



## Welcome to the Faculty of Humanities

With close to 7 000 students, the faculty is the second largest at the University of Cape Town. It comprises 19 vibrant academic departments located in three main clusters: the Arts, the Social Sciences, and the Performing and Creative Arts. Common to all is a focus on the human condition in all its dimensions.

## Did you know?

- 1 The faculty has produced a number of world-renowned graduates, including Breyten Breytenbach (author), Philip Miller (international composer and sound artist), Roger Ebert (Pulitzer Prize winner), Richard E Grant (actor), Pretty Yende (opera singer), Akin Omotoso (film-maker) and two Nobel Prize winners - Emeritus Professor JM Coetzee (Literature) and Ralph Bunche (Peace).
- 2 The present faculty was formed in 1999 as a result of a merger of the faculties of Arts, Social Sciences, Education, Music and the Michaelis School of Fine Art.
- 3 The faculty offers 30 academic majors as well as the opportunity to choose from 21 majors offered through other faculties. This flexibility enables students to tailor their academic experience.



“The Humanities Faculty at UCT produces exceptional scholars who possess imagination, insight, and analytical skills – who are able to impart innovation and leadership to a society grappling with transition and reconstruction. I am proud to say that the Humanities experience at UCT prepares students well for life as a global citizen who can co-exist and engage with the world.”

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
SHOSE KESSI**  
Dean

## How do I apply?

If possible, come to UCT’s annual Open Day exhibition and explore all that is on offer from the Faculty of Humanities. Alternatively, you can contact the faculty to arrange a visit.



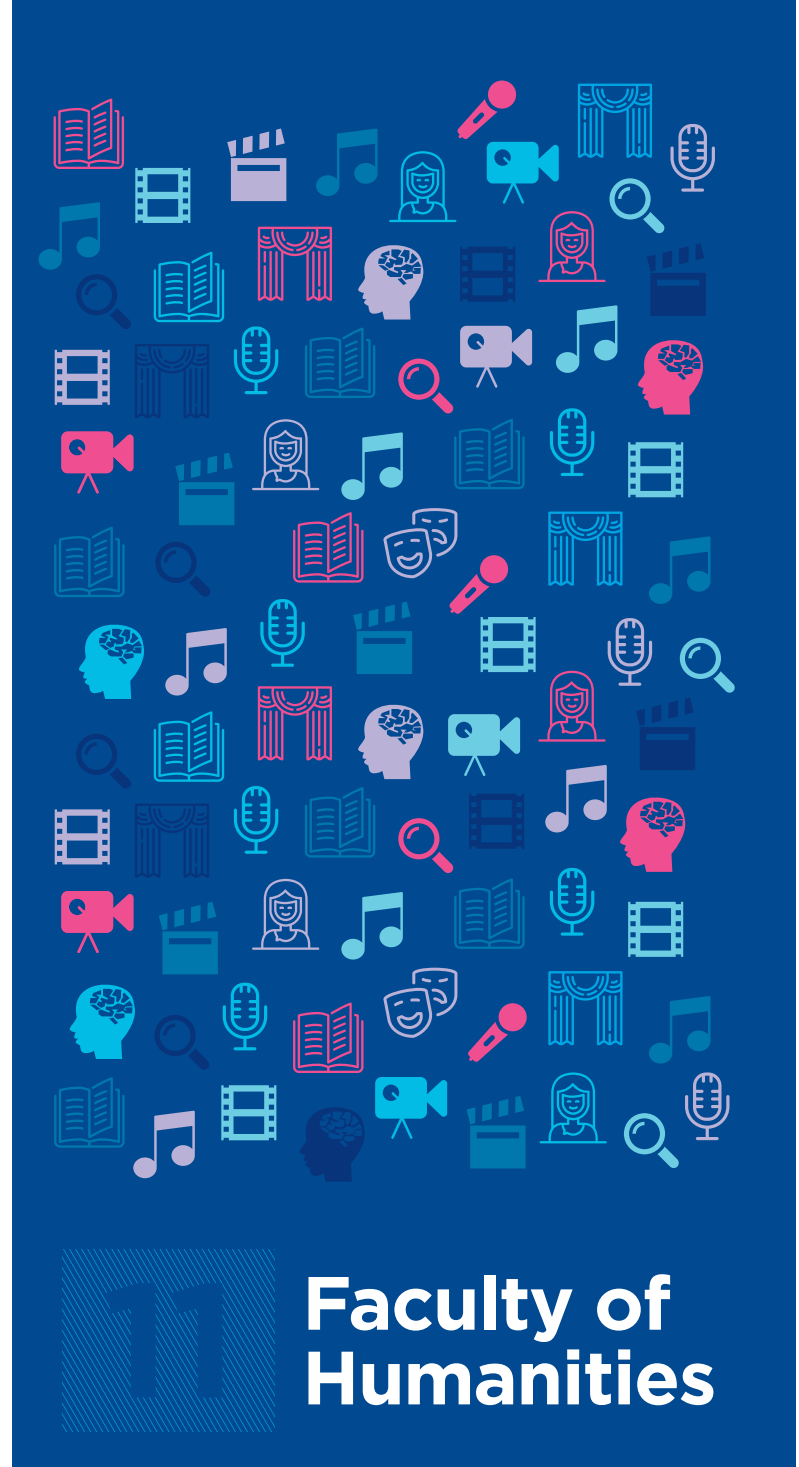
For details on the admission guidelines, visit [www.humanities.uct.ac.za/hum/apply/overview](http://www.humanities.uct.ac.za/hum/apply/overview)

**CONTACT US**

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\*Last updated in June 2022



# 11 Faculty of Humanities



# Humanities in numbers

 **Students from  
43 countries**

**7 746**  
total students  
(2021)

**2 329**  
postgraduate



**68**  
occasional

 **5 349**  
undergraduate



## World-renowned teaching staff

**4**

SARChI  
chairs

**2**

Mellon  
research  
chairs

**76**

NRF-rated  
staff  
members

**27**

Distinguished  
Teacher  
Awards

## Internationally recognised research



**15** research centres and  
institutes, including:

Centre for  
Contemporary  
Islam

Institute for  
Democracy,  
Citizenship and  
Public Policy in  
Africa

Institute for  
Creative Arts  
(formerly  
GIPCA)

Kaplan Centre  
for Jewish  
Studies and  
Research

Centre for  
Curating  
the Archive

Centre  
for Social  
Science  
Research

African  
Cinema  
Unit

## 19 academic departments

**African Feminist Studies** explores the power of gender dynamics within multiple fields of social relevance.

**Anthropology** provides practical training in analysis and methods of discovery that are useful in any activity that demands insight into complex social realities.

**African Studies and Linguistics** is an interdisciplinary teaching and research cluster located in the School of African and Gender Studies, Anthropology and Linguistics. It consists of two sections, the Centre for African Studies and the African Studies Unit.

**Centre for Film and Media Studies** equips graduates with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills to embark on a career in the film and media industry.

**Education Development Unit** runs the four-year degree programme in the Humanities, the Plus Tuts, the Introductory Course project and various other initiatives to support student success.

**English Literary Studies** promotes access to literature in English from across the world.

**Historical Studies** encourages the interrogation of texts and the coherent communication of the results.

**Knowledge and Information Stewardship** is a postgraduate department offering professional, academic and research programmes for information professionals.

**Michaelis School of Fine Art** is one of South Africa's foremost institutions for the study of fine art and new media.

**Philosophy** teaching and research spans analytic philosophy, with a thematic rather than historical approach.

**Political Studies** offers courses in international relations, comparative politics, South African politics, political theory, political economy, public policy and public administration.

**Psychology** focuses on how minds – individuals, groups and whole societies – develop and change over time.

**School of Education** is an interdisciplinary school focusing on research into knowledge development and transfer, policy evaluation and support, and adult education.

**School of Languages and Literatures** offers teaching and research in languages, literatures and cultures of 11 national and international languages.

**Social Development** offers social work education and training at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

**Sociology** contributes to understanding South Africa in a globalised world through studying all manifestations of society.

**South African College of Music** offers a range of degrees and diplomas in disciplines such as African music, composition and jazz.

**The Study of Religions** is committed to the open, plural, intercultural and interdisciplinary study of world religions.

**Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies** offers theatre and dance education and training in performance and performance-making.

## Student support Mentoring

In the humanities, first-year students are paired with senior students who have been carefully selected and trained. These mentors are closely supervised throughout the year. Mentors and mentees meet on a weekly basis in the first semester, either as a group with other mentees or on an individual basis.



## Rewards for academic excellence

- Faculty scholarships are awarded annually at the faculty's discretion to students who do well in the end-of-year examinations. The current value of the Faculty Scholarship Award is R20 000.
- A Fee Waiver for Enriched Curriculum can be granted to top-achieving undergraduate students in their final year of study.
- The Dean's Merit List is an award given in recognition of consistent academic excellence. Nominations for the Dean's Merit List are based on above average academic performance and take into consideration individual programme load as well as the total duration of the degree.
- Class Medals are awarded by departments to top-performing students in the academic classes.