UCT aims to produce graduates with internationally recognised and locally applicable qualifications, underpinned by values of engaged citizenship and social justice. We strive to provide a high-quality educational experience through:

- inspired and dedicated teaching and learning
- exposure to the creation of new knowledge
- cultivating competencies for global citizenship
- stimulating social consciousness
- attracting a diverse community of scholars.

“Postgraduates are the engine room of research at UCT and are pivotal to our future success. UCT is committed to creating a research environment that enables young researchers from diverse backgrounds to develop their skills and make a meaningful contribution in whatever discipline they choose.”

PROFESSOR MAMOKGETHI PHAKENG
Vice-Chancellor (@FabAcademic)

“As a postgraduate student you will benefit directly from a community of students striving for excellence and the latest scholarly work and discoveries made by our distinguished researchers.”

PROFESSOR PETER MEISSNER
Director of Postgraduate Studies and Researcher Development

Did you know?
1. UCT is the leading university in Africa and is ranked among the top 200 in the world.
2. It is also in the top 100 universities globally for clinical, pre-clinical and health and in the top 10 for development studies.
3. UCT has maintained its top position in Africa for graduate employability, and is placed 18th in the world for graduate employment rate. (2019 QS Graduate Employability Rankings)
4. In 2016 UCT joined the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU), a network of 11 top-ranked research universities, including Yale, Oxford and Cambridge.
5. UCT is a member of the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA), a network of 16 African universities that is strengthening research and postgraduate training.
6. UCT’s Hasso Plattner School of Design Thinking is one of only three in the world.
7. The UCT Knowledge Co-op links postgraduates who want to make a difference to community partners with research needs.

CONTACT US

- Commerce +27 (0)21 650 4375
- Graduate School of Business +27 (0)21 406 1338
- Engineering & the Built Environment +27 (0)21 650 2699
- Health Sciences +27 (0)21 406 6340
- Humanities +27 (0)21 650 5794
- Law +27 (0)21 650 3086
- Science +27 (0)21 650 2713
- Student Housing +27 (0)21 650 2977

For a full list of contacts www.uct.ac.za/contact/

05 Postgraduate studies at UCT @UCTpostgrads
Four postgraduate qualifications are available at UCT

Doctorate (PhD and others)
A degree requiring research at the most advanced levels, culminating in the acceptance of a doctoral thesis

Master’s degree
Either a research master’s by full dissertation, a research master’s by coursework and dissertation, or a professional master’s degree

Honours degree
A one-year degree consolidating and deepening expertise in a particular discipline

Postgraduate diploma (PG dip)
Enables professionals to undertake advanced reflection and development in a particular discipline or profession

Postgraduate support

The Postgraduate Centre and Funding Office provides a communal space where postgraduates can meet. At the Blue Desk (a one-stop information service) they can enquire about all aspects of funding and administration.

- pgfunding@uct.ac.za
- +27 (0)21 650 3622

The Office for Postgraduate Studies addresses the academic and professional needs of postgraduates. Here, they can enquire about any aspect of postgraduate affairs and discover a range of opportunities and activities designed to support them.

- pgstudies@uct.ac.za

The Faculty Postgraduate Student Associations are run by students and foster a vibrant and diverse postgraduate culture.

The International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO) provides specialist services for international postgraduates and helps with immigration issues and advising on study visa issues. IAPO also offers information on international postgraduate mobility programmes.

- iapo@uct.ac.za
- +27 (0)21 650 2822

The Careers Office ensures that UCT’s graduates are equipped with the skills they need to fulfil their career ambitions by providing advice, information and resources, and facilitating engagements between students and employers.

- careers.service@uct.ac.za
- +27 (0)21 650 2497

The Student Wellness Service is staffed by medical practitioners and nurses who are dedicated to helping students remain healthy. Services include a 24-hour toll-free helpline, clinical consultations and psychological support.

- Health service: +27 (0)21 650 1020
- Counselling service: +27 (0)21 650 1017

UCT postgrads in numbers
Every year approximately 11,000 students (38% of total enrolment) embark on postgraduate studies at UCT, including roughly

- 2,100 doctoral students
- 5,700 master’s students
- 1,500 honours students
- 1,700 PG dip students

UCT is also home to 2,700 international postgraduate students from more than 110 countries.

What’s on offer?
UCT offers a full range of postgraduate programmes in six faculties: Commerce (including the Graduate School of Business), Engineering & the Built Environment, Health Sciences, Humanities, Law and Science.

Find out about postgraduate degree requirements: bit.ly/UCTPGResources

Four facts about postgraduate funding

1. All full time honours, master’s and doctoral students are eligible to apply for funding to supplement their studies.
2. UCT does not offer full-cost fellowships, but it does have a range of scholarships and bursaries that offer supplementary funding.
3. Most UCT postgraduate scholarships and bursaries allow students to undertake limited part time work.
4. Applications for funding must be submitted before the advertised closing dates, so apply as soon as possible. (Don’t wait until you have been accepted for your course.)

To find out how to apply for postgraduate funding, contact the Postgraduate Centre and Funding Office.