Police Oversight and Accountability in Africa course

The Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, in partnership with the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF) and the African Men for Sexual Health and Rights (AMSHeR) are presenting a short course on Police Oversight and Accountability in Africa. The course will be 5 days, running from 11 – 15 September 2017 and will be at the University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Given the relative nascence of police oversight and accountability as an area of both academic and professional endeavour, the issue has, despite its obvious and critical importance, a limited profile in Africa.

There are few people that actively operate in the field, and who can boast a complete set of skills, particularly in the area of police oversight.

The aim of the course is to profile police accountability and oversight as a human rights and governance concern, and assist in building a community of practitioners on the continent who can become active advocates for increased accountability of the police, and who are skilled to identify and act in terms of overseeing the actions of the police. During the one-week intensive course, training is provided to practitioners, policy-makers, scholars and postgraduate students.

Topics include:

- Police Oversight:
  - Theories and systems
  - Democratic Policing
  - Architecture of Police Oversight
  - Police Oversight in Africa
  - Challenges and Opportunities
  - Internal and External Oversight: Systems and Practice
- Police Standards: Overview of relevant International and regional standards monitoring police action
- Police Corruption
- Use of Force
- Public Order and Policing Elections
- Torture
- Custody Visits and Citizen Oversight
- National Security and Access to Information

Participants

This is a high-level course, particularly designed for practitioners working in the field of police accountability and oversight in Africa. Applications from judicial officers, postgraduate students with a relevant research focus, government officials responsible for relevant issues, and members of civil society groups experienced in and engaged with the issues are encouraged. Applicants from around the world are invited. However, the course will have an African focus. Applicants from African countries are therefore in particular encouraged to apply.

All lectures and materials are in English, and proficiency in English is required to attend these courses.

Fees

The course fee is ZAR 3000 (US $ 250). This fee covers tuition, course materials, teas and lunch for the duration of the course. The fee excludes transport and accommodation costs.

Applications

Applicants are required to apply online for this course. The deadline for applications is 25 August 2017.

Scholarships

A maximum of 45 participants are admitted each year, and admission is very competitive. Applicants must indicate on the online application form whether they wish to apply for a partial scholarship, and provide sufficient motivation why they require financial assistance. Applicants must also indicate whether they would like to be considered for admission in the event that they are not granted a partial scholarship.

Contact

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