2026 YOUR GUIDE TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN commerce

BACHELOR OF COMMERCE
BACHELOR OF BUSINESS SCIENCE

IMPORTANT TIPS FOR ALL POTENTIAL COMMERCE APPLICANTS

- **You must take Mathematics at school** to apply for undergraduate studies in Commerce. Mathematical Literacy is NOT sufficient.
- If you are studying **Mathematical Literacy** you may want to **apply to Humanities or Law** where Mathematics is not necessarily required for every degree.
- You do not need to have Accounting, Economics, Information Technology (IT) or Business Studies as subjects at school to study in Commerce.
- To be considered for a place in the Faculty of Commerce, you must write the Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy (AQL) National Benchmark Test (NBT). Write the test as early as possible as this will allow you time to re-write if you don't achieve the required marks. Please note that the last NBT test date for consideration for 2026 admission is 4 October 2025.
- **The closing date for applications is 31 July.**
  Late applications will not be considered.
- When you apply to Commerce, you don't choose a specific degree programme, except if you want to study Actuarial Science. You only select **ONE** of the options below:
  - **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science (Mainstream)**
  - **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science (ADP*)**
  - **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science in Actuarial Science (Mainstream)**
  - **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science in Actuarial Science (ADP*)**

  * See pages 12–13 for details on the Academic Development Programmes (ADP)

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WELCOME TO THE FACULTY OF COMMERCE

We are thrilled that you are considering the Faculty of Commerce at UCT as the starting point for your academic journey. By joining us, you'll become part of a dynamic, diverse community of top students from across the country, continent, and globe — all united in the pursuit of academic excellence.

We understand that applying to university can feel overwhelming, which is why we've created this booklet to guide you through the process. Once you're part of our Faculty, you'll start developing the high-level technical skills and knowledge required for your chosen career. We focus on building the highly marketable graduate attributes of critical thinking and innovative problem-solving.

At UCT, you'll not only build a solid academic foundation but also lifelong connections that will form part of your professional and social networks. Whether you're passionate about accounting, actuarial science, quantitative finance, economics, information systems, computer science, marketing, organisational psychology, statistical sciences, or other areas of management studies — Commerce at UCT is the perfect place to launch your future.

We know that careers in the 21st century are dynamic, with many people navigating multiple roles throughout their lives. This booklet is designed to help you make an informed decision about your first steps toward an exciting and fulfilling career.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Faculty of Commerce — where your journey to becoming a future leader begins.

Professor Suki Goodman (Dean of Commerce)

MAKING A DEGREE CHOICE

CHOOSING A DEGREE IS NOT THE SAME AS CHOOSING A CAREER

Although some qualifications are directly connected to professions (e.g. Chartered Accountant or Actuary), in a continuously changing world, Commerce degrees prepare you for many careers, and you will be exposed to several disciplines during your studies.

FIND OUT MORE BEFORE DECIDING

Many students start their degree unsure of where it may lead. If you have a specific career in mind, find out as much as possible. Several degrees might lead to your career choice. Being informed will help you find the option that best suits your abilities. For more information on career options, visit: commerce.uct.ac.za or careers.uct.ac.za

WHY CHOOSE COMMERCE AT UCT?

1

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

UCT's excellent reputation is grounded in solid academic theory and research, combined with a high level of business and professional contact, which enables us to offer relevant, highly regarded qualifications.

2

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

Academic staff contribute to research in a variety of fields and collaborate widely with business, government and universities both locally and internationally. This research is brought into the classroom to enhance learning.

TEACHING METHODS

We utilise innovative teaching methods, provide group tutorials and opportunities for students to consult with academic staff.

3

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

UCT offers a comprehensive array of student development services and personalised career planning. Students have a wide range of extracurricular options including sporting, social, cultural, environmental and spiritual activities.

4

5

CAREER CHOICES

Our undergraduate degrees meet international standards of excellence. Whether you want to work locally, elsewhere in Africa or overseas, change jobs or even careers, your Commerce degree will enable you to succeed in a rapidly changing work environment.

WHAT'S ON OFFER?

The Faculty offers two undergraduate degrees, a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) and a Bachelor of Business Science (BBusSc). Both are designed to provide you with maximum flexibility and opportunity in your career.

6

DEGREE PROGRAMMES AT A GLANCE

The Faculty offers two undergraduate degrees: the four-year Bachelor of Business Science (BBusSc) and the three-year Bachelor of Commerce (BCom).

Bachelor of Business Science Degree (4 or 5 years)

	DISCIPLINES		
Actuarial Science	Actuarial Science (Quantitative Finance)	Computer Science	
Economics	Economics with Law	Finance, Investment and Banking	Finance with Accounting
Information Systems	Marketing	Industrial and Organisational Psychology	Statistics and Data Science

Bachelor of Commerce Degree (3 or 4 years)

MANAGEMENT STUDIES: SPECIALISATIONS

- A combination of business majors

ACCOUNTING: SPECIALISATIONS

- General Accounting
- Chartered Accountant

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE: SPECIALISATIONS

- Actuarial Science
- Actuarial Science (Quantitative Finance)

ECONOMICS: SPECIALISATIONS

- Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE)
- Economics and Finance
- Economics and Statistics
- Economics with Law

INFORMATION SYSTEMS: SPECIALISATIONS

- Information Systems
- Information Systems and Computer Science
- Information Systems and Finance

BCOM OR BBUSSC – HOW DO I CHOOSE?

What are the similarities?

Entry requirements are the same for both degrees. Each degree offers a variety of specialisations to cater both for the interests of our students and employment needs. Both degrees are highly marketable.

The first year of the BBusSc and the BCom share several common courses in the subject areas of Accounting, Information Systems, Economics, Business Law, Mathematics, Statistics, Evidence-based Management and Business Ethics.

What are the differences?

The BBusSc curriculum teaches the science of business within a field of specialisation. This includes subjects such as People Management, Business Ethics and Strategic Thinking. On the other hand, the BCom curriculum prepares students for a specific field of specialisation.

As more material is covered in a BBusSc, the degree takes four years to complete, while a BCom takes three.

The Academic Development Programme (ADP) BBusSc can be taken over a four- or five-year period, and the ADP BCom over a three- or four-year period. In the EDU, students receive a range of additional support. You can find out more about the EDU on pages 12 and 13.

When do I have to choose?

A student accepted into Commerce may register for ANY Commerce degree or specialisation provided that their final Grade 12 marks and NBT results meet the minimum subject and other criteria specified on pages 24 to 27.

Applying to Commerce

When you apply to Commerce, you don't choose a specific degree programme, except if you want to study Actuarial Science.
You only select ONE of the options below:

- **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science (Mainstream)**
- **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science (ADP)**
- **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science in Actuarial Science (Mainstream)**
- **Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science in Actuarial Science (ADP)**

Your final choice of which degree or discipline to register for is made ONLY at the end of Orientation at the beginning of the first year, once you have received more information on each specialisation.

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU)

BBusSc 4– or 5–year degree
BCom 3– or 4–year degree
(Both options also include Actuarial Science)

The Education Development Unit (EDU) focuses on addressing the diverse educational and life experiences of South African students, ensuring equitable access to support and opportunities for success. This commitment is rooted in creating an inclusive environment where every student's potential is nurtured, and their unique journey is valued.

The EDU enhances your university experience by helping you develop a comprehensive range of educational and life skills that will not only help you achieve success in your studies but will also be of value in your future career.

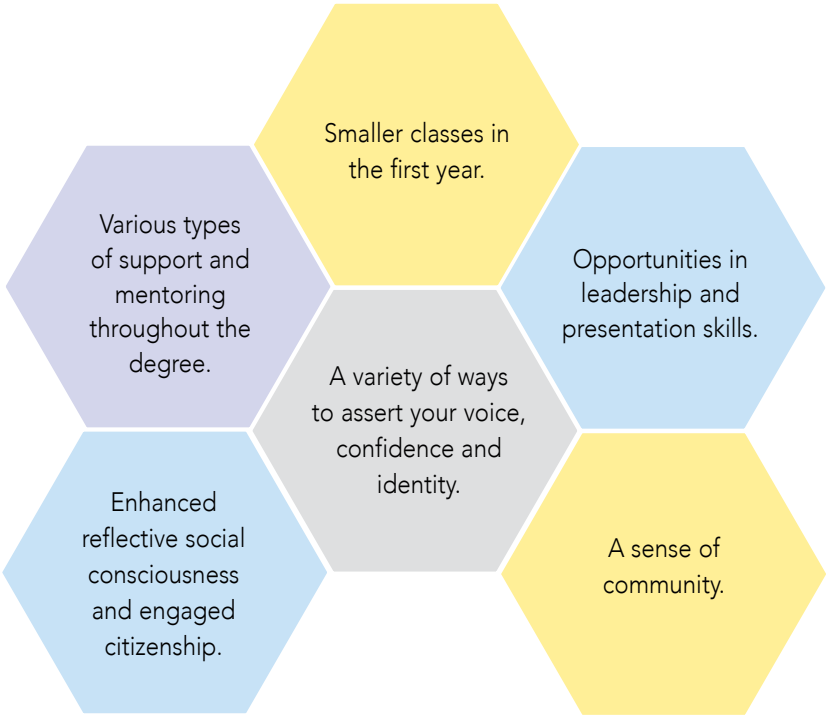
Admission to the EDU

Your application for the EDU Academic Development Programmes (ADP) is screened to assess whether you are eligible for the extra support and resources provided. This is informed by UCT's policy on admissions.

Your acceptance is weighed against a variety of admission criteria related to academic potential and background.

Once you are accepted for the Bachelor of Commerce/Business Science (ADP) you are eligible to complete any of the BBusSc/BCom specialisations (provided you meet the particular admission requirements).

Being on an Academic Development Programme provides you with an extensive variety of support, including:



EDU structure

The EDU offers augmented degrees (standard time with support), as well as extended degrees (longer time with extra support), spreading the course load over an extra year.

The degrees and specialisations in the EDU are the same as the mainstream programmes, and you receive the same degree at graduation.

For more information about the EDU, please do not hesitate to contact us (see contact details on page 28 of this booklet).

KEY DISCIPLINE AREAS

The options available at university can be confusing as there are so many choices. You won't really know whether you will enjoy something until you try it. Keep an open mind and find out what your strengths and interests are, and possibly discover disciplines that you had never considered before.

ACCOUNTING

Studying accounting at university offers numerous benefits and opportunities, whether you're interested in pursuing a career as an accountant, working in the public sector, non-profit organisations, or leading a large corporate business. Accounting skills are versatile and applicable across various industries and sectors. A person who is honest and ethical, committed to hard work, responsive to change, a problem solver, an effective communicator, a critical thinker, and a lifelong learner will make a good accountant.

School accounting emphasises the recording of transactions. At university, accounting studies focus on the decision-making that affects those transactions, communicating financial information to a broader audience inside and outside the organisation, and interrogating financial information to ensure reliability. Studying accounting helps you to develop strong analytical and problem-solving skills. You'll learn how to interpret financial data, analyse trends, and make informed decisions based on quantitative information, which are valuable skills in many professions.

Accounting professionals are in high demand worldwide. As businesses continue to grow and evolve, there is a constant need for skilled accountants to manage finances, analyse data, and provide strategic insights to support decision-making. A degree in accounting can serve as a solid foundation for career advancement. With experience and additional certifications (such as CA(SA), ACCA, or CIMA), you can pursue higher-level positions, such as auditor, financial manager, or even chief financial officer (CFO).

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE

Actuaries use statistical techniques to solve financial and business problems. They evaluate uncertain financial risks. Quantifying uncertainty helps individuals and companies proactively manage risk and ensure they can withstand future adverse events. Actuaries operate within a strict professional and ethical framework. It is

important to note that actuaries cannot predict the future. Still, using statistical techniques based on past events and the current environment can help optimise decision-making for future uncertain events.

Actuaries have an extensive skill set used in insurance, pensions, investments, banking, health care, risk management, and other areas. Actuaries can also use their training to branch into wider fields such as agriculture, infrastructure, telecommunications and climate change risk modelling.

As an actuary, you will participate in high-level business decision-making and solve real-world problems in the industry. You could use your talents to make a meaningful and positive impact on people's financial well-being. Actuaries enjoy excellent job security, and actuarial skills are in high demand locally and abroad.

Actuarial Science is suited to students with strong technical and mathematical aptitude who are willing to undertake years of exacting study and have a well-disciplined approach to problem-solving. Students who graduate within this specialisation are particularly well prepared for further study to obtain the prestigious FASSA (Fellow of the Actuarial Society of South Africa) qualification.

UCT is accredited by the Actuarial Society of South Africa (ASSA). As such, students who meet the requirements can gain exemptions from some of the professional examinations required for the FASSA designation. Students doing a BBusSc in Actuarial Science can attain up to 10 exemptions. Those doing the BCom in Actuarial Science can achieve 7 exemptions and earn a further 3 exemptions during the BCom Honours in Actuarial Science. Students interested in performing research in the various fields of actuarial work may apply for a Master's programme after completing their undergraduate studies.

The ASSA website (https://www.actuarialsociety.org.za/) provides comprehensive information for aspiring actuaries and detailed information on the actuarial curriculum, including the professional exams, modules and workshops needed to qualify for the various levels of association with the society.

QUANTITATIVE FINANCE

The increasing complexity of the modern financial services environment created a demand for professionals with strong quantitative skills. The Quantitative Finance specialisation shares much of the same foundation as Actuarial Science, with a greater emphasis on applications in finance and investment. As a result, it places equally rigorous demands on students and has the same entrance requirements.

Quantitative finance provides an ideal platform for a career in investment banking, derivatives trading and quantitative asset management. Many graduates pursue postgraduate studies in financial economics, financial engineering or the internationally recognised Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) qualification.

ECONOMICS

Economics focuses on how consumers, firms, and markets operate and teaches students how to critically analyse the factors that affect economic and social development locally and internationally. Furthermore, it equips students with skills to analyse data for informed decision-making, which helps foster economic and social development.

Economics empowers students to understand the complex relationships between individuals and institutions in our society. Economics is a continually evolving body of theory and empirical research that has been referred to as the queen of the social sciences and is the only social science recognised by the Nobel Prize committee. It is a remarkably broad discipline that seeks to understand and predict choice behaviour in response to incentives and the welfare consequences of these choices.

Anyone interested in the way the world works (e.g., why poverty is so hard to eradicate, the role of the Reserve Bank, how the finance minister allocates the budget, why consumers purchase certain goods, why firms make decisions, why markets operate in more or less efficient ways, etc.) will find economics fascinating. Someone with a critical mind and the ability to understand logic, mathematics, and statistics will excel in economics.

The economics taught at school is very simple and does not explore alternative explanations for fundamental economic phenomena. At university, we assume students have no prior knowledge of economics and teach from first principles. We show students how the skills they learn in mathematics and statistics are applied to economic problems.

Professional economists have career possibilities both in the public and private sectors. Public sector roles include diverse options such as central banking and national accounting, the design and implementation of economic and development policy, and trade diplomacy. In the private sector, economists work in financial analysis and asset management, journalism, research for NGOs, consulting firms, business associations and trade unions, and independent consulting.

FINANCE

Money is the lifeblood of all organisations and economies, shaping how resources are allocated, invested, and managed. Given its limited availability, raising funds efficiently and investing them wisely while minimising risk is essential. This principle applies to households, businesses, investment funds and governments.

Finance is the discipline that governs the sourcing, allocation, and strategic use of funds. Strong financial expertise is essential for the growth, stability, and success of organisations and economies alike. Finance is an exciting blend of science and art—it relies on rigorous theories and quantitative models but also requires critical judgment and insights into human behaviour. This makes finance a diverse discipline that intersects with fields such as accounting, economics, mathematics, politics, psychology, strategy, and statistics, making it a rich and dynamic area of study.

People who excel in finance enjoy solving complex problems, analysing diverse information, and applying financial principles to real-world challenges.

Finance is more familiar than you think! Many first-year students feel uncertain when choosing a finance-related degree, assuming they lack prior exposure to the subject. However, elements of finance are already covered in high school subjects such as economics, accounting, and business studies.

Finance plays a critical role in almost every industry, providing graduates with diverse career opportunities. Finance professionals work in:

- Investment management (e.g., investment analysts, fund managers)
- Financial services (e.g., banking, insurance, risk management)
- Corporate finance (e.g., corporate treasurers, financial strategists)
- Financial risk analysis (e.g., credit analysts, risk specialists)

Whether managing investment portfolios, optimising corporate finances, or analysing financial risks, finance graduates are highly sought after in both local and global markets.

Studying finance is more than just learning numbers—it's about understanding how money drives decision-making, risk-taking, and innovation in an ever-changing world.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Information systems are special tools that use computers and technology to help us do things in our daily lives. They can be found in organisations and society, and you might use them without even realising it! For example, when you take money out of an ATM, an information system ensures the transaction is recorded. You also interact with information systems when you use apps on your phone, post on social media, book a flight online, or even order an Uber.

People who work with information systems are called Information Systems professionals, and they help organisations run better by designing and creating IT solutions. To be good at this job, you need to have an interest in both business and technology, be creative and be good at communicating and working in a team. In Information Systems, there is an exciting shift towards Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Large Language Models (LLMs like ChatGPT) and their use in enhancing various aspects of technology, development, and business.

You may have learned about computer-based subjects like Information Technology (IT) and Computer Applications Technology (CAT) in school. These are similar to information systems but not exactly the same. Information systems focus on designing and implementing computer applications (the implementation part refers to computer programming, like in IT at school). In contrast, CAT focuses on using these applications once they have been developed.

If you study information systems at university, you'll be in a field that is exciting and in high demand. After you graduate, you could get a job as a business analyst, system designer, project manager, or solution architect. All organisations, big and small, business and community, and all sectors – public, private, and non-profit, depend on information systems. So, when you design and implement new solutions, you'll be helping society develop!

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Over the past sixty years, computing has profoundly shaped modern society, driving economic growth, social change, and human development. It has played a crucial role in lifting economies out of poverty and transforming industries. Many of the world's wealthiest individuals and most successful companies have built their fortunes in computing. The field continues to offer abundant job opportunities, with skills in software development, artificial intelligence, and mathematical problem-solving remaining highly sought after.

Computer Science is the science and practice of creating software for computers. It extends beyond programming to encompass software design, testing, optimisation, and the study of computing's broader impact. While high school IT courses introduce basic programming, a Computer Science degree provides a deep foundation in fundamental principles and advanced computing concepts. First-year studies cover programming, problem-solving, and core Computer Science principles. As students progress, they explore topics such as concurrent programming, computational theory, machine learning, operating systems, and computer networks.

Successful computer scientists are logical thinkers, detail-oriented, disciplined, creative, and skilled in communication and collaboration.

Graduates pursue careers as software developers, application developers, systems analysts, and programmers. Many roles in the industry require a blend of technical expertise and business acumen. Degree programmes like the BBusSc in Computer Science and the BCom in Information Systems and Computer Science prepare graduates for both technical and business-oriented computing careers.

LAW

There are many reasons why people choose Law. These include being able to earn a good, secure living – because, at some point, everybody needs a lawyer; security – as a traditional profession with good income potential; acquiring the skills to make a difference in the world; using the law to ensure access to justice amongst marginalised communities; having the knowledge and skills to make a real impact in specialised areas of commerce (for example shipping, tax and contracts); contributing to the quality and security of people's lives by ensuring they have their legal documentation in order; and furthering academic knowledge about how the law is developed, practised, implemented and accessed.

Good lawyers are skilled in critical analysis, writing (being able to draft a clear written argument), research, argument and presentation, and sharing ideas.

Lawyers are employed as advocates, attorneys in law firms, by the Department of Justice as state attorneys, prosecutors, legal drafters, magistrates and judges, and other government departments. Additionally, law graduates are found across the whole spectrum of business. There are legal advisers in tax, real estate, labour relations, contracts, public information and acquisitions, forensic auditors and ombudsmen, ethics and employment officers, and policy and legislative analysts.

Publishing firms employ legal editors, researchers and writers, and many law graduates work for NGOs and Public Interest Organisations.

Students who want to qualify to practise as an attorney or advocate in South Africa may complete any bachelor's degree followed by a three-year postgraduate LLB (Bachelor of Law) degree. The entrance requirement for the three-year postgraduate LLB is a bachelor's degree with certain pass levels in this first qualification.

BCom and BBusSc Economics with Law graduates may complete the postgraduate LLB degree in two years rather than three because some of the courses offered in the LLB are incorporated into the undergraduate curriculum of these Commerce degrees. Law courses can only be included as a major from the second academic year of study in an undergraduate degree, and certain pass levels are required for first-year courses to be able to enter the Law major stream.

MANAGEMENT STUDIES

The BCom specialising in Management Studies is the most flexible three-year degree offered in the Faculty, providing a solid foundation in Commerce while also fostering the creativity demanded by modern challenges such as Generative AI, where broad and critical thinking will take on increasing significance. The degree requires a core of 11 courses alongside an extensive range of electives at first-, second-, and third-year levels. This allows students to select from a wide choice of disciplines offered across UCT, tailoring their education around their specific abilities and interests.

This combination of academic rigour, breadth, and flexibility enables students to leverage their strengths and interests and makes graduates attractive to employers thanks to the breadth of knowledge that they have acquired, as well as their ability to adapt to new and complex challenges. Rather than following a rigid curriculum, students have the opportunity to select courses that meet the degree requirements while also playing to their strengths and interests. This effectively puts the power into the hands of the students, requiring them to develop self-awareness and agency – graduate attributes that are very attractive to employers.

MARKETING

Marketing is more than advertising—it's the engine that drives business growth and shapes the way people experience the world. In many ways, it is demand side strategy. In fact, marketing is the only business function dedicated to generating

income, making it indispensable to any organisation. From launching life-changing products to tackling society's biggest challenges, marketing professionals connect ideas with the people who need them most. In today's technology-driven world, marketing blends creativity, strategy, and data to solve real business problems and deliver tangible results.

Marketers are the bridge between businesses and their customers. By shaping corporate strategy, they identify and understand customer needs and craft compelling offerings that drive revenue. Modern marketing involves big data, artificial intelligence, and machine learning to predict customer behaviour, develop new products, and make strategic decisions. Advertising is the part of marketing that most of us see, but the actual marketing engine room involves multiple roles across most business functions.

Where do marketing graduates go? Graduates of the BBusSc in Marketing are in high demand in South Africa and globally. With a mix of marketing knowledge and statistical skills, they secure internships, enter competitive junior roles, and rapidly advance to management.

Careers in marketing span industries including financial services, technology, consumer goods, tourism, telecommunications, consulting, media, food and beverage, retail, clothing and fashion, sports management and even government.

Whether you want to shape the future of corporate strategy or build your own start-up, marketing provides the skills to thrive.

Some examples of exciting roles for marketing graduates include:

- Product manager: Shaping the products people use every day.
- Net revenue management: Using data analytics to adjust product availability.
- Brand manager: Building and managing the identity of leading brands.
- Insights specialist: Understanding consumer behaviour to inform strategy
- Retail marketer: Turning shoppers into consumers
- Market research analyst: Turning data into actionable insights.
- Advertising executive: Crafting campaigns that capture attention.
- Public relations manager: Managing reputations and shaping public perception.

Who thrives in marketing? If you enjoy problem-solving, storytelling, analysing data, and understanding human behaviour, marketing could be your ideal career. It blends logic with creativity, offering a fast-paced and rewarding environment for curious, strategic thinkers.

INDUSTRIAL-ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Industrial-Organisational Psychology (IOP) applies psychological theories, principles, and research to workplace settings. It examines individual and group behaviour within organisations, aiming to enhance people management practices and improve workplace effectiveness.

In today's complex work environments, IOP plays a critical role. Studying this field will deepen your understanding of the factors that shape human behaviour, enabling you to design organisational structures, processes, teams, and job roles that foster positive employee experiences and outcomes.

Successful IOP practitioners are naturally curious about people and skilled at problem-solving. They demonstrate strong analytical, strategic, and creative thinking abilities alongside a deep commitment to understanding and addressing complex workplace challenges. Students in this field develop the ability to construct coherent, evidence-based arguments and refine their writing and research abilities.

If you are intrigued by workplace dynamics and adept at managing interpersonal interactions, a career in IOP could be an excellent fit.

The knowledge and skills acquired in IOP open up diverse career opportunities. Our graduates work as registered industrial psychologists or human resource professionals in areas such as change management, talent management, diversity and inclusion, organisational strategy, employee relations, and learning and development. They are employed across various sectors, including corporate business, government, NGOs, and management consultancies. As a field, IOP professionals leverage data management, statistical analysis, and artificial intelligence to inform evidence-based decision-making in organisations.

STATISTICS AND DATA SCIENCE

Statistics and data science plays a crucial role in understanding the world around us and making informed decisions. Today, vast amounts of data are generated and collected every second from every sphere of life, such as from sensors, devices, video/audio, networks, log files, transactional applications, internet, and social media - much of it generated in real-time and on an enormous scale. The demand for people with the right skills to analyse the vast amount of data is higher than ever before.

Statisticians are critical players in the analytics/data science environment. Using their quantitative skills and by applying statistical methods, statisticians can make predictions, draw conclusions, and test hypotheses to better understand complex phenomena in fields such as business (optimise business processes), marketing (predict consumer purchasing patterns), government (use of mobile data to optimise public transport services), medicine (identify subsets of genes associated with a particular disease), astronomy, ecology, language processing and much more. To quote a famous statistician, Tukey, "the best thing about being a statistician is that you get to play in everyone's backyard."

Data science, on the other hand, is a multidisciplinary field that combines techniques from statistics, computer science, and domain knowledge to extract insights and knowledge from data. Strong analytical skills, as well as proficiency in programming languages such as Python, R, or SQL, along with a solid understanding of mathematical concepts, are the key to becoming really good statisticians and data scientists.

The demand for professionals skilled in statistics and data science is booming across various industries, from IT to finance to healthcare and government. The opportunities in statistics and data science are vast and diverse, offering a wide range of career paths and possibilities.

It has thus been our experience that our students find it easy to obtain jobs immediately after graduation and are promoted rapidly into management positions. Graduates work in roles such as data analyst, statistician, data scientist, data architect, business intelligence specialist and research analyst.

If you enjoy quantitative subjects, have problem-solving skills, consider yourself a logical, creative and innovative thinker, or are passionate about making a positive impact through data-driven decision-making, then a career in Statistics/data science is for you.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Commerce applicants must write the Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy (AQL) National Benchmark Test. The test consists of an Academic Literacy (AL) section and a Quantitative Literacy (QL) section. Write the test at the earliest opportunity, as this will allow you time to re-write if you don't achieve the required mark.

Offers will be based on the following:

- Academic results from your NSC based on your percentage score for your top six subjects. Life Orientation is excluded from your Faculty Points Score (FPS) calculation.
- Performance in the Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy (AQL) National Benchmark Test. A maximum of two attempts will be allowed. For further information about NBT dates and venues, please visit nbt.uct.ac.za or call the NBT Helpline on 021 650 3523.
- Performance in Mathematics and English in your final matric exam.
- Your Grade 11 and Grade 12 final results.

The table below shows **an example** of how your FPS may be calculated:

SUBJECT	NSC % SCORE	POINTS
English Home Language	75	75
Afrikaans/isiXhosa First Additional Language	70	70
Mathematics	84	84
Life Sciences	86	86
Drama	79	79
History	69	69
Life Orientation	80	0
Total		463/600
FPS		**463**

ALL SPECIALISATIONS EXCEPT FOR ACTUARIAL SCIENCE, COMPUTER SCIENCE, AND STATISTICS AND DATA SCIENCE

ELIGIBLE	BAND	REQUIREMENTS
ALL APPLICANTS	**BAND A FPS**	**GUARANTEED ADMISSION** FPS of 435 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 60% English HL 50% English FAL 60%
ALL APPLICANTS	**BAND B WPS**	**PROBABLE ADMISSION** WPS of 470 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 60% English HL 50% English FAL 60%
Only SA applicants in targeted redress categories	**BAND C FPS**	**POSSIBLE ADMISSION INTO EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU) ONLY** FPS of 430 to 434 NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 60% English HL 50% English FAL 60%

Please refer to the UCT Undergraduate Prospectus for further information

FAL = FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE; HL = HOME LANGUAGE; FPS = FACULTY POINTS SCORE;
NBT = NATIONAL BENCHMARK TEST; AL & QL = ACADEMIC LITERACY & QUANTITATIVE LITERACY;
WPS = WEIGHTED POINTS SCORE

COMPUTER SCIENCE SPECIALISATION
STATISTICS AND DATA SCIENCE SPECIALISATION

ELIGIBLE	BAND	REQUIREMENTS
ALL APPLICANTS	**BAND A FPS**	**GUARANTEED ADMISSION** FPS of 435 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 70% English HL 50% English FAL 60%
ALL APPLICANTS	**BAND B WPS**	**PROBABLE ADMISSION** WPS of 470 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 70% English HL 50% English FAL 60%
Only SA applicants in targeted redress categories	**BAND C FPS**	**POSSIBLE ADMISSION INTO EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU) ONLY** FPS of 430 to 434 NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 70% English HL 50% English FAL 60%

Please refer to the UCT Undergraduate Prospectus for further information

FAL = FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE; HL = HOME LANGUAGE; FPS = FACULTY POINTS SCORE;
NBT = NATIONAL BENCHMARK TESTS; AL & QL = ACADEMIC LITERACY & QUANTITATIVE LITERACY;
WPS = WEIGHTED POINTS SCORE

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE AND QUANTITATIVE FINANCE QUALIFICATIONS AND STREAM

ELIGIBLE	BAND	REQUIREMENTS
ALL APPLICANTS	**BAND A FPS**	**GUARANTEED ADMISSION** FPS of 500 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 80% English HL 60% English FAL 80% (but require Proficient for AL & QL NBT)
ALL APPLICANTS	**BAND B WPS**	**PROBABLE ADMISSION** WPS of 525 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 80% English HL 60% English FAL 80% (but require Proficient for AL & QL NBT)
Only SA applicants in targeted redress categories	**BAND C FPS**	**POSSIBLE ADMISSION INTO EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU) ONLY** FPS of 475 to 479 NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Mathematics 80% English HL 60% English FAL 80% (but require Proficient for AL & QL NBT)

Please refer to the UCT Undergraduate Prospectus for further information

FAL = FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE; HL = HOME LANGUAGE; FPS = FACULTY POINTS SCORE; NBT = NATIONAL BENCHMARK TEST; AL & QL = ACADEMIC LITERACY & QUANTITATIVE LITERACY; WPS = WEIGHTED POINTS SCORE.

FACULTY OF COMMERCE CONTACT DETAILS

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (COMMERCE)

For information about the EDU and Academic Development Programmes,
contact Shanaaz Solomons:
Tel: 021 650 3729 or Email Shanaaz.Solomons@uct.ac.za
or Sherry Stuart
Tel: 021 650 4022 or Email: Sherry.Stuart@uct.ac.za

COMMERCE FACULTY OFFICE

For further information about Commerce studies,
contact the Faculty of Commerce:
Tel: 021 650 4375 or Email: com-faculty@uct.ac.za
Or visit our website: commerce.uct.ac.za

APPLYING TO UCT

For general information about applying to UCT, including financial aid,
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