Mission

UCT aspires to become the premier academic research institution in Southern Africa and one of the leading universities in the world. This vision is reflected in the three fundamental strategies that guide the University:

- Promoting excellence in research
- Enhancing access and excellence in teaching
- Cultivating a culture of inclusivity

The University's mission is to contribute to society through the advancement of knowledge and the preparation of leaders who will contribute to the economic, social, cultural and spiritual development of the country and the world.

Academic Freedom

The academic freedom guaranteed by the Constitution and the Freedom Charter has been upheld by the University. UCT is committed to the promotion of human rights and to providing an environment conducive to teaching and research.

Teaching and Learning

UCT is committed to providing high-quality teaching and learning experiences that meet the diverse needs of its students. The University offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs across various faculties, including arts, humanities, social sciences, business, engineering, health sciences, and more.

Research

The University's research excellence is recognized internationally, with a strong focus on areas such as health sciences, engineering, and social sciences. UCT's research output is consistently ranked among the top universities globally.

Community Engagement

UCT is deeply committed to engaging with society and contributing to the development of South Africa and the world. The University collaborates with government, industry, and civil society organizations to address local and global challenges.

Student Life

UCT provides a vibrant and diverse student life experience, with a strong emphasis on leadership development and community service. The University supports a wide range of student organizations and clubs, providing students with opportunities to explore their interests and contribute to the University's mission.

Admissions

UCT's admissions process is designed to ensure that all students who have the potential to succeed academically are given an opportunity to pursue their higher education.

Preparation for Further Education

UCT's academic and research programs are designed to prepare students for success in their future careers, whether in academia, industry, or public service.
The University of Cape Town (UCT) is a comprehensive research university located in Cape Town, South Africa. Founded in 1918, it is one of the leading institutions in Africa and is ranked amongst the top universities in the world. UCT is committed to excellence in teaching, research, and community engagement.

**INTERNATIONALISATION**

The International Academics Programme Office (IAPO) negotiates international agreements and partnerships with the aim of increasing international relationships and student mobility. The university has partnerships with more than 600 institutions worldwide and hosts more than 3,000 international students and scholars each year. UCT is a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), which provides a platform for collaborative projects and knowledge exchange.

**STUDENT WELLNESS SERVICE**

The Student Wellness Service offers a range of services to support the health and well-being of students. This includes counseling, mental health services, and programs to reduce stress and promote healthy habits.

**HIV/AIDS**

UCT implements a comprehensive HIV/AIDS strategy that includes education, counseling, and testing services. The university has been granted a High Impact Research (HIR) status by SADC, which recognizes its significant contributions to HIV/AIDS research and education.

**SPORT AND SOCIETIES**

Over 15 sport clubs and a number of social societies compete in a variety of local and international events. UCT student representatives have won numerous awards and accolades, showcasing the university's commitment to excellence in both academic and extracurricular activities.

**REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION**

**WESTERN CAPE**

UCT is located in the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC), which manages major collaborative projects between the four public tertiary institutions in the Western Cape.

**AFRICA**

UCT is a signatory to the Alliance of African Universities, which promotes collaboration between African universities and supports research and capacity-building initiatives.

**SADC**

UCT collaborates with SADC and other regional organizations to address regional challenges and promote regional cooperation.

**THE HERITAGE OF AFRICA**

UCT's response to HIV and AIDS is guided by the UCT Policy on HIV Infection and AIDS, which aims to provide a supportive and inclusive environment for students and staff affected by the pandemic.

**SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The UCT Disability Service unit ensures that students with disabilities can overcome barriers to study and work at the university. Services include advocacy, legal advice, counseling support for students and staff with disabilities, and a range of accommodations and modifications.

**CO-OP**

The Co-op is a student-run cooperative store that offers a range of products and services to support the academic and personal needs of students. The Co-op has been an important part of UCT's student community since its establishment in 1934.