Did you know?

1. You may book your free interview with a student recruitment officer by calling 021 650 4556.

2. Campus tours are available daily at 10:00 and 14:00; book your space by calling 021 650 4556.

3. UCT hosts an annual Open Day for all prospective undergraduate students in April of each year.

Handy facts for first-time applicants

1. UCT’s applications cycle starts in April each year and closes on 31 July in the same year.

2. Available undergraduate funding includes merit-based entrance scholarships (criteria available at www.dsa.uct.ac.za/student-funding-administration/financial-assistance/overview) and need-based financial assistance. Apply directly to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme at www.nsfas.org.za.

3. After applying, applicants may view their application status and update their applications by capturing interim results, or uploading certain documents through our online self-service portal.

4. An application for student accommodation is not a separate application but is incorporated into the application for admission.

5. Current learners should ensure that examination results from Grade 11 until September of Grade 12 (or equivalent) are submitted.

6. Applicant resources such as the 2021 Undergraduate Prospectus and Directions for Undergraduate Applicants are available at www.students.uct.ac.za/students/applications/apply/forms.

7. UCT’s Admissions Office hours are from 08:30 to 16:30 daily (from 09:30 on Thursdays).
UCT’s admissions policy balances merit, disadvantage and diversity

Our current admissions policy is located within the contexts of these objectives. Our system for admission is based on five principles:

1. Identifying applicants with the highest potential, recognising that they may not have achieved the highest marks in the National Senior Certificate or National Benchmark Tests due to the quality of their schooling or home environment.

2. Attracting the highest-performing students nationally, regardless of their race or degree of disadvantage.

3. Increasing the number of black and coloured students.

4. Reflecting a wider diversity of social class in first-year classes by increasing first-generation university students, students from poor schools and those from poorer households.

5. Giving admitted students the necessary support to ensure a high probability of graduating.

What data helps us achieve these goals?*

The admissions application process asks questions that are aimed at developing an applicant’s ‘disadvantage weighting’. These include details of the school they attended, their parents’ and grandparents’ level of education, their mother’s home language, and their financial background.

The university uses the computed ‘disadvantage factor’ to weight applicants’ scores. Admission to each academic programme is achieved by using the three bands described below.

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**BAND A**

Guaranteed offers based on Faculty Points Score (FPS)

**BAND B**

Offers based on Weighted Points Score (WPS)

**BAND C**

Redress offers based on FPS

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Approximately 32 000 students submitted applications in 2019, while there are approximately 4 200 first-year places available at the university each year.

Demand vs availability of places

In 2019, UCT received over 32 000 applications from first-time undergraduates for first-year places.

There are approximately 4 200 first-year places available at the university each year.

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*For more information about admission to UCT visit: www.students.uct.ac.za/students/applications/apply/undergraduates

*Figures correct as of January 2020

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* Read in conjunction with the Undergraduate Prospectus