

Decision of the FIBAA Accreditation and Certification Committee



14th Meeting on June 14, 2024

PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION

Project Number:	23/050
Higher Education Institution:	Sultan Qaboos University
Location:	Oman
Study programme:	Bachelor of Law
Type of accreditation:	Re-accreditation

The FIBAA Accreditation and Certification Committee has taken the following decision:

According to § 7 (6) in conjunction with § 9 (1) of the FIBAA General Terms and Conditions within the framework of procedures for the award of the FIBAA Quality Seal for Programmes from January 1, 2021, the study programme is re-accredited.

Period of Accreditation: June 14, 2024 until June 13, 2031.

The FIBAA Quality Seal is awarded.



**FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION ACCREDITATION**

FIBAA – BERLINER FREIHEIT 20-24 – D-53111 BONN

Assessment Report

Higher Education Institution:
Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

Bachelor programme:
Bachelor of Law

Qualification awarded on completion:
Bachelor of Law

General information on the study programme

Brief description of the study programme:

The Bachelor of Law (Bachelor of Law) programme equips students for a career in law through solid theoretical foundation of legal concepts and legal reasoning combined with practical applications and implementation. Students are provided with the necessary academic and practical skills, and professional training to immediately start a career in law in Oman and the Arab region.

Type of study programme:

Bachelor programme

Projected study time and number of ECTS credits / national credits assigned to the study programme:

4 years (126 US credit hours)

Mode of study:

full-time

Didactic approach:

study programme with obligatory class attendance

Double/Joint Degree programme:

no

Scope (planned number of parallel classes) and enrolment capacity:

One at time, in principle 40 students

Programme cycle starts in:

Both Fall (September) and Spring (January) Semester

Initial start of the programme: 1997**Type of accreditation:**

Re-accreditation

last accreditation period: June 26, 2019 until the end of spring semester 2024

Procedure

A contract for the re-accreditation of the programme Bachelor of Law was made between FIBAA and Sultan Qaboos University on August 03, 2023, on January 23, 2024 the HEI submitted the self-evaluation report, which included a detailed description of the programmes and further documents in order to prove that the criteria for programme accreditation are met.

At the same time, FIBAA appointed a review panel¹. The HEI has agreed with the chosen experts. The panel consisted of:

Prof. Dr. jur. Peter C. Fischer

University of Applied Sciences Düsseldorf

Professor of Business Law

Prof. Dr. Gabriel Lentner

University of Continuing Education Krems

Deputy Head of Department,

Assistant Professor of International Law and Arbitration, Department of Law and International Relations

Julia Titze

Vonovia Modernisierungs GmbH

Manager Compliance, LL.M. (Com.)

Dr. Mona Ismail

Scientific College of Design

College Dean, PhD in Interior Design

Kira Kock

University of Münster

Student Law (state examination)

FIBAA project manager:

Nora Winckel

The assessment is based on the self-evaluation report, amended by further documents, as requested by the panel, and an online conference. The online conference took place on March 6 and 7, 2024 via the video conferencing tool *Zoom*. At the end of the online conference, the panel has given short feedback on its first impressions to representatives of the HEI.

¹ The panel is presented in alphabetical order.

The assessment report based on this was delivered to the HEI for comment on June 4, 2024. The statement on the report was given up on June 10, 2024. It has been taken into account in the report at hand.

Summary

The Bachelor of Law offered by Sultan Qaboos University fulfils the FIBAA quality requirements for bachelor programmes and can be re-accredited by the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA) for seven years starting on June 14, 2024 and finishing on June 13, 2031. The programme is in accordance with the national and the European Qualification Frameworks and the European Standards and Guidelines in their applicable version valid as of the time of the opening of the procedure, and in accordance with the Bologna Declaration.

Furthermore, the quality requirement that has not been fulfilled -internationality of student body (chapter 3.4.2) – is not an asterisk criterion and therefore does not lead to a condition. The measures the HEI takes to solve the identified problem are to be considered during the re-accreditation.

The panel members also identified several areas where the programme could be further developed:

- Methods and scientific practice (see chapter 3.1.6),
- Examination and final thesis (see chapter 3.1.7),
- Skills for employment (see chapter 3.6)

The measures that the HEI takes in order to implement the recommendations of the panel members will have to be considered during the re-accreditation.

There are criteria in which the programme exceeds the quality requirements:

- Student support by the faculty (see chapter 4.1.6),
- Access to literature (see chapter 4.4.2)
- Career counselling and placement service (see chapter 4.5.1)
- Information on activities during the academic year (see chapter 5.3.2)

For the overall assessment of the programme, please refer to the quality profile at the end of this report.

Information

Information on the Institution

Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) is the first public university in the Sultanate of Oman, comprising 9 colleges, 13 service centres, and 14 research centres. The university offers a comprehensive range of academic programs in both scientific and humanities disciplines, with a total of 360 teaching classrooms and 380 scientific laboratories. SQU has approximately 19,000 students enrolled in 170 academic programmes. The academic and administrative staff combined exceed 5,500 individuals. Each year, SQU celebrates the graduation of thousands of students. For instance, in the last fall semester, the university proudly graduated almost 3,100 students.

The College of Law (CL) was established in 1997 and is managed by the department of private and of public law. The programme has undergone extensive reviews and was revised in 2007. Beside this programme, it offers four master programmes in the fields of Commercial Law, Criminal Law, Private and Public Law.

Further development of the programme, implementation of recommendations from previous accreditation, statistical data and evaluation results

From 2016-2020, the College of Law ran an academic review process to keep in line with the needs of the society. The average study time is about 4 years.

Cohort		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
# Study Places offered by HEI		213	197	184	227	209	239	245	249	237	186
# Applicants	∑	9472	7834	8802	9465	10014	9366	11087	14108	14986	11534
	f	6621	5348	6072	6905	7195	6664	7950	9173	9960	7627
	m	2851	2486	2730	2560	2819	2702	3137	4935	5026	3907
Application rate		4447%	3977%	4784%	4170%	4791%	3919%	4525%	5666%	6323%	6201%
# First-Year Students (accepted applicants)	∑	213	197	184	227	209	239	245	249	237	186
	f	100	92	87	107	98	114	119	119	116	76
	m	113	105	97	120	111	125	126	130	121	110
Rate of female students		47%	47%	47%	47%	47%	48%	49%	48%	49%	41%
# Foreign Students	∑	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	5	0
	f	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	3	0
	m	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Rate of foreign students		0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	2%	0%
Percentage of occupied study places		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Active Student	∑	0	0	0	18	93	225	230	242	232	186
	f	0	0	0	6	26	113	116	117	115	76
	m	0	0	0	12	67	112	114	125	117	110
# Graduates	∑	185	179	160	188	103	2	0	0	0	0
	f	93	95	85	101	72	0	0	0	0	0
	m	92	84	75	87	31	2	0	0	0	0
Success rate (students who finished their studies)		87%	91%	87%	83%	49%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
# Dropped		28	18	24	21	13	12	15	7	5	0
Dropout rate (students who dropped their studies)		13%	9%	13%	9%	6%	5%	6%	3%	2%	0%
Average duration of study		5.3	5.36	5.43	5.31	5					
Average grade of final degree		2.64	2.65	2.57	2.61	2.7					

Since COL's initial accreditation granted in July 2019, the accepted number of first-year students was relatively stable ranging from 180 up to 250 accepted applicants. As the table of shows, the number of male and female accepted applicants are relatively similar and steady across the years. The number of graduate students ranges from 103 up to 185 students. Since 2018, the average duration spent is one year at the foundation programme prior to commencing bachelor and 4 years spent at COL. Furthermore, the average Accumulated grade of final degree is 2.7 since 2018 which shows a significant general improvement of academic achievement at COL.

Taking in consideration the prior recommendations resulting from the FIBAA accreditation, COL was actively seeking to improve and implement recommended actions. Particularly in the followings:

- **Mandatory Methodology Course**
Recognizing the importance of equipping students with a robust methodological foundation, COL has introduced a mandatory methodology course named: Legal Methodology Research and Logical Thinking. This course is offered as a mandatory course to all enrolled students at the first year of their study.
- **Establishment of the Legal Clinic**
In alignment with the accreditation recommendations, COL has taken significant strides in the establishment of a legal clinic. The legal clinic was established in July 2021. This initiative serves as a practical platform for students to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world legal scenarios. The legal clinic not only enriches the educational experience but also fosters a hands-on learning environment, allowing students to engage and gain valuable insights into the practical aspects of the legal field.

- **Enhance Academic Skills and Enrich Elective courses:**
Recognizing the evolving demands of the professional landscape, COL has introduced courses dedicated to logical thinking. By incorporating logical thinking into the curriculum, COL aims to prepare graduates who are able to deal with complicated legal challenges using analytical approach and contribute effectively to their chosen fields. Very recently, SQU was keen on enhancing thinking skills for all enrolled students. In this context, SQU introduced Skills Development course mandatory to all students enrolled at the university as a foundation requirement FPSL1000 named Academic and Life Skills. In addition, to keep pace with the current developments in the legal industry and the impact technology is having on the practice of law, COL developed recently various elective courses touching upon emerging contemporary issues such as Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economics, and Alternative Energies.
- **Launch of Eidaad training programme:**
Eidaad is a Cooperative Training Programme between local universities and private industries. It aims to narrow the gap between academia and industry. It introduced in 2020 based on a recommendation of Oman Energy forum on 2017. However, the ownership and sponsorship of the program is with the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation. The selected students have to spend a full academic year (two academic semesters) in a private company, practically oil and gas companies. COL introduced two courses named: Eidaad (1) for the first semester and Eidaad (2) for the second semester, where the students will be assessed according to his/her performance during the internship. The selection and evaluation of students follow standards implemented in collaboration between COL and Petroleum Development Oman Company.

Appraisal

From the panel`s perspective, the programme has continued to develop steadily. The university continues to take current developments into account in order to keep the electives up to date with the needs of the labour market. This is also confirmed by the statistical data. The relatively high unemployment rate can be explained by the fact that many graduates take up the two-year programme after completing their studies and are not registered as employed in the ministry records. The panel appreciates that despite the Covid-19 circumstances, the University was able to maintain the quality that the panel acknowledged during the initial accreditation process in 2019. The panel is positive that the University will be able to succeed in concentrating on its scientific development in the upcoming accreditation period.

Programme Description and Appraisal in Detail

1. Objectives

1.1 Objectives of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)

The Bachelor programme equips students for a career in law through solid theoretical foundation of legal concepts and legal reasoning, combined with practical applications and implementation. Students are provided with the necessary academic and practical skills, as well as professional training to commence upon completion of the programme a career in law in Oman and anywhere in the world.

The Programme Learning Objectives consist of the following:

- providing the local, regional and international labour market with qualified graduates to work in different legal domains.
- increasing and supporting the level of scientific research to serve the Omani society.
- ensuring consistency between the objectives and outcomes of the academic programme, graduates attributes, and the national qualifications framework.
- enabling students to acquire intellectual, technical and communication skills, and lifelong learning and continuous education.
- cultivating and promoting ethical, national, and professionalism values of the law student.
- enhancing the practical aspect of theoretical legal knowledge acquired by students from the programme.
- enabling students to conduct legal scientific research according to established scientific research methods.

The Bachelor of Law programme has been developed in line with the Oman Standard Classification of Education (OSCED) Framework 2009.

Appraisal:

The qualification objectives of the programme are plausibly described and the profiles of the programmes` graduates in the field of law and its societal context are convincingly explained by COL. In the view of the expert panel the programme embraces academic proficiency, comprehensive employability, as well as the development of the individual student`s personality. The programme objectives combined with individually chosen qualifications and skills in various elective fields correspond with the aspired bachelor level at graduation. The programmes objectives are also in line with the national Omani higher education requirements.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
1.1*	Objectives of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)			X		

1.2 International orientation of the study programme design (Asterisk Criterion)

COL believes that international orientation of the programme curriculum has an utmost importance for the students' future employability in international organisations and perhaps global market. Besides the objective on achieving work possibilities for graduates in the Omani job market, the programme also aims at preparing the students with the necessary skills to work abroad in other Arabic countries. This can be seen in the international content and the corresponding course materials as well as in the use of English as teaching language.

Moreover, the students gain international insights by participating in moot courts. CL regularly organises workshops and international conferences with participants from Oman and abroad. At last, the educational background and the professional experience of the academic staff of the Law College is supposed to help future graduates gaining multicultural perspective. In addition to that, some faculty members are involved in consultancy and training with some local and international organisations.

Appraisal:

The programme design appropriately takes into account various international aspects, especially regarding the differences and the basis of legal systems in the Arabic region. The international content as well as the possibilities of student exchange and the other international activities (Moot Courts and Conferences) clearly promote the graduates' employability in an international context.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
1.2*	International orientation of the study programme design (Asterisk Criterion)			X		

1.3 Positioning of the study programme

Over 25 years since its establishment, COL maintains a distinctive position in the country and within the Region. Its academic staff comprises members with extensive and diverse knowledge, skills, and experience. Some of the staff members have stayed with COL for over 15 years. A significant number of SQU graduates now hold prominent positions in Oman. Alumni can be found in judiciaries, executive offices, parliaments, and various private and public organisations.

Over the years, COL has forged robust connections with the legal community both inside and outside Oman. An additional strength lies in COL being one of the few colleges of law in Oman that boasts an Advisory Board Council comprising members from the legal community and policymakers in the country.

The employability of graduates from the Programme is founded on the following core elements:

Integration of theoretical and practical curricula, including both the formal academic curriculum and extracurricular activities.

- enhancement of multidisciplinary competencies and skills.
- reinforcement of self-reliance and methodical work.
- development of social and personal skills.

Career prospects for graduate students from the Programme include opportunities in the following sectors:

- judicial apparatus.
- law firms.
- administrative professions.
- higher Education Institutions.

One of the objectives of SQU Strategic Plan 2016-2040 Strategic Goals resides in producing “quality graduates equipped with critical thinking and professional skills to enable them to pursue successful careers”. In this context, COL aims at enhancing the critical thinking of the students through theoretical and practical applications enabling them to pursue successful legal careers. Furthermore, COL aims at increasing and promoting the level of scientific re-search to better serve the Omani community as required in SQU Strategic Plan 2016-2040. One of the Strategic Goals of SQU plan consists of conducting “internationally recognised research of impact on the socio-economic development of the country and to contribute to knowledge”. In addition, on the strategic goals of the Strategic Plan 2016-2040 resides in enabling “students to achieve excellence through an enriching experience” . In this context, COL aims at enabling students to conduct legal scientific research according to established scientific research methods.

Nestled within the overarching mission of SQU, the Programme stands as a cornerstone of legal education, strategically positioned to fulfil SQU's commitment to academic excellence and societal impact. The programme is designed to respond to the evolving legal landscape, both within Oman and the broader Arab region.

Appraisal:

The reasons given for the positioning in the educational market of this study programme are plausible.

Regarding the competitiveness of the programme's graduates on the job market the panel has no doubt that they can compete successfully on the job market in Oman as well as in other Arab countries. The future fields of employment for graduates are described plausibly for the programme. The graduate' profiles correspond to the foreseeable demand. COL builds among the other colleges of SQU part of the full education idea of the University. Aiming to serve the Omani society with high qualified graduates in law to nurture a stable Omani law society is in the view of the panel a core part of the faculty's strategy.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
1.3	Positioning of the study programme					
1.3.1	Positioning of the study programme in the educational market			X		
1.3.2	Positioning of the study programme on the job market for graduates („Employability“)			X		
1.3.3	Positioning of the study programme within the HEI's overall strategic concept			X		

2. Admission

The admission to undergraduate programmes for the applicants who have Omani citizenship relies on the legal regulations Royal Decree No. 104/2005 and on the regulations and decisions of the Higher Education and Admission Center (HEAC) in cooperation with the University, which sets some prerequisites for the programme, the applicants are interested to sign in. Omani students are placed into the programme based on their General Education Diploma GED results. After that they entry the College to pass the placement into the General Foundation Programme GFP. Applicants have to register on the website of HEAC once a year with

- Application Form,
- General Education Diploma,
- Original copy of Certificate of Examination Results (if any),
- The passport including the applicant's photo,
- A passport photo.

COL requires:

Minimum Requirement for major subjects
<p><u>General Education Diploma and equivalencies</u></p> <p><u>The student Must study following subject (Islamic Culture, Core Arabic Language and Core English language) and score:</u></p> <p>Minimum of (65%) in each of them</p>
<p><u>GCE Certificate</u></p> <p><u>The student Must study following subject (Islamic Culture, Arabic Language) and score:</u></p> <p>Minimum of (C) grade from (A-level)</p>
<p><u>International baccalaureate Diploma (IB)</u></p> <p><u>The student Must study following subject (Islamic Culture, Arabic Language) and score:</u></p> <p>Minimum of (4) points from (HL) or Minimum of (5) points from (SL)</p>

The procedure consists of nationwide university entrance examinations, held once a year and administered by HEAC with each university. It consists of a written exam, which has to be passed with an GPA of 2.5. Usually, students start with The General Foundation Program (GFP), which sets the national standards for entrance into undergraduate programmes. It is comprised of English, Math and IT courses. It is a mandatory introduction for study in all the University colleges and administered by the Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS). Placement tests are administered after the orientation period of two weeks at the beginning of the Fall Semester, this decides, if students have to pass the GFP or not. Exit exams on the GFP are administered as entry requirement for the undergraduate programs. This procedure is ruled by HEAC and organised by SQU.

Upon successful completion of the GFP, the student will have the knowledge of English on the level that will enable them to easily follow the lessons given in their field. In terms of international standards, the language skills in English correspond to IELTS 4. Prospective students are provided with orientation at the beginning of Fall Semester. Discussed, among others, during the orientation are:

- Placement tests and the GFP
- Admission to the Undergraduate Programs
- Academic Advising

The admission procedures are posted in the SQU website for local and international students. Results are communicated through a standard control sheet for acceptance or denial of applications to the program. The whole procedure as well as support during the GFP is guaranteed by the Admission Centre of SQU.

Appraisal:

The state given admission and placement requirements for applicants are clearly defined by law. The HEI covers all need for information on its website in terms of registration process after the placement declaration. Also, the formal admission requirements and the procedure for international students are comprehensible and clearly published on the website of SQU. As the programme is undergraduate, a specialised selection procedure is not necessary. Standardised language tests during the GFP or the placement test or proven results of international recognised language tests ensure that the students enrolled are able to successfully complete the study programme partially in English.

Throughout its website, CL provides all necessary information for prospective students. Events like campus days and school meetings ensure the personal contact to prospective students beside the usual contact possibilities (e-mail, telephone). In the opinion of the panel, the Centre for Preparatory Studies offers adequate services to interested persons from abroad also personally with needed information or personal help.

The admission decisions are based on transparent criteria and are communicated in writing.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
2.1*	Admission requirements (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
2.2	Counselling for prospective students			x		
2.3*	Selection procedure (if relevant)					x
2.4(*)	Professional experience (if relevant; Asterisk Criterion for master programmes that require professional experience)					x
2.5*	Ensuring foreign language proficiency (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
2.6*	Transparency and documentation of admission procedure and decision (Asterisk Criterion)			x		

3. Contents, structure and didactical concept of the programme

3.1 Contents

To graduate, students must complete a total of 126 Credit hours. These credit points are divided into Compulsory law courses (they cover all the foundational topics of a legal education), Elective law courses (Students are offered a choice among courses that cover various topics including advanced professional skills. Elective courses are taught either in Arabic or in English depending on the topic) and Compulsory as well as Elective non-law courses (such as language classes Arabic and English).

The qualification objectives of the Programme are implemented in the curriculum through three types of alignments: the alignment of objective courses to PLOs, the alignment of PLOs to SQU graduate attributes, and the alignment of PLOs to OQF level descriptors. Programme Learning Outcomes are:

- PLO1: Acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to practice all types of legal professions.
- PLO2: Addressing legal issues of any nature in accordance with the laws applicable in the Sultanate of Oman and international treaties and conventions, whether in local or international relations.
- PLO3: Demonstrating the proficiency in handling legal issues in both Arabic and English languages.
- PLO4: Acquiring the ability to utilise modern techniques in scientific research within the field of legal studies.
- PLO5: Exhibiting the ability to apply accepted standards of professional and ethical responsibility appropriately.
- PLO6: Demonstrating the capacity to bear responsibilities and exhibiting leadership qualities.
- PLO7: Acquiring the ability to draft research studies and legal memoranda.

SQU graduates should be able to

- apply skills and knowledge relevant to specialization.
- communicate effectively and use information and communication technologies.
- critically analyse complex information and present it in simple and legible manner.

SQU graduates should possess

- interpersonal communication skills and alignment with culture of international market to assist them in practical life and in living successfully
- Skills and motivation for independent learning and engagement in lifelong learning and research.
- Ethics and positive values, and intellectual independence and autonomy.
- Teamwork skills and display potential leadership qualities.

Course No.	Title of Module / Course Unit + Compulsory or elective?	Credit Hours per Semester								Practicing Hours	Workload		Method of Teaching i.e. lecture course, seminar	Form and Duration of Examinations	weight of exam related to final grade
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		Hours in Class	Hours Self-Study			
1st Semester		16									330	660			
HIST1010	Oman & Islamic Civilisation / Islmaic Culture	2									30	60	L/T/S	Exam Paper (120 Min)	40-60%
SOCY1005	Oman: State & people	2									30	60	L/T/S		40-60%
LANC2007	English Language For Law (1)**	3							3	90	180	L/T	40-60%		
PRLW1007	Introduction to Law	3								45	90	L/T	40-60%		
PULW1009	Theory of State and Political Institutions	3								45	90	L/T	40-60%		
ARAB1021	Arabic Language for Law**	3							3	90	180	L/T	40-60%		
2nd Semester			14								255	510			
LAWS1013	Legal Research Methodology and Logical Thinking		0						2	30	60	L/T	Training research project	40-60%	
PULW1010	Principles of Economy		3							45	90	L/T	Exam Paper (120 Min)	40-60%	
PRLW1008	Sources of Obligations*		3						1	60	120	L/T		40-60%	
PULW1006	Constitution of Oman		3							45	90	L/T		40-60%	
PULW1012	Principles of International Public Law		3							45	90	L/T		40-60%	
Arab1060	Arabic Language		2							30	60	L/T/S		40-60%	
3rd Semester				17							270	540			
PRLW2001	Regulation and Proof Obligations*			3					1	60	120	L/T	Exam Paper (120 Min)	40-60%	
PULW2007	International Organizations			3						45	90	L/T		40-60%	
PULW2003	Administrative Law			3						45	90	L/T		40-60%	
PRLW2005	Principles of Commercial Law			3						45	90	L		40-60%	
	College Elective (A)			3						45	90	L/T/S		40-60%	
	University Elective			2						30	60	L/T/S		40-60%	
4th Semester					17						330	660			
PULW2002	Criminal Law(General Part)*				3				1	60	120	L/T	Exam Paper (120 Min)	40-60%	
PRLW2004	Law of Civil and Commercial Procedures*				3				1	60	120	L/T		40-60%	
PRLW2006	Personal Status(1)				3					45	90	L/T		40-60%	
LANC2008	English Language For Law(2)**				3				3	90	180	L/T		40-60%	
	College Elective (A)				3					45	90	L/T/S		40-60%	
	University Elective				2					30	60	L/T/S		40-60%	

The students choose their electives in the beginning of each semester under the guidance of their Academic Advisor, usually a professor of the college. The latest list of College Electives comprises the courses:

LIST D: COLLEGE ELECTIVES- (27 Credits)
LIST (1)-COLLEGE ELECTIVES (ARABIC) - (15Credits)

Code	Title	Credits	Pre-Requisite
Courses of Public Law			
PULW2101	International Laws of Seas	3	PULW1012
PULW2102	Special Penal laws	3	PULW2002
PULW2103	Money and Banking	3	PULW1010
PULW2104	Crimes against State's Security	3	PULW2002
PULW2105	Constitutional Judicature	3	PULW1009
PULW3102	Environment Law	3	PULW2003
PULW3104	Crimes of Public Authority	3	PULW2002
PULW3106	Practical Studies (1)	3	PULW4002-PULW3002
PULW4102	Comparative Law	3	PRLW1007
PULW4104	Law of Tourism	3	PULW2003
PULW4105	Public Function	3	PULW2003
PULW4108	Settlement of International Disputes	3	PULW1012
PULW3113	Anti –Corruption Law	3	PULW2002
PULW4106	Final Project ++	3	-
PULW3111	Current Economic Issues	3	PULW1010
PULW4117	Sports law	3	PULW2003
LAWS3109	Artificial intelligence and law	3	PRLW2001

Courses of Private Law			
PRLW2106	Nationality and Foreigners Status	3	PRLW1007
PRLW2107	Investment Law	3	PRLW3006
PRLW2108	Judicial Organization	3	-
PRLW2109	Dyatt & Urush	3	-
PRLW3108	Insurance Contract	3	PRLW1008
PRLW3110	Consumer protection law	3	PRLW1008
PRLW4101	Forced Execution	3	PRLW2004
PRLW4103	Law of Electronic Transactions	3	PRLW2001
PRLW4104	Air Law	3	PRLW2005
PRLW4105	Practical Studies (2)	3	PRLW2004-PRLW3001
PRLW4106	Guarantee Contract	3	PRLW2001
PRLW4108	Practical Studies (3)	3	PRLW2004-PRLW3004
PRLW4110	Final Project ++	3	-
PRLW2112	Jurisprudential theories and rules	3	PRLW1007
PRLW2113	Agency and contracting contracts	3	PRLW1008
PRLW3115	Islamic banking	3	-
PRLW3117	Endowments Law	3	PRLW1008
LAWS3109	Artificial intelligence and law	3	PRLW2001

LIST (2)- COLLEGE ELECTIVES(ENGLISH) - (12 Credits)

Course Code	Course Title	Cr.	Pre-req.
Courses of Public Law			
PULW3101	Human Rights	3	PULW1012
PULW3103	International Humanitarian Law	3	PULW1012
PULW3112	International relations	3	PULW1012
PULW4107	International Economics	3	PULW1010
PULW4109	Criminology	3	-
PULW4112	International Penal Law	3	PULW2002-PULW1012
PULW4114	Final Project ++	3	-
PULW3100	Digital Economy and innovation	3	PULW1010
PULW3107	Environment and Energy Economics	3	PULW1010
PULW3118	Oil, Gas and Alternative Energy Law	3	PULW2003
LAWS3100	Eidaad Program1 #	0	-
LAWS4100	Eidaad Program2 #	0	-
Courses of Private Law			
PRLW3105	Law of Intellectual Property	3	PRLW2005
PRLW3112	Law of Oil and Gas	3	PULW2003
PRLW3114	Law of Capital Market	3	PULW1010-PRLW3006
PRLW3116	Commercial Contracts	3	PRLW1008-PRLW2005
PRLW4111	International Trade Contracts	3	PRLW1008-PRLW2005
PRLW4116	Law of Arbitration	3	PRLW2004
PRLW4118	Final Project++	3	-
LAWS3100	Eidaad Program1 #	0	-
LAWS4100	Eidaad Program2 #	0	-

The Oman Qualifications Framework provides the study program and awarded degree with: a single system of levels for all qualifications.

- Qualifications based on standards or outcomes.
- Assessment based on clear criteria.
- a national system of credit accumulation and transfer.
- a common approach to describing qualifications.
- a common classification system for subjects and occupational sectors.

According to the Omani Standard Classification for Education (OSCED), Law is the study of principles and regulations recognized in the form of legislation or customs enforced by various authorities in the State. This is achieved through courses that develop the following skills:

- analysing the role of law in social, economic, and political domains.
- applying the acquired knowledge and skills acquired to practice law.
- comparing Omani laws with those of other countries.

The field of Law comprises the following specialties: Business and Commercial Law, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Family Law, International Law, Taxation Law, Environmental Law, and Legal Practice.

The distribution of practical hours is outlined below across both compulsory and elective courses: Constitutional Law, Civil Law, Commercial Law, Administrative Law, Criminal Law, International Law, Criminal Procedure Law, Principles of Islamic Jurisprudence, Economic and Financial Sciences and Applied (Practical) Studies. In these courses, the emphasis is on both theoretical understanding and practical application. The primary teaching strategy involves a variety of methods, including presentations, in-class exercises, graduation projects, and case studies. This

approach aims to equip students with the skills to apply theoretical concepts to real legal issues effectively.

COL, every year, through the Office of the Assistant Dean for Training and Community Service, provides training opportunities and organizes numerous field trips to legal institutions. These include visits to courts, public prosecution, the State Council Department of Criminal Investigations (Forensic Laboratory), Muscat Securities Market, and others relevant entities. The aim is to assist students in developing a practical understanding of the legal profession and fostering familiarity with the working conditions and environments, they will encounter.

Table 1: Practices Activities 2018-2023

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Visits	4	5	0	8	8	25
Competitions	1	1	1	2	2	7
Awareness Activities and workshops	3	6	10	8	16	43
Moot court	1	0	3	2	4	10
Exhibition	1	2	0	1	2	6
Total	10	14	14	21	32	91

COL actively engages in national, regional and international competitions, including the Moot Court competition for students, to showcase their knowledge and practical skills. The following table illustrates some student's participation in national and international activities:

Table 2: Participating In Competitions 2019-2023

Year	Name of Competition	Organiser
2019	Annual GCC "Jessup Friendly" Moot Court Competition	KILAW, Kuwait
2021	Second Omani Moot Court	College of Law, SQU
2021	Seventh Arab Moot Court (online)	KILAW, Kuwait
2021	Second Student Commercial Arbitration Competition	Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration, SA
2022	Third Omani Moot Court Competition	College of Law, SQU
2022	third student commercial arbitration competition	Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration, SA
2022	third regional mock trial competition in the field of international humanitarian law	Red Cross
2023	Fourth Omani Moot Court Competition	College of Law, SQU
2023	Ninth Arab Moot Court	KILAW, Kuwait
2023	International Commercial Arbitration Competition	Saudi Center for Commercial Arbitration, SA

Interdisciplinary thinking is incorporated into the curriculum through a variety of mandatory and elective courses. The nature of many courses compels lecturers to explore scientific subjects that intersect with other disciplines. Law, by its inherent nature, is one of the social sciences that accompanies humans in all fields, as neither humans nor their problems are one-dimensional. For example, law intertwines with areas such as economy, finance, environment, administration, sociology, criminology.

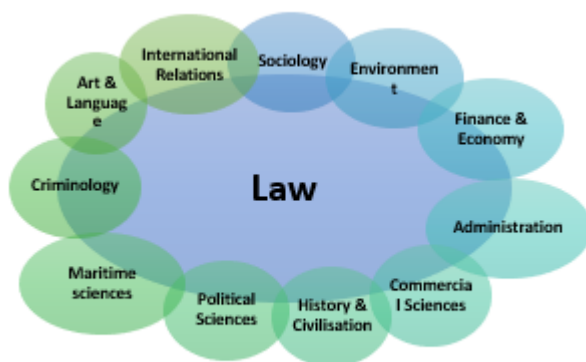


Figure 7: Interdisciplinary In Field Of Law

This influences also the implications of ethical issues in the programme. The identification and reflection of ethical aspects are clearly stated in almost every course description, especially in the business law and politics courses. Moreover, classical courses as for example Intellectual Property Rights, Legal Profession Ethics and Human Rights teach the students ways of ethical thinking and acting.

Students are provided with the necessary knowledge and skills to engage in scientific work through the courses Research Methodology, Practical Studies 1-3, Law of Electronic Transactions and the Final Project. There are also some courses that incorporate a variety of methods for conveying scientific practice to students. For example, the course Civil and Commercial Procedure Law, Criminal Procedure Law, and Capital Market Law dedicated to providing students with a diverse set of methods for practical legal application. In addition, the course instructor trains their students in a moot court setting to assist them in developing their legal analysis and research skills, as well as equipping the students with the necessary individual skills to participate in moot court competitions at the local, regional, or international levels.

Depending on the intended learning outcome of the course, different assessment methods like quizzes, teacher-made exams, presentations, case studies, homework and classroom discussions are used. Every course has a Final Written Exam (50%) and a Mid-Term Exam (20-25%). The remaining 25-30 % are covered by continuous assessments. In the final year, students pass a graduation project, e.g. a joint exercise between a student and a faculty member or a group or both. Methodology appropriate to the discipline is utilized in a clear investigative problem which is then

carried out. On completion of the study the students are required to present their results to faculty members and their peers.

Both summative and formative assessments are used to evaluate students' performance. As per Undergraduate Academic Regulations, the assessments are as per table below:

Table 3: Course Assessment Methods And Grade Destrubution

Assessment Method	Percentage%	
Mid-Term Exam	25 - 30%	40 – 60 %
Quiz	5 - 15%	
Presentation	10 - 20%	
Assignment	10 - 20%	
Others	10 - 15%	
Final Written Exam	40 – 60 %	

Appraisal:

The curriculum adequately reflects the qualification objectives of the bachelor programme. The content of the courses that is described in the course descriptions and the student handbook is well-balanced, logically connected and oriented towards the intended learning outcomes. The electives enable students to acquire additional competences and skills.

Theory and practice are sufficiently combined throughout the curriculum. Theoretical questions are explained by means of practical examples. Especially the part-time lecturers bring their practical experience with up-to-date knowledge of recent developments in the field of law into the programme. The panel very much appreciates the offer of moot courts to the Bachelor students.

The programme's content also promotes interdisciplinary thinking. Ethical implications (for example those of economical or juridical ways of thinking and acting) are appropriately communicated.

Methodological competences and scientific practice are trained in the Bachelor programme. Hence, the students are equipped with the necessary skills for research-oriented work and for applying those skills in the respective vocational fields. The panel has seen a variety of examinations and discussed the system of continuous assessment of the students' progress during the studies. The examinations comply with the subject matter to be tested. The level of performance in examinations is aligned with the learning outcomes of the courses. The requirements are in line with the Bachelor level. Anyhow, as there is no thesis, the panel **recommends** shifting from especially multiple choice to solving law cases and more open questions. This would enable students thinking critically and analyse cases from a different point of view applying the law instead of repeating the law. In combination with putting the course Methodology in Research as compulsory, the students could prove their academic level more easily and oriented on the specific field of law.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.1	Contents				
3.1.1*	Logic and conceptual coherence (Asterisk Criterion)		X		
3.1.2*	Rationale for degree and programme name (Asterisk Criterion)		X		
3.1.3*	Integration of theory and practice (Asterisk Criterion)		X		
3.1.4	Interdisciplinary thinking		X		
3.1.5	Ethical aspects		X		
3.1.6*	Methods and scientific practice (Asterisk Criterion)		X		
3.1.7*	Examination and final thesis (Asterisk Criterion)		X		

3.2 Structure

Projected study time	4 years
Number of credits (national credits and ECTS credits)	146
Workload per credit	45
Number of modules/courses	45
Time required for processing the final thesis/project and awarded credits	n/a
Number of contact hours	2175

Each academic year consists of two academic (fall and spring) semesters, each regular semester lasts about 17 weeks with the last 2 weeks devoted to final exams.

Exam	Schedule
Mid-Term	7 th – 8 th Week
Final Exams for University Requirements (Mandatory and Elective Courses)	15 th Week
Final Examination for Major and Minor Courses, College required courses	16 th – 17 th Week

HEIs in Oman are free to implement the American credit hour system or the European credit point system. The Bachelor programme follows the credit-hour system of the United States. For instance, the implementation of the credits, workload, grading and other educational characteristics are all in accordance with the American credit-hour system. The Bachelor programme offers a four years education with a total of 126 credit hours. The distribution of the credit hours in a total is as follows:

Work Load in Hours

<u>Types of Courses</u>	<u>Medium of instruction</u>		<u>Contact Hours (CH)</u>	<u>Self-Study Hours (SSH)</u>	
	<u>Arabic</u> (Requirement & Elective)	<u>English</u> (Requirement & Elective)		Minimum (1CH:2SSH)	Maximum (1CH:3SSH)
University	6	6	12	360	540
College	75	39	114	3,420	5,130
Total	81	45	126	3,780	5,670

The total attendance time consists of 90 hours. The self-learning time spent by the student for preparing homework, assignments, and exam preparation constitute of 3,780-5,670 hours. These calculations are based on the assumption that for every hour of course instruction, students should spend 2 to 3 hours per week in study and preparation outside of class.

The Bachelor programme's Academic Advising Students Handbook as well as the Undergraduate Academic Regulations include a detailed description of the structure of the programme including (among others): information about mission, vision, strategic goals, departments, the curriculum, the objectives and learning outcomes, information on the degree, information about the core courses, elective courses and University's requirements, information about the involved faculty members, their specialisations and research activities. It also contains course specifications of every course which include (among others): course title, credit hours, academic level and term, objectives and learning outcomes, teaching and learning methods, literature recommendations, and information on examinations.

The Bachelor programme does not include an internship, nor a final thesis. After finishing all courses, the graduates receive their diploma supplement which includes all examination results and the GPA. A relative grading is possible but not obligatory part of the diploma supplements. The Undergraduate Academic Regulations contain information about the credit-hour-system, the admission, the semester schedules, the prerequisites for graduation, the tuition fees, the evaluation and grading, course transfer as well detailed information about the examination system.

Student's attendance must be at least 80%. SQU offers their students a study plan online and contract sheets which allow students as well as teaching staff to keep track of their progress in line with the structural requirements of the programme. According to its own statement, SQU is committed to eliminating all forms of discrimination in all of its activities, and in respect of all students, staff and relationships with the wider community. The age distribution of students in the programme varies. In addition, SQU does not discriminate on the basis of marital status, economic class, or religious affiliations. The programmes are open to all students whether national or international, female or male, lower middle or upper classes, young or old, and whether married or single. SQU allows students with disability as well as students with some specific health conditions for extra time during assessments and allocate some people to write on behalf of students who have writing problems.

Appraisal:

The programme structure supports the smooth implementation of the curriculum and helps students to reach the defined learning outcomes. The programme consists of modules/courses and assigns credits per module/course on the basis of the necessary student workload. Practical components, if existent, are designed and integrated in such a way that credits can be acquired. The module/course descriptions provide detailed descriptions of intended learning outcomes and the information defined in the ECTS Users' Guide.

The workload is also about evenly spread over the six semesters. The structure therefore helps to set the objectives of the student workload and the students to acquire the competences related to the specific intended learning outcomes of their chosen major. Due to the fact that there are no courses with a duration extending over two semesters, the student's mobility is offered. In the view of the panel the structure of courses and workload in the programme is comprehensible and appears reasonable to enable the students to achieve the intended learning outcomes of the programme in due time.

The necessity of a relative grading has been discussed during the on-site visit. As a consequence, SQU already added a respective regulation in its Student Guide, which meets the international requirement. SQU offers to add the relative grade on individual demand of the particular student.

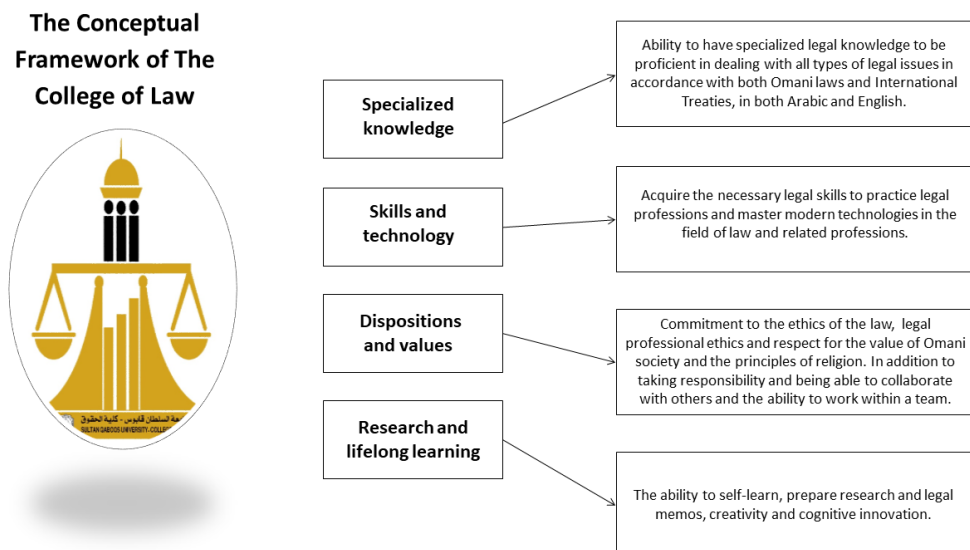
Examination regulations exist and regulate the structural requirements for the programme. SQU has formulated detailed regulations regarding the recognition of course achievements and credit transfer from other HEIs. Even Oman has not ratified the Lisbon Convention, the panel noted that SQU is on the way to follow the Convention's rules and implemented it in its rules. There are several aspects that promote the feasibility of the programme. The admission requirements ensure that students who are enrolled satisfy the necessary English level requirement. Subject-specific and general support is provided to the students. The feasibility of the study programme's workload is ensured by a suitable curriculum design, by a plausible calculation of workload, by an adequate number and frequency of examinations, in addition to appropriate support services as well as academic and general student counselling (see below). Altogether, the panel comes to the conclusion that the student workload seems feasible in due time. This has been additionally evidenced during the online conference by alumni as well as by faculty and the Dean.

The HEI ensures gender equality and non-discrimination. Students with disabilities are provided with respective affirmative actions.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.2	Structure					
3.2.1*	Modular structure of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
3.2.2*	Study and exam regulations (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
3.2.3*	Feasibility of study workload (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
3.2.4	Equality of opportunity			X		

3.3 Didactical concept

COL performs its educational mission in light of four concepts; which are within four axes:



The teaching and learning methods are described in the course outline, which is distributed to the students during the first lecture. Delivery methods are a combination of:

- lectures
- practical training
- material presented via PowerPoint
- case studies
- project work
- presentations
- group discussions
- In class moot courts

COL provides at the disposal of the students a library offering a wide range of legal references. COL also undertakes to distribute and make available the required books for specific courses at the

beginning of each semester. Lecturers are responsible for preparing their course materials for courses they teach. Each college prepares its Course Portfolio which include the following:

- The course outline which contains detailed content including the course description, course objectives, course learning outcomes, lecture schedule, teaching strategies and methodologies, grading assessment plan, and course rules. The course outline is distributed to students during Week 1 of the semester.
- Course materials which include lecture notes, sample of assessment methods (i.e. mid-term exam and final exam etc.), and summary of student teaching survey
- The course report which contains instructor's comments and other pertinent information on course delivery, results, resources and facilities, administrative issues, course evaluation and plans for improvement. Course report includes students' progression through the semester results and confirms to what extent course material is covered and course objectives are achieved.

The programme hosts a variety of guest speakers from different universities, institutes and from different public and private sectors to deliver seminars, workshops or to join the classes to share their work experience with the students. The college hosts these activities throughout the year. The College of Law also has a tradition to invite a prominent person from the parliament or ministries to deliver a lecture on the "Open Day", in every starting academic year.

Appraisal:

The logic of the teaching methodology of the Bachelor programme is adequate to lead students to the final qualifications. The methodology is described and explained in a logical and transparent manner. A diverse range of methods is used on the programme and tailored to the specific courses in the field of law. Besides forms of written examinations projects, presentations and discussions are used as part of the curriculum and are aimed at developing the students' skills regarding the demand of the lawyer's profession. The panel as well as the students appreciate the use of moot courts and encourage the university to develop it further by e.g. making it even more interactive.

The accompanying course materials are oriented towards the intended learning outcomes and correspond to the required Bachelor level. They are user-friendly and encourage students to engage in further independent studies. The materials are electronically accessible on the student's internet portal.

The panel appreciates that guest lecturers are invited and contribute to the students' qualification process with their special business experience. Lecturing tutors are not necessary as every student has contact to his Academic Advisor.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.3	Didactical concept				
3.3.1*			X		
3.3.2*			X		
3.3.3			X		
3.3.4			X		

3.4 International outlook

COL's Programme and curriculum reflect various international and intercultural aspects. These international contents can be found in core courses such as:

Table 4: Examples Of International Content In Curriculum

Compulsory Courses	Elective Courses
International Private Law (PULW 4003)	International Economics (PULW 4107)
Law of Arbitration (PRLW 4116)	International Humanitarian Law (PULW 3103)
International organizations (PULW 2007)	International Penal law (PULW 4112)
Commercial companies (PRLW 3006)	International Relations (PULW 4108)
International Private Law (PULW 1012)	International Trade Contracts (PRLW 4111)
Maritime Law (PRLW 4005)	International Law of Seas (PULW 4108)
Bank Operations-Trade Bills-Bankruptcy	Settlement of international disputes (PULW 4108)

International conferences and seminars are arranged to expose students to different legal systems:

Table 5: International Conferences And Seminars

Date	Conference Details
Dec 2020	Conference: Developing Judicial Systems and Updating Rules of Evidence
March 2021	Seminar: the Legislative Act of the Simplification of Judicial Procedures.
April 2021	Seminar: Practical Issues in Arbitration
Dec 2021	1) Seminar: Artificial Intelligence Technology and Civil Liability. 2) Seminar: Artificial Intelligence Technology in the Field of Crime and Criminal Justice, Perspectives and Challenges.
Feb 2022	First Scientific Forum for Postgraduate Students.
May 2022	Seminar: Omani Personal Data Protection Law, its Key Features with a Comparison to the European Data Protection Regulation.
May 2022	Seminar: International Responsibility for Cyber Attacks.
Oct 2022	Conference: Towards a Renewed Legislative Framework to Achieve Oman Vision 2040.
Feb 2023	Second Scientific Forum for Postgraduate Students.
May 2023	Conference: The Protective Legislative Framework for Foreign Investment.

Students of COL participated in many regional and international Moot Court competitions. The following list shed light on some of the recent activities:

- 7th Arab Moot Court Competition, Kuwait, 10-13 Feb 2021.
- 9th Arab Moot Court Competition, Kuwait, 5-7 March 2023.
- 3rd GCC Jessup Friendly Competition, Kuwait, 19-21 Feb 2019.
- 2nd Students Commercial Arbitration Competition, SCCA, Saudi Arabia, 4-8 April 2021.
- 3rd Students Commercial Arbitration Competition, SCCA, Saudi Arabia, 14-19 May 2022.
- Leiden University Moot Court Competition, Netherlands Kingdom, 2-6 June 2023.

In addition, COL regularly organizes workshops and an annual international conference with participation of Omani and non-Omani researchers and attendees. Recently, COL organised three international conferences as follow:

- 5th International Conference: Developing litigation systems and updating rules of evidence, 22 December 2020.
- 6th International Conference: A renewed legislative system to achieve Oman Vision 2040, 26 October 2022.
- 7th International Conference: Protective legislative framework for foreign investment, 10 May 2023.

More recently, COL announced its upcoming next eighth international conference, which is related to “the Legal Challenges in the Digital Age”. The Conference will take place on 9th of October 2024. All these activities give students a tremendous opportunity to be exposed to and feed knowledge from international and regional researchers, academics and practitioners.

As students gain the essential knowledge outlined in the study plan, engage in practical exercises, and actively participate in college-organized activities, they will develop the skills necessary to contribute effectively to the international legal community.

Based on student admission statistics, it is evident that there is a significant shortage of foreign students in COL. This discrepancy is a direct result of the disproportionately high percentage of applications submitted by Omani individuals. As SQU holds the distinction of being the first public university in Oman, coupled with the official financial support provided to SQU students throughout their academic years, the Omani government places a significant emphasis on prioritizing its citizens in the admission process to SQU. This policy aligns with the national goals outlined in Oman Vision 2040.

The faculty consists of individuals from 8 different nationalities, in addition to Omani nationals. These include individuals from Jordan, Egypt, Sudan, Lebanon, Australia, Libya, and Algeria, all of whom have international experience. Many graduated from internationally recognized universities in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Europe, Australia, Malaysia, Jordan and Egypt. Furthermore, most faculty members have practical international experience and regularly participate in international conferences and workshops both in Oman and abroad.

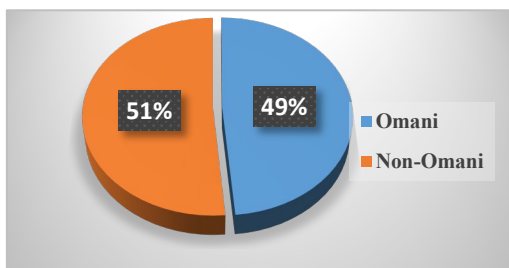


Figure 1: Academic Staff

Table 6: Omani And Non Omani Academic Staff

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	N/year
Omani	19	19	17	16	17	17.6
	46.3%	47.5%	45.9%	48.5%	56.7%	49%
Non-Omani	22	22	20	17	13	18.6
	53.7%	52.5%	54.1%	51.5%	43.3%	51%

The programme uses both Arabic and English as a medium of instruction. Additionally, students have the option to take foreign language courses as electives.

Table 7: Language Content By Course Type (C.Hours)

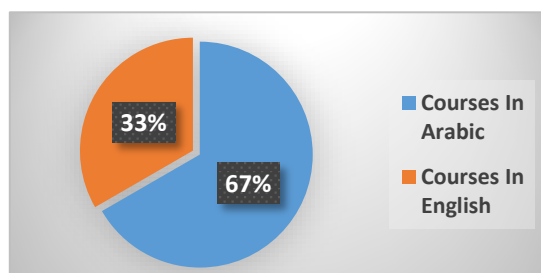


Figure 2: Curriculum Language Content

Type	Arabic	English
Mandatory Courses	66	27
Elective Courses	21	12
Total	87	39
	126	

Appraisal:

International contents are sufficiently part of all curriculum. Internationally oriented students are thus prepared for the challenges in an international working environment. The students are enabled to act in an intercultural environment especially through practical examples in cases and projects. From the panel's point of view, the student's language proficiency became clearly evident during the interview with students during the online conference. Nevertheless, the panel **encourages** CL to strengthen the English language skills of the students during the programme, so that they end their studies with better and more specialised English they started with. This would also help to widen the possibilities of exchange activities with incoming students.

The international composition of the faculty (teachers with international academic and/or professional experience) promotes the acquisition of international competences and skills, as they publish in articles in international journals. This was confirmed by the CVs of the teaching staff. At present, the student body at COL is rather national, which is in line with the objective to serve the Omani law society.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.4 Internationality					
3.4.1* International contents and intercultural aspects (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
3.4.2 Internationality of the student body				X	
3.4.3 Internationality of faculty			X		
3.4.4 Foreign language contents			X		

3.5 Multidisciplinary competences and skills (Asterisk Criterion)

Communications and public speaking skills are integrated into the programme through the English courses (LANC2007, LANC2008). In addition, courses require students to prepare presentations in class. Projects allow students to develop team-work, cooperation and conflict-handling skills. The students also attend the monthly internal seminars organised by the office of the Assistant Dean for Training and Community Services. In addition, COL usually encourage students to participate in local and international conferences and moot court competitions.

The College of Law Awareness Group (CLAG) also provides a venue for students to participate in numerous activities. This group had conducted different public lectures and open days; they also participated in many competitions at the university level. In addition, every year students organised the festival of “Oman National Day” Event.

Appraisal:

The students acquire communication and public-speaking skills as well as cooperation and conflict handling skills in accordance with the course descriptions. This is supported by means of suitable didactical and methodological measures.

The acquisition of further multidisciplinary competences, such as leadership skills and broad contextual knowledge, is ensured.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.5* Multidisciplinary competences and skills (Asterisk Criterion)			X		

3.6 Skills for employment / Employability (Asterisk Criterion)

The programme is designed for comprehensive training of future lawyers. The curriculum of the programme is constantly monitored by an Advisory Committee whose members are from the legal community of Oman. Their role among others is to provide the dean with advice on the emerging needs of the job market for lawyers in Oman and the Arabic region. Besides disciplines which are mandatory, the curriculum offers elective courses, which allow students to gain a deeper understanding on relevant areas according to their individual interests. This approach allows the students to develop the skills, which the student finds most interesting and promising, in accordance with the plans of his future career. A random survey of 253 graduated students from COL in the last five years (2019-2023) shows various career paths pursued after graduation:

Table 8: Participated Graduates In The Survey By Cohort

Graduation Year	No of participants
2008	1
2012	2
2014	5
2015	3
2016	1
2017	1
2019	39
2020	37
2021	40
2022	34
2023	89
Total	252

Table 9: COL Graduates Destinations (Survey Result)

Capital Market Authority	General Secretariat for the Council of Ministers
Civil Aviation Authority	Muscat Court of First Instance
Higher Institute for Medical Specialties	Consumer Protection Agency
Interior Governor's Office	Sultan Qaboos university
Law Offices	Banks
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Military entity
Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning	Ministry of Defence
Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs	Ministry of Education
Oman College of Health Sciences	Ministry of Labour
Oman Investment Authority	The superior committee of justice
State's financial and administrative oversight body	Public Prosecution
Sultan Qaboos Integrated Centre for Cancer Treatment and Research	Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology

Table 10: COL Graduates Destination

Destinations	No Graduates	
Governor Offices	8	3%
Higher Education Institution	6	2%
Judicial apparatus	19	8%
Law Firm	78	31%
Military authorities	5	2%
Ministries	33	13%
Other Government agencies	18	7%
Private sectors	8	3%
Unemployed	77	31%
Total	252	

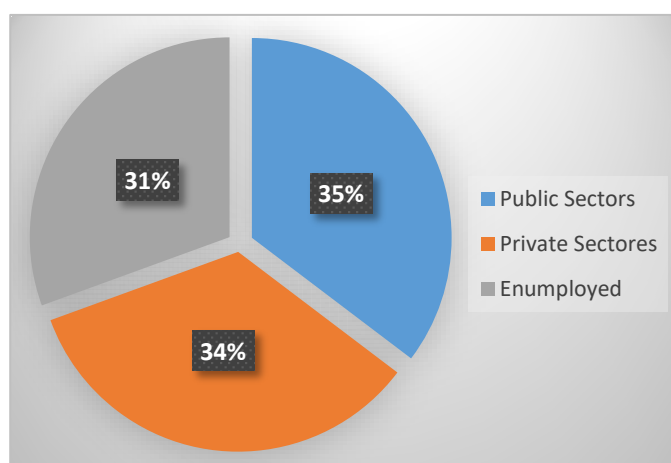


Figure 3: Graduate Destinations, Random Sample Of 252 Graduates

Appraisal:

The promotion of employability is ensured through the integration of theory and practice in the courses and through the promotion of multidisciplinary competences and skills. The employability also benefits from the influence of the Advisory Committee on the development of the programme. For a more practice-orientated approach the panel **recommends** strengthening the use of cases (compare chapter 3.1.7) and to push the English language speaking skills of the students on a long run.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.6* Skills for employment / Employability (Asterisk Criterion)			x		

4. Academic environment and framework conditions

4.1 Faculty

COL has 33 full-time and 12 part-time academic staff in the Fall 2022 and 09 part-time academic staff during the Spring 2023/2022.

Academic Staff report to their respective HoD, who reports to the College's Dean, whose responsibilities include, among others:

- teaching required courses
- academic Advising
- contribute to the Operational Plan of the Department
- Membership in committees upon nomination by the HoD or Dean
- Community engagement and Service to the College

• Table 11: COL Academic Staff Profile Y 2019-2024

Title	2019 2020	2020 2021	2021 2022	2022 2023	2023 2024
Professor	2	1	0	2	2
Associate Professor	7	6	9	6	6
Assistant Professor	27	26	18	18	21
Lecturer	5	4	5	4	5
Total	41	37	33	30	34

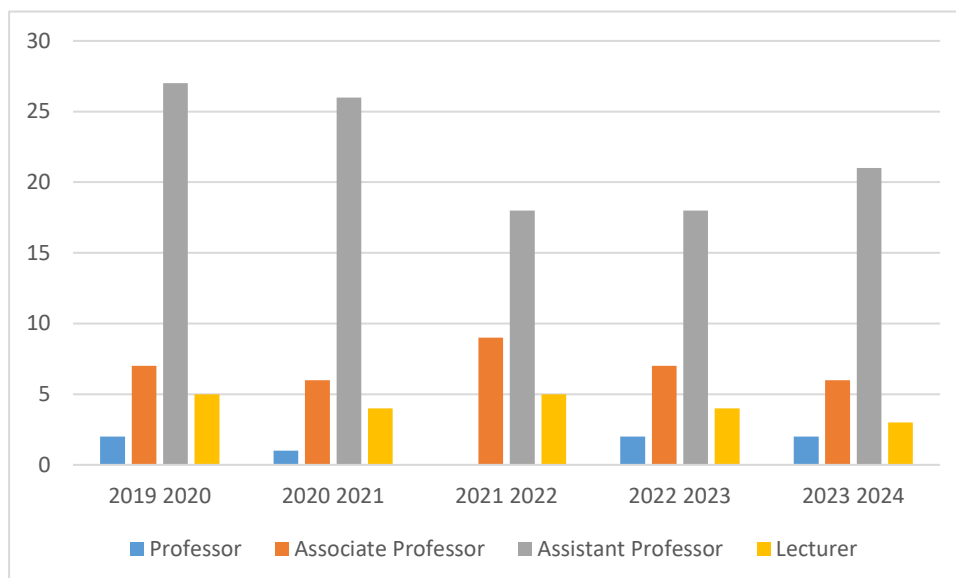


Figure 4: Academic Staff Profile 2019-2024

The procedure of appointing a new faculty member to a position is performed considering COL's professional requirements by the college recruitment committee, which conducts interviews with each faculty position applicant to ensure that he also has adequate pedagogical skills and qualifications. However, the final decision on whether to take the applicant on board is made by the dean of COL. SQU is responsible of verifying the authenticity of the documents submitted by candidates and implement the whole recruitment procedure.

SQU encourages faculty to actively engage in a variety of professional workshops, meetings, and conferences world-wide, which could benefit them in their teaching and research capabilities. Faculty members are given financial support covering transportation, full board accommodation, and registration fees for the particular event.

Applicants applying for "Professor", "Associate Professor" or "Assistant Professor" must have a Master and PhD degree and have spent at least 5 years outside higher education after attaining their PhD. Furthermore, Professors and Associate Professors shall have published a valuable scientific achievement leading to knowledge progress. The minimum requirement for part-time lecturers is to hold a Master degree in their respective field of teaching. He shall have at least one published research paper or accepted to be published in the field of his specialisation. COL pays attention to the development of junior instructors that start as teaching assistant and eventually can get a part-time or full-time position. The teaching assistants are current or previous students that have strong academic credentials. The majority of the teaching staff has obtained professional practical legal experience by working in the public and private sectors as lawyers, judges, legal consultancies, etc.

Cooperation between the academic staff in the college is institutionalised through departmental councils, joint committee work and multi-group coordination. In addition, the faculty also collaborates with each other in the college in organising conferences, seminars and training programmes in the college. Topics during the meetings are the further development and improvement of the existing modules or developing new ones, based also on the evaluation results or the feedback of the Advisory board. Every specialist in his field discusses his ideas with the faculty to build joint decisions in the end.

Regular supporting and consulting of students is compulsory to all faculty members. This takes place through office hours. Each full-time faculty member is expected to allocate a minimum of two office hours per week. Part-time lecturers are available before their courses and always stay longer after their courses for answering individual questions by the students. Both, full-time and part-time faculty is also available via e-mail. A faculty academic advisor is assigned to every student during the orientation week. The academic advisor provides students with the necessary guidance related to their courses, study plan and helps students cope with their studies. The academic advisors are responsible for monitoring the academic progress of the students, and maintains a record of student's files. This is guaranteed by the electronic university system.

Appraisal:

The structure and number of teaching staff correspond with the programme requirements. A list of all involved lecturers shows the availability of the required capacity to implement the programme. According to the CVs the academic ability and qualification as well as the practical experience of the teaching staff is in line with the requirements of the programme for teaching. The staff's pedagogical/didactical qualifications are in line with their tasks and have been verified. Altogether, SQU follows a very clear strategy when appointing new lecturers. A special focus is given to the academic qualifications which results in the high amount of PhD holding teaching staff. The personal development of the lectures is ensured via regular workshops (e.g. regarding new teaching methods) and via possibilities of attending conferences in Oman and abroad.

Internal collaboration and coordination is ensured by the dean and the assistant dean and can be seen clearly in the meetings of the teaching staff. As affirmed by students of the Bachelor programme during the online conference, the counselling of students by teaching staff is intensive. Student support is an integral part of the services provided by the faculty. The lecturers are available for the students inside and outside specified office hours and e-mails are answered fairly quickly. Hence, the students are "fully content" with the support they receive and the Open Door Policy of the COL.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.1	Faculty					
4.1.1*	Structure and quantity of faculty in relation to curricular requirements (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
4.1.2*	Academic qualification of faculty (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
4.1.3*	Pedagogical / didactical qualification of faculty (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
4.1.4	Practical business experience of faculty			X		
4.1.5*	Internal cooperation (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
4.1.6*	Student support by the faculty (Asterisk Criterion)		X			
4.1.7(*)	Student support in distance learning (only relevant and an Asterisk Criterion for blended-learning/distance learning programmes)					X

4.2 Programme management

COL is headed by a Dean, appointed by the University leadership from among the Faculty members. They are assisted by three Assistant Deans, two Head Departments, Head of QA and a number of specialized and administrative units. The Dean is responsible for overseeing the operations of the College. To support the Dean, various College committees have been established, each focusing on

specific areas such as academic affairs, hiring and promotion, and student affairs. Additionally, a College Advisory Board, comprising distinguished members from the legal community, plays a vital role. This advisory board not only assists the College in understanding the needs of the legal professions and society but also fosters a robust relationship with them.

The Programme Management, led by the Dean, is tasked with coordinating and administering all facets of the academic study program. This includes ensuring the attainment of programme aims and objectives through the implementation of the agreed-upon curriculum, effective management of staff, and allocation of teaching resources within the given budget, all geared towards the best interests of students. Additionally, the Programme Management is responsible for implementing monitoring and quality assurance procedures to uphold the Programme's standards.

The College Administration comprises several key offices:

- the Office of the Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Studies, responsible for organising and managing the class schedule, as well as overseeing course enrolment;
- the Office of the Assistant Dean for Postgraduate Studies and Scientific Research, providing essential support to graduate students;
- and the Office of the Assistant Dean for Training and Community Service, tasked with designing training programs and supervising community service activities.

To facilitate a smooth transition for incoming students, COL organises an introductory meeting attended by the Dean, Department Heads, Dean's assistants, and faculty members. This session aims to familiarise freshmen with academic courses, highlight potential challenges they may face, and provide guidance on overcoming difficulties. Additionally, the Office of the Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Studies conducts workshops to educate and guide students regarding the study plan.

The appointment of an academic advisor for each student is a crucial step in assisting them in evaluating and achieving their educational and career goals. The role of the academic advisor includes:

- approving the academic programme of study,
- clarifying essential program requirements,
- identifying available university resources,
- providing strategies for overcoming academic probation if the student encounters it,
- monitoring the implementation and progress of the study plan.

The academic advisor serves as a valuable guide, offering support and guidance to ensure students navigate their academic journey effectively.

The academic advising committee at the college collaborates closely with the Dean's College, the Assistant Dean for Undergraduate University Studies, HoDs, and Department representatives. Together, they address various issues related to courses, study plan, and challenges faced by students.

The Student Counselling Centre at SQU, established in 1999 provides a comprehensive programme of support services. These services are designed to assist SQU students in navigating the challenges of the university environment effectively. The primary focus of the centre is to enhance students' educational experiences by fostering their personal development, promoting self-understanding and awareness. This, in turn, equips students to meet the demands of college life and enjoy a positive overall college experience.

It is noteworthy that the centre is a member of the International Association of Counselling Centres, ensuring that its consultants adhere to international guidelines and a code of conduct in their practices.

SQU has many deanships and centres that provide additional support to students in the field of learning, guidance, and community services, such as:

- Centre for Preparatory Studies (CPS)
- Centre for Information Systems (CIS)
- Centre for Educational Technology (CET)
- The Centre for Career Guidance
- Student Counselling Centre
- Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)
- Independent Learning Centre (ILC)
- Centre for Community Service & Continuing Education (CCSCE)
- Center for Human Resources Development

The college boasts an Administrative Affairs Office, led by the Administrative Director, assisted by an administrative assistant, and supported by a team of administrative technical staff. This dedicated team is responsible for offering comprehensive administrative, technical, and logistical support to faculty members.

Appraisal:

The programme director coordinates the activities of everyone involved in the programme and ensures that the programme runs smoothly.

Faculty members and students are supported by the administration in the organisation of the study programme. Sufficient administrative staff is available. Decision-making processes, authority, and responsibilities are clearly defined. Teachers and students are included in the decision-making processes where their areas of work are involved.

The opportunities of electronic service-support are used and supplement personal one-to-one counselling. The HEI offers the administrative staff opportunities for continuous professional development.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.2	Programme management					
4.2.1*	Programme Director (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.2.2	Process organisation and administrative support for students and faculty			x		

4.3 Cooperation and partnerships

COL has several academic cooperation with various academic institutions locally and Abroad, In addition to large number of letters of agreement and memorandums of understanding between SQU and other higher education Institutions worldwide. The following list illustrate some of cooperation agreements:

- Memorandum of understanding with the Higher Judicial Institute in the field of scientific and academic cooperation
- Agreement with Kuwait International Law School (KILAW) in the field of student exchange and practical training.
- Agreement “Establishing Anti-Corruption Chair” signed with the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Centre in the State of Qatar.

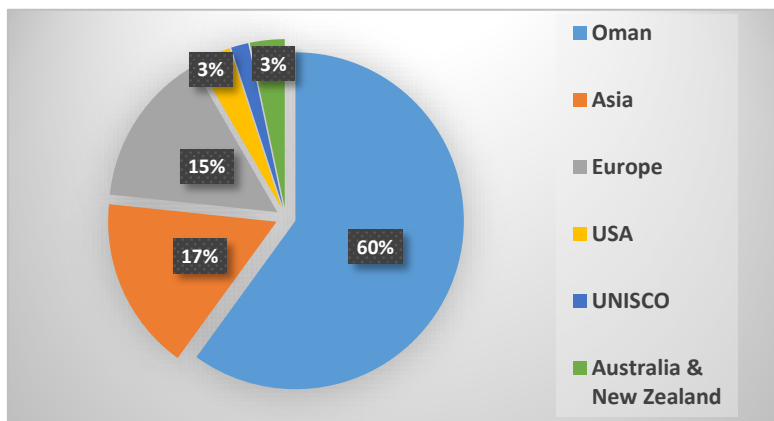
Furthermore, SQU has also concluded cooperation agreements with various inter-national universities and entities. The following table shows some examples:

Table 12: Examples Of SQU Cooperation Agreements

Country/Org	Cooperation Type
Austria	Letter of Agreement between Medical University of Graz and SQU.
Australia	LoU with University of Newcastle.
Germany	LoA Freie Univeritat Berlin.
Hong Kong	Cooperation Program with Star Vision Aerospace Limited.
Iran	LoU with Shiraz University and Persian Gulf University.
Ireland	LoA with Royal College of Surgeons Ireland.
Italy	LoA with Messina University. LoA with Tuscia University.
Japan	LoA Nagoya University of Commerce and Business.
Japan	LoA with Kyoto University.
Malaysia	Research Collaboration Agreement between SQU and University of Petronas.
New Zealand	LoA with the University of Otago.
Switzerland	LoA Between SQU Medical Research Center And Novartis Pharma Services.
UK	LoA with Imperial College of Science Technology and Medicine.
UNESCO	UNESCO Chair on SEISMIC and Tsunami Hazards Studies.
USA	LoA with Institute of Management Accountants IMA.

Table 13: SQU Cooperation Agreements Region, Nov 2023.

Country	No Agreements
Oman	36
Asia	10
Europe	9
USA	2
UNISCO	1
Australia & New Zealand	2
Total	60

**Figure 5: SQU Cooperation Agreements Region**

COL perceives collaboration with the private sector and the legal community in the Sultanate of Oman as a crucial aspect of its core mission. To prepare students for practice and to equip them with the skills and the abilities needed to face awaiting legal challenges, COL highly considers and values significantly possible avenues of collaboration with eminent actors in the legal industry in the Sultanate. Eidaad is one of the main initiatives which reinforce the cooperation the business enterprises and the private sector.

Furthermore, COL invites private sector establishments (e.g., practitioners and law firms) to provide financial support and to sponsor COL activities. For instance, the Legal Seminar Series – 2022 was sponsored by the private sector. This sponsorship opportunity makes the private legal sector an active player and a direct contributor to the mission of COL.

Appraisal:

The scope and nature of cooperation with HEI, other academic institutions and networks relevant for the programme are plausibly presented. The agreements forming the basis of the cooperation are documented. The cooperation is actively pursued and has a clear impact on the conception and implementation of the study programme. All such activities contribute to the development of the students' qualification and skills.

In case that other academic institutions or organisations conduct parts of the study programme, the HEI ensures that the quality standards are met.

The scope and nature of cooperation with business enterprises and other institutions relevant to the programme are plausibly presented. The agreements forming the basis of the cooperation are documented. The cooperation is actively pursued and has a clear impact on the conception and implementation of the study programme. All such activities contribute to the development of the students' qualification and skills.

In case that other organisations conduct parts of the study programme, the HEI ensures that the quality standards are met.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.3 Cooperation and partnerships					
4.3.1(*) Cooperation with HEIs and other academic institutions or networks (Asterisk Criterion for cooperation programmes)			x		
4.3.2(*) Cooperation with business enterprises and other organisations (Asterisk Criterion for educational and vocational programmes, franchise programmes)			x		

4.4 Facilities and equipment

The COL is situated in a main building of the SQU. The building has dozens of classrooms in different sizes. The classrooms are equipped with modern multimedia facilities (projectors, whiteboards, and multimedia devices). The University offers free access to a high-speed Wi- Fi connection so that students can work there with their own laptops. The building is equipped with elevators. In addition, the college has its own computer laboratory which is usually utilised for training sessions and has a room for MOOT court. IT and learning resources are provided to the programme through the Center for Information Services (CIS) and the Center for Educational Technology (CET), these include:

Table 14: Electronic Services Provided By SQU

SQU portal	Employees and students can access specific dynamically updated information, target for their needs https://portal.squ.edu.om/
Computer labs	There is an extensive network of computer laboratories in academic areas. The CIS provides the technical support https://www.squ.edu.om/cis/Home/pageindex45367/8
E-mail	e-mail services are available for around 26,000 users (including about 19,000 student accounts)

Internet and internet access	CIS/SQU web resources can be accessed from on and off campus.
Student information System (SIS)	SIS provides a number of student academic information services: https://sis.squ.edu.om/isis/webreg/3s/index.jsp
On-line Learning	Web CT and Moodle are supported by the CET and CIS https://elearn.squ.edu.om/

The Main Library, established concomitantly with the founding of the University in 1986, stands as the largest library in the Sultanate, distinguished by its expansive space, extensive collection, and a substantial user base. Functioning primarily as an academic library, it is dedicated to supporting the teaching, study, and research programmes of the university. It extends its services beyond the university community by offering library memberships to all citizens and residents of Oman. Since its inception, dating back to 1986, the library has steadfastly endeavoured to enhance its services, aligning with international standards.

The library can be accessed via the website <http://www.squ.edu.om/libraries> . It contains many references that support the law programme:

Table 15: Selected Library Resources (Journals)

Journal Title	Language
American Journal of International Law	En
Asian Journal of Comparative Law	En
Asian Journal of Law and Society	En
Canadian Journal of Law & Jurisprudence	En
Dirasat Shari'a And Law	Ar / En
Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology	En
Journal of Sharia and Law	Ar / En
Legal and Juridical Studies Journal	Ar / En
The Cambridge Law Journal	En
The Journal of Law and Economics	En

Within COL, each lecturer takes the initiative to update the library regarding relevant books and textbooks they intend to use. The access to literature and journals is meticulously aligned with the program content and is consistently kept up-to-date. The University's main library, situated on the Eastern side of the campus, is housed in a six-floor building. It boasts an extensive collection comprising books, journals, index-es, videos, and computer software. The library staff is readily available to provide consultation and assistance for research projects and searches. SQU subscribes to numerous periodicals across various fields of knowledge and maintains subscriptions to several electronic library full-text databases. Both students and faculty members have access to the digital library, with detailed information available on the official website of SQU main library: <http://www.squ.edu.om/libraries> .During final exam weeks, the library is open 24 hours during all weekdays.

Network access and use: SQU/CIS online resources can be accessed from both inside and outside the campus. Student information system (SIS), is a management information system for education sector establishments used to manage student data. It integrates students, par-ents, teachers and

the administration and provides a number of academic information services to students. <https://sis.squ.edu.om/sis/webreg/3s/index.jsp> . The subscription to periodicals and databases, which provide information and legal sources, such as Heinonline <https://heinonline.org/HOL/Welcome> .

Appraisal:

The quantity, quality, media and IT facilities of the teaching rooms meet the standards required for the programme, even taking into account the resource needs of other study programmes. The rooms are properly equipped for disabled students and give them barrier-free access. Access to the internet via wireless LAN is provided free of charge. A sufficient number of group rooms is available.

The library is accessible during most of the day. Access to relevant digital media is available from the students' home. Qualified library staff is there to advise students.

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.4	Facilities and equipment					
4.4.1*	Quantity, quality, media and IT equipment of teaching and group rooms (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.4.2*	Access to literature (Asterisk Criterion)		x			

4.4 Additional services

In 1999, SQU established the Student Counselling Centre. The centre provides a comprehensive programme of support services to assist students at SQU in their adjustment to the demands of University environment. Their services are designed to enhance a student's educational experience by supporting his development. It is a member in the International Association of Counselling Centres. Additional support is provided through the following offices:

- Deanship of Student Affairs
- Deanship of Admission & Registration
- Centre for Educational Technology
- Language Centre
- Centre for Career Guidance
- Student Counselling Centre
- Independent Learning Centre

Taking care about graduate careers and employability is one of SQU's objectives, which requires the University to provide Omani society with highly qualified graduates, taking into consideration the changing needs of the labour market and the nation's policies and strategic orientation to the development of human resources. The University Council provides guidelines on the Colleges' annual intakes based on job market projections. The Centre for Career Guidance (CCG) has been established to guide students to plan their career paths successfully, develop links with different

labour sectors and build connections with its alumni. The CCG organises workshops, seminars and training courses to develop students' knowledge to enable them to identify, assess and understand their competencies, interests, personal characteristics, career choices and the job market. In this regard CCG organises the annual employment fair to allow employers to know better SQU academic programmes and majors and interact with students and staff. The annual Employment Fair of 2015 had 62 companies participate and more than 1600 job opportunities were announced.

The college has a close link with its graduates. CL holds about 90 % email- addresses and telephone numbers of their graduates. Regular meetings are conducted where alumni are invited to several CL activities. Some of the graduates who held leading position are usually invited to deliver lecture and seminars.

Appraisal:

Career counselling and placement services are offered to the students and graduates to promote their employability. The HEI provides sufficient resources.

In addition, career counselling and placement services are offered to the students and graduates on an individual basis. Such activities are planned on a long-time basis, performed regularly, and are actively marketed. Sufficient staff is available for this purpose. Students have access to the HEI-wide corporate network. The HEI brings its graduates in contact with representatives from business enterprises at regular events.

An alumni organisation has been set up with the aim of developing an alumni network.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.5 Additional services					
4.5.1 Career counselling and placement service		x			
4.5.2 Alumni Activities			x		

4.6 Financing of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)

Education at SQU is free for all Omani citizens, SQU is completely state financed. Male students are entitled to monthly grant by the Omani Government to cover accommodation and subsistence outside the campus. Female students who live 100 km outside the College are entitled to free full-board accommodation within the campus. Students living within the 100 km radius of the campus are entitled to free meals and transportation. Scholarships are available for students from the countries of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), brotherly and friendly countries, and non-Omani SQU staff children.

Appraisal:

The income related to the programme ensures that each cohort of students starting within the accreditation period can complete the study programme.

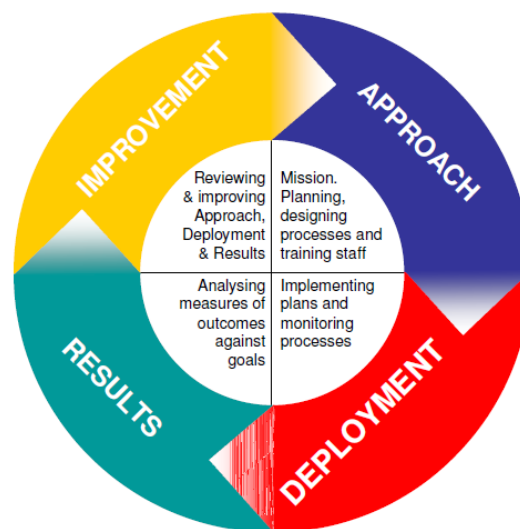
	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.6* Financing of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)			x		

5. Quality assurance and documentation

Quality assurance at SQU is built within the University's mission, policies, practices and strategic plan that all aim at a continuous improvement process. This applies to all individuals, departments, and academic and non-academic units. In that sense, quality assurance is everyone's responsibility and is not limited to one entity or a group of individuals. Quality assurance and the development of programmes of CL is understood can be given as follows:

- Providing efficient learning and teaching activities
- Increasing the overall research performance
- Providing the highest student quality experiences.

Responsible for the Quality assurance at COL is the Quality Assurance and Accreditation Unit which follows ADRI as an analytical tool to ensure continuous quality in all services provided by both academic and administrative departments and centres. ADRI consists four operations: Approach, Deployment, Result, and Improvement.



The University Office of Quality Assurance and Academic Accreditation is inter-connected with colleges and centres through the issuance of quality assurance and academic accreditation guidelines across all academic entities. This linkage ensures that the responsibility for achieving quality assurance is distributed among all individuals rather than being confined to a specific unit or group within the university. This approach emphasizes a collective commitment to maintaining and enhancing quality standards throughout the institution.

At the level of COL, feedbacks and comments are collected through:

- Periodically Deployed Questionnaires to all staff and students.
- Meetings with student college board council which consists of two students, male and female, from each cohort, in presence of the dean, two academic department representatives, and the managing director.
- External Evaluation by alumni, employers and Third parties.
- Suggestions from faculty via department meetings.
- Direct proposals submitted to Dean Office from individuals or administrative offices in the COL.

- After receiving any feedback or proposal, a distinction made between scientific and non-scientific issues. Scientific issues referred to the scientific departments, while administrative issues referred to the entity responsible in the COL.

The proposals go through four stages:

- Collection of feedback and development suggestions.
- Data analysis and processing.
- Suggestion of improvements that address problems and respond to feed-back
- Follow up on development proposals with the relevant stakeholders to obtain approval.

Student evaluations, known as the Course and Teaching Survey (CTS), are conducted during the twelfth and thirteenth weeks of each semester to assess courses and teaching methods. Utilizing a 5-point Likert Scale, online questionnaires are distributed to students to gather their feedback. At the conclusion of each semester, and following the announcement of final results to students, every teaching staff member at COL confidentially receives the results of the course evaluation questionnaire through their electronic account on the university's portal. The Heads of Departments, the Dean of the college, the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and their Advisor are provided with digital summaries of the questionnaire results for review. The electronic system at SQU maintains a record of each student's questionnaires for every teaching faculty member from the commencement of their teaching tenure at the college. It's important to note that the questionnaire form is centrally administered by SQU. The Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Community Service oversees the development and periodic review of the questionnaire through ad hoc committees established for this specific purpose.

The faculty members have the opportunity to submit proposals related to the academic program, starting with presenting them to the head of the department. Subsequently, these proposals undergo discussion and approval at the department board. Furthermore, the proposals may be deliberated by various committees annually formed at both the department and college levels. Moreover, specialized committees, formed by the college departments in collaboration with the Dean, are convened whenever necessary to address academic program-related matters. These committees consist of faculty teaching staff members who bring valuable insights to the development of the Programme.

Furthermore, the Quality Assurance Unit periodically administers a questionnaire to the faculty members at the COL. The purpose is to solicit feedback and assess the quality of teaching courses, the expected tasks, and the facilities provided to teachers to facilitate effective course delivery. The comments, suggestions, and results obtained from the questionnaire are then compiled and submitted to the Dean of the College. The Dean takes proactive measures in following up on the proposals and recommendations presented, fostering a continuous improvement process within the COL.

Evaluations and feedback for the Programme have been collected from graduates, employers and third parties. COL has initiated amendments to the study plan to introduce new courses that address the evolving needs of students in the digital era. These courses encompass topics such as

artificial intelligence, technology, and legal sources, which are increasingly important for the future.

The content of the Programme and curricula is meticulously documented in both print and digital formats. This information is then published in the students' book guide and on the website of the COL. The website undergoes updates as necessary, ensuring that students have access to the latest information related to the programme. Additionally, a concise description of all courses is distributed to students before they commence registration. This step serves to familiarize students with the evaluation methods adopted by the respective course professors.

Furthermore, students can find comprehensive information and clarifications regarding study regulations and the study system at COL on the Deanship of Admissions and Registration website at SQU. This information is available in both Arabic and English languages in SQU website:

- <https://www.squ.edu.om/admissions>
- <https://www.squ.edu.om/law/Academic-Program/Undergraduate-Studies>

At the commencement of each semester, study materials are made available to students, which they can download from the E-learning platform website called 'Moodle.' This platform not only facilitates access to study materials but also allows students to view the programme and exam regulations. Regular documentation of these activities is maintained, and the information is consistently published on the college's website for easy reference. The student information system helps students in choosing, adding, or even cancelling any material study to be taken another time, managing the student's study plan and timetable, and inquiring about the exam, grades, and cumulative average. The student information system also provides information on the support services that can be provided by the academic departments to students.

Student activities are carried out and announced in COL in coordination between the Legal Awareness Group, the Dean's office, and the Dean 's assistants' offices. Student activities include training courses, moot courts, and academic visits to institutions relating to law such as Omani Courts, the Shura Council, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Legal Juridical Affairs, Criminal laboratories, Prisons, Labour Agencies, and others.

Approved student activities, once announced, are open for participation by all students in accordance with specified regulations. To participate, students need to register for the event, for example the moot court. The committee responsible for each activity then selects the required number of participants based on specific criteria or conditions, previously communicated to the students.

COL annually hosts the Omani Moot Court Competition and participates in four other moot court competitions at both national and international levels. Students can access information about previous moot court competitions, including conditions, terms of participation, procedures, and governing rules, through the college's website. This serves as a valuable resource for future activities.

The college's website features news related to various activities and achievements throughout the academic year, encompassing education, research, and community service. <https://www.squ.edu.om/law> . Additionally, the annual report of the COL, available in both print and digital formats, provides a detailed overview of the college's activities.

Appraisal:

A quality assurance and development procedure, which systematically and continuously monitors and develops the quality of the programme with respect to its contents, processes, and outcomes, has been set up. It takes into account the evaluation results and the analysis on student workload, success rate, and graduate employment as well as the profile of the student population. Faculty members and students participate in the respective committees to plan and assess the quality assurance and development procedures. Responsibilities are clearly defined. Evaluation by the students is carried out on a regular basis and in accordance with a prescribed procedure; the outcomes are communicated to the students and provide input for the quality development process. Quality control by the faculty is carried out on a regular basis and in accordance with a prescribed procedure; the outcomes are communicated and provide input for the quality development process. An external evaluation is carried out on a regular basis and in accordance with a prescribed procedure; the outcomes are communicated and provide input for the quality development process.

The study programme's content, curriculum and examination scheme have been suitably documented and published (e.g. course plan and exam regulations).

The HEI regularly publishes current news and information – both quantitative and qualitative – about the study programme. Press relations and network communication are actively maintained. In its annual report the HEI presents a summary of the activities of the academic year.

	Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
5.1* Quality assurance and quality development with respect to contents, processes and outcomes (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
5.2 Instruments of quality assurance					
5.2.1 Evaluation by students			X		
5.2.2 Evaluation by faculty			X		
5.2.3 External evaluation by alumni, employers and third parties			X		
5.3 Programme documentation					
5.3.1* Programme description (Asterisk Criterion)			X		
5.3.2 Information on activities during the academic year		X			

Quality profile

HEI: Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

Bachelor: Bachelor of Law

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
1	Objectives					
1.1*	Objectives of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
1.2*	International orientation of the study programme design (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
1.3	Positioning of the study programme					
1.3.1	Positioning of the study programme in the educational market			x		
1.3.2	Positioning of the study programme on the job market for graduates („Employability“)			x		
1.3.3	Positioning of the study programme within the HEI's overall strategic concept			x		
2	Admission					
2.1*	Admission requirements (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
2.2	Counselling for prospective students			x		
2.3*	Selection procedure (if relevant)					x
2.4(*)	Professional experience (if relevant; Asterisk Criterion for master programmes that require professional experience)					x
2.5*	Ensuring foreign language proficiency (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
2.6*	Transparency and documentation of admission procedure and decision (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3	Contents, structure and didactical concept					
3.1	Contents					
3.1.1*	Logic and conceptual coherence (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.1.2*	Rationale for degree and programme name (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.1.3*	Integration of theory and practice (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.1.4	Interdisciplinary thinking			x		
3.1.5	Ethical aspects			x		
3.1.6*	Methods and scientific practice (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.1.7*	Examination and final thesis (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.2	Structure					
3.2.1*	Modular structure of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)			x		

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
3.2.2*	Study and exam regulations (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.2.3*	Feasibility of study workload (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.2.4	Equality of opportunity			x		
3.3	Didactical concept					
3.3.1*	Logic and plausibility of the didactical concept (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.3.2*	Course materials (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.3.3	Guest lecturers			x		
3.3.4	Lecturing tutors			x		
3.4	Internationality					
3.4.1*	International contents and intercultural aspects (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.4.2	Internationality of the student body				x	
3.4.3	Internationality of faculty			x		
3.4.4	Foreign language contents			x		
3.5*	Multidisciplinary competences and skills (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
3.6*	Skills for employment / Employability (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.	Academic environment and framework conditions					
4.1	Faculty					
4.1.1*	Structure and quantity of faculty in relation to curricular requirements (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.1.2*	Academic qualification of faculty (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.1.3*	Pedagogical / didactical qualification of faculty (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.1.4	Practical business experience of faculty			x		
4.1.5*	Internal cooperation (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.1.6*	Student support by the faculty (Asterisk Criterion)		x			
4.1.7(*)	Student support in distance learning (only relevant and an Asterisk Criterion for blended-learning/distance learning programmes)					x
4.2	Programme management					
4.2.1*	Programme Director (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.2.2	Process organisation and administrative support for students and faculty			x		
4.3	Cooperation and partnerships					
4.3.1(*)	Cooperation with HEIs and other academic institutions or networks (Asterisk Criterion for cooperation programmes)			x		

		Exceptional	Exceeds quality requirements	Meets quality requirements	Does not meet quality requirements	n.r.
4.3.2(*)	Cooperation with business enterprises and other organisations (Asterisk Criterion for educational and vocational programmes, franchise programmes)			x		
4.4	Facilities and equipment					
4.4.1*	Quantity, quality, media and IT equipment of teaching and group rooms (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
4.4.2*	Access to literature (Asterisk Criterion)		x			
4.5	Additional services					
4.5.1	Career counselling and placement service		x			
4.5.2	Alumni Activities			x		
4.6*	Financing of the study programme (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
5	Quality assurance and documentation					
5.1*	Quality assurance and quality development with respect to contents, processes and outcomes (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
5.2	Instruments of quality assurance					
5.2.1	Evaluation by students			x		
5.2.2	Evaluation by faculty			x		
5.2.3	External evaluation by alumni, employers and third parties			x		
5.3	Programme documentation					
5.3.1*	Programme description (Asterisk Criterion)			x		
5.3.2	Information on activities during the academic year		x			