



Dr Leo Boonzaier

Senior Lecturer, Department of Private Law

Dr Leo Boonzaier is a senior lecturer in the Department of Private Law at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and studied social sciences and law at the university. His graduate work was concluded at the University of Oxford where he won the Herbert Hart Prize and completed a doctorate under the supervision of Professor Sandy Steel and the late Professor John Gardner. He joined UCT's law faculty in 2021.

Dr Boonzaier's main research interests are in the law of obligations, private law theory, and the interaction between private law and human rights. He is particularly interested in judicial reasoning and the way the common law develops. Two-time winner of the UCT Faculty of Law's Annual Research Prize and holder of a Y1 rating from the National Research Foundation, his work has been cited at all levels of the South African judiciary and has been applied and rebuked by the Constitutional Court. Boonzaier is a former law clerk to Justice Edwin Cameron and a regular visitor to the Max Planck Institute for Private Law in the department of Professor Reinhard Zimmermann.

He acknowledges the continued mentorship of both, as well as that of his wife, Tatiana.