



LAW SCHOOL QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICY

APPROVED DURING THE 36TH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2024

CHAIRPERSON, UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

SECRETARY, COUNCIL

DECEMBER, 2024

1. INTRODUCTION

Uganda Technology and Management University (UTAMU) reaffirm its commitment to delivering quality academic experience to the students and teachers in order to achieve the high academic standards. In pursuit of the University's mission and vision, UTAMU has developed a range of policies and procedures which will ensure there is quality standards in the provision of the core activities stated in the strategic plan. Therefore, all policies should adhere to the quality standards that in line with other national and international quality standards.

2. UTAMU Law School Background

UTAMU Law School was established in 2022 to provide unparalleled opportunities to study law in a rigorous, vibrant, and collaborative environment. The school is mandated to undertake legal research and innovation. The school is in the process of establishing its maiden Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree programme which is set to be launched in May 2023.

The school is premised on the notion that theory cannot be separated from practice. Our curriculum integrates practical experience, professional responsibility, and lawyering skills with doctrinal study at every level. What forms the core of our lawyering curriculum are the skills recognized by the legal profession as essential to successful law practice: problem solving, legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, factual investigation, communication (legal writing, oral argument), counseling, negotiation, litigation and alternative dispute-resolution, culturally competent practice protocols, organization and management of legal work, and recognizing and resolving ethical dilemmas.

We believe that studying law at the UTAMU Law School will go beyond choosing one of the most prestigious and comprehensive legal educations in Uganda.

2.1 Moot Court Centre

Moot Court is the special practical centre to impart practical training on the application of the law. The Director of the centre will ensure this unique aspect of the LLB Degree programme is well covered. Further, the director of the centre will also ensure that the Law School participates in numerous moot completions at national, regional and international level.

Among the Moots competitions will be the African Human Rights Moot Court Competition which is the largest gathering of students, academics and judges around the theme of human rights in Africa. This annual event brings together all law faculties/schools in Africa, whose top students argue a hypothetical human rights case as if they were before the African Court on Human and Peoples'

Rights. The Competition continuously prepares new generations of lawyers to argue cases of alleged human rights violations before the African Court. Since its creation, 175 universities from 50 African countries have taken part in this permanent fixture on the Africa legal education calendar. The Moot has been a catalyst for the establishment of the leading programmes in the field of human rights teaching and research in Africa

Moots competitions have over the years been an invaluable human rights platform for thousands of law students, academics and human rights activists across the continent. The competitions have fostered lasting relationships and networks that have shaped the regional legal community.

The Law School via this unit will participate and attain outstanding performance in the following moot court competitions:

- i. All African Human rights Moot Court Competitions
- ii. Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- iii. Save the children Moot Court Competition

2.2 ICT and Law Centre

This centre will be responsible for imparting ICT skills on the students and staff in the law school. It will also be responsible for undertaking research in ICT law and teaching courses at the interface of ICT and law. The ICT laws will include domestic and international laws that regulate electronic transactions and activity in digital space. The centre will also offer continuous legal education on the use of ICT legal systems that support electronic case hearings, electronic filing, delivery of electronic judgements, and electronic libraries, electronic supervision, and access to e-resources among others. It will also support electronic learning for law students in the UTAMU e-learning platform.

2.3 UTAMU Law Society

UTAMU Law Society will be a society of law students at UTAMU but is not part of the administrative structure of the Law School. This Society is the major channel to enhance extra curriculum activities allied with the Law School. The society will be governed by the President who will be elected by all students registered under the Law School. The society leadership will highly participate in preparation and administration of the Law School's internal projects including legal aid services, UTAMU community day, and the School outreach and community services programmes.

3. PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

UTAMU has got a quality assurance policy which has been developed to reaffirm the commitment in trying to offer education ubiquitously to whoever needs it both locally and internationally.

Therefore, UTAMU's teaching methodology of blended learning (virtual learning and traditional classroom teaching) deduces so many questions in stakeholders' minds. The fear on providing quality education and how stakeholders can cope with the form of teaching and learning is guaranteed by the quality innovative procedures have been put in place.

UTAMU requires well-timed and credible processes and information to manage teaching and learning, research, engagement and accountability activities. This is for the purpose of: Ensuring there is a conducive educational environment for both students and staff, Generation of information for the entire University business processes, Able to track and monitor all University activities and operations both at a local and international level and Provide for accountability and transparency in all University processes

4. Scope

The scope of this policy includes all educational activities, processes and procedures that are within UTAMU Law School, within the mandate of UTAMU general Quality Assurance policy, National Council for Higher Education quality assurance policy, Ministry Of Education among other local and international organizations. This policy will inform all the internal and external checks on all the activities, processes and procedures within the University.

5. Policy Statement

UTAMU law school is committed to be a Global Law School providing quality standard knowledge aimed at promoting Justice, Rule of Law and research within and outside the country.

6. Policy Objectives

UTAMU law school's vision is to be a Global Law School providing quality education hinged on justice, rule of law, research, management, technology and innovations.

In quest of its vision the UTAMU will attempt to inculcate quality standards, values and norms that will lead to outstanding internationally recognized community of both staff and students.

The policy will ensure that:

- The UTAMU's processes and activities are of the highest quality possible and quality management systems are developed and implemented
- Both staff and students are in full support of the procedures set by University to adhere to quality standards.
- There are suitable quality assurance systems in place to realize the vision and mission of the University.
- There are suitable arrangements to monitor and review the effectiveness of such policies
- Ensure that University graduates have attained competent skills and knowledge through the quality UTAMU academic programmes.
- The University assures all stakeholders including regulatory bodies, of its obligation to provide and follow quality policies, systems and processes in the provision of all its services.
- A culture of quality awareness and adherence is inculcated within the University stakeholders during service provision in all operations.
- A system of clearly adopting SWOT for continuous improvement is implemented in all services of the University.
- Opportunities for new initiatives geared to improving quality assurance are easily accepted and adopted by the University through its policy making bodies

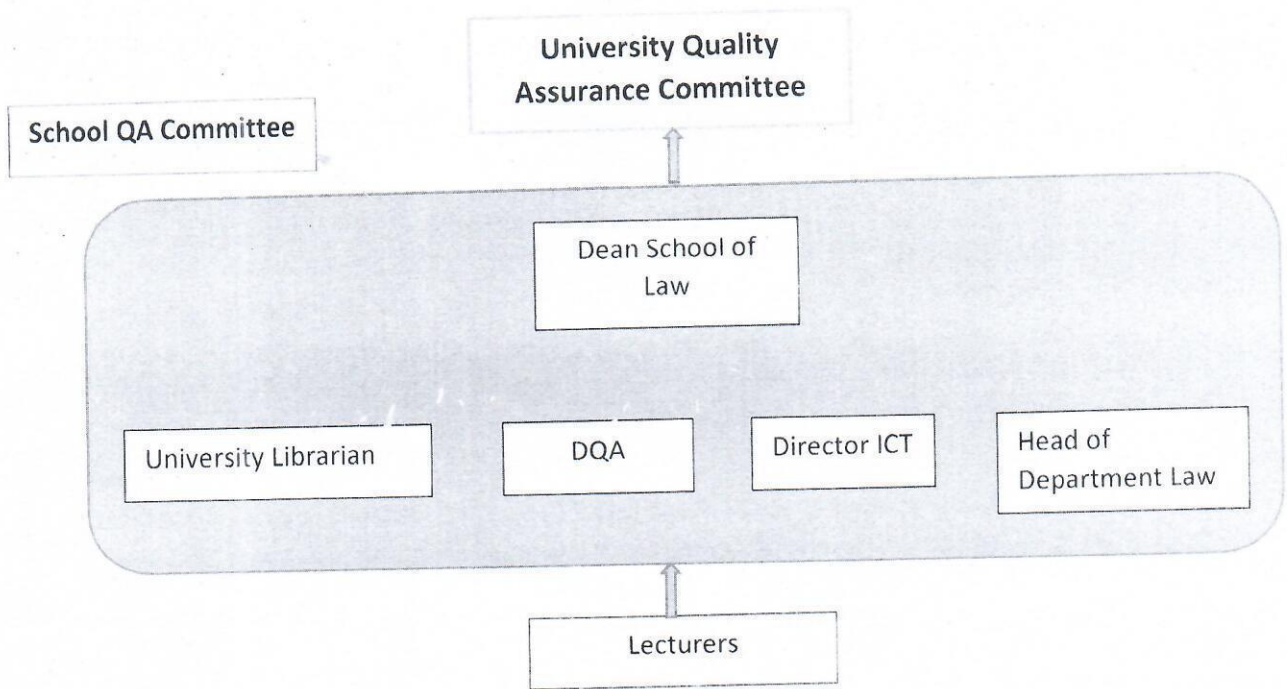
7. Policy Implementation

The Dean School of Law, who reports directly to the Vice-Chancellor, will be the overall charge of the quality assurance within the School. S/he will be a member of the senate which is responsible for the organization, control and direction of the academic matters of the University and part of the University Management.

The director Quality Assurance who is the custodian of the quality assurance policies and has the mandate to make sure they are implemented across all services. The director QA also determines how the University strategic plan should be implemented with quality.

7.1. Quality Assurance team composition

The school Quality Assurance Committee will be composed of the Dean School of Law who will be the chair of the committee, the Head of Department Law who will be the secretary and the Quality Assurance Director, The University Librarians and Director ICT. The school Quality Assurance Committee will be directly reporting to the University Quality Assurance Committee.



The School committee for Quality Assurance will be meeting at least twice a semester and at least once per Semester depending on the work load to be dealt with. This committee will ensure that the school develops and implements policies that are of quality and meet university, national international standards by advising senate.

This policy will be communicated to all stakeholders through different avenues such policy briefs, memo and the University web-site. It will be the mandate of the departmental heads to make sure their staff are aware of the policies and fully understand them.

8. Quality Assurance strategies

To uphold the quality of academic with in the school, the following strategies will be put in place:

8.1 Programmes review and accreditation

The Dean School of Law, the Quality Assurance Committee and the Academic Registrar will make sure that the Law programmes are reviewed timely and submitted to National Council for Higher Education for re-accreditation to ensure that the courses provided current and updated information in regard to the world trends and changes in technology, innovation, policies and law thus upholding the quality of education.

8.2 Teaching and Assessments

The School shall adopt blooms Bloom's Taxonomy model in the teaching and examining of the assessments to students which was developed to provide a common language for teachers to discuss and exchange learning and assessment methods taking specific interest in Knowledge, Comprehension, Application, Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation.

The quality assurance committee will use Biggs Constructive Alignment as an outcomes-based education (OBE) which focuses outcomes that are intended for the students to learn, and align teaching and assessment to those outcomes (John Biggs, 2001).

8.3 Examination

UTAMU has got an examination policy which was updated in 2023 that takes precedence of all the examinations processes in the university. The policy is universal for all students in the university.

8.4 Research and Innovations

The School of Law also puts much emphasis in research and innovation. In corroboration with the graduate school, Director ICT and University Librarian, the school will try to ensure research and innovation in the schools with new innovation in administration of justice and other areas.

The school will also uphold the programmes curriculum to boost research and innovation with in the school.

8.5 Practical training

The school will emphasize practical teaching and Solutions Based Teaching (Problem Bases Learning) as a practical way to impart knowledge the learners.

The Moot Court will provide practical training on the application of the law in a practical way of Solutions Based Teaching (Problem Bases Learning). The director of the centre will also ensure that the Law School participates in numerous moot completions at national, regional and international level.

Approved by the 36th Council Meeting held on the 12th December 2024

Signed this 16th Day of December 2024 by:



Chairperson, University Council



Secretary