

Teaching Property Law in Geomatics Degree Programmes: Innovations to Enhance Student Engagement and Learning

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SUMMARY

Professional Land Surveyors the world over are required not only to obtain knowledge and skills in technical aspects of land surveying, but also in development and property law. The complexities of a continuously changing policy, practice and legal landscape, and the challenges of combining the natural and social sciences in this teaching domain provide a teaching space ripe for innovation. Furthermore, the topic of “land law” is now extended to include, not only land-based properties, but those below the seas and lakes, beyond sovereign state boundaries, into the airspace above, and perhaps even into space beyond our planet.

This contribution is a reflective critique of teaching and learning methods and experiences in the Geomatics programme at the University of Cape Town (UCT), in the Surveying specialization. This is set against a backdrop of literature on teaching and learning, especially in property law. The paper explores course planning fundamentals as well as reflecting on a number of more interactive and diverse learning methods that have been implemented over the last few years to enhance student engagement and learning.

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