

Information Sheet and Consent to Participate in Research

My name is Zamani Oliphant. I am a Master of Business Administration (MBA) candidate at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. I am also a qualified attorney and UKZN LLB and LLM graduate. You may contact me at zamani.mcina@gmail.com.

You are being invited to consider participating in a research study that involves understanding how final-year law students perceive their career prospects, professional confidence, and transition into the legal workforce.

The aim of the study is to explore themes such as career apprehension, confidence, and cynicism among law students nearing graduation. The study expects to include approximately 100–150 participants from the UKZN School of Law, all in their final year of LLB or LLM studies.

Participants will be asked to complete a short, anonymous survey either online or manually in class. The survey consists of multiple-choice and short-answer questions and takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

This study involves minimal risk. Some questions may invite self-reflection that could cause mild discomfort. You are free to skip any question you do not wish to answer. There is no direct personal benefit from participating; however, your responses may help improve support systems for law students and contribute to academic literature on legal education and career development.

This study has been ethically reviewed and approved by the UKZN Humanities and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee (approval number: HSSREC/00009229/2025)

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact me at 206503044@stu.ukzn.ac.za and/or my supervisor Dr Doug Engelbrecht at Engelbrechtd1@ukzn.ac.za.

You may also contact the UKZN Humanities & Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee at:

HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH ETHICS ADMINISTRATION
Research Office, Westville Campus
Govan Mbeki Building, Private Bag X54001, Durban 4000, South Africa
Tel: +27 31 260 4557 | Fax: +27 31 260 4609 | Email: HSSREC@ukzn.ac.za

Participation in this research is entirely voluntary. You may withdraw at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are normally entitled. There are no anticipated consequences if you choose to withdraw. No costs will be incurred by participating. No incentives or reimbursements will be provided.

All information collected will remain confidential and anonymous. No names or identifying information will be collected. Completed paper surveys will be stored securely and destroyed after 12 months. Digital data will be password-protected and permanently deleted after 12 months unless anonymized and used for further academic publication under new ethical approval.

Consent

I have been informed about the study entitled "Career Apprehension, Confidence, and Cynicism Among Final-Year Law Students at UKZN" by Zamani Oliphant.

I understand the purpose and procedures of the study.

I have had the opportunity to ask questions and have received satisfactory answers.

I declare that my participation in this study is voluntary, and I may withdraw at any time without affecting any benefits I am normally entitled to.

I have been informed that there is no compensation for participation, and no harm is expected from the procedures involved.

If I have questions, I may contact the researcher or the UKZN Ethics Committee using the contact information provided.

If I have any concerns about my rights as a participant, I may contact:

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24. Consent Answer

Mark only one oval.

☐ I consent

☐ I do not consent

Additional consent (if applicable)