

@UDSoL 2024

## UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM

### SCHOOL OF LAW

#### DEAN'S WELCOMING REMARKS TO FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

**ACADEMIC YEAR: 2024/2025**

**Dear first year students,**

I welcome you all to the University of Dar es Salaam and School of Law in particular. I congratulate you for having been selected to study at the oldest Faculty (School) of Law of the oldest University in Tanzania. I believe you will not disappoint your parents, guardians, teachers etc. whose efforts and sacrifices made you realise your dream to join the University. You were selected out of a very competitive process that involved more than 6,000 applicants. It is, indeed, your time to demonstrate that you did not get this chance by accident but because you deserved it.

I believe the few days you have been at the University have already given you a sense of how the transition from high school to university life can be both interesting and challenging. It is my hope that you are slowly adjusting to and managing the completely new environment well. All I can assure you is that our University is a good place for you, provided you collectively and individually abide by its rules and regulations.

**Dear first year students,**

Both the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) and Bachelor of Arts in Law Enforcement (BALE) programme to which you have been admitted are demanding. Legal education is a process that extends over a lifetime and involves learning a body of law and acquiring an understanding of the legal system and environment against which to analyse facts, patterns, challenges and problems of our society. As lawyers or law enforcers, we need a collection of intellectual skills and ability (analysis, synthesis, risk evaluation etc.) in order to make a correct judgment in a given situation or circumstance. Closely related are the *ICT* and *communication* (language – oral, written, presentation, persuasion etc.) *skills* and *abilities*. Also, *application and enforcement skills* are needed in the application of law and procedures to the various factual situations or transitions that arise in our daily lives. You must therefore, right from today, learn how to think and act like a lawyer or law enforcer.

Let me briefly highlight the expected learning outcomes and career prospects for the LLB and BALE programmes so that you get a picture of you should expect if you learn and acquire the necessary skills.

### **THE LL.B AND BALE PROGRAMMES**

The School of Law runs the LL.B and BALE programmes in order to impart part of the knowledge and skills described above. Part of the required knowledge and skills, including soft skills, comes from your personal efforts and training using the available resources, such as ICT, as the School cannot teach you everything. The intended knowledge outcomes are varied but it is expected that at the conclusion of the training programme, you would be able to achieve the objectives of each programme and build your career in a number of ways as follows:

#### ***Bachelor of Laws (LL.B)***

This four-year degree programme introduces you to principles of domestic and international law. It equips you with skills necessary to master the legal profession. Upon successful completion of this programme, you will be eligible to join the Law School of Tanzania for the practical legal training (Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice) as a prerequisite for admission as Advocate of the High Court.

#### ***Learning outcomes***

At the end of the LL.B Programme, it is expected that you should be able to, among other things:

- a. Integrate and critically apply knowledge, understanding and the skills and techniques associated with the discipline of law to effectively engage with the evolving nature of the discipline, legal profession and legal practice. As such, you should be able to pursue clients' interests in accordance with relevant rules and codes of professional responsibility and identify strategies likely to increase access to the legal system and improve the quality of justice in society.
- b. Analyse legal concepts and problems in their historical and contemporary context, formulate potential solutions and defend conclusions by evaluating relevant legal sources, ideas and evidence.
- c. Integrate and synthesise legal and non-legal viewpoints and practices and work effectively across disciplinary and professional boundaries individually and with others to produce effective outcomes.

- d. Synthesize information about legal documents including statutes and case law, use primary and secondary sources of law in developing arguments and detect ambiguity, consistency and inconsistency within and among different rules and sources of law
- e. Demonstrate skills in conducting legal research to solve legal problems in society in a manner that is practical and cost effective and be able to prepare legal documents such as pleadings, affidavits, memoranda, contracts, letters and emails, reflecting the effective legal writing skills and in a language that can be understood by ordinary clients. This includes the ability to cite appropriate legal authorities to support statements about law and follow standard citation and attribution styles and conventions.

### *Career Prospects*

The following are the career prospects for LL.B holders:

- a. *Entrepreneurial opportunities:* As graduates of the LL.B programme you can develop your career as excellent human resource officers/practitioners, administrative officers, company secretaries, tax consultants, mediators, arbitrators and legal consultants. You can also establish and run your own law firms after admission as advocates of the High Court.
- b. *Employment opportunities:* As graduates of the LL.B programme you can seek employment opportunities in the public and private sectors, NGOs both within and outside Tanzania as judges, magistrates, state attorneys, advocates, legal officers or administrators. You can also work with international organisations, courts and tribunals.
- c. *Leadership/community-based opportunities:* As graduates of the LL.B programme you can also consider leadership roles or community-based roles where you can use your knowledge and skills in human rights and legal advice to the community. As engaged and reflective professionals, you can initiate and lead constructive change, especially for disadvantaged groups and individuals in the community, through responsible modes of persuasion and active participation with others.

### *Bachelor of Arts in Law Enforcement (BALE)*

This three-year programme is tailored to the needs of law enforcement bodies. However, admission is also granted to personnel from other stakeholder institutions. The overarching objective of the programme is to build the capacity of law enforcement agencies to deal with the unique and ever-mutating challenges of the fast-globalising

world. The programme multi-disciplinary in content and exposes students to the essentials of law, political science, sociology, psychology, cyber and computer crime, international crime, transnational crime, fraud and forgery, and criminal investigation. It is a unique programme offered *only by our University* in Tanzania.

### *Learning Outcomes*

At the end of the BALE programme, those who study diligently should be able to:

- a. Demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental skills of a law enforcement officer.
- b. Identify and demonstrate problem-solving skills that will correlate to the issues they will be challenged by as law enforcement officers upon employment.
- c. Demonstrate mastery and ability to sufficiently apply knowledge in relation to substantive and procedural laws applicable in various areas and levels of law enforcement.
- d. Communicate effectively using written and oral skills.

### *Career Prospects*

- a. *Entrepreneurial opportunities:* Graduates of the programme can establish companies that provide security services to the public and private sectors. They can also work as compliance officers or security and safety consultants.
- b. *Employment opportunities:* Graduates of the programme, can be employed by government sectors such as, prison, police, and immigration department, security services in other government agencies, judiciary, and in the private sector e.g., private security companies.
- c. *Leadership/Community-based opportunities:* Graduates of the programme can also consider leadership roles or community-based roles where they can use their knowledge and skills in human security, human rights and legal advice to the community.

**Dear first year students,**

These knowledge and skills do not happen by miracle but through a process that creates shared responsibility between you – the learners – and the facilitators of the learning process (Professors, lecturers, books, journals, media houses, law reporters, Hansard, public debates, research etc.)

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- You must actively learn and overcome all the obstacles and challenges that are likely to make you not perform well.
- You must interact with the learning process and its environment and be able to acquire and create knowledge, skills and required abilities to make you think like a lawyer or law enforcer.
- You must not be a mere recipient but active creator of knowledge, skills and requisite abilities

On the other hand, the facilitators of the learning process are also varied. Many students mistakenly think that professors and lecturers are creators of knowledge and skills. To the contrary, they, too, do learn from students. In addition, as facilitators, they are only a SMALL part of the learning process. There are others knowledge houses ranging from libraries, where books, law reports, Hansard, debate etc. can be retrieved. More importantly, the internet is a very good facilitator of the learning process since it can give you access to the knowledge houses. It is unfortunate that most students are unable to harness the advantage offered by the internet in this regard.

**Dear first year students,**

Over the years we have discovered that most students do not have the basic skills on problem solving, hence fail to argue even their own cases or issues. Some of you are used to the **question-and-answer** style of studying which is very common among secondary school students. This style does not prepare you to think critically and solve problems; it only makes you memorize and reproduce what you have memorized during examinations. It assumes that questions will always be the same or similar and that they all will have the same/similar answers. Perhaps some of you passed in secondary school because of this style. I want to assure you that that style DOES NOT work for a university law or law enforcement student. You cannot pass if you do not read widely. Kindly pay a special attention to this caution.

Task management strategies are critical for you. They involve clarifying the task – know what you need to do and why, starting where the energy is, starting much earlier than you think is necessary, working through projections – think several steps ahead, do not look for one solution, look for several; find out more than you need and set time limits.

Your achievement as a student and scholar requires an ability to self-educate and learning from others. You must be disciplined in terms of many things if you are to be a successful lawyer of law enforcer.

**Dear first year students,**

Learning at the School of Law is interesting but could also be difficult if you are not seriously engaged in the process. Students are usually used to complaining, yet a lawyer of tomorrow should, in principle, be a problem solver, a solution seeker, a planner and a person who gives hope to others. Complaints will not help you. Rather, what helps are concrete suggestions and plans of action that are fully thought-through, understood, and operationalized objectively and in a focused manner. This should be your challenge.

Protect yourself and avoid risky behaviours and environments. This includes diseases, such as HIV-AIDS, alcoholism, drug abuse and other behaviours that may ruin your studies and life in general. Know that you are 'free' from your parents' close watch (some of you for the first time). Do not abuse this 'freedom'. Use it as a way to learn self-discipline and self-management as part of your preparations to enter the employment/market as a graduate. In that environment neither your parents nor babysitters will accompany you.

**Dear first year students,**

Before I conclude, let me give you important tips for your action.

1. Read and understand rules and regulations of the university and in particular those related to your programme. Do not wait or expect that other students or student leaders will read and explain them to you; It is NOT their duty to do so, because they, too, are students like you. Ignorance of law is no defence. In particular, download or print and have in your possession (and read) these key documents:
  - UDSM Prospectus
  - General University Examination Regulations (GUER) – found in the Prospectus.
  - Specific Examination and other Regulations for UDSoL Programmes - found in the UDSoL section in the Prospectus.
  - Students' By-laws
2. In case of problems or doubts, consult the administration office located in the UDSoL (A.B Weston) Building – ground floor. Do not wait until it is too late to report a problem or challenge facing you or even a colleague.
3. In case of a doubt, challenge, problem, inquiry relating to academics, consult the relevant course coordinator or instructors first. If necessary, consult your academic advisor (for advice) or the Examinations Office (for issues to do with examinations). If necessary, consult Dean's Office.

4. Each of you will be assigned an academic adviser. This is a lecturer who will assist you in case you need any academic advice, or advice on anything that relates to or may affect (positively or negatively) your studies. You must know him/her, introduce yourself to him/her and consult him/her from time to time. Do not wait for him/her to look for you. Do not consult him/her when it is too late.
5. Communicate your problems or challenges in writing. All communications (letters) MUST be sent to the Dean, UDSoL School of Law. If the communication (letter) is meant for offices higher than the Dean (e.g. Vice Chancellor, DVC Academic, Director of Undergraduate Studies etc.) they must be channelled (UFS) through the Dean. You MUST always word-process your official correspondences. Do not send hand-written letters to any office.
6. In case of a social problem, it is important to consult the Dean of Students. Know the difference between the Dean of Students and the Dean of the School. In case you are not sure what to do, you may consult the administration office at UDSoL or your academic adviser for guidance.
7. Health problems MUST be communicated through University Hospital (Medical-Officer-in-Charge), even if you are treated outside the University.
8. You MUST attend all lectures. Spend your time in class, library and discussion forums. Although you need time to relax, avoid as much as possible unnecessary activities. Reduce the time you spend on social media. Concentrate on your studies; it only takes you 8 or 6 semesters to complete your LL.B or BALE programme, respectively. You will have plenty of time to do other things thereafter.
9. Plan to succeed; not to fail. Work towards that goal.
10. Avoid unproductive groups or interactions. Do not be swayed from your studies or morals by peer pressure. Do not sway others from their studies. As the Swahili saying goes: *Umekuja mwenyewe, utaondoka mwenyewe*; Consequences are personal.
11. Know the University and School leaderships – know the names of the leaders. Visit the University and School websites and Prospectus to know them.
12. Use correct titles when referring to staff of the University. At the University we have the following titles: Professor, Doctor, Mr. Miss, Mrs or Ms. Do **not** refer to your lecturers as 'SIR' or 'MADAM'!

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>NAME OF OFFICE</b>	<b>POSITION OF OFFICE HOLDER</b>
1	Dean's Office	Dean
2	Three Departments	Head, <u>Public Law Department</u>
3		Head, <u>Private Law Department</u>
4		Head, <u>Economic Law Department</u>
5	Undergraduate Studies	Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies
6	Administration	Senior Administrative Officer/s
7	Examinations	Examinations Officer
8	Other coordinators	BALE Coordinator
9		CTL Coordinator
10		Timetable Coordinator

KARIBUNI SANA CHUO KIKUU CHA DAR ES SALAAM.

**Dr. S.F Materu**

**DEAN**

**31 October 2024**