

# Chinese Law & Investments in Africa

## Masters course @ UCT Law

### The Course

UCT is the only university that provides insights into and perspectives on an African legal frame for Chinese outbound foreign investment. The *Chinese Law & Investments in Africa* course touches on Chinese business culture and elements of Chinese law that are essential knowledge for African and international scholars interested in China-Africa relations. The course also introduces students to basic principles and legal frameworks of doing business in China.

### The Focus

This course focuses on Chinese law and its influence on Chinese investments in Africa. It focuses on the regulatory and policy aspects of China's outbound Foreign Direct Investments (FDI).

### The LLM Programme

The course fits well with the LLM in Comparative Law in Africa and could comprise part of a number of the LLM programmes offered by UCT's School for Advanced Legal Studies. Related courses could include Regional Integration in Africa, and International Trade Law.

### The Students

*Chinese Law & Investments in Africa* is aimed at international law students, legal practitioners, strategists, diplomats, policy-makers, and China-Africa analysts.

### The Experts

Tebogo Lefifi, a PhD candidate in UCT's Commercial Law department, teaches this course. Her PhD research focuses on Chinese law and investments in Africa. Ms Lefifi holds an LLM degree in Chinese Business Law from the Open University of Hong Kong (OUHK) and spent ten years in China during which time she worked as a senior government official at the forefront of China-Africa Policy Development. Lefifi also advises private sector, government and thinktank clients.

### The Course Value

China is currently Africa's largest trading and fastest-growing investment partner. With expanding trade and investment, legal issues are bound to arise. Understanding the applicable legal traditions and frameworks is critical for minimising friction and improving economic relations.

Chinese law is often described as *sui generis* and this feature of being of a different kind (by a lot of standards) makes it difficult for scholars to understand. This course provides an introduction to the meaning of *Law with Chinese characteristics*, and enhances students' ability to apply a



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knowledgeable and pragmatic analysis of the unfolding China-Africa legal cooperation and geostrategic position.

Importantly, the course offers exposure to lecturers from China and, after students graduate, they are invited to participate in China-Africa legal exchanges supported through scholarship by the Chinese government and universities.

### **Related Resources**

The Centre for Comparative Law in Africa (CCLA) offers research materials, and UCT's dedicated Law Library orders books when required. With support from Xiangtan University, students will be able to access Chinese journals and translation support for any law course-related content available only in Chinese.

### **Information on course application and registration**

This course is offered through UCT's School for Advanced Legal Studies.

[www.sals.uct.ac.za](http://www.sals.uct.ac.za) | Clare Richfield [clare.richfield@uct.ac.za](mailto:clare.richfield@uct.ac.za)

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