HUMANITIES
UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES
Explore your options 2015
Contact Information

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Email: hum-ugrad@uct.ac.za
Website: www.humanities.uct.ac.za

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Introducing the Faculty of Humanities

As the largest Faculty at UCT, we are home to more than 6000 undergraduate and postgraduate students annually. The Faculty of Humanities is comprised of 15 academic departments located in three main clusters:

1. The Arts,
2. The Social Sciences and
3. The Creative and Performing Arts.

Each of our dynamic academic departments offers a wide selection of courses and facilities, giving you more freedom of choice in tailoring your academic experience. We attract students and academics from across the globe, which means exposure to a rich diversity of knowledge, experience and best practice.

Did you know that a Humanities qualification prepares you for a multitude of career paths in the public sector, the corporate workplace and in academia? This book is designed to not only provide you with information on our academic offerings but also to provide you with information on what you can do with specific qualifications.

We hope that you will find this book useful and that your questions about the Faculty of Humanities at UCT will be answered. Please consult our comprehensive website for additional information regarding specific courses and degrees on offer: www.humanities.uct.ac.za

If you are interested in studying with us, contact our Student Recruitment Officer on 021 650-5235; access UCT’s undergraduate prospectus and monitor the UCT website for important details and dates pertaining to UCT Open Days, school visits as well as UCT’s application and admissions procedures. Visit: www.uct.ac.za

We look forward to meeting you at the next UCT Open Day!
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A. GENERAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES

A general Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Social Science degree is a flexible structure in which students can choose their own courses from a wide selection, following certain rules over the three or four years of the degree, and ending up with a specialisation in two or more subjects.

Who would be interested in the degree programme?

- You are not sure what your eventual specialisation will be
- You want flexibility and choice in selecting your subjects
- You want to acquire broad-based skills across a range of disciplines
- You want to choose courses based on enjoyment and your aptitude for them

What courses will you take?

Students enrolling for this degree programme will take at least 20 semester courses, of which 8 to 12 semester courses will form part of two majors selected from the lists below. Your first year will usually include 8 courses, 4 per semester. Your degree is a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Social Science depending on your choice of majors. Majors are the main subjects which you will study to third year level, following particular rules for choice of courses; you need at least two majors. A major subject on average requires you to do two courses per year, so you have room for other subjects around your majors. If your two majors are Arts subjects, you have a BA, whereas if they’re Social Science subjects, you have a BSocSci. There is nothing to stop you mixing Arts and Social Sciences subjects in your degree, and if you have one major of each kind, you can choose if you want a BA or BSocSci.

Additional majors are available through departments located outside of the Faculty of Humanities; you can choose a major from those offered by Commerce, Science or Law. You must remember, though, that if you want a Humanities degree, ONE of your majors must come from Humanities, either Arts or Social Sciences.

Faculty of Humanities

The Faculty of Humanities offers a wide variety of courses and disciplines including those in the Arts, the Social Sciences and the Performing & Creative Arts. The Faculty offers General Degrees as well as Named Degrees.
PLEASE NOTE: We accept you for the General Degree, not for specific majors. Most of the majors have no additional entrance requirements and are open to all General Degree students: you may automatically register for the courses in your chosen major once you have been accepted. The main exceptions are Law, Economics and Psychology and all majors housed in the Faculty of Science, which do have additional entrance requirements which you would have to fulfil before being allowed to take those courses.

Because most of the majors are open to any BA or BSocSci students, we do not ask you to specify them on your application form; we wish to know only if you are interested in Law, Economics or Psychology, and the other majors you can specify when you register. You are very likely to change your mind about which majors you wish to take after you’ve submitted your application, after you receive more information during Orientation and even during your first year of study. This is not a problem: the degree is designed to be flexible and allow you to try subjects out and change your mind about which specialisations you wish to follow. Don’t worry about your majors! You’ll work it out as you go along.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJORS</th>
<th>BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORS</th>
<th>MAJORS OFFERED BY DEPARTMENTS NOT ESTABLISHED IN THE FACULTY OF HUMANITIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Afrikaans</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Applied Biology</td>
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<td>African Languages and Literature</td>
<td>Gender Studies</td>
<td>Applied Statistics</td>
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<td>Industrial Sociology</td>
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<td>Classical Studies</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Astrophysics</td>
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<td>Dance</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
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<td>Drama</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Public Policy and Administration</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>Ecology and Evolution</td>
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<td>Hebrew Language and Literature</td>
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<td>Media and Writing</td>
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<td>Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Xhosa Communication</td>
<td></td>
<td>Statistics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SEE TABLE FOR MAJORS
An Extended four-year degree in selected majors is possible for redress students who do not meet the minimum requirements. The **Extended Degree Programme (EDP)** offers enhanced courses as well as a longer spread of courses, but please note that you can’t apply directly for this: you may be offered a place in the EDP if your APS (Admission Points System) results are not quite sufficient for the mainstream degree.

Both Economics and Psychology have additional requirements. (See page 9 for Admission Requirements). Other majors require particular NSC passes: Environmental and Geographical Science requires NSC or Matric Geography, while Mathematics and Statistics require Mathematics. Music and Dance require prior training.

**B. NAMED DEGREE PROGRAMMES**

What are Named Degree programmes in Humanities?

Named Degree programmes are special combinations of disciplines and courses which have been designed to provide you with a particular knowledge and skills base. Every programme is made up of specific, pre-set courses for each year of study, and every year of study builds on the knowledge and skills developed during the previous year.

Who would be interested in Named Degree programmes?

A Named Degree programme will be suitable for you if:

- You have a focused interest and are sure of what your eventual specialisation will be
- You prefer your subject choices to have been made for you, and don’t mind not having a lot of choice
- You want to acquire focused skills in a specific discipline
- You are confident that you have the necessary entrance requirements for a named programme (this could be slightly higher Matric results, a good Maths mark, or proven talent and training which will allow you to pass an audition or portfolio submission)

It is usually very easy to move from a named programme into a general degree if you discover you have made the wrong choice of subject, and many of your credits are likely to be transferable to the new course of study.

What programmes are available?

Named Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Science degree programmes take a minimum of three years, except for the Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art and in Theatre and Performance, which extend over four years.

**Named programmes in Humanities:**
- Dance (BMus)
- Film and Media Production (BA)
- Fine Art (BA)
- Music (BMus)
- Philosophy, Politics and Economics (BSocSc)
- Social Work (BSW)
- Theatre and Performance (BA)
C. PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS

The Faculty of Humanities offers a rich variety of courses in the Performing and Creative Arts which cover Dance, Drama, Music and Fine Art. Graduates continue to play a leading role in the world of arts, entertainment, music, stage and television.

Undergraduate programmes foster flexibility, imagination, social sensitivity, language competence, negotiating skills and the capacity to work in teams, rather than a narrow vocational training. This leads to a great choice in career options or further postgraduate study in the Humanities.

Undergraduate degree, diploma and certificate programmes in Dance and Fine Art require applicants to complete a supplementary application questionnaire, which can be obtained from the Undergraduate Office, and require either a portfolio submission (Fine Art) or audition (Dance, Drama, and Music).

Dance programmes
Programmes in Dance lead to the following undergraduate degrees and diplomas:
- Bachelor of Music (Dance) - 4 years
- Diploma in Dance Education - 3 years

Dance programmes are designed to cater equally for aspirant professional dancers, dance teachers and academics with components of the various programmes building on one another.
Visit: www.dance.uct.ac.za

Drama programmes
Programmes in Drama lead to the following undergraduate degrees and diplomas:
- Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Performance - 4 years
- Diploma in Theatre and Performance - 3 years

While Drama may be studied as an academic major as part of a general Humanities degree, the Theatre and Performance programme (degree and diploma) offers more focused and intensive study of the dramatic and production arts, with a greater emphasis on practical skills and stagecraft training, and little space for more general Humanities subjects.

Entry to the performance programmes requires a successful audition, although an audition is not necessary for the academic Drama major as part of a general degree.

Culture, language, literature, performance, visual studies, history, human behaviour and social issues are all brought together in theatre performances. Studying Theatre holds up a mirror to society and teaches students about themselves, art and social interactions. There is also a particular focus on communication skills. Drama programmes are available in Acting and Theatre Making streams.
Visit: www.drama.uct.ac.za
**Fine Art**

The BA in Fine Art is a four-year bachelor’s degree that offers specialist and interdisciplinary training in all aspects of visual art. The Michaelis School of Fine Art has well-equipped studios in the disciplines of New Media and Design, Photography, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Video and Digital Arts. The degree also equips students with the critical and theoretical skills necessary for the context-specific understanding of contemporary art and design practice. The programme is designed to enable students to develop as artists and designers at a level of best international practice.

Studio-work practical concentrations offered are: Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Print-making and New Media and Design. In the fourth year of study, students follow individual study programmes that have been negotiated with members of the teaching staff. Students are expected to produce a body of work to a professional standard.

Selection of applicants is based on a combination of school-leaving results and a portfolio of art work. Art as a final school-leaving examination subject is not a precondition for admission, but students are required to submit a portfolio of creative work in support of their application. Visit: [www.michaelis.uct.ac.za](http://www.michaelis.uct.ac.za)

**Music**

Programmes in Music lead to the following undergraduate degrees and diplomas:
- Bachelor of Music (BMus) - 4 years
- Diploma in Music Performance - 3 years

The South African College of Music (SACM) offers training in the entire range of orchestral instruments, piano, voice, opera, African instruments and jazz. The College boasts several string, wind, jazz and percussion ensembles, as well as choirs, a symphony orchestra and the Jazz Big Band. In addition, the Opera School annually presents a season of Opera performances. All students are required either to play in the orchestras or bands or sing in the choirs at the discretion of the Director of the South African College of Music.

Students who complete diploma or degree programmes are ready to enter the professional world of music either as teachers, singers or instrumentalists in Opera, Western Classical Music, Jazz Studies or African Music and Dance. Visit: [www.sacm.uct.ac.za](http://www.sacm.uct.ac.za)
WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES?

The flexibility and adaptability of the general Humanities degree is one of its huge advantages. You do not necessarily have to enter a BScSci or BA programme with a definite idea of what career you wish to follow: the General Degree offers a wide choice of subjects which will give you an equally wide range of skills in reading, writing, interpretation and argument. It is important that you choose subjects you enjoy and in which you can do well.

Students entering a Named Degree programme are likely to move into a wide range of professions, depending on the skills acquired in their specific programme. Postgraduate study is required for advancement in certain fields; in addition, others such as Law, Psychology and Social Work require registration with a professional body.

In the workplace, employers will value a Humanities graduate’s imagination, language competence and social sensitivity, and the broad, flexible skill base and adaptability to a variety of work situations which come from a varied undergraduate experience.

Historian; Psychologist; Advertising Executive; Editor; Management Consultant; Film-maker; Musician; Curator and Political Analyst - these are just a few of the careers our graduates occupy in the world. A degree in the Humanities will enable you to make similar career choices!

Thinking of Teaching? ...in a PRIMARY school or a HIGH school...

To train as a teacher at UCT you will need to complete a Bachelors degree (3 or 4 years’ study, depending on what you choose to do) followed by a one-year PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) for either the Intermediate and Senior phases (Grades 4 to 9) or a Senior phase and Further Education (Grades 7 to 12).

CONTACT INFORMATION
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Rondebosch 7701

Tel: +27 21 650 3370
E-mail: rob.sieborger@uct.ac.za

Website: www.education.uct.ac.za
All applicants writing the National Senior Certificate must obtain the NSC with endorsement for degree studies (or endorsement for diploma studies where this is the programme of choice).

Applicants who completed the Senior Certificate need to have obtained matriculation exemption to be eligible for consideration for degree programs. Matriculation exemption is not required for diploma programmes.

For applicants writing the National Senior Certificate, and for those who wrote the Senior Certificate in the past, a Faculty Point rating System (FPS) is used which assigns points to subjects passed, as indicated in the tables on page 12. Admissions points are allocated to English, and the next five best subjects (excluding Life Orientation).

Specific subject requirements: all applicants must have achieved a minimum of 50% for English home language (or 60% English FAL). For applicants completing the National Senior Certificate, Life Orientation must be passed at 50%, but is not included in the points calculation.

**NATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS (NBT)**

All applicants to the University of Cape Town who are normally resident in South Africa must write the NBT tests. The National Benchmark Tests consist of three tests written as a combined Academic Literacy (AL) and Quantitative Literacy (QL) test and a separate Mathematics test. The combined Academic and Quantitative Literacy Test is a three hour test which consists of an Academic Literacy (AL) section and a Quantitative Literacy (QL) section. The results of the two sections of the test are reported separately. Applicants to the Faculty of Humanities need only write the first combined test and not the Mathematics test. The NBT scores are used to complement the APS score in making admissions decisions.
As the NBT assesses entry-level academic proficiency, an applicant with a Low Intermediate or Basic score on the Academic Literacy portion of the NBT will not normally be considered for admission to degree studies in the Faculty of Humanities. The results of the Quantitative Literacy (QL) section are usually only used for entry into programmes that have Psychology, Economics, or any other course which has quantitative requirements as part of the curriculum. The NBT test is also used as a placement indicator to identify applicants in need of language development courses, or other additional academic support; and an indicator, along with the FPS score, of eligibility for an early offer or an Entrance Scholarship.

South African applicants will usually not be considered until an NBT score is available. Applicants who are unable to write the NBT test during the scheduled sessions in the year preceding admission (for example an applicant who is out of the country on a gap year) may be made a conditional offer on the basis of excellent results, on condition that the NBT test is written, and results available, prior to Orientation and Registration. No Entrance Scholarship will be awarded without an NBT score.

**SELECTION PROCEDURES**

Applications are usually considered only when two sets of internal examination results (or the final school-leaving results) AND the NBT score are available.

**Extended Degree Programmes:**

An applicant who does not meet the minimum stipulated criteria for the Faculty General Degrees may be eligible for consideration for a place in the Extended BA or BSocSc degree programmes, which are four year programmes. Although applicants who feel they meet the criteria for the extended program may apply directly for consideration, the Faculty may also identify suitable applicants from the mainstream pool if they do not meet the admission point requirements for the programme applied for, but their application information indicates the potential to succeed with additional support. Applicants are considered on the basis of their performance in the NBT tests, FPS score and on educational background. The extended programmes are intended for applicants in the redress categories. A written motivation may be required before offers are made for these programmes. Applicants may be offered a place in one of the Extended Programmes if:

1. the FPS and/or NBT scores indicate a reasonable success rate in a programme of this nature (for the NBT AL score no Basic scores will be accepted);
2. in the case of a programme with Economics the applicant’s Maths results are adequate, or in the case of a programme with Psychology, the applicant’s Maths result or QL score is adequate.

**Performing and Creative Arts:**

For programmes in the Performing and Creative Arts, in addition to the selection process as detailed above and admission points requirements listed in the relevant table, the selection process includes the assessment of a portfolio or audition as described below. Applicants are encouraged to liaise with the department concerned for assistance in preparing for such auditions or portfolio submissions.
**Fine Art:**
In addition to the general UCT application (which must be submitted to the central Admissions Office), applicants must submit a portfolio of their work to the Michaelis School of Fine Art. A portfolio should consist of at least 10 pieces of work (either originals or good colour photographs) that show evidence of observational skill and creative engagement. Additional information, and advice on preparing the portfolio, are available by contacting the School, or visiting their website: [www.michaelis.uct.ac.za](http://www.michaelis.uct.ac.za)
The selection panel grades and ranks the portfolios and makes a recommendation to the Faculty. The Faculty Office matches the portfolio recommendation with the FPS and NBT scores – applicants must have an acceptable FPS score, NBT score and portfolio recommendation to be made an offer. As long as the FPS score is above the cut off, the portfolio recommendation is the leading indicator.

**Theatre and Performance:**
The Selection Panel auditions applicants and identifies the best audition performances. Auditions are conducted in two rounds. In the first round, individual auditions are held where the focus is on the applicant’s skills and abilities. In the second round, short-listed applicants are recalled for a group audition where the focus is on applicants’ ability to work in a group context with others, and consideration is given to the composition of the class as a whole. Under certain circumstances, an offer may be made after only one audition if in the opinion of the examiners, the audition merits immediate acceptance. The top candidates are recommended to the Faculty Office. Other acceptable auditionees are wait-listed in rank order to be considered later if offers are turned down. Applicants are also asked to submit an essay which is used as an additional indicator of an applicant’s writing ability alongside the NBT score. Depending on the FPS score and NBT, the Faculty Office makes an offer of a place in either the degree or diploma programme to these applicants. As long as the FPS score is above the cut off, the leading indicator is the audition performance.

**Dance:**
The selection panel auditions and selects applicants. Recommendations are made to the Faculty Office. Depending on the FPS score and NBT, the Faculty Office may make an offer of a place in either the degree or diploma programme. As long as the FPS score is above the cut off, the leading indicator is the audition performance.

**Music:**
The SACM selection panels audition applicants and thereafter the Head of Department (HoD) will make recommendations to the Faculty Office. Depending on the FPS score and performance in the NBT, the Faculty Office makes offers to those applicants recommended by the selection panels for either the degree or diploma programme, depending on the FPS scores and NBT scores. As long as the FPS score is above the cut off, the leading indicator is the audition performance.

*Be prepared for your AUDITION!*
**FACULTY POINTS SCORING TABLES:**

**SOUTH AFRICAN NSC SCHOOLING**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>% ACHIEVED</th>
<th>FPS*</th>
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</table>

*FPS will use the actual percentage mark you achieve.*

**Note:** Add English plus next 5 best subjects, excluding Life Orientation.

**INTERNATIONAL POINTS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FPS</th>
<th>SC SG</th>
<th>SC HG</th>
<th>O LEVEL/GCSE/IGCSE</th>
<th>HIGCSE/NSSC HL</th>
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<th>A LEVEL</th>
<th>IB SL</th>
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**GLOSSARY**

NSC | National Senior Certificate
---|----------------------------|
SC  | Senior Certificate
AL  | Advanced Level
AS  | Advanced Subsidiary Level
GCSE | General Certificate of Secondary Education
OL  | Ordinary Level

IGCSE | International General Certificate of Secondary Education
HIGCSE | Higher International General Certificate of Secondary Education
IB SL | International Baccalaureate Standard Level
IB HL | International Baccalaureate Higher Level
CANDIDATES WITH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LEAVING QUALIFICATIONS:

To be considered for admission, applicants with international school leaving qualifications must qualify for a matriculation exemption certificate from the Matriculation Board and meet the Faculty entry requirements as stipulated below. Points are calculated to the applicant’s advantage, e.g. a combination of A levels, AS levels and O levels can be used for calculating points. Please note that the subjects and points score where specified below are the minimum entrance requirements and do not guarantee admission. Each applicant will be assessed individually. Applicants with school leaving qualifications others than those listed below will be considered individually on merit.

- To calculate your points please refer to the table on page 12
- To view faculty offer levels please refer to pages 14 - 16

EXAMPLES OF FPS CALCULATIONS (NSC SCHOOLING):

- English Home Language 75% = 75 pts
- Afrikaans/isiXhosa First Additional Language 70% = 70 pts
- Mathematics 84% = 84 pts
- Life Sciences 86% = 86 pts
- Geography 79% = 79 pts
- Accounting 69% = 69 pts
- Life Orientation 80% = 0 pts

**Total** = 463/600
**FPS** = 463
# Admission to Programmes in the Humanities in 2015

## Admission Criteria for candidates with the NSC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme of Study</th>
<th>Minimum Requirements for Admission in 2015</th>
<th>Probable Offer Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Social Science** | The following are the minimum requirements for admission to the faculty. Students will be placed into either a three or four year programme depending on their FPS, NBT AL scores and English results.  
- NSC endorsed for degree study/matrícula exemption  
- FPS 380  
- NBT AL score Intermediate  
- English HL ≥50% or English FAL ≥60% | International FPS 460 and AL Proficient  
or 39 FPS for non-NSC writers  

Open FPS 450 and AL Proficient  
or 38 FPS for non-NSC writers  

Redress¹ FPS 400  
or 32 FPS for non-NSC writers |
| **Dance** | | • Successful audition |
| **Jazz or Music** | | • Successful audition  
- NSC Music 65% or Pass in UNISA Grade V Theory of Music and Grade VII practical exams or equivalent |
| **Psychology** | Three year curricula:  
- FPS 450 and ≥70% on the NBT QL or at least 50% for Maths (NSC) (not Maths Literacy) have unconditional access to Psychology in their first year of study.  
- Students who do not meet these requirements may be allowed into a supported version of PSY depending on combination of NSC/NBT QL scores. This placement is done during Orientation/Registration.  

Four year degree curricula:  
- Students following the four year curricula for the BA or BSoSc may ONLY access 1st year Psychology, in their second year of study, and must complete additional maths/foundation courses in their first year as a condition of registration. | |
| **Economics** | | • FPS 450  
- Mathematics NSC 60%  
- Applicants from schools which did not offer NSC Mathematics may be considered if they have at least NSC Mathematics ≥80% for NSC Maths Literacy |
| **BSocSc in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)** | • NSC endorsed for degree study/matrícula exemption  
- FPS 420  
- NBT AL score Proficient  
- NBT QL Score Upper Intermediate  
- English HL ≥50% or English FAL ≥60%  
- Maths NSC 60% | FPS 460 and AL Proficient  
(or 39 FPS for non-NSC writers) |

¹ Redress candidates are required to meet specific criteria as outlined in the NSC guidelines.
| Bachelor of Social Work | • NSC endorsed for degree study/matric exemption  
• FPS 380  
• NBT AL score Intermediate  
• English HL ≥50% or English FAL ≥60%  
• The Department reserves the right to refuse an applicant if, after an admissions interview, they are deemed unable to meet the professional requirements of the South African Council for Social Service Professionals. | International FPS 460 and AL Proficient or 39 FPS for non-NSC writers |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bachelor of Music      | • NSC endorsed for degree study/matric exemption  
• English ≥50%  
• FPS of 380 (63%)  
• NBT AL score Intermediate (Deg)  
• Successful audition and music theory test (Candidates who do not meet the music theory minimum requirements but have an audition graded 2 may be considered for admission to a Foundation programme. In such cases, an additional letter of motivation may be requested). | Admission to the College of Music is highly competitive – as long as the FPS is above the minimum for admission, the leading indicator is the audition performance, and places are awarded on merit. |
|                        |                                                                                                  | International/Open/Redress:  
FPS of 380 (63%)  
Audition graded 3  
NSC Music ≥60% or Unisa Grade V Theory and Grade VII Practical or equivalent |
| Music Diploma programmes | • NSC endorsed for diploma studies  
• NSC English 50%  
• Successful audition and Music theory test  
• NBT AL score Intermediate (Dip) (Candidates who do not meet the music theory minimum requirements but have an audition graded 2 may be considered for admission to the Foundation programme. In such cases, an additional letter of motivation may be requested). | Admission to the College of Music is highly competitive – as long as the FPS is above the minimum for admission, the leading indicator is the audition performance, and places are awarded on merit. |
|                        |                                                                                                  | |
| Bachelor of Music (Dance) | • NSC endorsed for degree study with English 50%  
• FPS of 380 (63%)  
• NBT AL score Intermediate (Deg)  
• Successful audition  
In the case of classical ballet the candidate must provide a Royal Academic of Dance or Cecchetti Society Intermediate certificate; or the candidate must provide a certified statement from a registered professional, accredited dance academic or school of at least three years of formal training in African Dance or Contemporary Dance; or must hold a qualification that is deemed equivalent by the HoD. | Admission to programmes in the School of Dance is highly competitive – as long as the FPS is above the minimum for admission, the leading indicator is the audition performance and places are awarded on merit. |
## PROGRAMME OF STUDY

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<th>Programme of Study</th>
<th>Minimum Requirements for Admission in 2015</th>
<th>Probable Offer Level</th>
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| **Diploma in Dance Education** | - NSC endorsed for diploma studies  
- NSC English 50%  
- Successful audition  
- NBT AL score Intermediate (Dip)⁴ | Limited places are available and offers are made on a competitive basis, in ranking order. The actual cut-off level for admissions will depend on the strength of the applicant pool. |
| **BA in Fine Art** | - NSC endorsed for degree study with English 50%  
- FPS of 380 (63%)  
- NBT AL score Intermediate (Deg)⁴  
- Assessment of artistic competence by submission of portfolio: A/B+ or B (candidates in the redress categories who do not meet these minimum requirements may be considered for admission to an Extended programme. In such cases, an additional letter of motivation may be requested). | Admission to Fine Art programmes is highly competitive – as long as the FPS is above the minimum for admission, the leading indicator is the portfolio assessment, and places are awarded on merit. |
| **BA in Theatre and Performance** | - NSC endorsed for degree study with English 50%³  
- FPS of 380 (63%)  
- NBT AL score Intermediate (Deg)⁴  
- Successful audition | Admission to programmes in Theatre and Performance is highly competitive – as long as the FPS is above the minimum for admission, the leading indicator is the audition performance, and places are awarded on merit. |
| **Diploma in Theatre and Performance** | - NSC endorsed for diploma studies  
- NSC English 50%³  
- Successful audition  
- NBT AL score Intermediate (Dip)⁴ | Admission to programmes in Theatre and Performance is highly competitive – as long as the FPS is above the minimum for admission, the leading indicator is the audition performance, and places are awarded on merit. |

### NOTES:

1. **Redress Admissions:** see admissions policy in the 2015 Undergraduate Prospectus.
2. The Director of the College of Music may motivate for consideration of other qualifications or experience in place of this requirement.
3. The Head of Department of Drama may motivate for consideration of other qualifications or experience in place of this requirement.
4. The NBT performance levels differ for Degree and Diploma applicants.
ARCHAEOLOGY

What is Archaeology?
It is the study of people in the past through the physical objects they have left behind: their houses, their tools, the remains of the meals they ate and much more. Many Archaeologists study the distant past: the five million years during which humans evolved and the range of human societies around the world developed. Others work on more recent remains, including those of pre-colonial and colonial era communities in southern Africa. Archaeology is closely linked to history, but since historians study mostly written documents, this approach is limited to societies with writing - and writing was invented only recently, compared with the long time that people have lived on earth. In Africa, we have very few written records, so that Archaeology is the principal means of finding out about the African past.

Our department also offers courses in human evolution. This is a particularly appropriate topic in our country, since humans evolved in Africa. South Africa preserves a rich fossil record of humankind’s early ancestors, and also of the remains of some of the world’s first modern humans - people like us. This material is of international interest and significance, and attracts Archaeologists from all over the world to come and work here.

Why Study Archaeology?
Have you ever wondered...

- How and when did our earliest ancestors evolve?
- Where did South Africans come from?
- What exactly is South African heritage?
- How can we reconstruct past diets and environments?

- What role did South Africa play in the emergence of modern humans?

Archaeologists are curious about what happened in the past, about the events and processes that led to the world we live in today. All the reasons why one might study history apply to archaeology too. The methods of Archaeology are, however, very different. Archaeologists do fieldwork, exploring coastlines, caves and rock shelters, natural exposures such as dongas and river courses, to find sites where people lived or carried out particular activities. Suitable sites may be excavated, a highly skilled process involving careful 3-dimensional recording of the sediments and their contents. Excavations yield large quantities of finds: pottery, stone, bone or metal tools, animal and plant remains, and much more. Archaeologists spend much of their time identifying and interpreting their finds, in the process drawing on related disciplines such as Geology, Anthropology, Zoology, Anatomy, Chemistry and others. Our department also has specialists in the laboratory analysis of archaeological finds. All this information enables the Archaeologist to reconstruct a picture of what life was like in the community he or she is investigating.
What can I do with Archaeology?
Archaeology is an interdisciplinary subject, and a degree in Archaeology offers many futures. Some of our graduates become professional Archaeologists based in museums or universities. Some work in cultural resource management, recording and excavating archaeological sites threatened by development. Others pursue careers in Education, Tourism, Heritage Conservation and training, or Park Management. Visit: http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/age/

Do you like...
Working hands-on?
Discovering ancient artefacts?
Spending time outdoors?
Using cutting edge technologies?
Combining the rigours of science with the creativity of the Humanities?
Solving complex puzzles?
If so, Archaeology may be for you!

DANCE

What is Dance and why study Dance?
The UCT School of Dance is one of only two tertiary dance education institutions in South Africa. Since the early 1990s, the school has been broadening its base to be accessible to a wider range of dance-interested students. The School of Dance offers a four-year BMus (Dance) degree as well as the three-year Dance Teacher's Diploma.

The new curriculum offers major practical studies in Classical Ballet, Contemporary Dance, African Dance, as well as performance studies, which includes Jazz Dance, Spanish Dance, Tap and European National Dance.

The academic content of the programme includes dance history, musicology, ethnology, teaching methodology and choreography. General Humanities subjects are included in the degree programme curriculum so that a range of fields (including Psychology, History of Art, Anthropology and African Languages) can enhance vocational subjects. The Graduate programme allows students the freedom to design coursework options to suit specific interests. Increasingly, students from other UCT departments and faculties are registering for both practical and academic dance-related subjects as electives in their degrees.

The African Dance major has aroused tremendous interest. The influence of this course is being felt in many ways. All students take modules in African Dance, and student choreography as well as teaching methods reflect a cross-cultural influence. Our African Dance lecturer, Maxwell Xolani Rani, inspires with his traditional African as well as cross-fusion teaching and choreography. The School of Dance performance seasons have become renowned for their diversity of dance styles.
In addition, the School of Dance has taken the lead in hosting dance-related conferences which bring both the local and international dance communities together. The first such conference to be held in South Africa was Confluences: cross-cultural influences in music and dance (1997). This generated tremendous interest, both abroad and locally, in the cross-cultural influences informing the making of dance in South Africa today. The School has hosted a number of other conferences, balancing input from abroad with developments in South African dance research and performance. These have provided teachers and trainee teachers with enhanced skills.

What can I do with Dance?
The School of Dance programmes train teachers who find employment in the Education Department as well private studios. The demand for Arts and Culture teachers in the new National Curriculum is increasing, and UCT students are equipped to teach both practical dance and theory, with the BMus degree becoming essential for anyone wanting to teach Grades 8-12. School of Dance graduates have been visible in classical and contemporary dance companies in South Africa and those venturing abroad have found places both in dance schools and companies.

For those interested in healing through dance, the BMus degree with Psychology as an elective is a good foundation. Overall, a broad and thorough dance training with sound grounding in academic skills provides students not only with grace and physical dexterity but also with skills - learnt through perseverance and performance - that allow them to adapt to a wide variety of employment. Visit: www.dance.uct.ac.za

DRAMA

What is Drama, Theatre and Performance?
The study of Drama/Theatre and Performance involves us in the exploration of theatre of all kinds and styles by means of acting or watching, play-making and directing, educational drama and community theatre, studying stagecraft and dramatic literature, as well as improvising, role-playing, movement, voice classes and acting for camera. We study in order to investigate how theatre makes meaning of our human existence as well as to master the demands of the theatrical profession.

At UCT, students wishing to include the study of Drama in their general undergraduate degree, study Drama. Students wishing to prepare for a career in the theatre profession audition for the programme in Theatre and Performance. Details of both types of study are found below.

Why Study Drama?
Drama study at UCT offers students the opportunity to study South African theatre, theatre across the globe and drama in community contexts. Courses explore the place of drama in
the South African Arts world, including on film and in the media. Drama study enhances our understanding of how human experience is explored and communicated through Theatre and how our South African-ness is reflected in Theatre. Practical studio work in groups develops students’ social and communicative skills, as well as dramatic and expressive skills; fosters friendships and greatly enhances creative capacity, confidence and initiative.

Why Study Theatre and Performance?
A career in the Performing Arts in South Africa is something some people feel they cannot live without. They want to act, make theatre, create theatre in schools and communities, make films or act on film and television. Such people want to devote their lives to theatre and the arts. For them, rigorous professional training is a priority and although it demands devotion and endurance, as well as skill and creativity, it is a career that is happily chosen. Students who are accepted into the Theatre and Performance programme also study Drama as a major.

What can I do with Drama?
The knowledge, skills and values gained in Drama study can be used in teaching, directing for theatre or on film, community development through the arts, or in theatre arts research, management and therapy. The skills, values and attitudes developed in the Drama courses are also useful in other careers which demand problem-solving, teamwork, negotiation, organisation, planning, improvisation or role-play. These include project management, the business and caring professions, informal education and development in communities. Since Arts & Culture has become compulsory in all schools, the demand for teachers in the Arts has expanded rapidly and presently demand far outstrips supply.

What can I do with Theatre and Performance?
This programme enrolls students for a four-year degree or a three-year diploma. In the degree, students can specialise in Acting or Theatre-Making. In the diploma, students can specialise in Acting or Community Theatre. Depending on the area of specialisation chosen, graduates embark on careers in Theatre as actors, directors and stage crew as well as playwrights and creators; in large city theatre venues, smaller theatres offering café theatre or cabaret, festivals around the country as well as in community performances or educational theatre. Acting in South African film and television productions as well as TV programme development and scriptwriting are popular career options. Students also do radio work, advertisements, industrial theatre as well as product launches and promotions. Visit: www.drama.uct.ac.za

ECONOMICS

What is Economics?
Societies are shaped by economic decisions. Resources - time, money, the trust of friends - are precious, and we must think carefully about how to use them. Often we must think ahead; how will others respond to our decisions? Problems of economic choice linger around every corner of our lives: Is it better to take up a job now, or get a degree? Will a full fridge or new jeans provide more happiness? What is the best strategy for chatting up that nice guy or girl? Is it worthwhile to be honest? Micro economists study how individuals weigh up their incentives to make such decisions. Similarly, they study choices of households, and the decision process of firms: which goods will be profitable to produce, in what quality and quantity, and at what price?

All individual choices add up to a macro picture,
the society we live in. Here the problems include such things as unemployment, inflation and changing exchange rates. The issues are not simple and they have wide impacts: a society where most people are well trained will be wealthier. A society where people are sufficiently wealthy and foresighted may better protect its environment. A society where wealth is equally distributed is likely to be safer. On the macro level, economists study booms and recessions, growth and income distribution and what governments can do to achieve the best outcome for their people.

Why study Economics in the Humanities?
The UCT School of Economics is one of the best economics departments in the country. Students at UCT can study Economics in the Faculty of Commerce or the Faculty of Humanities, depending on their interests and abilities. In the Humanities, Economics is offered in a three-year Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) programme, and as a major in a general three-year BSocSc degree. Both the PPE and the economics major are also offered as extended four-year degree programmes.

Visit: www.commerce.uct.ac.za/economics

ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

What is English Language and Literature at University?
English at University is different to the kind of English you are likely to have done at school. We are interested not only in the canon of great literature established by British and American writers and critics, but also in the rich and complex traditions of writing in English that have emerged from Africa. We examine cultural texts in a sense that is sometimes broader than the straightforwardly “literary” and we also look at literary theories, which draw on other disciplines such as Philosophy, Politics, Linguistics, Film and Media Studies, Psychology, Sociology and Anthropology. The Department of English Language and Literature is one of the oldest departments in the university and it is also one of the oldest academic departments of its kind in South Africa. The department offers a wide range of opportunities for research and study in English Language, Literature and an MA Creative Writing.

Why study English Language and Literature at UCT?
To study English at UCT, a university committed to its role as a leading South African institution of higher learning, is not only to have access to the traditional texts of English Literature. It is also to engage with what English means in South Africa, and what South Africa has done with English. The Department of English Language and Literature is one of the oldest departments in the university and it is also one of the oldest academic departments of its kind in South Africa. The department offers a wide range of opportunities for research and study in English Language, Literature, Linguistics and Creative Writing.
What can I do with a degree in English Language and Literature:
All courses offered in the department equip students for a broad range of challenging careers. The enriching knowledge gained goes far beyond vocational specialisations. Besides the apparent route as an English academic in a local or international university, career possibilities with an English degree can be vast and interesting. An English degree can place you in Publishing, Advertising and any career that requires critical thinking and good analytical and communication skills.
Visit: www.englishliterature.uct.ac.za

ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCE

What is Environmental and Geographical Science
Environmental and Geographical Science (EGS) at UCT is founded on three fundamental academic teaching and research nodes:
1. Human Geography (including urban and development studies)
2. Sustainability Science and Environmental Management
3. Physical Geography (including climate change science, remote sensing and quaternary studies)

Why Study Environmental and Geographical Science?
It gives students a unique view of both natural and social science aspects of the relationship between people and the environment and, in so doing, helps develop a wide range of skills. Owing to its highly multi-disciplinary nature, students become broadly informed about the world around them, both in terms of formative processes and analytical perspectives.
School-leavers will find that doing EGS helps them understand aspects of their surroundings and how people interact with, and are affected by, environmental and geographical problems. As a result, at very least, they will become more informed, well-rounded citizens. Students of the discipline learn how to collect, collate, analyse and interpret information about the environment and its relationship with people, as well as how to communicate this effectively.

Environmental and Geographical Science for Humanities students
Few natural environments remain pristine and untouched by human activity. More commonly, our environments have been created by societies over time in response to differing needs and wants and in the context of differing technological capabilities. We have always mobilized the environment for the resources and services it affords us. While the activities of production, consumption and exchange impact upon the natural environment, often
in very negative ways (e.g. pollution, global warming, loss of biodiversity, desertification), much of the impact of societal endeavour and transformation is experienced in the built environment (rural and urban) by social groups. One example is the ‘brown agenda’, that range of issues facing people in rapidly urbanizing societies, particularly in mega-cities where poverty, unemployment, poor housing conditions, inequality, poor health conditions, social pathologies (e.g. crime, vice, violence), inadequate transport and political conflict become the fruits of transformation. It is the nature of social organization and social practices that informs such situations and it is in the power of societies to anticipate and to attempt to resolve the myriad problems they encounter. To understand such social organization and social practices and the environmental consequences of these requires the theoretical interpretations of such disciplines as economics, sociology, political studies, anthropology, archaeology, history, psychology and law. Students in the Humanities can therefore find a very comfortable and relevant intellectual ‘home’ in Environmental and Geographical Science.

What can I do with Environmental and Geographical Science?
Graduates in EGS are found in a very wide range of career paths. Popular recent destinations include: Environmental Management (either as independent consultants or working for Government or NGO’s), urban and regional planning, Tourism and leisure industry, Geographical Information specialist, Climatologist/Meteorologist, risk management, natural resource management, water conservation planning and work in development agencies. 
Visit: www.egs.uct.ac.za

FILM AND MEDIA

What are Film and Media?
The Centre for Film and Media Studies offers two majors as well as programmes in Film and Media Production.

The major in Film and TV Studies offers a thorough grounding in the history, theory and analysis of film and TV. We also encourage creativity through storyboarding and scriptwriting. The skills provided give students access to careers in academic teaching and scholarship, film journalism, film festival management, and film librarianship. A wide-ranging knowledge of film also effectively complements creative practice in screenwriting, production and direction.

The major in Media and Writing weaves together theory and analysis of broadcast and print media with extensive creative practice. Students are trained in writing and editing for a
wide range of media: they may specialise in news reporting, investigative journalism, freelancing, sports journalism, advertising, documentary, writing for television (soaps and sitcoms), youth culture and the media, writing for magazines, feature journalism and travel writing.

The five practically and creatively orientated production programmes cover: Film and Television Production; Interactive Media; Print Production; Screenwriting; and Radio. All these courses provide students with basic skills and creative expertise appropriate to the medium which will help them to find internships or entry level posts in industry.

UCT has invested heavily in equipment and editing software, ensuring that students learn skills and procedures that will be directly relevant in their later careers. While we offer as much opportunity for creativity, intellectual engagement and practical training as we can, we also emphasise how much success in the “real world” depends on passion, commitment, perseverance, energy and imagination on the part of the student. In choosing our production students, we take their passion and commitment seriously.

**What can I do with Film and Media?**
As the department is such a young one, all our recent graduates are well placed to take advantage of the rapidly growing film and media industry in Cape Town and South Africa. Many find entry level posts in the media and film industries and in Advertising, Marketing and other communication careers. Many of our students continue into postgraduate courses in Film or Media or in Law, Marketing and Advertising as well as Education.

Visit: [www.cfms.uct.ac.za](http://www.cfms.uct.ac.za)

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**FINE ART**

**What is Fine Art?**
Fine Art practice is defined as an imaginative exploration and mediation of creative ideas and concepts resolved in the production of artefacts that reflect and affect our perception of the world and of ourselves. The formulation of an individual vision of the world, whether intuitive or historically and theoretically conscious, is central to all Fine Art practice.

**Why Study Fine Art?**
To study art means to work towards a mastery of expression, as well as towards a discovery of the world in which the artist’s work originates and to which it makes an important contribution. Contemporary art is constantly shifting and transforming its own boundaries. At the beginning of the twenty-first century, in our rapidly changing world, art is no longer exclusively defined - or constrained - by its historical categories. Yet despite, or perhaps because of this, today’s education of tomorrow’s artists must address with a renewed commitment the challenge of tradition. It must involve both
the development of specialist creative skills relevant to contemporary art production and the critical examination of the fundamental principles of art and its context.

The Michaelis School of Fine Art meets the demand of contemporary art education through dedicated specialist teaching in the disciplines of Painting, Sculpture, Printmedia, Photography and New Media. This is coupled with a strong commitment to close collaboration among the five sections which reflects the diversity of current artistic practices and promotes an active exchange of academic and technical expertise.

The Fine Art programme broadly aims to:
- Offer students an enriching and intensive education which will enable them to apply their skills with confidence as artists and creative practitioners
- Provide students with relevant technical, intellectual and interpersonal skills, both within and across the specialist subjects
- Facilitate an understanding of Fine Art, its practice and its theory, in philosophical, critical and social contexts, both contemporary and historical
- Foster the originality of individual vision and the ability to express it
- Cultivate a very high degree of visual literacy and awareness coupled, ideally, with an ability to formulate ideas in speech and in the written word.

What can I do with Fine Art?
Other than the specific skills learned during the four-year programme, Fine Art equips students with unique creative problem-solving abilities that can and have been applied in a variety of fields. Graduates move into a range of Visual Art areas including professional art production; media (film, digital multimedia, photography, design and advertising); museology and curatorship; art criticism; general arts administration; set design; art therapy; art dealership; and art education in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.

Michaelis graduates have won a variety of prizes and awards such as the Standard Bank Young Artist, the Vita Art Prize, and Sasol and Cape Town Public Sculpture Awards. Numerous past students have gone on to take up positions in tertiary institutions nationally and internationally. Many of our other graduates teach in secondary schools and other institutions. Our graduates are regularly accepted into higher degree programmes at the world's finest art academies. Visit: www.michaelis.uct.ac.za

GENDER STUDIES

What is Gender Studies?
Why Study Gender Studies?
Everybody’s talking gender. Music videos pump images of fantastic or familiar masculinity and femininity through the airwaves; national and international politicians debate the meaning of racial and gender equality; religious communities explore new - and traditional - ideas about men and women; in taxis, cafes, shebeens, corners and kitchens, friends pour over the microdynamics of gendered sexuality and communication: what did he mean when he said that? what is she going to do? Within the Faculty of Humanities, Gender Studies courses offer the opportunity to explore the informal kaleidoscope of issues concerning gender, culture, and sexuality within a formal academic framework. Gender Studies explores the power of gender dynamics within multiple fields of social relevance. Research and scholarship about gender is often embedded within ideas
about class, race, and history, so working with a gender lens can illuminate knowledge in a new, multi-faceted way. If, for example, most economists evaluate a country's wealth through measuring the value of what that country produces as goods, economists who take gender seriously will also explore the value of what gets created through reproductive labour, the work many women do taking care of children, the home space, and the elderly. This approach changes the whole orientation to the study of economics. Another example: in media analysis, taking gender seriously will both allow in-depth understanding of how (for example) the news gets created, and look at what that news may mean for different constituencies, in different places. Gender Studies is internationally recognised as a field which makes connections, opens doors and challenges familiar ideas.

In African contexts, interest in Gender Studies is booming, as a result of wide continental recognition of issues of masculinity, femininity/womanhood, and the development of deep democracy. Within Africa, there are complex and exciting conversations about gender, and these are continually interacting with global interests in human rights and with diverse political struggles to imagine and create just societies. In the Faculty of Humanities, Gender Studies has a particular focus on African contexts, and links this focus to an international field of research on gender issues.

Where can I go with Gender Studies?
There are three possible pathways:
1. A major in Gender Studies can be combined with another major (such as Psychology, Law, Development Studies, or Film and Media) so that professional development as a psychologist, lawyer, development practitioner, or media worker is strengthened by a particular expertise in gender analysis. This is often very useful in a world where knowledge of gender works well in combination with other professions.
2. A major in Gender Studies is very useful if you are planning to move into international, or national, development work. In the past, Gender Studies majors have spent a post-graduate year in management studies and then gone on to careers in research institutions and NGO and development arenas.
3. It is possible to pursue postgraduate studies both nationally and internationally, in Gender Studies. Such studies can lead to careers in research, academic teaching and scholarship, politics, and NGO work throughout the world. Gender Studies postgraduates from the Faculty of Humanities have found jobs with the Commission on Gender Equality and the Department of Trade and Industry in South Africa, with NGO's in the UK and the USA., with higher education institutions in Botswana and Rwanda, and with a wide range of organizations in Namibia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, and Kenya.

Visit: www.axl.uct.ac.za or http://agi.ac.za
The Department of Historical Studies offers two majors in:
1. History
2. Economic History

Why consider a major in History?
The first thing you need to know is that History is much more than dry dates and petty events. It is a way of making sense of the world. What do we teach you at the Department of Historical Studies? Apart from everything else, we teach you how to engage and intervene in debates, how to make informed and reasoned decisions, how to substantiate your claim against the contending views and how to express yourself in a clear, concise and compelling narrative.

We help you appreciate every facet of life as part of a broader and more complex context. Where others see chaos, confusion and randomness, History students recognise patterns, processes and interconnections. Along with very useful technical skills, students of this department develop a remarkable aptitude for original thinking. Cogent reasoning, persuasive writing, and critical analysis. This allows them to become some of the most sophisticated decision-makers of their age-group. It is no surprise therefore that different kinds of employers – law firms, media houses, advertising agencies, NGOs, government bodies, even finance companies, look so favourably upon Historical Studies graduates.

Why consider a major in Economic History?
Based in the Department of Historical Studies, Economic History at UCT offers a Humanities centred approach to understanding the economic past. You do not need to have a background in History or Economics to major in Economic history. Throughout each of our courses, students will develop the conceptual language and quantitative reasoning necessary to talk about economies over time and space.

The undergraduate programme covers a range of themes but at its heart it asks the question: Why are some countries/people rich and others poor? As such, Economic History is a field full of debate and controversy. It is not only about markets and business but is deeply concerned with politics, geography, institutions, inequality and the incentives that affect behaviour in societies both large and small.

A major in Economic History equips students with the necessary research, analytical and writing skills as well as concepts and terminology to become informed citizens as well as sought after graduates working in a variety of fields including: economic policymaking for government and NGOs; the private financial sector; marketing and advertising; management; social responsibility in the corporate sector; and further postgraduate study.

Visit: www.historicalstudies.uct.ac.za
The School of Languages and Literatures was formed in 2002 through the amalgamation of the Department of Southern African Languages and the Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures. The School brings into one organisational unit the teaching of languages and literatures (excluding English Language and Literature) at the University of Cape Town. The School has the widest range of languages on offer in a single institution in Africa.

The teaching and research area of the School is wide, covering language, literatures and cultural studies in Afrikaans, Arabic, Mandarin, Dutch, French, Business French, German, Classical Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, Sotho, Spanish, and Xhosa, and Special Purposes teaching in Afrikaans and Xhosa (offered in the Faculty of Health Science). There is also a strong emphasis on the role that these languages and literatures and the cultures they embody, have played and continue to play in Africa.

The School’s awareness of its location in Africa is reflected in many of its research projects. Among these are studies of language learning in the African context, Xhosa linguistics, African oral traditions and orature, Literature and Cinema in Francophone West Africa, the Translation of Southern African Literature into French, Sephardi Women Writers from the Maghreb, German Colonial Discourse in Africa and German Missionary Writings, Comparative Perspectives on German/Afrikaans Literature.

Research in the School also encompasses Literary Semantics, Literary Theory, Afrikaans Media Studies, Creative Writing in Afrikaans and Xhosa, Xhosa Lexicography, Historiography, Multimedia, Literature and the Internet, War Literature, Ancient Literature, Philosophy and Rhetoric, French literature from 17th century to the present, French Linguistics and Sociolinguistics, Teaching French as a Foreign Language, German Colonialism and Postcolonial Literature and Theory, Contemporary German Literature, Literary Theory and Women’s Studies, Italian and German post-war Cinema, Italian Literature of the 20th century, Asian Cinema, Italian Renaissance Literature, Modern and Ancient Hebrew Literature, Classical Arabic Literature and Islamic Studies and Hispanic Literature.

What can you do with Language and Literature?

In terms of strengthening a career path, competence in a foreign language or two often makes the difference between getting and not getting that job. Whether it be in economics, journalism, international commerce, science, interpreting, translating, tourism, the hospitality industry, the diplomatic service, fluency in a foreign language just puts you one step ahead. Also, remember, if you’ve done a commerce or engineering degree as well as a language, whoever employs you will note that you’re more cosmopolitan, that you’ve studied beyond your field and prioritize your development.

Learning a language means gaining access and insight into a different culture, a different way of looking at the world - a new consciousness. Learn Arabic and you come that much closer to understanding the culturally rich and vitally important Islamic world, with traditions that go back centuries. Learn French and not only does the whole of Francophone Africa open up to you, so does much of the world especially in Europe where French remains a major language of culture, diplomacy and commerce. Fluency and sophisticated understanding of isiXhosa or
LAW

Why study law?
A law degree enables you to take advantage of a wide range of employment opportunities and is the primary degree for entry into the legal profession.

Routes to obtaining the LLB degree:
There are three routes to obtaining an LLB degree:
1. The combined Humanities or Commerce and LLB route
2. The three year postgraduate route
3. The four year undergraduate route

The Faculty of Law strongly recommends route (1). In following this route a student is able to obtain two degree in 5 years. Students are required to register in the Humanities or Commerce faculties with law as a major, after completing their Humanities or Commerce degrees they are then able to complete an LLB degree in 2 years. Students following this route generally perform the best in their LLB.
studies and are most easily employed. It is also possible to complete an LLB in 3 years after the completion of a non-law undergraduate degree (route 2).

The hardest route is the 4 year first degree LLB. (Route 3). Although this route appears attractive because it is the shortest route, the academic immaturity of students results in only 20% completing in the 4 year period.

Visit: [www.law.uct.ac.za](http://www.law.uct.ac.za)

**LINGUISTICS**

**What is Linguistics?**
Language is so much a part of our everyday lives that we rarely, if ever, stop to consider what it’s like, how it functions, its role in social organisation, the way it varies and changes over time. Linguistics is the science of language. It is not about learning a new language; rather, we study everything about language itself, ranging from how speech is produced to the relationship between language and the human mind, and the role language plays in society. While the subject focuses on language as a phenomenon, we are also interested in the structures and properties to be found in particular languages.

Thus, Linguistics is divided into several overlapping specialist fields:
- Phonetics, the study of speech sounds;
- Morphology, the study of words and word formation;
- Syntax, the study of sentence structure;
- Semantics, the study of meaning;
- Sociolinguistics, the study of language in its social context;
- Neurolinguistics, the study of language and the brain;
- And many more.

Linguistics is a section within the School of African and Gender Studies, Anthropology and Linguistics (AXL). It offers an independent major, which can complement any other major in the Faculty. The three-year curriculum gives students a broad exposure to Linguistics. The first year offers a general introduction to formal and societal aspects of language. The senior courses (second and third year) build upon this knowledge and experience to provide a thorough grounding in current linguistic theory.

**Why Study Linguistics?**
The diversity of Linguistics provides students with an excellent opportunity to hone both their analytical and creative skills. The formal aspects of language, such as the study of speech systems and information structures develop the ability to analyse data, find patterns, predict outcomes and test these predictions. The applied aspects of language, on the other hand, require these skills and also develop the ability to critically analyse texts pertaining to a range of sociocultural fields (such as politics, law, educational theories, etc).

Because language is fundamental to every course of study, whether as its focus or medium of expression, Linguistics is an excellent complement to just about any other subject. Naturally, it goes particularly well with courses that focus on language, like language and literature studies, the communication sciences and law; past students have successfully combined it with Computer Science, Mathematics and Music.

**What can I do with Linguistics?**
Although Linguistics does not offer a professional qualification in itself, except as the basis for an academic career, it is a valuable qualification for those considering a career in a language-based field. As communications...
become increasingly important, so does a comprehensive understanding of how language works. The Linguistics Section has graduates working in teaching (primary, secondary and tertiary), publishing and editing, journalism, copywriting, broadcasting, speech science and computer science.

A good BA with a Linguistics major qualifies a student for admission to Honours, at which level students may choose to specialise. Honours graduates may move on to a Masters degree, by coursework and minor dissertation, or by dissertation only, and the section also offers a PhD, by dissertation only, in Linguistics. Linguistics is a robust science, and there is always plenty of opportunity for independent study and intellectual debate.

Email: axl-linguistics@uct.ac.za

**MUSIC**

**Why study Music?**
The South African College of Music (SACM) is considered to be the leading music school in South Africa. Additionally, it is the largest school and offers a diverse palette of degrees and diplomas in a wide range of disciplines including: African Music, Composition, Jazz, Opera, Western Classical Music and World Music. SACM staff include some of the foremost and internationally acclaimed performing artists, academics and composers; our graduates continue to dominate the arenas of performance and academia. Our diverse offerings are:

**Western Classical Music**
The SACM provides musical training covering all aspects of the art. It boasts one of the best student orchestras in South Africa with regular performances in the Baxter Concert Hall and at other venues throughout the Western Cape. The practical staff ranks among the best performers nationally, and many enjoy prominent international careers. The quality of students and the teaching at the SACM is reflected in the dominance of our students as prize-winners at national and international competitions. In addition to performance studies, the SACM also has prominent research staff in theoretical and historical musicology. Its composition department is headed by award-winning composer Hendrik Hofmeyr.

**Opera**
The Opera Studies programme is world-renowned and offers full operatic training in conjunction with Cape Town Opera which enables students to receive practical training while at the same time taking part in professional opera performances, as well as in the SACM’s own productions at the Baxter and Artscape Theatres. The Opera School, under the leadership of Professor Kamal Khan, is widely recognised to be a leader in the transformation of opera, and in making the art form accessible to a broader audience.
Jazz
The Jazz Studies programmes were introduced in 1989 and are now among the College of Music’s most exciting offerings. The SACM’s Big Band has performed to critical acclaim throughout South Africa, and most prominently at the annual National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. The jazz staff, all of whom are among the top jazz artists and composers in our country, teach academic and practical courses, and also present public concerts featuring their students, members of the local jazz community and themselves.

The activities of the jazz programmes often extend to the wider community in the form of off-campus concert performances and workshops featuring visiting jazz performers and educators. The jazz studies programmes place emphasis on either performance or composition and arrangement. Courses in contemporary music practice are aided by a MIDI studio and a large range of sound equipment.

African Music and the World Music
The programmes in African Music and the World Music include teaching, performance and research. Led by ethnomusicologists Michael Nixon and Dr Sylvia Bruinders. The department’s staff includes Dizu Plaatjies (former leaders of Amampondo), who is one of South Africa’s true musical ambassadors shares his culture exchange ideas world-wide. In addition guest lecturers from different parts of Africa and South America are invited regularly to give master classes.

What can I do with Music?
Graduates can pursue careers in solo performance, research, librarianship, opera, orchestral music, academia, chamber music, composition and education as well as music technology among others. Visit: www.sacm.uct.ac.za

ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

What is Organisational Psychology?
Organisational Psychology is an applied field of Psychology. It de als with organisations, people management processes and people’s behaviour in the workplace. In the Organisational Psychology field these three principles - organisation, processes and people - are used throughout to help students make sense of a wide and varied subject area.

Why Study Organisational Psychology?
The knowledge and skills you gain in Organisational Psychology will enable you to be successful in a variety of jobs. You will leave the university as a competent knowledge worker: a graduate who can label and describe human behaviour in the work place, who can distinguish patterns in work behaviour and who can identify problems and find innovative solutions for these organisational problems.

What can I do with Organisational Psychology?
A major in Organisational Psychology opens up a wide variety of employment opportunities. Firstly, there is a profession called Industrial Psychology. The Health Professions Council of South Africa will register students who have completed a professional Masters Degree in Organisational Psychology, plus a one-year internship, as an Industrial Psychologist. Industrial Psychologists are certified to administer, analyse and interpret psychometric tests of all levels. Industrial Psychologists play a valuable role in selection, recruitment
and retention processes. There is another occupational field called Human Resources, with a variety of job opportunities attached to it. Most people initially think about becoming a Human Resource manager and dealing with people management issues in organisations. However, this is just one possibility. If you are interested in learning and teaching people, you can become a training and development specialist, or even specialise in on-line learning.

Another exciting area of work is evaluation of human resource programmes where you advise Human Resource practitioners which programmes are most suitable to their circumstances or which programmes have a proven impact on the organisation.

With Organisational Psychology you can also work in the area of reward management, where you provide guidance regarding job grades and levels and the pay and benefits associated with these. Another area of work is industrial relations. An Industrial Relations manager is the custodian of fair labour practice in an organisation and supports other managers to treat their employees in a fair and legal manner.

In addition, you can become a Recruitment and Selection Specialist - someone who matches new staff to suitable positions in the organisation. Another area of work is organisational change. In this area you support people and organisations through change (e.g. merger; acquisitions; new product or service offerings; organisational culture change; etc). You can also work in fields like organisational communication; health, safety and well-being; and performance management. Organisational Psychology is available to Humanities students through the Faculty of Commerce.

Visit: www.commerce.uct.ac.za

PHILOSOPHY

What is Philosophy?
To ask what Philosophy is, is to ask a philosophical question. Philosophical questions tend to be very basic, foundational or ultimate questions. Among the questions philosophers ask are: “What is truth?”, “What does it mean for a word or sentence to mean something?”, “What is beauty?”, “What is (moral) goodness?”, “What form of government, if any, is best?”, and “Do our lives have meaning?”. Philosophy is a very broad area of inquiry, not least because it asks questions about every other area of inquiry. Thus there is a philosophy of mathematics, of logic, and of language, a philosophy of science, of medicine and of psychology, a philosophy of history and of economics, a philosophy of religion and of art and music, to name but a few.
**Why Study Philosophy?**
The most obvious reason to study Philosophy is that one is fascinated by the questions philosophy asks and attempts to answer. There are other possible reasons too. If one wants to learn to think clearly, to analyse, to reason logically and to spot errors in the reasoning of others, the study of philosophy (at least in the analytical tradition) is highly recommended.

**What can I do with Philosophy?**
Philosophy doesn’t equip you with a profession but the skills it cultivates are highly transferable. There is some evidence to show that, internationally, employers are aware of this and are both keen to recruit and to reward philosophy graduates.

Philosophy graduates have gone on to work in a variety of areas, occupying posts in: Law (corporate, mediation, prosecution, defence); Computing (artificial intelligence, expert systems design); university or college teaching; senior management; legislative policy; mediation; medical ethics; Journalism; Film and Media. Visit: [www.philosophy.uct.ac.za](http://www.philosophy.uct.ac.za)

**POLITICS**

**What is Politics?**
Politics is about power: its use, abuse, function, operation, effects, and most importantly, how others have written or spoken about it. In political studies we study the role and operation of power in relations between people, within states, and between states. There are few things in society and between societies that cannot be subjected to political analysis. Despite the breadth of the subject matter, most of the time political scientists study the politics of the state - and focus on “big questions” such as:

- Why do revolutions occur?
- What are the best conditions for a stable democracy?
- Why do countries go to war?
- What are the effects of a free-trade regime on African countries?

**Why Study Politics?**
In order to answer the big questions that face all societies and interest all students of society, we require a thorough grounding in the various thinkers, approaches, theories and appropriate case studies developed in the discipline. With some familiarity with these tools of analysis we are able to make intellectual sense of the world we live in. Our country, with its conflict-ridden political history, makes an ideal setting for the study of Politics. It is now a new democracy facing significant political and policy challenges in a world that is rapidly changing.
Political Studies at UCT
The department covers a wide range of research and publication interests with particular focus on the areas of South African politics and policy analysis, civil-military relations, comparative politics, political ethics, intellectual history and local government. Members of the department have published widely, both in scholarly and research journals and in more popular publications, on aspects of the South African transition from apartheid to democracy.

This continues to be a major interest, with special attention to problems of the consolidation of democracy, the role of the armed forces in democritisation and the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, but there is an emerging trend towards empirical research and surveys as well as policy analysis. The department is closely linked to the new Centre for Social Science Research with some staff members having joint appointments.

The Department of Political Studies offers three majors:
1. Politics
2. Public Policy & Administration
3. International Relations

In addition, the department offers a variety of courses in the fields of Comparative Politics, Political Philosophy and South African Politics. Typically students combine a Politics Major with History, Sociology, Economics, Philosophy, and/or Anthropology.

What can I do with Politics?
While a major in Politics does not provide you with a “ready-made” career at the end of your three years of study, it does provide you an indispensable foundation for a range of careers. Imagine a job as a professional Journalist without knowing the fundamentals about the world of politics; or as a young manager in a large company in South Africa without any prior knowledge about how South Africa became a democracy and how our democratic system works. Besides the need to know politics for specialist careers, there is also the need for just about every citizen to be familiar with tools to analyse politics and be aware of the impact of politics on individuals. How else can we become critical, participating citizens of a vibrant democracy in Africa?

Typically, our students go on to pursue careers in law, journalism, human rights-related organizations, non-governmental organizations, government, and the public service, business and research. Visit: www.politics.uct.ac.za

PSYCHOLOGY

What is Psychology?
What can I do with Psychology?
How do I become a Psychologist?

These are all questions frequently asked by students considering Psychology as a subject to study, or as a field of employment. The answers to these questions are complicated, because psychology today is a very diverse discipline, and the discipline is about a great many things besides abnormal Psychology and how to make friends and influence people.

Psychology is about the ways in which people’s minds develop and change over a lifetime. It is about groups and societies, as well as individuals, and about normal as well as troubled, distressed or traumatized behaviour. Apart from being one route to a professional career working with people, it is also a strong
research discipline. At UCT we offer a thorough research training, and for this you will need basic mathematics skills.

What can I do with Psychology?
Broadly speaking there are two ways in which you can use Psychology in planning your career.

- As a useful background subject in preparing for your chosen career: you then have decided not to become a Psychologist as such, but may want to become a Teacher, Facilitator, Researcher, Trainer, Nurse, Social Worker, Human Resources specialist, Personnel Officer, and so on. Psychology provides preparation for many such careers; in fact, for quite a few of them, such as Social Work, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy it is a compulsory subject.

- Become a Psychologist: this takes quite a long time and further training is essential.

A career in Psychology
To become a registered Counsellor, you must complete four years of Psychology, plus six months of supervised practical experience, approved by the Professional Board for Psychology. The four years typically would be either a BPsych degree or an Honours degree in Psychology. If you complete all of this, you will write an examination set by the Professional Board, which will qualify you as a registered counsellor.

There are numerous sub-fields you can train in, such as trauma counselling, primary mental health, sport counselling, and HIV/AIDS counselling. At UCT we do not offer a BPsych degree, but our Honours degree is approved for the training of registered counsellors, as long as students complete a six-month practicum, and write the Board examination. We provide training in the four areas mentioned above.

To become a registered Psychologist, you will have to complete a Master’s degree, which typically will take a further two years to complete. As you can see, it then takes a minimum of six years of training to become a professional Psychologist; that is, someone registered with the Professional Board for Psychology.

Qualified Psychologists are involved in a variety of jobs and activities. Broadly speaking, the five primary areas of work are research, Clinical Psychology, Counselling, Organisational Psychology, and Educational Psychology. Organisational Psychology is available to Humanities students through the Faculty of Commerce. Visit: www.psychology.uct.ac.za
RELIGIOUS STUDIES

What is Religious Studies?
The Department of Religious Studies is committed to the open, plural, intercultural and interdisciplinary study of religion and religions in South Africa and the world. We offer an open and dynamic approach to the study of religion that recognises the importance of creative and critical thinking about religion in a changing and culturally diverse South Africa. Most importantly, we aim to provide an understanding of religion that challenges and stimulates our students. To achieve these goals, we offer excellent courses, a focused and flexible undergraduate major, and a substantial postgraduate programme leading to Honours, Masters and Doctoral degrees in Religious Studies.

Why Study Religion?
In a country as religiously and culturally diverse as South Africa, the study of religion is relevant for you whatever your field of study. Our courses attract students from diverse backgrounds and academic areas, ranging from Economics, Engineering, Politics, and Psychology to Popular Culture.

What kinds of things will I be learning about in my first year?
The department offers exciting introductory courses in the study of religion. Our courses are designed to introduce students to the religions of the world by focusing on the religious and spiritual traditions of Africa and Asia as well as new religions like the Hare Krishna movement and ‘New Age’ spiritualities. Our courses also introduce students to the ancient traditions of the Near East (Mesopotamia, Egypt and Persia) as well as the religions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

Why should I consider Religious Studies as a major?
Our undergraduate major looks at both mainstream religious traditions and more recent religious movements, and examines the relationship between religion and modern society. The degree allows you to explore the religious aspects of cinema, literature and art, as well as the significance of the body, sexuality and gender in religion. It will offer insight into some of the most relevant issues concerning contemporary society such as social conflict and cohesion.

What can I do with Religious Studies?
Graduates from the Department of Religious Studies have gone on to pursue careers in fields such as education, government, community work, journalism and market research.

Visit: www.religion.uct.ac.za
SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

What is Social Anthropology?
Social Anthropology is a form of disciplined curiosity about people’s lifeways and worldviews. It seeks to understand human interactions in all kinds of social groupings, including families, networks, communities, institutions, organisations, groups, societies and nations. The concepts of ‘culture’ and ‘society’ are central to the discipline. They help us describe and understand how organisations and institutions work.

Culture: preconceptions, values, knowledge and norms that structure and give meaning to peoples’ relationships.

Society: linked institutions that structure and organise social behaviour.

Humanity is unique in the extent of its ability to absorb and create behavioural plans and in its capacity to change them. We are not born with culture in our heads - we learn it in social settings, adapt it and modify it creatively throughout our lives. This means that there is tremendous variation in how we organise ourselves over time. In the past, Anthropology was largely the study of small-scale non-literate communities. No longer! Nowadays Social Anthropologists study a range of complex modern institutions; popular culture, business organisations, contemporary religious forms - indeed, any sites in which identity and meaning are important. Anthropological knowledge and skills have become increasingly significant as we grapple to understand our complex and changing contemporary world.

Why study Social Anthropology?
Social Anthropology confronts the challenge of culture in a diverse contemporary social world, seeking ways to understand the different perspectives, values and experiences of people and communities of divergent backgrounds. Without this ability to comprehend where other people are “coming from”, the hope for active, creative solutions to social problems – be they managing diversity in the workplace or developing social policies that best suit changing needs – will remain unfulfilled. Anthropology seeks to contribute to these solutions by asking questions that are not generally asked, eliciting the profound complexity of ordinary life and common sense and the ways these impact on relationships.

Anthropology provides practical training in analysis and methods of discovery that are useful in any activity that demands insight, research and communication. Contrary to the outdated image of Anthropology as the study of antiquarian “customs”, the methods of Anthropology are ideal for comprehending both past and present situations of social upheaval and transformation, such as those associated with industrial labour and labour migration, urbanisation, political conflict and democratisation and the necessity of strangers to live productively and peaceably with one another.

What can I do with Social Anthropology?
Unlike the so-called ‘hard sciences’ like engineering and computing which prepare students for broad careers in similar fields, Social Anthropology enables you to create your own niche of expertise by helping you to develop your fields of interest. Social Anthropology qualifies students for almost any job that requires intelligence, critical thinking and the ability to ind information. Anthropologists are useful to prospective employers because they are able to draw on comparative information
about societies across the globe to challenge conventional wisdom and therefore to provide creative alternatives.

Graduates of the Department of Social Anthropology at UCT work in fields as diverse as medical research, housing and energy policy, journalism, documentary production, drama, psychology, advertising, urban planning, tourism, environmental science, industrial relations – and of course as professional anthropologists.

Some remain in academia and are professors in universities in South Africa and abroad. Some work as academic researchers in the Medical Research Council and the Groote Schuur Hospital. Others have entered the NGO and consultancy fields where they conduct research and advocacy work, among others, maternal and child health, reproductive health, housing, nature resource management, environmentalism, conflict management, Medicins Sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders), development work and social research agencies. Graduates also work in government – in municipal roles such as researchers on the Land Claims Commission, the Gender Commission and in local government.

Visit: www.axl.uct.ac.za

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

What is Social Development?
What is Social Work?

Social Development focuses on the social and economic conditions that enable people to improve their overall quality of life.

The Department of Social Development offers professional education and training in a range of social service fields. Social Work is historically the foundational professional programme and has been taught at the University of Cape Town since 1924.

Today the Department of Social Development (formerly the School of Social Work) is one of the largest of its kind in Southern Africa. In addition to Social Work, the department offers a wide range of education and training in the social service professions such as:

- Social Policy and Management
- Social Development
- Probation and Correctional Practice
- Clinical Social Work

Social Work and related Social Development services are declared a scarce skill in South Africa and the existing pool of qualified professionals is extremely limited. There is a a demand from
government and non-governmental sectors for Social Work and Social Development graduates.

The department’s core academic programmes benefit from contributions made by cognate departments such as Psychology and Sociology.

**Why study Social Development?**
Social Development is an ideal major to take together with other majors such as Sociology, Social Anthropology, Psychology, or any majors that focus on addressing the social challenges facing people and communities in South Africa, Africa and elsewhere.

**What can I do with Social Development?**
A major in Social Development equips you with the knowledge and skills to intervene professionally to address some of the many major challenges in Africa, including poverty, HIV/AIDS and social insecurity. Social Development also enables professionals to work within governments, nongovernmental organisations, international development agencies and the business sector. As a practitioner in this field, you will acquire the knowledge to work directly with communities, with youth, with women, with families and households in rural and urban areas. Career opportunities are increasing for Social Development practitioners in the civil service, non-governmental organizations, in international aid and development organisations and in policy advocacy and development.

Visit: [www.socialdevelopment.uct.ac.za](http://www.socialdevelopment.uct.ac.za)

**SOCIAL WORK**

**What is Social Work?**
Social Work is a profession for those with a strong desire to help improve people’s lives. Social Workers assist people by helping them cope with issues in their everyday lives, deal with their relationships and solve personal and family problems. Some Social Workers help clients who face disability or life-threatening disease or a social problem such as inadequate housing, unemployment or substance abuse.

Social Workers also assist families that have serious domestic conflicts, sometimes involving child or spousal abuse. Social Workers conduct research, advocate for improved services, engage in systems design or are involved in planning or policy development. Many Social Workers specialise in serving a particular population or working in a specific setting, like Criminal Justice and Mental Health.

Social work is practiced worldwide in a variety of settings across all sectors of society and in close collaboration across all sectors of society and in close collaboration with other sectors such as education, development, health, law and business. Social workers also engage in private practice.
How do I become a social worker?
The four year programme offered in the Department of Social Development allows the student to move into other fields such as Social Development, Social Policy and Management, Probation and Correctional Practice, or Clinical Practice.

Courses offered in the department focus on a range of relevant topics, such as professional interaction; human development; social and economic empowerment; child abuse; crime; alcoholism and substance abuse; human sexuality; social welfare policy and social development; and social research. Apart from the subject social work, you will also major in either Sociology or Psychology.

Learning is guided and facilitated through interactive lectures, workshops and tutorials. From the beginning of the second year, students work with people in different communities, doing their practical work in the context of a range of government and Non-Profit Organization settings, such as schools, hospitals, development programmes, industry, prisons, rehabilitation and trauma centres. To assist students to integrate their theoretical knowledge of assessment and intervention strategies, they receive supervision from a specialist in the field.

The programme leads to a professional qualification and provides a solid foundation for all people-centred careers and social service professions. The education and training provides knowledge for life and opportunities for life-long learning. By the time of graduation, the student has relevant work and professional experience and is registered with a professional body to practice.
Visit: www.socialdevelopment.uct.ac.za

SOCIOLOGY

What is Sociology?
Sociology is an exciting subject to study. It studies society in all its manifestations and digs below the surface. Often it comes up with fresh insights and unexpected findings. It studies how children are socialized - for better or for worse - by their homes and schools; it looks at the forces that influence the nature and quality of work; it investigates the causes of crime and violence in society; it researches why some groups in society are rich and powerful while others are poor and powerless; and it explores why some nations become wealthy while others remain underdeveloped. These are just some of the many issues that Sociology explores. Sociology emerged as a discipline in the 19th century. Its three “founding fathers” are often said to be Emile Durkheim, Karl
Marx and Max Weber. They all studied the impact of the industrial revolution and emergence of capitalism on society, but came up with very different findings.

Durkheim noted that the freedom industrialization gave the individual also had a negative side causing meaninglessness and a loss of values and norms. Marx was outraged by the exploitation of workers by capitalists. He saw class struggle as the only way in which the working class could free themselves from oppression and exploitation. Weber noted the emergence and great power of bureaucracy. Although it was a more efficient form of organization than earlier forms of organization it could create an ‘iron cage’ that stifled human creativity and initiative.

Why Study Sociology?

Anthony Giddens, an internationally prominent Sociologist, said that: “Learning Sociology means taking a step back from our own personal interpretations of the world, to look at social influences which shape our lives. Sociology does not deny or diminish the reality of individual experience. Rather, we obtain a richer awareness of our own individual characteristics, and those of others.”

Studying Sociology is thus an enriching experience for students. There are many advantages to be gained from studying Sociology at the University of Cape Town. The academic staff in the Sociology Department have a wide range of interests and specializations. These include identity and diversity, globalisation, land and agrarian questions, development, social theory and social research methods.

There is an opportunity for students to focus on their areas of interest by selecting the appropriate courses. There are a wide variety of interesting topics taught in the two majors offered by the Sociology Department. The majors are:
1. Sociology
2. Industrial Sociology

Students can major in one or the other, but not in both.

What can I do with Sociology?

Whether on their own, or in combination with other subjects, Sociology and Industrial Sociology majors offer many career opportunities to students once they graduate. These include careers in Journalism, Film, TV, Law, Politics, civil service, management, Human Resource Management, Labour Relations, skills training, health, Social Work, development, teaching and others.

In almost every career a graduate commences at the bottom of the occupational ladder. A journalist may start as a humble reporter, but could end up editor of a major newspaper, a human resource manager may start as a labour relations officer, but end up as the human resource director of a large corporation, and so on. However, there seems to be no limit to what Sociologists can achieve. Among their achievements have been: state president of Brazil, leader of the opposition in South Africa, and CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Amgold. Visit: www.sociology.uct.ac.za
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What can I do with a Humanities degree?
A: A Humanities degree is one of the best ways of preparing you for critical citizenship in a rapidly changing world. Humanities graduates are sought after in the domestic and foreign job market because of their research skills, critical thinking, adaptability, insight, social awareness and imagination.

A Humanities degree can lead to professional careers such as: Policy Advisors, Educators, Psychologists, Film-makers, Historians, Curators, Editors and Publishers, Human Resources practitioners, Marketing and Brand specialists to name a few. You need only look at past and present captains of industry, leaders in the Private and Public sectors to see what our graduates achieve in the world.

Q: What is UCT Open Day?
A: Open Day is an annual event aimed at high school students, their families, teachers and guidance counsellors. Open Day gives high school learners the chance to find out about courses and programmes of study, to pose questions to our academic staff and current students and to explore the many career opportunities our academic programmes offer graduates. The event normally takes place on a Saturday morning during the second quarter of the year.

Q: How do I apply? Where can I obtain UCT application forms?
A: You can either apply online, or you can download the UCT application forms from the Faculty of Humanities website. Alternatively, you can collect application forms from the UCT Admissions Office, which is located on Middle Campus. The closing date for Undergraduate applications is: 30 September of the year preceding intended registration.

Q: What is a UCT Prospectus and where can I obtain one?
A: The UCT Prospectus is a brochure that provides prospective students with all of the information on the institution that they are applying to. You can download your free copy of the current UCT Undergraduate Prospectus from the UCT website: www.uct.ac.za

Q: How will I know that my application has been successful?
A: Should your application be successful, you will receive an offer (in the form of a letter) from UCT. You should also monitor the UCT self-service site.

Q: How do I pay UCT’s application fee?
A: Payment can be made by cheque, postal order, credit card or bank draft made to the University of Cape Town. Proof of payment of the application fee should be attached to your application to the University. Please visit the UCT Fees Office: www.uct.ac.za/apply/fees/
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q:** What happens if my NSC results are not good enough?
**A:** There are 2 possible scenarios:

1. If you are currently in your NSC year: if you fail to meet the admission requirements based on results received to date, you will be informed that your application has been deferred pending the submission of improved marks or your final results.

2. If you have already completed your NSC: if you fail to meet the admission requirements you will receive a letter indicating that your application has been declined.

**Q:** What is a conditional offer and for how long is it valid?
**A:** A conditional offer is made to a candidate who has partly fulfilled the admission criteria for a selected degree programme. A conditional offer is not final and is in no way binding. It is subject to meeting the requirements for admission into the faculty. If you receive a conditional offer from us, it is important that you maintain the same level of academic performance. A conditional offer becomes a firm offer when the final school exam results are released. Applicants must monitor the UCT self-service site for updates on your application status.

**Q:** Am I able to cancel my application?
**A:** You are able to cancel your application at any stage by contacting the UCT Admissions Office.

**Q:** Can I defer my acceptance and for how long?
**A:** You cannot defer your acceptance. You may only defer your application and you will be reconsidered for the following year. Contact the UCT Admissions Office if you wish to defer your application.

**Q:** When is UCT’s application deadline?
**A:** UCT’s application date for undergraduate applicants is 30 September of the year preceding intended registration.

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**KEY UCT DATES & DEADLINES**

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<tr>
<td>12 April 2014</td>
<td>UCT Open Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 September 2014</td>
<td>Closing date for undergraduate applications</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 October 2014</td>
<td>Last date to write the NBTs for 2015 for UCT undergraduate applicants</td>
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