

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

At the Dean's discretion, the law school will consider applicants:

1. with a formal qualification (bachelor's degree, or equivalent tertiary or professional qualification); or
2. without a formal qualification who have relevant and sufficient work experience.

Additional information regarding Admission Requirements

1. This programme is meant for non-law graduates who have experience in senior management positions in the public (Level 3/equivalent or above) or private sector. Although work experience is not necessary (for those with a formal qualification), priority will be given to those with professional experience in senior management positions.
2. An LLB prerequisite is not required.

DURATION AND MODE OF DELIVERY

The normal duration is 1 year (2 units per Semester).

The programme is offered in a blended mode (Face to face and tophat online learning platform)

FEES AND CONTACT DETAILS

The unit cost is \$780.00 and a Registration fees of \$40.00

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Samabula Campus

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The University of Fiji

JUSTICE DEVENDRA PATHIK SCHOOL OF LAW

*COME AND STUDY LAW AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF FIJI: WE'RE SIMPLY
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POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC LAW (PGDPLAW)

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INTRODUCTION

Postgraduate Diploma in Public Law is designed to improve and upgrade the performance and qualifications of public administrators and managers by incorporating important legal concepts such as the rule of law, executive and administrative justice, and human rights within their responsibilities. It helps non-law graduates understand, apply and navigate through the Constitution, human rights law, employment law, administrative law, and alternative dispute resolution. The content of the programme informs senior managers about the nature of public power and the law including Section 16 of the 2013 Constitution (Executive and Administrative Justice) and the Employment Relations Act (ERA) 2007. It helps develop management skills, broaden qualifications, and enhance career prospects within the public and private sectors in Fiji and, possibly, the wider Pacific Island region.

STRUCTURE

The PGDPLAW programme consists of 4 compulsory courses and a total of 120 credit points.

Course Code and Course Name	Credit Point
LAWP400 The Constitution, Human Rights Law, and Legal Research	30
LAWP401 Administrative Law	30
LAWP402 Employment Law	30
LAWP403 Dispute Resolution and Alternative Dispute Resolution	30

COURSE DESCRIPTION

LAWP400 : The Constitution, Human Rights Law, and Legal Research

The purpose of this course is to give the students a good understanding of Fiji's Constitution and its provisions

relating to:

- The Rule of Law in Fiji, with the Constitution as the supreme law of the country
- Fiji's unitary and centralist system of justice, with the Constitution, Acts of Parliament, enabling regulations by the Executive Government, and principles of the common law, as sources of law
- Fiji's system of representative democracy through a proportional system of popular elections for a unicameral Parliament
- A system of parliamentary Government based on the majoritarian principle
- The structure of Government and the role of each branch
- The doctrine of separation of powers in a parliamentary system of government
- The constitutional conventions of the responsibility and accountability of the Executive Government to Parliament as the representative body of the people.

LAWP401: Administrative Law

This course teaches the fundamental principles of public administrative law. These include the following:

- When making decisions, public administrators must act within the boundaries of the power given to them by the enabling legislation,
- They must understand that unless otherwise expressly stated in the legislation, the power conferred upon them by Parliament is discretionary in character,
- That in exercising their discretionary power when making decisions, they must be guided by the norms and standards of administrative justice that are set out under section 16 of Fiji's 2013 Constitution, as interpreted by the courts.

LAWP402: Employment Law

In LAWP402, participants will be taught the fundamental principles of employment law as set out in the Bill of Rights of Fiji's 2013 Constitution, the Employment Relations Promulgation 2007 [ERP], the Safety at Work Act 1996, and principles of the common law established by the superior courts in case judgments in employment-related disputes.

LAWP403: Dispute Resolution and Alternative Dispute Resolution

The purpose of this course is to give the students a good practical understanding of the structures, processes and underlying principles of dispute resolution in Fiji's civil justice system. This hybrid or integrated system includes the following:

- The traditional formal legal rights-based system of adjudication through the courts;
- The less formal quasi-judicial administrative tribunals such as the Employment Relations Tribunal, the Small Claims Tribunal and the iTaukei Lands Commission, and arbitration tribunals under the Arbitration Act (Cap 38) and Trade Disputes Act (Cap 97);
- The incorporation of ADR mechanisms into legislation such as, for example, the Family Law Act 2003, the iTaukei Lands Act;
- The statutory involvement of public bodies such as the Commerce Commission, the Reserve Bank of Fiji and the Consumer Council of Fiji in using ADR mechanisms to facilitate the speedy and amicable resolution of disputes in their respective functional areas of public responsibility; and
- The application, where appropriate, of private and informal collective interest based voluntary ADR mechanisms through direct negotiations, mediation, conciliation, and of community-based customary processes of reconciliation and restoration of broken social relationships