

CAMPUS LIFE

A UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN PUBLICATION

ORIENTATION 2015



UCT AT A GLANCE

UCT is not only the oldest university in South Africa. It is also the highest-ranked African university – in both the Times Higher Education and the Shanghai Jiao Tong rankings of world universities. Founded in 1829 as the South African College and formally established as a university in 1918, UCT is home to more than 25 000 students from over 100 different countries.

40+
sports clubs

100+
societies

**The most
top-rated
researchers**
— of all —
**South African
universities**

26 322

Students in 2014

17 183
undergrad

9 139
postgrad

6 faculties

- Commerce
- Engineering & the Built Environment
- Law
- Health Sciences
- Humanities
- Science

All six faculties are supported by UCT's Centre for Higher Education Development, which addresses students' teaching and learning needs.

5 Nobels

UCT counts five Nobel Laureates among former students and staff:



Max Theiler was awarded the 1951 Nobel Prize in Medicine for developing a vaccine against yellow fever.



Ralph Bunche received the Nobel Peace Prize for his work trying to resolve Arab-Israeli conflict in the 1940s.



Sir Aaron Klug was awarded the 1982 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his development of crystallographic electron microscopy – which helps us peer into the arrangement of atoms.



Allan McLeod Cormack received the 1979 Nobel Prize in Medicine – together with Godfrey Hounsfield – for his work on X-ray computed tomography (the CT scanner).



Emeritus Professor JM Coetzee was awarded the 2003 Nobel Prize for literature.

“Your education at UCT begins in the lab and the lecture hall, but it doesn't end there. It stretches to your lunchbreak conversations with friends and strangers, your interactions with people who may seem as if they're worlds apart from you, your time on the sportsfield or in the field – researching the world around you, or helping a community through your research. You're not just preparing for a career. You're preparing for life – and hopefully a life of learning. Stay curious.”

Dr Max Price
Vice-Chancellor

This JAMMIE PIZZA
panorama was taken
by a former UCT student,
Lee Casalena.
COOL, RIGHT?

Great minds from UCT:

The activist

Anti-apartheid and civil rights leader **Zainunnissa (Cissie) Gool** was the first black woman to graduate from UCT with an MA, in 1932. The daughter of Dr Abdullah Abdurahman – leader of the African People's Organisation, and the first black councillor of the City of Cape Town – Cissy was mentored by none other than Olive Schreiner and Mahatma Gandhi.

The Afonaut

Mark Shuttleworth graduated with a Bachelor of Business Science from UCT in 1995 – the same year he founded Thawte, an online certificate authority, from his parents' garage. Four years later he sold the company to Verisign for a cool R3.5 billion. As a student, he was involved in the installation of the first residential internet connections at the university, in Smuts Hall. He was also awarded an honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree in 2002 – the same year he became the first African in space.

The entrepreneur

Sizwe Nzima – a graduate of the Raymond Ackerman Academy at UCT's Graduate School of Business – was one of *Forbes Magazine's* 30 under 30 in 2013, for his Khayelitsha-based business, Iyeza Express. Sizwe delivers life-saving medicine to residents who are too busy, sick or elderly to queue themselves – all by bicycle. He cites waiting in line to collect chronic medication for his own grandparents as an early inspiration. He's 23 years old.



“Don't think of yourself as just attending UCT. You *are* UCT. You create the campus everyday – make it a place you're proud of, where you feel you belong, where others can also belong. And when it's hard, know you're not alone. There are people everywhere who want to see you succeed, who want to help. All you have to do is ask.”

Khanyisa 'Baz' Pinini
President of the
Students Representative Council

5 things you probably didn't know about UCT

1

UCT was the first university in Africa with its own public transport system – the Jammie Shuttle. It was also the first university in South Africa to have a dedicated policy on HIV/AIDS, as well as on sexual and racial harassment.

2

Six of South Africa's eight black female actuaries studied at UCT, as did the first black woman in South Africa to be placed in the top 10 of the Part II Qualifying Examination for Chartered Accountants, Neo Dongwana – who is also Chris Hani's daughter.

3

The same man who designed the triangle stamp for the Cape of Good Hope, Charles Davidson Bell, also designed UCT's badge, as well as the three anchors of the Old Mutual logo – in all likelihood making these the oldest academic arms and corporate logo in South Africa.

4

Student answers aren't the only things written into UCT exam books. Manuscript drafts of JM Coetzee's Booker Prize-winning novel *Life & Times of Michael K* are written on the same foolscap pages, bound together between pieces of cardboard and held together with part of a wire hanger.

5

Rudyard Kipling didn't just live in The Woolsack (now a residence on middle campus). He also raised a lion cub there by the name of Sullivan – and wrote about it in a *Just So Stories*-type tale, 'My personal experience with a lion'. He also wrote a number of *Just So Stories* there, including 'The butterfly that stamped' and 'The cat that walked by himself'.



STAY CONNECTED 2

@UCT_news

facebook.com/uct.ac.za

youtube.com/UCTSouthAfrica

uct.ac.za

Subscribe: uct.ac.za/newsletter-subscribe



Cape Town, eKapa, the Mother City, Camissa (the place of sweet waters), //Hui !Gaeb (the place where clouds gather) – whatever you call this place, if you're new to it, welcome! This city is known for many things. But perhaps what makes it truly unlike any other place in the world is its mix of cultures (you can taste its diversity in its food, hear it in its songs, see it in the architecture), its contradictions (of mountain and sea, rich and poor, urban and natural) and its many challenges and opportunities. Like so much in life, what you get out of Cape Town depends a great deal on what you put in. Here's where to start your journey.

Arts and entertainment

Cape Town is home to many artists, dancers, designers, musicians and creative entrepreneurs – which means there's no shortage of places to enjoy music, dance, opera, theatre, art exhibitions, street art tours, or coffee-fuelled networking events. Established events on the annual calendar include Infecting the City in March (a week's feast of free public art performances staged primarily in the city centre), Cape Town International Jazz Festival (which brings out top international and local acts) in March, Design Indaba (a gathering of great design minds and local wares) in February, the Encounters International Documentary Film Festival in June, and the World Music Festival in July. Students looking for their theatre fix during the week can head to the Baxter Theatre Complex on lower campus, or the Little Theatre and other performance spaces at UCT's Hiddingh campus in the heart of the city. First Thursdays – in which art galleries and shops in the city centre stay open until late on the first Thursday of every month – is a great opportunity to experience the city centre and its art establishments at night.

History

Cape Town has a long, often hard history – which has shaped and continues to shape the everyday experience of people who live here. For a more personal insight into the histories and lives intertwined in Cape Town's present, visit the Iziko Slave Lodge (and other museums under the Iziko banner) and the District Six Museum, or go on the Revolution Route, a four-hour day tour through stories of revolutionary struggle in Cape Town, hosted by Coffeebeans Routes. For those who can't make the trip, a 45-minute audio tour through the city centre is available online: voicemap.me/walk/cape-town/revolution-route

Exercise and adventure

This city is known for its fitness freaks – and is home to a number of major sporting events, like the Two Oceans Marathon and the Cape Epic Prologue. Whether you're into cycling or surfing, soccer or salsa, rugby or running, yoga or capoeira – or if trail running up Lion's Head sounds like fun – there's a fitness group out there for you

Nature

Cape Town has no lack of natural beauty, and UCT is seated in the middle of it all – at the foot of the Table Mountain chain, at the heart of the Cape Floral Kingdom (the smallest and most diverse of the six floral kingdoms in the world), and with beautiful beaches to your left and right. If cut grass and curated areas are more to your liking, there are also beautiful parks dotted throughout the city, such as Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden (a short drive away from campus), the Company's Garden (the city's 'green lung' in the city centre), and Green Point Urban Park (right next to the Cape Town Stadium).

Shopping

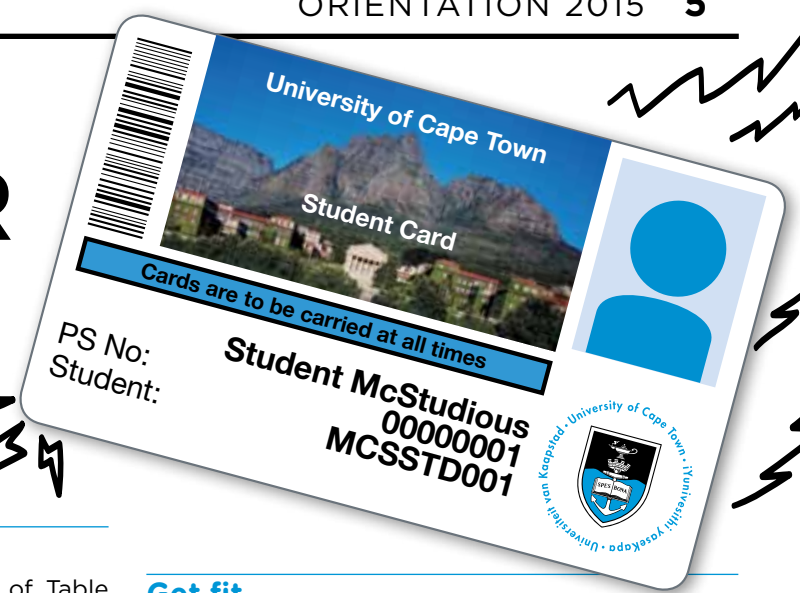
Larger shopping malls that are accessible to students include Cavendish Square (which is one ride away from Jammie Shuttle stops), the V&A Waterfront, and (a little further afield) Canal Walk. Cape Town also has a growing pool of informal traders, farmers' markets and one-of-a-kind outlets where you can support the local economy by buying goods designed and manufactured in South Africa.

CHECK IT OUT

While there are many great vantage points from which to view Cape Town, few spots can trump Jameson Steps, which also serve as a central meeting point where you can catch your breath between lectures and study sessions.

THE POWER OF YOUR STUDENT CARD

Your UCT student card not only opens doors (quite literally) on campus; it's also a passport to discounts and freebies in and around Cape Town.



Explore a museum

Your student card halves the admission price to all Iziko Museums – including the South African Museum, National Gallery and Planetarium in the Company's Garden, as well as the Bo-Kaap Museum, Castle and Slave Lodge. Check out their website for a full list of museums where this concession applies.

T: 021 481 3800
iziko.org.za

Connect with nature

Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden – which is at the heart of the Cape Floral Region, one of the most diverse places for plants in the world – lets students in at half price (R25).

Rhodes Drive, Newlands
T: 021 799 8782
sanbi.org/gardens/kirstenbosch

Catch a show

Being on a tight budget doesn't mean you have to scrimp on culture. UCT students are entitled to various discounts, starting from 10% for shows at the Baxter Theatre Complex.

Main Road, Rondebosch
T: 021 685 7880
baxter.co.za

Take a trip to the top

Want to ride the cable car to the top of Table Mountain? Go on a Friday and pay R130 for a round trip or R68 one way (over 40% off) upon presenting your student card at the ticket office (unfortunately online ticket purchases don't qualify for the discount). The trip is also free on your birthday (provided you're 18 or older and have a valid South African identity document).

Lower Cable Station, Tafelberg Road
T: 021 424 0015
tablemountain.net

Take in some art

Students get free entry to the Irma Stern Museum, which houses an extensive collection of one of South Africa's leading artists, the late Irma Stern, and regularly hosts exhibitions of contemporary artists.

Cecil Road, Rosebank
T: 021 685 5686
irmastern.co.za

Print your best shot

One-stop photography shop Orms offers a 15% discount on developing and printing for all students.

Shop 5, Roeland Square
Upper Canterbury Street, Gardens
T: 021 465 3573
ormsdirect.co.za

Get fit

The renowned Sport Science Institute of South Africa – where getting fit isn't just hit-or-miss, but a process aided by science – offers UCT students discounted membership (which still allows access to all facilities) for R350 per month for 12 months, or R4 200 for the year.

Boundary Road, Newlands
T: 021 659 5600
ssisa.com

At Virgin Active Claremont, students pay R580 instead of R695 per month for branch membership. Students also get a discount on off-peak premier membership, which means they can go to any Virgin Active gym in the country, outside of peak times, for R530 per month.

3rd Floor, Montclare Place,
Corner Main and Campground Road
T: 021 684 3800
virginactive.co.za

Watch a movie

The Labia, Cape Town's only independent movie house (and formerly an embassy ballroom), offers students a R5 discount on tickets that usually cost R40. They also have weekly specials where you can get dinner and a show for under R100 (see website for details).

68 Orange Street, Gardens
T: 021 424 5927
thelabia.co.za

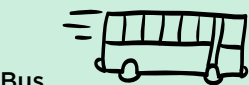
GETTING AROUND

Travel at UCT starts with the Jammie Shuttle, but doesn't need to end there. Students can explore beyond campus with a range of public and private transport options, to suit their style, pocket and schedule.



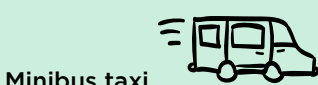
Jammie

The Jammie Shuttle is the easiest way to get from point A to B on campus. This free shuttle service for students and staff is available on weekdays, weekends, and holidays, and includes a late-night service. Check the web page for timetables and route maps: uct.ac.za/students/services/jammie/maps



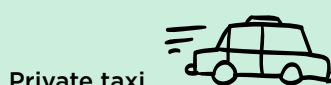
Bus

There are two main bus services in Cape Town. **Golden Arrow** buses are easily accessible from nearby Jammie Shuttle stops, particularly in Claremont and Mowbray. **MyCiTi**, a form of bus rapid transit, doesn't extend as far as the university but integrates with the Jammie Shuttle at the Gardens station in Buitenkant Street (from which point you can ride into Vredehoek, Oranjezicht and the city centre). More information at gabs.co.za and myciti.org.za.



Minibus taxi

These privately operated and publicly available taxis pick up and drop off passengers along virtually every main route in the city. As with the Golden Arrow buses, the Mowbray and Claremont Jammie Shuttle stops are a few steps away from minibus taxi hubs, while there are multiple stops near to some UCT residences. Make sure you have the exact change ready for your trip.



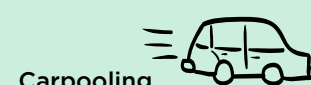
Private taxi

For a more personalised service available 24/7, metred taxis (using cars and small vans) are a phone call or text message away. While options abound, it's possible to save some money sharing a ride, which is where a service like Rikkis comes in: rikkis.co.za. Keep an eye out for tuk-tuks, or motorised rickshaws, the little three-wheelers seen zipping passengers around town, for a more quirky experience.



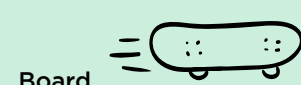
Train

Find timetables at a Metrorail station and online at metrorail.co.za. Their Southern Line Rail Route – which stretches from Cape Town city centre to Simon's Town – has a great option if you're keen to explore the False Bay coast: R30 buys you a hop-on, hop-off ticket valid for the whole day.



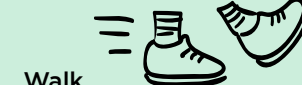
Carpooling

If you stay off campus, there's a way for you to beat the parking hassles, save money, make a friend and do your bit for the environment, before you even arrive at university in the morning. Register with ridelink.findalift.co.za to find UCT students or staff in your area with matching schedules. Cars arriving on campus with three or more people have a dedicated parking lot on upper campus.



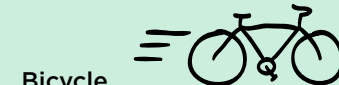
Board

Skateboarding's taken off in a big way in Cape Town – especially now that the Sea Point Promenade is open to bicyclists, boarders and bladers (and the subsequent opening of spaces like the Gardens Skate Park). You'll find office workers using boards to scoot between meetings during the day, as well as enthusiasts gathering every Monday evening on the Sea Point Promenade for a collective skate.



Walk

There's nothing like a refreshing walk, and parts of Cape Town are incredibly accessible on foot – especially campus. When walking on campus after dark, it's best to go in a group and to stick to the blue foot route (where there are emergency bollards where you can immediately notify Campus Protection if something's wrong). If you're alone at night and are concerned for your safety, call 021 650 2222.



Bicycle

Instead of putting pedal to the metal, why not just stick to the pedal? You can rent a 21-speed UCT Jammie Bike for the whole year for R1800 (R800 of which is returnable at year-end). You can find cycle-friendly routes around campus, as well as more information, at uct.ac.za/students/services/jammie. If you'd like to ride around the rest of Cape Town, find the best route at capetownbicyclemap.co.za (printed copies of which are

available in bookshops and travel stores). While the city has aspirations towards being truly bike-friendly, it's best to be careful on your commute: wear a helmet, keep left (and in single file). If you're not ready to commute by bike but are keen to get in the saddle more, look out for #MoonlightMass, when cyclists from around the city (some dressed in silly hats and fairy lights) gather at Green Point Circle the night of the full moon and ride a set route around the city.

GO MOBILE

Get the app that lets you:

- Search campus maps
- Get your exam and course timetables – as well as your results
- Search UCT's library catalogue and reserve and renew books

- Access the university's career service centre
- View Jammie Shuttle schedules
- Check in on how much you owe in student fees
- Tune in to UCT Radio
- Get up-to-date info from clubs and societies

UCT Mobile app is available for iPhone, Android and BlackBerry. If you use a different mobile operating system, or don't want to download the app, you can also access it from uct.ombiel.co.uk.

If you need help navigating between different modes of transport, download the Transport for Cape Town (TCT) mobile application. This app helps you plan your journey real-time by putting up-to-date timetables and route information at your fingertips, including notification of delays. The app is available for the Windows Phone, iPhone, Android and BlackBerry under the name 'TCT'. Alternatively, call the city's toll-free transport service centre on 0800 65 64 63 (available 24/7)



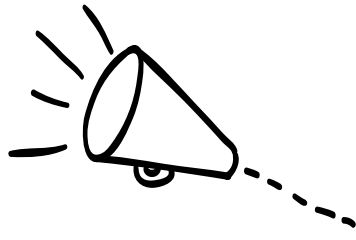
YOU ARE HERE

We know the first few days in a new place can be a little confusing. Here's a quick guide to upper campus – where you can get food, withdraw money, access services or study after hours. For a more comprehensive guide, download the UCT Mobile app or go online: uct.ac.za/contact/campus.

Day houses	Visitor access and parking	Disabled parking
ATMs	After-hours study area	Library
Eateries	Jammie stops	Foot route

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Key these life-saving numbers into your phone right now.



CAMPUS PROTECTION

Call UCT Campus Protection for any emergency – whether you've been the victim of crime, in case of a fire, or if there's a medical emergency.

UCT 24-hour emergency hotline

021 650 2222/3

GENERAL

UCT's Discrimination and Harassment Office (24/7 standby number)

072 393 7824

*You can also text this number for anonymous assistance

Cape Town emergency hotline

From a Telkom landline

107

From a cell phone

021 480 7700

MEDICAL

Aids Helpline

0800 012 322

Poison Line

Red Cross Hospital

021 689 5227

Tygerberg Hospital

021 931 6129

CRIME

Police Services

Flying Squad

10111

Rondebosch

021 685 7345

Mowbray

021 680 9580

Woodstock

021 442 3117/21

Cape Town Central

021 467 8001

Crime Stop

08600 10111

RESCUE

Mountain Rescue

021 948 9900

Sea Rescue

021 449 3500

WELLNESS

Psychiatric crisis and emergency support

Groote Schuur psychiatric emergency unit

021 404 2175

Life line

021 461 1111/3

Suicide Helpline

0800 567 567

Rape Crisis

021 447 9762

*For any incident of this nature, please also notify:

UCT's Campus Protection Services

021 650 2222/3 and

UCT's Student Wellness Services

021 650 1017



Here when you need them: Campus Protection

SAFETY TIPS

1 Be present

Wherever you are – in the city, on campus, or on a hike – be cognisant of where you are and what's around you. The more absorbed you are in something else – like looking at your phone – the less likely you are to notice when conditions change or something suspicious is happening.

2 Don't flash your swag

Everyone likes to look and feel good, but flashing expensive things when you're out and about makes you a more likely target. Keep valuables in a safe place.

3 Stay connected

If you're headed out, go with people you trust and know, go with a fully charged cell phone (with airtime in it) and let friends, flatmates or family know where you're going and what time you're planning on being back.

4 Avoid stranger danger

Don't accept help from strangers at an ATM. Don't take lifts from strangers either (unless they're the cab driver in a registered cab, from a company you recognise and trust).

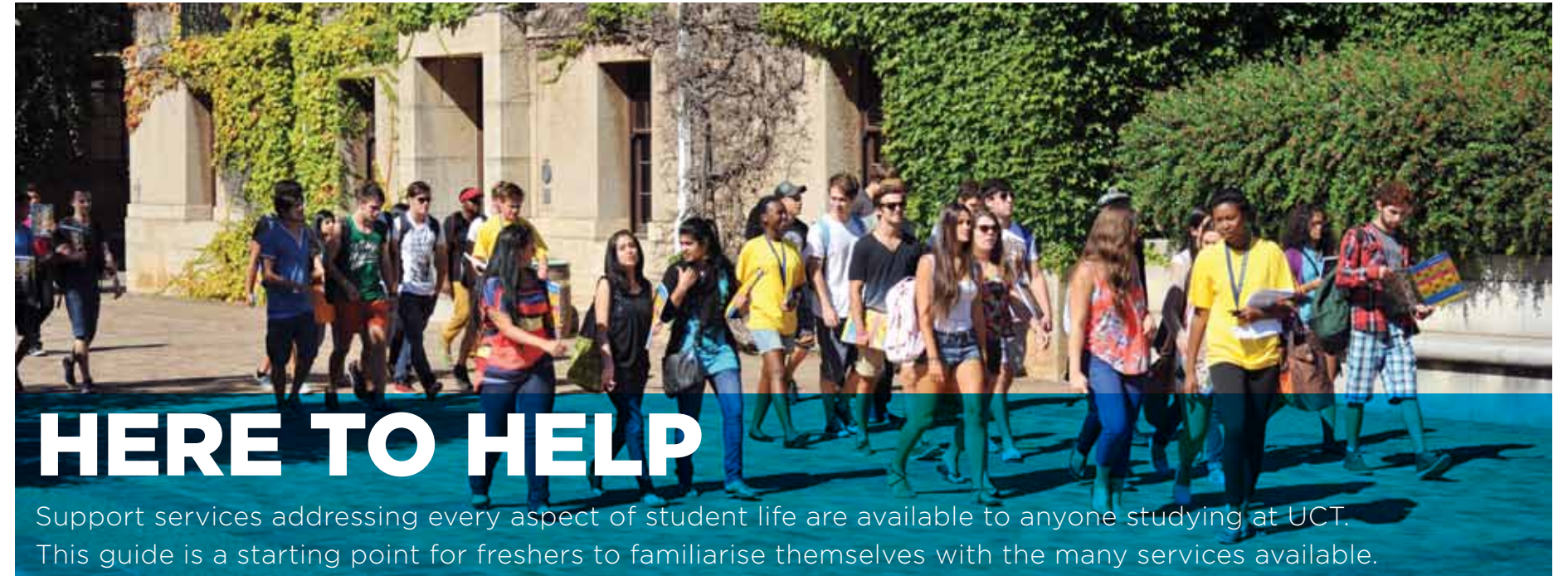
5 Open your own drinks

If you didn't see your drink being opened and poured, you don't know what's in it. Don't leave your drink unattended.

6 Be prepared

If you're going hiking – particularly on Table Mountain – go in a group of four or more, and take sunblock, something warm to wear (the weather changes rapidly on the mountain), comfortable walking shoes, a map, and plenty of water and snacks. Start heading home well before dark and keep to demarcated paths. Again, having a charged cell phone with airtime could help in a sticky situation.

For more on-campus safety tips: uct.ac.za/students/health/campusafety



HERE TO HELP

Support services addressing every aspect of student life are available to anyone studying at UCT. This guide is a starting point for freshers to familiarise themselves with the many services available.

First-year experience

The First-Year Experience (FYE) is your introduction to UCT. It is not a service or a centre, but a collective effort to help you adapt to university life and develop a strong sense of belonging.

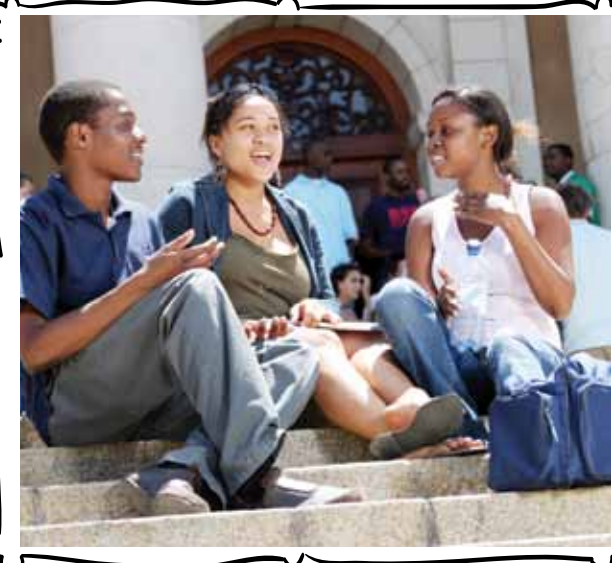
Aspects of FYE include:

- An early warning system, which assesses how you are coping with the academic load based on the results following your first round of class tests
- An academic mentor, a senior student, whose sole purpose is to help you get to grips with the rigours and responsibilities of academic life
- An online portal, Vula, where you can discuss areas of difficulty in your course with classmates, or contact your lecturer or tutor via email.

Student Orientation and Advocacy Centre

The one-stop shop offering general information on all aspects of campus life – from giving directions to buildings, people or venues to advice and referrals to other UCT services. You (and your parents) would do well to make it your first port of call as you familiarise yourself with the ins and outs of university life.

uct.ac.za/students/orientation/service



Student Wellness

Are you unable to shake the flu or the blues? Student Wellness has medical and counselling staff on hand to help. For medical help you can make an appointment during office hours at the office in the Ivan Thoms Building, Rhodes Avenue, Mowbray. Alternatively, make use of the drop-in service at the Sports Centre, open from Monday to Friday between 10h30 and 15h00.

For a consultation with the nurse, you need R25 cash paid up front, while students on financial aid don't pay. Your appointment with a doctor is charged at medical aid rates. HIV testing and counselling, STI medication and basic contraceptives are available free.

The counselling team can accommodate you within a day or two of your contacting them for an appointment, telephonically or in person. They specialise in individual therapy, but also offer group therapy. This team is busiest around exam times, but there are psychologists on standby for emergencies. The cost for this service is charged on a sliding scale from R20 to R120 and is highly negotiable.

uct.ac.za/students/health/wellness/clinical

Careers Service

It is best to visit the Careers Service office sooner rather than later in your academic career. They can assist you with your career choice and planning, give you practical tips on how to write a CV or cover letter, and even advise you on gap years and work abroad. You can also gain access to part-time work opportunities, graduate jobs and internships.

careers.uct.ac.za

Writing Centre

Spruce up your academic writing for free by booking an appointment online at the UCT Writing Centre. This is not an editing or typing service, but will help you improve the quality of your academic writing. You can contact them at any stage of your writing assignment.

writingcentre.uct.ac.za

Department of Student Affairs

The Department of Student Affairs oversees all student services and activities, including:

- Student Development, which includes Student Orientation & Advocacy Services, and Sports & Recreation
- Financial Aid and Administration
- Student Housing & Residence Life
- Student Wellness Services

uct.ac.za/students/services/affairs

Student Financial Aid

Financial aid is available to anyone who meets the qualifying criteria, and comes in the form of National Student Financial Aid Scheme loans and UCT-administered bursaries.

financialaid@uct.ac.za

Student Housing & Residence Life

UCT has a three-tier residence system with different services, governance and management at each tier. First-tier residences accommodate undergraduate men and women, usually under the age of 21. Second-tier residences provide accommodation for senior undergraduate and postgraduate students, while third-tier residences house senior postgraduate students.

uct.ac.za/apply/residence/life/overview

Off-Campus Student Accommodation (OCSAS) Services offers comprehensive information and guidance on off-campus accommodation. If you're looking for off-campus digs, look no further than this database of landlords.

accommodation.uct.ac.za/ocsas/accommodation/find

Students' Representative Council (SRC)

You choose the 17 members of UCT's SRC, whose role is to address problems you might encounter during your time at UCT, from accommodation to parking to academic exclusion.

uct.ac.za/students/src

Transformation Services Office

UCT is committed to social transformation. The university's Transformation Services Office coordinates its transformation activities across campus by supporting the important work of entities such as DISCHO, HAICU and the Disability Service, among others.

uct.ac.za/about/transformation/office

Disability Service

The Disability Service ensures that the university as a whole is as accessible as possible to those with disabilities. Its work is not only limited to advocacy and counselling on disability issues, but is broad enough to include access to venues and lectures, as well as study material for those with sensory impairments. Go to their website for information on how they can make campus life work for you and the physical challenges you face daily.

uct.ac.za/services/disability

Discrimination and Harassment Office (DISCHO)

Those experiencing harassment and discrimination (of any kind) don't have to deal with it alone. UCT has set up DISCHO to help with such complaints in a caring, supportive environment. DISCHO is the place to report sexual offences and discrimination, and works to assist and support you during court procedures, student tribunals and disciplinary hearings, as well as ensuring that both complainants and respondents are treated fairly.

uct.ac.za/services/disco

HIV/AIDS, Inclusivity and Change Unit (HAICU)

HIV/AIDS is a reality for a number of students enrolled at UCT. The university's HIV/AIDS, Inclusivity and Change Unit (HAICU) doesn't just reach out to those living with HIV/AIDS, but also takes steps to create awareness through a peer-education programme, ACE's (AIDS Community Educators); curriculum integration; and research into HIV risk behaviour at UCT.

haicu.uct.ac.za

Sports Injuries Centre

Come to have your sports complaints and any other injuries treated by physios and biokineticists at the Sports Injuries Centre in the Sports Centre on upper campus. This clinic treats UCT students and staff as well as members of the public – and charges medical aid rates.

Ombud

Need a dispute resolved? The office of the Ombud was created to seek fair and equitable resolutions to concerns and problems raised by any member of the university community in a neutral, independent, informal and confidential environment. If you're a member of staff, a past or present student, a visitor to the university, or a contractor with a university-related issue, you can contact the Ombud for help.

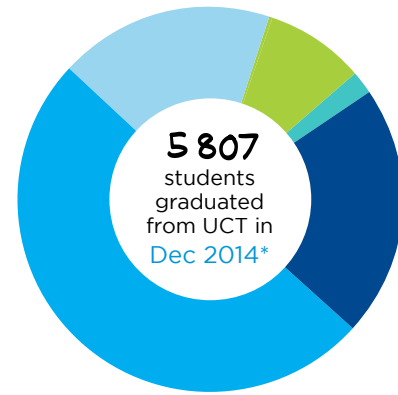
ombud.uct.ac.za



GRADUATION 2014

Stretching over six days and thirteen ceremonies, December graduation week, which took place from 15-20 December last year, represents the culmination of years of study and marks the end of the academic year. It's also a day of joyous celebration.

The numbers



*7 316 students graduated from UCT in 2014 – 6.5% more than in 2013



Restorative graduation

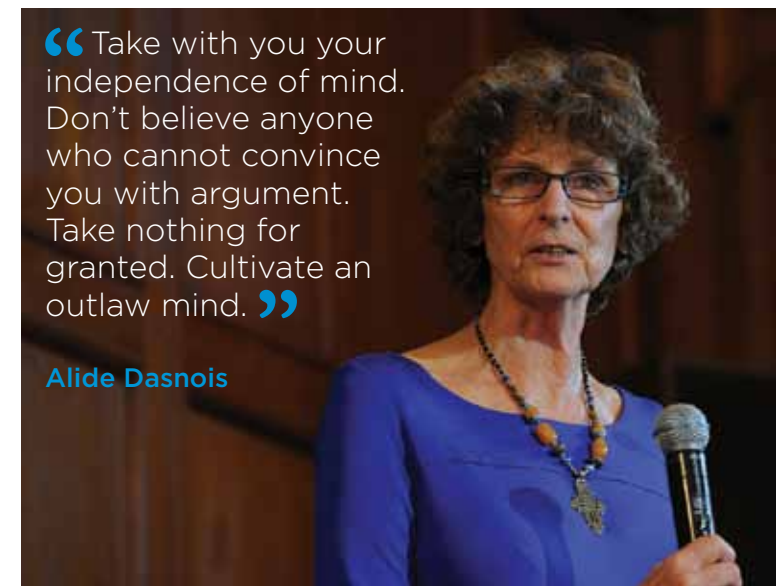
UCT students who completed their degrees before 1994, and chose not to graduate – to protest how the university was complicit in practices that denied many staff and students full participation in the life of the university – have recently been invited to 're-graduate' by participating in a current ceremony, as a restorative measure.

Among those who participated during December 2014 were Margot Emanuel and Dr John Patrick Giddy. Emmanuel, who completed her degree at UCT in 1992, re-graduated with a BSc (Hons) and MSc (Med) on 16 December. Giddy graduated with his daughter Isabelle on 20 December.

For more information about re-graduating, contact UCT's alumni office: alumni@uct.ac.za.

“Take with you your independence of mind. Don't believe anyone who cannot convince you with argument. Take nothing for granted. Cultivate an outlaw mind.”

Alide Dasnois



Honorary doctorates

Every year, the university awards honorary degrees to people who have distinguished themselves in their field. During the December 2014 graduation season, UCT recognised five people in this way:

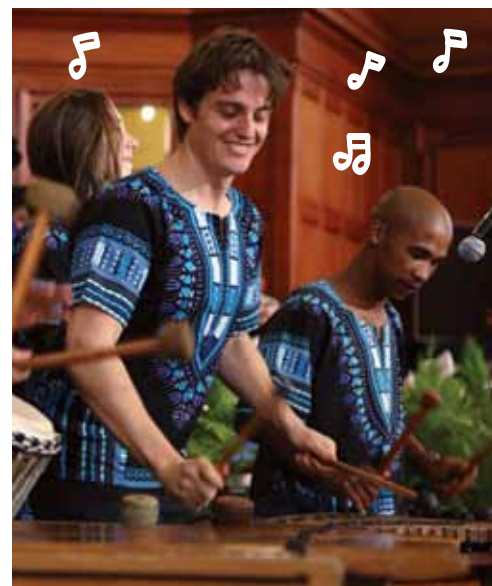
- Neuroscientist Professor Rodney Douglas
- World-renowned artist William Kentridge
- Founder and executive director of *Frontline*, the longest-running public television investigative documentary series in the US, David Fanning
- Literary critic, writer and editor Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr
- Energy storage pioneer Dr Michael Thackeray

“Don't sit at the sidelines and criticise, and see what is wrong only. Yes, identify what is wrong, but more importantly, identify what has to be done, and be done right. The future is yours. It is really in your hands.”

UCT's Chancellor
Graca Machel

“Find the pleasure and beauty of unexpected connections. Keep a sharp eye for the day's event, but a keener feeling for the longer unfolding. Be kind: understand that everyone is involved in their own titanic struggle.”

William Kentridge



Golden graduation

December 2014 also marked the beginning of a new annual tradition at UCT, in which alumni who have been involved in the life of the university for five decades are invited to participate in graduation. Seventeen members of the class of 1964 joined one of the December ceremonies to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation.



“Find a passion; follow a cause; aim high; do what you want to do; ask for help if you need it; be guided by instinct; take calculated chances; be bold; and have that bit of luck.”

Dr Michael Thackeray



YOUR PATH TO GRADUATION

✕ Congratulations! You've made it to UCT – a position you've been working incredibly hard for. Now the next leg of your journey – which culminates on your graduation day – begins in earnest. Your path may not always be smooth. You might find you have chosen the wrong course or fall seriously ill the night before an exam. Knowing what to do and who to speak to for support will help you get back on track.

Changing course

The first week of the semester is critical for those who change their mind about the courses they're taking: it's in this week that you can drop or add a course without academic or fee implications.

Deputy Registrar Dr Karen van Heerden's main advice to first-year students is to choose a field of study of interest to them, and not their parents. “One of the biggest reasons for students leaving university without completing their degree is the wrong choice of study field.”

Curriculum advisors in every faculty are there to advise you regarding academic matters. If you're considering a change to your curriculum, these advisors should be your first port of call. The Student Wellness Service and most faculties have psychologists who are there to help you adjust to campus life – whether with study techniques or coping mechanisms when dealing with high volumes of work.

In the second and third weeks of semester, you can still drop courses and receive a 50% refund of your course fee, but you can no longer add courses. From week four until the end of week six, you can still drop a course and have it removed from your academic record. However, you are still liable for the full course fee.

If you don't deregister formally from a course by week six of the semester, the course will reflect as a 'fail' on your academic record.

Leave of absence

If you fall seriously ill or cannot cope due to a diagnosed psychological condition, you can approach your faculty manager to apply for a leave of absence. This means you don't have to continue your course, and there is no academic penalty. You can resume the course in the next semester that it is offered.

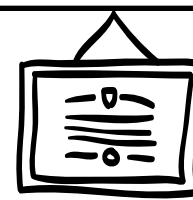
Deferred exams

A deferred exam can be granted on medical, compassionate or religious grounds. Applications are made to the Student Records Office and are considered by Senate's deferred examination committee.

Deferred examinations normally take place in January.

“Graduation doesn't happen on one day at the end of your studies. It is something that happens every day between now (registration) and when you complete your degree. Although it is the big triumph at the end, there are many points along the way to celebrate. Make sure the road between now and graduation is scattered with successes.”

Dr Karen van Heerden



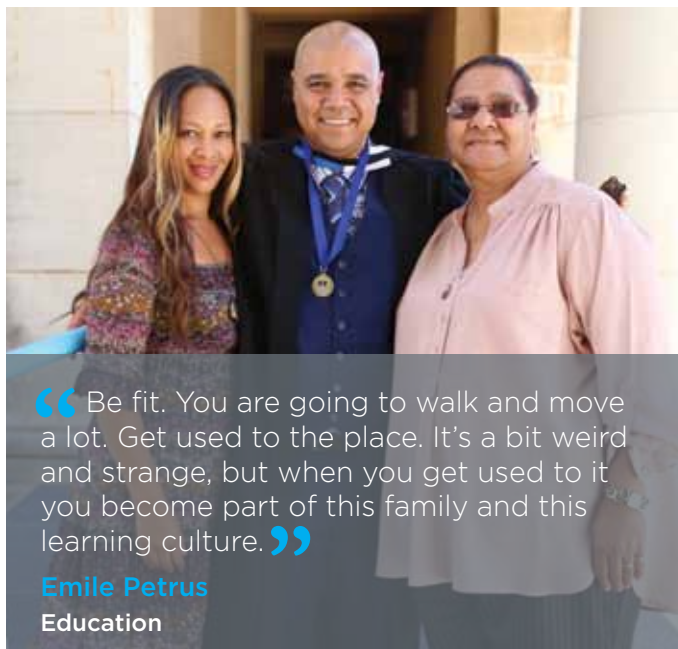
GROWING BY DEGREES

What 2014's graduates wish they'd known when they were in first year – and their advice to you now.



“Make friends. Don't ever try and go it alone. It doesn't matter how smart you are, you're going to need people if you're going to succeed.”

Chanel Pillay
Chemical Engineering



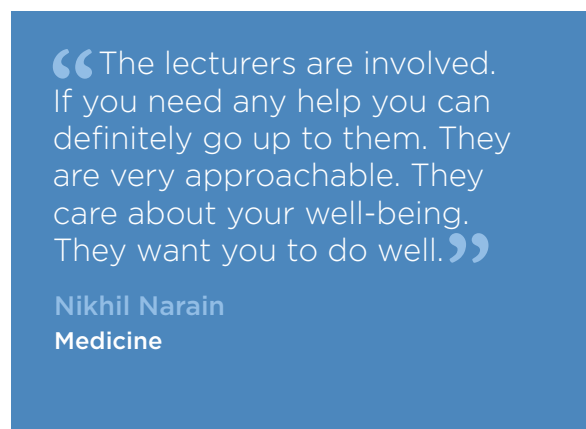
“Be fit. You are going to walk and move a lot. Get used to the place. It's a bit weird and strange, but when you get used to it you become part of this family and this learning culture.”

Emile Petrus
Education



“Put yourself out there. Don't be shy. Make friends. Try and get out of your comfort zone and meet people. Do things you wouldn't ordinarily do. Study hard. University isn't easy.”

Angela Masembe
Engineering



“The lecturers are involved. If you need any help you can definitely go up to them. They are very approachable. They care about your well-being. They want you to do well.”

Nikhil Narain
Medicine



“I came here as a small boy, but I'm leaving as a man – intellectually as well in terms of analysing problems and thinking socially. UCT has really, really built me up as an individual. so I'm really proud.”

Katleho Limakatso
Physiotherapy



“Don't be scared. Persevere. It will be hard at times ... If you love what you do, it will be worth it in the end.”

Jenny Wickham
Medicine

“Don't be too scared. It's very daunting, but it's a very good experience. Just be open to everything that the university offers you and just have fun.”

Kerry Youngman
Audiology



“Start working from day one! Once you get the first type of material, you just start reading through it. It's not about how smart you are, it's about how hard you work.”

Nicole Erispe
Chemical Engineering

For more advice, catch up with these graduates on our YouTube channel:
[youtube.com/UCTSouthAfrica](https://www.youtube.com/UCTSouthAfrica)



Manager of Newsroom and Publications: Chris Mitchell
Editor: Judith Browne
Writers and contributors: Abigail Calata, Thaheer Mullins, Yusuf Omar
Photographers: Michael Hammond, Je'nine May, Raymond Botha
Designer: Kevin Shelley Davis
Proofreader: Dave Buchanan

UCT street portraits

Commerce undergrad student Nick Fitzhenry took the great student shots on the front cover. When he's not studying, Nick roams the campus with his camera, inspired by Brandon Stanton's Humans of New York to meet and photograph the many people who make up this diverse community. Don't miss his portraits and mini-interviews online:

@uctpictorial

uctpictorial.tumblr.com

facebook.com/uctpictorial