

C. The City of Cape Town

The city of Cape Town (home of the Parliament of South Africa) is dominated by a towering, table-shaped mountain, set on a peninsula of soaring, rocky heights and lush valleys, where two oceans converge - the Indian and the Atlantic.

This natural beauty, combined with the fast pace and bright lights of a great urban centre, adds to the benefits of studying at the tip of Africa. Firmly positioned on the international map, the Mother City, as it is affectionately called, offers a myriad of things to do and places to see, whatever your tastes, inclinations or budget.

South Africa's past and recent history make Cape Town a very interesting and informative cultural-tourism city. If you want to explore and understand South Africa's past, you can take one of a number of organized tours. Typically such a tour will take in the Bokaap or Malay Quarter and its museum, District Six and the District Six Museum, Langa, Gugulethu and Khayelitsha.

Take a trip to Robben Island from the V&A Waterfront's Nelson Mandela Gateway and visit Table Mountain on the cable car. You could also experience live entertainment in Cape Town at the V&A Waterfront, Kirstenbosch Gardens or the Baxter Theatre Centre.

D. Program Dates

Bear in mind that the University of Cape Town is in the southern hemisphere and seasons are opposite to those of the northern hemisphere. The academic year at the University of Cape Town runs from February through December with a winter break in June/July. Our Fall semester is their Second Semester, which is divided into 3rd and 4th quarters; and our Spring semester is their First Semester, which is divided into 1st and 2nd quarters of the following year. The complete calendar can be found at <http://www.uct.ac.za/calendar/terms/>

Semester 2 ("fall") 2010

3rd quarter: 23 July to 3 September
 Mid-term vacation: 4 September to 12 September
 4th quarter: 13 September to 17 December

Semester 1 ("spring") 2011

1st quarter: 14 February to 25 March
 Mid-term vacation: 26 March to 3 April inclusive
 2nd quarter: 4 April to 10 June

E. Courses

While at UCT, you will be considered an "undergraduate" student as you do not hold a law degree. As an undergraduate exchange student, you are limited to a total of 12 contact hours or lectures per week. You may register between 2 and 6 courses, but the total number of contact hours/lectures must not exceed 12. Usually not more than four courses are taken per semester. This is considered a full semester load.

The following courses are available to exchange students only. Descriptions of these courses can be found at in the Law faculty Handbook, currently located at http://www.uct.ac.za/downloads/uct.ac.za/apply/handbooks/fac_law_09.pdf.

- CRJ300F - Criminal Law (Part A, first semester), 4 lectures/week
- PBL401F - Administrative Law (Part A, first semester), 3 lectures/week
- PBL200F - Constitutional Law (Part A, first semester), 4 lectures/week
- PBL201F - International Law (Part A, first semester), 2-3 lectures/week
- RDL103F - Foundations of South African Law (Part A, first semester), 5 lectures/week
- RDL103S - Foundations of SA Law (Part B, second semester), 5 lectures/week

UCT does not use a credit point system. Below is a rough guide to how contact/lecture hours are converted into credit hours. UCT suggests that you obtain between 12 and 15 credit hours/points for the semester. This is considered a full academic load, equivalent to that of full-degree students. The undergraduate courses at the University of Cape Town are offered as first, second and third-year courses (100, 200 and 300-level codes).

Course level	Credit hours	Contact hours
100	3	45
200	4	60
300	6	60
400	6	60
500	8	80

Only undergraduate law students who are already in possession of a first degree (e.g. a humanities degree) or who are at least in the third year of their law studies (if not in possession of another degree) may register for an LLM course. One LLM course counts as 6 contact hours. To take an LLM course, you must obtain written permission from the course convenor and submit it to the Law Faculty Office.

As part of the exchange program between NYU and UCT, you may only do courses offered by the UCT Law Faculty. If you wish to take courses offered by other faculties, you will need to register as an occasional student in respect of those additional courses with IAPO, for which you will need to pay the appropriate fees.

For more information about Law courses, contact Ms Sheryl Ronnie sheryl.ronnie@uct.ac.za, +27 21 650 2997.

F. Evaluation and Grades

Evaluation

Undergraduate courses at the University of Cape Town are usually assessed through a combination of essays, assignments, tests, class participation/presentation, and examinations. Exams usually count for a significant proportion of the final course result. Examination timetables are set centrally by the university and are not flexible. All students take the course examination at the same time, in a predetermined venue. Examination timetables are published by the faculty offices, and a copy is available at IAPO. You should arrange your travel plans bearing in mind that the last day of term could well be the last day of your examinations, so don't plan to do anything until after that day.

Grading

UCT does not use a grade point average system. Grades are awarded for individual courses.

<u>University of Cape Town Grades</u>	<u>Recommended US grade equivalent</u>
80 - 100% first class	A+
75 - 79% first class	A
70 - 74% second class, division one	A-
67 - 69% second class, division two	B+
63 - 66% second class, division two	B
60 - 62% second class, division two	B-
57 - 59% third class	C+
54 - 56% third class	C
51 - 53% third class	C-
50%	D
0 - 49% FAIL	F
DPR permission to write examination refused	F
AB absent from examination	F

This is a recommended grade conversion. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO).

Once you have completed the program, three copies of your transcript will be sent to your home institution, together with an explanation of the grading system used at UCT.

All courses will be graded in the first instance by the University of Cape Town faculty in accordance with their grading system. However, because grading standards between NYU School of LAW and the University of Cape Town may differ, a direct translation to NYU School of Law's letter grading system can be quite difficult. Therefore, participating NYU students will, upon successfully completing a course, receive a designation of "pass/fail" for the course on their transcripts. **All students must receive the equivalent of a letter grade C in order to receive credit for the class.**

ACCEPTANCE OF ANY CREDIT OR GRADE FOR ANY COURSE TAKEN IN THE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO DETERMINATION BY NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW. We expect, however, that all credits earned at Cape Town will count towards New York University School of Law credits.

G. Program Cancellation

We expect the program to go forward as planned and anticipate no obstacles to implementation. However, in the highly unlikely event that the entire program has to be canceled, students selected for the program will be informed immediately by telephone, email, or in person, and notices of cancellation will be posted on the Hauser Global Law School Program website. In addition, individual meetings will be arranged with any student who wishes one. If in the even more unlikely event that the Program is canceled after students have arrived in Cape Town Christine Jensch, Coordinator for Global Visitors and Exchange Programs, will contact all participating students by telephone, if possible, or by email. Should particular courses be canceled or rescheduled, students selected for the program will be informed by email, telephone, or in person to the extent that we are made aware of these changes.

II. Program Office, Staff and Facilities

A. Program Office and Staff

The International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO) has as its core business to facilitate and promote all facets of internationalization at UCT. It aims to be the first port of call for all international students and provides a wide range of services including general enquiries from prospective students, advice on the safety of the area you wish to stay in, the appropriateness of working while in South Africa, application for study permits and general advice about your stay at UCT. To this extent we seek to complement the services provided by other faculties and departments and have strong relations with service providers within and outside UCT. Some of the duties of the IAPO as they relate to study abroad students include:

- Runs a dynamic Semester Study Abroad Programme
- Runs an Outward Exchanges programme for UCT students to travel and study abroad at partner institutions
- Runs an annual international student pre-registration service
- Assists students with immigration issues
- Produces information booklets and pamphlets specifically for international students
- Liaises with the Department of Home Affairs Department regarding immigration legislation and compliance
- Maintains links with embassies and donor organizations that fund international students
- Ensures participation and representation on appropriate UCT committees dealing with international students

Below is a list of staff members who deal directly with study abroad.

Ms Lara Hoffenberg, Manager, Mobility Programmes, lara.hoffenberg@uct.ac.za

Mrs Sharon Turner, Exchanges Officer, sharon.turner@uct.ac.za

Mrs. Lisa Essex, Study Abroad Programme Administrator, lisa.essex@uct.ac.za

Ms Naasiha Abrahams, Study Abroad Programme Administrator, naasiha.abrahams@uct.ac.za

Mrs. Sophia Carr, Study Abroad Programme Administrator, scar@world.uct.ac.za

Mrs Allison Jansen, Study Abroad Programme Administrator, allison.jansen@uct.ac.za

Ms Penny van Zyl, SSA housing coordinator, penny.vanzyl@uct.ac.za

Postal Address

International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO)
Kramer Law Building
University of Cape Town
Private Bag
Rondebosch
7701
South Africa

In the Law Faculty, two staff members with whom you should acquaint yourself are:

Ms. Lizelle Draai, Lecturer and Exchange Coordinator, lizelle.draai@uct.ac.za

Ms Sheryl Ronnie, Administrative Officer, sheryl.ronnie@uct.ac.za, +27 21 650 2997.

B. The Law Library <http://www.lib.uct.ac.za/law/Info/lawlibhistory.pdf>

The Brand van Zyl Law Library is named after the Right Honourable Major Gideon Brand van Zyl, (1873– 1956), Governor General of the Union of South Africa from 1946 to 1950, who donated his family's library to the University of Cape Town in 1949. At that time, South African legal practice and legal education relied heavily on the major works of Roman-Dutch law. The Van Zyl family had collected such works over a period of 70 years, starting with Brand's father, Dr Casper van Zyl, who had practiced as an attorney in Cape Town in the nineteenth century, and had lectured at the fledgling UCT Law School from 1890 to 1896. This donation of major Roman-Dutch works was the backbone of the Library for many years. The Law Library became a separate branch library of the UCT Libraries system in 1962. At that time, the Library was situated on the University's Orange Street Campus in central Cape Town. The Library moved on to the University's Upper Campus on the slopes of Devil's Peak in the 1970's, before moving down the hill to its current location on the Middle Campus in July 2000. At present, the Library occupies the two lowest floors of the Wilfred and Jules Kramer Law School Building. The Kramer Building was completed in 1986, and is a spacious, contemporary, award-winning building with ample natural light.

The library has 275 study spaces, which at 3.4 seats per registered student is relatively generous by international standards. Some of these study spaces are in sound-proof discussion rooms for group study. There are five individual study carrels for thesis students. Three rooms can be used for teaching purposes. One of these has 12 PCs and a data projector, and is used for hands-on training on the legal databases. The Library also has access to classrooms with state-of-the-art equipment elsewhere in the building, and they are

used when teaching larger classes. The Faculty believes that all its graduates should be computer literate. Students are expected to use on-line databases to find relevant material, and to use word processing packages to prepare their essays and theses. Students have access to 80 computers in the Library, each with access to subscription databases, the Internet and word processing software, and are linked to a networked printer. Power and data sockets for 22 laptop computers are available. Two WiFi hotspots have been installed: one in the Library and one elsewhere in the Law building, giving laptop users further access to the Library's resources.

III. Preparing for Your Trip

A. Anticipated Tuition, Fees and Living Costs

The unit of currency in South Africa is the South African rand (ZAR or simply R). Currently 1 US dollar is approximately 7 rands.

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Rand per month</u>
Rent *	R2,500
Living costs **	R1,000
Food	R1,100
Transport	R500
Pocket money	R1,000
Books, notes	R400
TOTAL	R6,500 per month

* Rental is for a room in a shared, self-catering apartment. Note that some places may cost more or less. Typically rental per semester (5 months) is between \$1,800 and \$2,500. Note that an upfront damages deposit of R2000 is required. This is refundable, after deductions (if any), at the end of the lease period.

** Living costs include electricity, local telephone, laundry, cleaning and toiletries.

B. Student Housing and Living Arrangements

We know how important comfortable, secure and convenient accommodation is to making your study abroad experience a success. As on-campus dormitory/residence space is so scarce at UCT, IAPO has sourced suitable off-campus accommodation with reputable landlords.

Penny van Zyl is the housing coordinator and she will assist you to secure suitable accommodation. Please email her at penny.vanzyl@uct.ac.za for all your accommodation queries and bookings.

You will need to pay a non-refundable R3,000 housing deposit to secure a place. This amount, however, is deductible from the total rental amount that will be due by you for the semester's accommodation. If you do not pay this housing deposit, accommodation will not be secured on your behalf.

To book please complete the housing choice form at <http://www.uct.ac.za/apply/intlapplicants/semester/services/offcampus/booking/>. Landlords "sell" the accommodation in blocks of five months and it is not possible to have a shorter lease than this.

By committing to take the accommodation you are committing to paying for the full five months. These short-lets are essentially for the entire semester. This is because it is virtually impossible to find replacement tenants once the semester has started, as all other students are already accommodated and landlords will therefore be out of pocket, since they will have turned away business from local students to keep places available for international students.

C. Visa and Residence Permit Information

All students planning on studying in South Africa for a semester or year are required to obtain a study permit before leaving their country. UCT is not permitted to register you unless you have a valid temporary resident permit (i.e. a study permit). This permit is issued by the South African Consulate. To apply for a study permit, you will need a valid passport (which should be valid for a period exceeding the length of your proposed study abroad), a letter of acceptance from UCT to the issuing authorities, proof of medical coverage (a letter from your insurance company), a deposit for repatriation, a return plane ticket and money for the cost of a study permit.

When applying for your visa, you must bring the following with you:

- A completed and signed application form (BI-1738). Applications are available online at <http://www.southafrica-newyork.net/homeaffairs/downloadables.htm>
- Passport valid for no less than 30 days upon completion of study
- Two photos

- Copy of birth certificate
- Roundtrip flight itinerary
- Medical and radiological report or TB test if negative
- Medical insurance coverage in terms of South African scheme
- A repatriation cash deposit of \$800.00 in case of all applicants studying in RSA for more than six months
- An official letter from the institution confirming provisional acceptance and duration of the course
- An official letter of provisional enrolment from the institution of learning concerned
- Proof of financial means in the form of bank statement or notarized letter from the parents stating the financial responsibility
- State police clearance certificate in respect all applicants 18 years of age or older, in respect of all previous countries of residence for period exceeding one year, to be submitted within three months of the application if not immediately available
- A vaccination certificate if an applicant is passing through yellow fever belt area before entering RSA
- Proof of US status

Processing Time	10 days
Processing Fee	US\$72.00 cash or money order only
Repatriation Deposit	\$800.00
Mailing Fee	US\$16.00 FedEx overnight
Walk-in Applicants	9:00 am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Friday

To find out where you should make your application visit <http://www.southafrica-newyork.net/homeaffairs/jurisdiction.htm>

D. Health Insurance

Students must prove that they have health insurance which covers them in South Africa. Cape Town has a Mediterranean climate and is therefore not susceptible to tropical diseases. However, students planning to explore more widely throughout Africa and the sub-continent should seek advice from their medical practitioners before leaving home.

If you are insured through NYU's Student Health Insurance, you are covered for emergencies when traveling more than 100 miles from your campus address through Assist America. Do carry your Assist America card with you when traveling. In case you do get into an emergency, you are to contact Assist America to arrange all medical services. You will not be reimbursed for any services that are not arranged through Assist America. Reimbursement is the same as the NYU-sponsored Basic plan of 80%/20% co-insurance. For more information, visit http://www.chickering.com/stu_conn/travel_assistance.aspx.

It is possible to waive your NYU Student Health Insurance. In order to do this, you must have an insurance policy that is comparable to NYU's Basic plan. For more information, visit <http://www.nyu.edu/shc/about/how.to.enroll.waive.html> or contact NYU Student Health Insurance Services at 212-443-1020. **Your waiver will not be processed until Student Health Insurance Services confirms that your insurance plan meets the University's criteria.** To avoid being obligated to pay for two health insurance plans, please do not purchase another health insurance plan before it is approved by Student Health Insurance Services.

E. Provision for Students with Disabilities

If you are interested in the program and will need some special assistance due to a disability, please speak with Christine Jensch, Coordinator for Global Visitors and Exchange Programs, who will contact Cape Town to obtain information about the availability of needed services.

In special cases, students with a physical or learning disability may be given permission to have extra time to write examinations. If you qualify for extra time at your home institution, please bring proof of this from your registrar's office, as well as supporting medical documents, and make your needs known to staff at IAPO early in the semester. Alternatively, you could be assessed at the UCT Student Health Services - ask at IAPO for details.

F. Resources for Living in South Africa and Traveling

Below are websites you can get more information about living, studying and traveling in South Africa

<http://www.babalaas.net/>
<http://www.lonelyplanet.com>
<http://www.roughguides.com>

Student Travel Agencies

When buying your flight, you should consider using a student travel agent. Not only might you get a better price, you may also get a more flexible ticket that allows cancellation or date changes. The fees for these are often less than other agents or the airline itself.

STA Travel. There are branches around the city and all over the world. Also online at www.statravel.com
Travel CUTS. There is an office on MacDougal Street. Also online at www.travelcuts.com.

www.studentuniverse.com. Online only. You do not need an ISIC card to purchase products from this site. You must have an active university email address.

Getting Around

Budget Airlines

<https://www.kulula.com/Default.aspx>

<http://www5.flymango.com/>

<http://www.1time.aero/>

By train

<http://www.spoornet.co.za/ShosholozaNeyl/index.jsp>

By Bus

<http://www.intercape.co.za/>

<http://www.greyhound.co.za/>

<http://www.translux.co.za/>

Student Discounts

International Student Identity Card. This is the only internationally recognized student identity card. It is available at student travel agencies. An ISIC card costs \$22 and is valid for a calendar year. ISIC cards purchased in September are valid through the following calendar year. With an ISIC card, you can get discounts on flights, tour packages, entry to attractions, and more. Visit www.isic.org to find out what discounts are available in the country you are going to.

IV. Semester Follow-Up

Please note that all NYU School of Law students selected to participate in a study abroad program will be requested to submit to the Hauser Global Law School Program upon completion of their studies abroad:

- A one or two-page report evaluating their experiences in the program
- A Student Questionnaire Form at the end of their studies to be used to provide a resource for future students interested in the program with The European University Institute.

V. How to Apply

If you decide to apply to the Exchange Program at the University of Cape Town, you must complete a written NYU application available from the Hauser Global Law School Program website:

<http://www.law.nyu.edu/global/intlprograms/studyabroadprograms/applicationprocedures/index.htm>

In screening applicants, we will look for such things as a strong academic record, serious interest in international and comparative law, and experience with different cultures and overseas travel. The timetable for the application process is as follows:

January 21	NYU Application deadline
Mid-January to Mid-February	Applicants screened
Mid-late February	Selections made and applicants notified
March 12	Cape Town application deadline

If you are nominated by NYU to participate in the exchange program with the University of Cape Town, you will be given their application to complete and submit to the Hauser Office by **March 12, 2010**. We will then forward your application to Cape Town where it will be considered for admission. Should you be accepted by Cape Town, you will receive an acceptance letter and instructions for obtaining your visa.

VI. Additional Information

One of the resources we offer to our students to provide further information on our exchange programs is a collection of questionnaires that have been completed by our past students about their experiences while studying at each of our partner institutions. If you are interested in looking at these questionnaires, please feel free to stop by our office (Furman Hall, Suite 340) between the hours of 9 AM and 5 PM.

Additionally, we maintain a list of past students at each program who have indicated their willingness to speak with interested students about their experiences while abroad. Should you be interested in receiving a copy of this document, please either stop by our office or send us an email at: lawglobal@exchange.law.nyu.edu.