



EDITORIAL POLICY

The Journal of Comparative Law in Africa (JCLA) aims to promote indigenous African scholarship. It targets researchers, practitioners, and policy makers interested in theories and practice of law in Africa.

The JCLA primarily seeks to publish rigorous research in the field of comparative law in Africa and for this purpose, comparative law is broadly defined to cover public and private law involving more than one jurisdiction.

The JCLA will consider for publication, case studies, empirical findings, and review papers using comparative approaches, methodologies, and viewpoints. Manuscripts without a clear comparative focus will only be accepted if they are significant for broadening understanding of law in Africa.

Rigorous research is understood as work which *expands human knowledge on a subject by presenting original data or introducing new techniques or theories, or by blending, refuting, or contrasting existing ideas in a convincing manner.*

REVIEW PROCESS

Manuscripts must be written in standard academic format. One or more members of the JCLA editorial board, consisting of senior researchers conducts an initial review of manuscripts to determine suitability for peer review. The JCLA employs a double-blind peer review system. Since neither authors nor reviewers are identified in the review process, authors are encouraged not to use personal identifiers which cannot be removed from the manuscript such as details in document properties.

Authors are notified officially by the editor if their article is accepted for peer review and publication. Articles returned from peer review are sent to the editorial board for decisions. Authors are required to address reviewers' comments and respond to any issues flagged by the editorial board. Sometimes peer review results may indicate that a manuscript be revised and resubmitted for further review. The decision whether or not to comply with such a recommendation lies with the author.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All manuscripts submitted to the JCLA must adhere to the specifications and general guidelines below. Article length must be between 8000 – 12000 words, inclusive of footnotes, and must be submitted with an abstract of 100-250 words. Notes and Comments on recent developments such as new judgments and legislation must be between 3000 – 5000 words, inclusive of footnotes. Book reviews must not exceed 2000 words. Manuscripts that do not comply with these rules may be rejected by the editorial board and will then not proceed to peer review.

By submitting a manuscript to the JCLA, the author agrees that:

- The manuscript has not been submitted and will not be submitted for publication elsewhere while under review at the JCLA.



- The manuscript is prepared according to the prescribed style of the JCLA. Manuscripts that do not conform to the JCLA style guide may not be considered.

STYLE GUIDE

The JCLA recommends the use of the *South African Law Journal* (SALJ) style guide, summarised in the following guidelines:

i. General Format

Article Structure	Generally, manuscripts should include an introduction, problem statement, literature review, research design/methodology, findings (results analysis), and recommendations/conclusion.
Title	This should be succinctly worded. The title should be capitalised and aligned to the right.
Abstract	The abstract sets out objectives, research design and methods, main results and findings, conclusion and contribution to the body of knowledge. The abstract should be in italics.
Keywords	Five to eight words covering the principal themes and geographic focus of the paper.

Item	Description
Title page	This must contain the full title of the paper, full names, affiliation, address and contact information of all authors. Corresponding author should be marked with an asterisk. *
Body	Appropriate headings and subheadings to be used to segment the manuscript for enhanced readability.
Length	The manuscript length, including abstract and footnotes, but excluding bibliography, must be no less than 8000 and no more than 12 000 words.,
Headings and subheadings: style	Times New Roman 12, justified, 1.5 spacing, sentence case. Headings and subheadings should be in bold and the subheading should be in italics
Headings: numbering	Headings and subheadings not to be numbered.
Footnotes	Times New Roman 10, justified. Endnotes must not be used for reference, clarification or any other purpose.
Tables and figures: placement	Tables and figures to be applied in the text, as close as possible to the appropriate discussion.



Tables and figures: numbering	Tables and figures to be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals (i,ii, iii,iv....v etc).
Tables and figures:	Place titles of tables and figures outside and above the actual table or figure.
Bibliography	All publications cited in the text are to be included in the list of references. Authors must ensure that the spelling of names and dates in the text match the corresponding entries in the list of references.
Referencing style	The JCLA uses the <i>South African Law Journal</i> referencing style.
Citations	Use of recent publications is encouraged.
Quotations	Use double quotation marks (single if quoting within a quote)
Quotation marks	Indented and no quotation marks if there are 30 words or more
En dashes	Use for pages ranges, etc (typed by pressing the CTRL and minus sign key simultaneously) e.g. 2000 – 2001
Numbers	Use words for numbers one to ten; thereafter use numerals Use spaces not commas between hundreds, thousands and millions, e.g. 1 000 and 1 000 000, not 1,000 and 1,000,000. Use a decimal point for numbers, not comma eg 2.5 not 2,5
Captions	Table and figure captions should be placed above the table, and sources below the figure or table.

ii. *Language Guide*

Item	Description
Prescribed Language	Ensure UK English or SA English is selected in spell check.
Common Errors	Language and spelling
	Among (not amongst); while (not whilst)
	Data – must be treated as a collective noun with singular verb e.g. “The data shows ...”, not “the data show ...”
	Human resource management (not resources)
	UK (for the United Kingdom)
USA (for the United States of America)	



iii. Sample Referencing Guide

Cases	
	<p>All case titles are to appear in italics. The case name and citation should be given in full and exactly as it appears in the relevant law report the first time it is cited. However, additional parties should be left out unless it is necessary to retain them in order to make sense of the discussion (e.g., where the author makes mention of 'the respondents').</p> <p>E.g., <i>Broad (Pty) Ltd v Thin</i> 2008 (4) SA 456 (SCA)</p> <p>for unreported cases: <i>Dlamini v Jacobs</i> (NPD) unreported case no 98/05 of 3 August 2006; or <i>Dlamini v Jacobs</i> (NPD) unreported case no 98/05 (3 August 2006).</p>
Books	
	<p>When a book is referred to for the first time, authors' names must be given as they appear on the title page of the book or on the title page of the chapter / relevant page of the article. For instance, John D Smith must appear as John D Smith and not as J D Smith or J Smith.</p> <p>References: co-authors of any work (book, article, chapter, whatever) take an ampersand: Smith & Dlamini. We cite up to three authors: Smith, Dlamini & Pillay. Thereafter use 'et al'.</p> <p>E.g. John D Smith & Siphon Dlamini <i>Hand's Law of Arbitration</i> 5 ed (2006) 115.</p> <p>M Bear & D Bear 'Too hot, too cold, just right?' in Mary Goldilocks (ed) <i>The Politics of Cookery</i> 3 ed (2004) 23–7.</p>



	<p>Journals: e.g., Jane Dube 'The new Consumer Protection Act: An introduction' (2002) 119 <i>SALJ</i> 700 at 725.</p>
Footnotes	
	<p>Authors are welcome to use footnotes to elaborate on points that would otherwise clutter the main text of the article. The other important purpose of footnotes is to provide the relevant references without cluttering the text. In footnotes a reference to any authoritative source is given once in full. Thereafter a book, chapter, journal article, newspaper article, law commission report, thesis will be cited by author and a cross-reference (using 'op cit') to the FIRST footnote where the full reference appeared. An abbreviated reference to the work may be used to provide further guidance where appropriate (e.g. several of an author's works are cited sporadically in an article).</p> <p>Examples: Smith & Dlamini op cit note 5 at 67.</p> <p>Cases are also cited using the cross-referencing method, but 'supra' is used: <i>Fedsure supra</i> note 12 para 34.</p> <p>For consecutive references to the same work, <i>ibid</i> is used with or without a page number/paragraph reference as appropriate. Examples: <i>Ibid</i>. <i>Ibid</i> at 45. <i>Ibid</i> para 45 (no 'at' with para refs).</p>

Contact Email: jcla@uct.ac.za