

International UCT

The International Office at the University of Cape Town (UCT) is focused on advancing internationalisation through innovation for a better world. Internationalisation activities and inter-institutional relationships offer benefits to our partners, but also offer a range of opportunities to local students, staff and researchers to enable them to engage in a global world.



“Strengthening global citizenship through internationalisation is critical to unleashing human potential for a fair and just society. UCT, as an international institution in, for and from Africa, ensures that students and researchers are provided with academic and cultural exchange partnership opportunities to become knowledge catalysts that makes the volatile, uncertain, changing and ambiguous world better.”
QUINTION JOHNSON, PhD
Director

Student body

International: Africa



75
undergraduates



560
postgraduates



32
countries

International: rest of the world



232
undergraduates



628
postgraduates



83
countries

SADC countries



933
undergraduates



1 241
postgraduates



31
countries

Asylum Seeker



30
undergraduates



132
postgraduates

CONTACT US

Visa and immigration: email us at visa-immigration@uct.ac.za

For further information relating to the International Office please contact us on:

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iapo@uct.ac.za

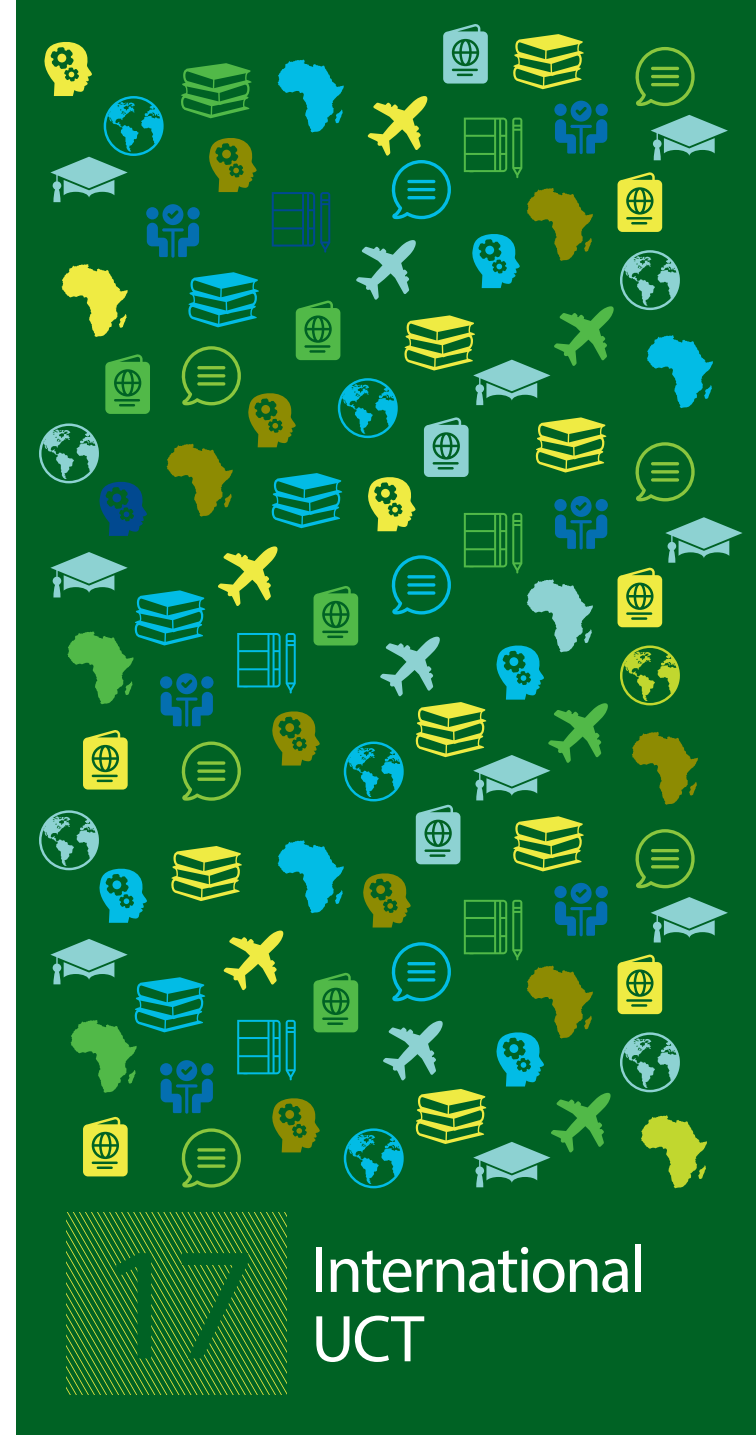
uct.ac.za/international (web)

partnerships@uct.ac.za (networks and partnerships)

Facebook: @uctinternational

Instagram: @uct_international

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UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Sustainable research partnerships

Taking advantage of its geographical location and position as a leading university in Africa, UCT plays a vital role in connecting institutions in the global north with its extensive research collaborations across Africa. This allows the university to draw international expertise to the continent, to strengthen collaborations within the continent, and to ensure that an African voice is present in global debates.

UCT is a member of a carefully targeted number of formal networks:

- The African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)
- The International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU)
- The Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)
- The Southern African–Nordic Centre (SANORD)
- The Australia–Africa Universities Network (AAUN)



Growing African connections



UCT fosters a range of partnerships to strengthen capacity across the continent.

MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program (MCFS)

The MCFS Program allows UCT to recruit, educate and mentor talented students who are overcoming hardships and are committed to changing the world around them.

Carnegie Project: Growing the Next Generation of Academics for Africa

This programme aims to train a community of future academics and is offered at UCT, University of Witwatersrand (South Africa), University of Ghana and Makerere University (Uganda).

The Universities Science, Humanities, Law and Engineering Partnerships in Africa (USHEPIA)

USHEPIA aims to build institutional and human capacity at African universities by promoting collaboration among African researchers, and the generation and dissemination of knowledge among African universities.

The Africa Regional International Staff/Student Exchange: Food Security and Sustainable Human Wellbeing (ARISE II)

ARISE II aims to increase access to quality education in Africa by promoting postgraduate studies, student retention and staff mobility.



Staff and student mobility

Staff and student exchanges with partner universities across the globe allow for the exchange of knowledge, networks and career development.

Semester study abroad

UCT hosts the largest study abroad programme in South Africa, bringing international students to UCT for a semester. Students can take undergraduate and postgraduate courses from across UCT's course catalogue.



Short courses

International short-term programmes are diverse in both students and curricula and bring together students and faculty leaders from across the globe to experience a dynamic, interactive and memorable cultural experience in Cape Town.

- 1 The International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU) Global Summer Programme provides short international programme opportunities at 11 prominent research universities to nominated UCT students.
- 2 The UCT Global Academy is a signature four-week programme on specialised themes in Social Justice and contemporary South Africa offered to students from across the globe.
- 3 The Sustainable Water Management programme provides a two week interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approach to examine the complexity of the water crisis and trends.

Additional programmes that are offered include Faculty-led programmes, Customised programmes, standardised programmes, service-learning programmes and island programmes.

Information last updated in November 2023.