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16 January 2024

Robots, Eskom and antisemitism among topics at 2024 UCT Summer School

Will robots take my job? Is it still safe to drink tap water or to swim in our waterways? These are some of the topics covered as part of the annual [University of Cape Town \(UCT\) Summer School](#), which commenced on Saturday, 13 January and will continue until Saturday, 27 January 2024.

Further current affairs topics of interest include:

- Eskom: power, politics and the (post) apartheid state
- Antisemitism in South Africa: a history
- Ukraine and the Global South
- Body donation: why and how?
- The National Health Insurance
- Pension funds in South Africa

The UCT Summer School continues with its practice of presenting world-class lectures and courses in literature, art, music, politics, current affairs, history, medicine, science, conservation and nature, information technology, architecture, and the built environment.

The 2024 edition is a celebratory moment for the university, with UCT commemorating 100 years of continuous lifelong learning.

Before the UCT Summer School was established in 1950, an Extension Lectures Committee of the University Senate was formed in 1924 to formalise ad hoc lectures. This committee organised fortnightly lectures by members of staff and other prominent experts. In 1949, a decision was made to expand the extra-mural work of the Extension Lectures Committee, and the Centre for Extra-Mural Studies was founded.

UCT Vice-Chancellor (interim) Professor Daya Reddy remarked: "It is a proud achievement that for 100 years, we have been arranging lectures on various topics to the general public – with these lectures offered specifically through the Summer School for 74 years. It is also remarkable that our institution has made knowledge available to the public for so long."

The UCT Summer School offers a broad range of lectures and courses that appeal to the young and old. It has grown and evolved over time.

The only Summer School on the African continent, programmes are open to everyone regardless of educational qualifications or age. The lectures are for non-degree purposes and do not involve examinations. Several of the courses on offer do however qualify for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points.

At the 2024 UCT Summer School, attendees can tour the university's Rondebosch campuses with Emeritus Registrar Hugh Amoore. There is also a one-hour excursion to the Human Biology Department. It provides an opportunity to see the teaching laboratories and exhibits demonstrating the contributions of a body donor to teaching, learning and research.

All courses take place in person on the UCT campus, except for the language courses which are offered on MS Teams.

- [Visit the Summer School website.](#)
- [Book your spot through Webtickets.](#)
- [Download the 2024 Summer School brochure.](#)

ENDS

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