

Tutorial Letter 101/3/2018

Social dimensions of justice SJD1501

Semesters 1 & 2

College of Law

This is the **Signature Module** for the College of
Law

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please register on myUnisa, activate your myLife e-mail addresses and make sure that you have regular access to the myUnisa module website, SJD1501-2018-S1 or SJD1501-2018-S2, as well as your group website.

Note: This is an online module and therefore it is available on myUnisa. You should not be expecting any study material in printed format.

BARCODE

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
1 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 Getting started	3
2 OVERVIEW OF SJD1501	3
2.1 Purpose	3
2.2 Outcomes	3
3 LECTURER(S) AND CONTACT DETAILS.....	4
3.1 Lecturer(s)	4
3.2 Department.....	4
3.3 University	4
4 RESOURCES	4
4.1 Joining myUnisa	4
4.2 Other resources – printed support material	5
4.3 Library services and resource information.....	5
5 HOW TO STUDY ONLINE.....	6
5.1 What does it mean to study fully online?	6
5.2 The myUnisa tools you will use	6
6 ASSESSMENT	7
6.1 Assessment plan	7
6.2 Year mark and final examination/portfolio	8
7 CONCLUSION.....	9

1 INTRODUCTION

Dear Student

Welcome to SJD1501

This module will introduce you to the South African context in which you will have to perform as future legal and criminal justice functionaries. You will develop a basic understanding of what shapes our legal system, the nature of South African law and the criminal justice system and how the law and justice is applied and administered. You will also develop an awareness of how you, as legal and criminal justice functionaries, can contribute towards building a safer and more just society in conformity with the South African Constitution.

Because this is a fully online module, you will need to use myUnisa to study and complete the learning activities for this course. Visit the website for [module code] on myUnisa frequently. The website for your module is SJD1501-18-S1 or SJD1501-18-S2.

1.1 Getting started ...

Owing to the nature of this module, you can read about the module and find your study material online. Go to the website at <https://my.unisa.ac.za> and log in using your student number and password. You will see SJD1501-18-S1 or SJD1501-18-S2 in the row of modules displayed in the orange blocks at the top of the webpage. Select the **More** tab if you cannot find the module you require in the orange blocks. Then click on the module you want to open.

We wish you much success in your studies!

2 OVERVIEW OF SJD1501

2.1 Purpose

Law and justice are an intrinsic part of our lives and in this module, we explore law and justice by asking you to engage with newspapers, your own experience, and that of others. We hope you find this encounter with the Social Dimensions of the South African Justice System as insightful.

This module is delivered using myUnisa and the internet as well as peer group interaction; community engagement is also included in some of the activities. Your lecturers will interact with you on myUnisa and via e-mail.

2.2 Outcomes

After the completion of this module we hope that you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the South African legal and criminal justice systems.
- Demonstrate an understanding that South Africa's constitutional, legal and criminal justice systems function within a global community.
- Articulate a personal philosophy of justice with specific reference to the principles of restorative justice, on which a legal or criminal justice professional's service to humanity is based.

3 LECTURER(S) AND CONTACT DETAILS

3.1 Lecturer(s)

The Primary Lecturer for this module is Dr P Muthaphuli:

Dr P. Muthaphuli
College of Law
Telephone: 012-4339423
Email: muthap@unisa.ac.za

The Secondary Lecturers for this module:

Dr TD Matshaba
College of Law
Telephone: 012-4339424
Email: dmatshab@unisa.ac.za

Mr J Masina
College of Law
Telephone: 012-4339428
Email: masinj@unisa.ac.za

3.2 Department

You can contact the secretary of the department as follows:

Telephone number: 012 433 9438
E-mail: tngobeit@unisa.ac.za

3.3 University

To contact the University follow the instructions in the brochure **Study @ Unisa**. Remember to have your student number available whenever you contact the University.

Whenever you write to a lecturer, please include your student number to enable the lecturer to help you more effectively.

4 RESOURCES

4.1 Joining myUnisa

If you have access to a computer that is linked to the internet, you can quickly access resources and information at the University. The myUnisa learning management system is the University's online campus that will help you communicate with your lecturers, with other students and with the administrative departments at Unisa – all through the computer and the internet.

You can start at the main Unisa website at <http://www.unisa.ac.za> and then click on the myUnisa orange block. This will take you to the myUnisa website. To go to the myUnisa website directly, go to <https://my.unisa.ac.za>. Click on the **Claim UNISA Login** on the right-hand side of the screen on the myUnisa website. You will then be prompted to give your student number in order to claim your initial myUnisa details as well as your myLife e-mail login details.

For more information on myUnisa, consult the brochure **Study @myUnisa**, which you received with your study material.

4.2 Other resources – printed support material

Because we want you to be successful in this online module, we DO NOT provide you with study material in printed format.

It is very important that you log in to myUnisa regularly. We recommend that you log in at least once a week or every 10 days to do the following:

- **Check for new announcements.** You **MUST** activate your myLife e-mail account to receive the announcement e-mails on your cellphone.
- **Do the Discussion Forum activities.** When you do the activities for each unit, we want you to share your answers with the other people in your group. You can read the instructions and even prepare your answers offline, but you will need to go online to post your messages.
- **Do other online activities.** For some of the unit activities you will need to post something on the **Blog**, take a quiz or complete a survey under the **Self-Assessment** tool. Do not skip these activities because they will help you complete the assignments and the activities for the module.

To get the most out of the online course you **MUST** go online regularly to complete the activities and assignments on time.

4.3 Library services and resource information

For brief information, go to www.unisa.ac.za/brochures/studies

For detailed information, go to the Unisa website at <http://www.unisa.ac.za/> and click on **Library**.

For research support and services of personal librarians, go to <http://www.unisa.ac.za/Default.asp?Cmd=ViewContent&ContentID=7102>.

The Library has compiled numerous library guides:

- finding recommended reading in the print collection and e-reserves – <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/request/undergrad>
- requesting material – <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/request/request>
- postgraduate information services – <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/request/postgrad>
- finding, obtaining and using library resources and tools to assist in research – http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/Research_Skills
- contacting the Library/finding us on social media/frequently asked questions – <http://libguides.unisa.ac.za/ask>

Free computer and internet access

Unisa has entered into partnerships with establishments (referred to as Telecentres) in various locations across South Africa to enable you (as a Unisa student) free access to computers and the Internet. This access enables you to conduct the following academic related activities: registration; online submission of assignments; engaging in e-tutoring activities and signature courses; etc. Please note that any other activity outside of these are for your own costing e.g.

printing, photocopying, etc. For more information on the Telecentre nearest to you, please visit www.unisa.ac.za/telecentres.

5 HOW TO STUDY ONLINE

5.1 What does it mean to study fully online?

Studying fully online modules differs completely from studying some of your other modules at Unisa.

- **All your study material and learning activities for online modules are designed to be delivered online on myUnisa.** Although we give you a printed copy to support your studies, the module is designed to be delivered online.
- **All of your assignments must be submitted online.** This means that you do all your activities and submit all your assignments on myUnisa. In other words, you may **NOT** post your assignments to Unisa using the South African Post Office. [This will depend on the module]
- **All of the communication between you and the University happens online.** Lecturers will communicate to you by e-mail, and using the **Announcements**, the **Discussion Forums** and the **Questions and Answers** tools. You can also use all of these ways to ask questions and contact your lecturers.

5.2 The myUnisa tools you will use

All of the information about myUnisa tools is located under **Unit 0** on the myUnisa website for this module. However, we thought it was important to highlight the tools that will be used for your formal assignments.

In this module, there are three different types of assessment using different myUnisa tools:

- **Discussions:** This is the place where the online discussion forums take place and where you can share your ideas and insights with other students in your group. For many activities, the discussion forums are also used, and there are five activities that will count as assignments for this module. For these assignments to be submitted the teaching assistant (TA) for the site needs to create a forum with a topic, for example **Assignment 01** under **Discussions**. When you click on **Discussions**, you should find the topic **Assignment 01: Language Diversity**. Here you click on **Reply** and a message box is displayed in which you will do your assignment. Scroll down to **Publish** to finalise/submit the assignment. Never create a new topic by yourself unless the TA requests you to do so. For the activities that need to be done under **Discussions**, the TA will create a forum called **Unit 1** and then a topic for the activity. Again, do the activity as a reply under the topic created by the TA and not as a separate topic.
- **Assignments:** The assignments that are not done under **Discussions** are called written assignments. You have to type these assignments in a Word document and submit them online in the same way as you will submit all the other assignments online. The assignments will be routed to your TA who will mark them. Depending on the assignment, you may be asked to fill in a form or type a document. These typed assignments must be submitted as Word documents using the online **Assignments** tool on myUnisa. The instructions for submitting these assignments are given under **Unit 0**.

Under **Discussions**, several other discussion forums are available where you can share ideas and post your opinions online. We have also provided the **Social Indaba** where you can socialise with the other students in the course. (In several African languages, an indaba is a place where people gather to interact socially.)

You may also ask questions using the **Questions and Answers** tool. If your question is of general importance, your TA may publish it for the whole group to see.

Remember, you will have two online spaces for the module, Social Dimensions of Justice:

- **Your main site: SJD1501-18-S1 or SJD1501-18-S2**, this is where you will hear from your teaching team through Announcements. We also give you some of the study materials so that you can get started, but you cannot complete the activities here. For that, you need to go to your group site.
- **Your group site:** This group site will be assigned to you later, with your Teaching Assistant. Your group site will look almost the same as the main site, but it will have a group number at the end. For example, a group site for first semester looks like this: **SJD1501-18-S1-10T or SJD-18-S2-10T**. This is where you will interact with the students in your group and your Teaching Assistant. This is also the place where you will find the following:
 - All of the study materials for the module, including reading materials, links and activities
 - All of the information about your assignments and activities.
 - This is where you must submit your formal Assignments to the university.

6 ASSESSMENT

6.1 Assessment plan

We have given you a breakdown of the formal portfolio activities and assignments as they become due during the semester:

6.1.1 Assessment plan for semester 1

SECTION A

ASSIGNMENTS FOR FIRST SEMESTER (S1) 2018

Only students who registered during January 2018 (First semester) and who will write their examination in May/June 2018 must complete the assignments in this section.

***** ALL SIX ASSSIGNMENTS AND THE PORTFOLIO ARE COMPULSORY! *****

You must submit all six assignments electronically (on myUnisa) before the appropriate due dates to ensure that Unisa receives them on time.

ASSIGNMENT 1	28 February 2018
ASSIGNMENT 2	07 March 2018
ASSIGNMENT 3	16 March 2018
ASSIGNMENT 4	06 April 2018
ASSIGNMENT 5	18 April 2018
ASSIGNMENT 6	26 April 2018
PORTFOLIO	25 May 2018

6.1.2 Assessment plan for semester 2

SECTION B

ASSIGNMENTS FOR SECOND SEMESTER (S2) 2018

Only students who registered during July 2018 (second semester) and who will write their examination in October/November 2018 must complete the assignments in this section.

***** ALL SIX ASSSIGNMENTS AND THE PORTFOLIO ARE COMPULSORY! *****

You must submit all six assignments electronically (on myUnisa) before the appropriate due dates to ensure that Unisa receives them on time.

ASSIGNMENT 1	15 August 2018
ASSIGNMENT 2	22 August 2018
ASSIGNMENT 3	03 September 2018
ASSIGNMENT 4	12 September 2018
ASSIGNMENT 5	28 September 2018
ASSIGNMENT 6	03 October 2018
PORTFOLIO	26 October 2018

Because this is an online module, the assignments are not provided in this tutorial letter. Instead, the assignments are given in the study material as they become due during the course of the semester. You can see them when you go online or read about them in the printed support materials.

6.2 Year mark and final examination/portfolio

Your Year Mark for this module

- Weighting in the course: **Year Mark & Portfolio**
 - **80% year mark for assignments in each unit**
 - **20% final Portfolio**
 - ***[Note, this will take the place of the typical final examination for this module]***

Why we don't have an exam for this module:

Your final assessment task is called the Summative assignment: Your own Personal Philosophy of Justice portfolio and is the focal point of this course. The module you have just completed can be regarded as the first step you have taken to eventually fulfill a role in the justice system. Therefore in your final portfolio, you are expected to reflect on what you have learned and how this has affected your view of the Law, the justice system and the people who uphold the Law in this country. In other words we want you to begin to formulate your personal philosophy of justice. In the course of this module you have been expected to reflect on the ethos of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, and uBuntu and say how they have influenced your personal code of ethics and conduct as a functionary in the justice system?

7 CONCLUSION

Do not hesitate to contact us by e-mail if you are experiencing problems with the content of this tutorial letter or with any academic aspect of the module.

We wish you a fascinating and satisfying journey through the learning material and trust that you will complete the module successfully.

Enjoy the journey!

Dr. P Muthaphuli, Dr TD Matshaba and Mr J Masina.

COLLEGE OF LAW

©

Unisa 2018