



Guidelines for admission to UCT in 2009 for holders of a National Senior Certificate

INTRODUCTION

The University of Cape Town is committed to being flexible on access, active in redress and rigorous on success (UCT Mission Statement: 1996). In seeking to realize these objectives, the University's policy for undergraduate admissions is framed within the values of the Constitution and the requirements of legislation. The Higher Education Act (101 of 1997, Section 37) requires that "the admissions policy of a public higher education institution must provide appropriate measures for the redress of past inequalities and may not unfairly discriminate in any way".

We interpret the requirements of the Constitution and the Higher Education Act as an obligation to address the legacy of racial discrimination in schools and in the higher education system, and to build a diverse student profile that substantially reflects the demographics of South African society, while also reflecting the University's international profile.

It is the view of the University that the more diverse the student body, with all students contributing their prior life experiences to the educational process, the better will be students' appreciation of the applicability of what they are learning and the better will be their preparation for work in South Africa after graduation.

We recognize the danger of perpetuating the use of race as a criterion for admission to higher education. We regard the categorization of applicants by race as a necessary transitional mechanism for giving effect to the requirements of redress and as the best initial broad basis to measure past inequalities and for redress of past discrimination. In order to move beyond the use of race alone, we shall actively seek ways of differentiating between applicants on the basis of varying degrees of disadvantage flowing from social class and educational experience, or a combination of these. The university will investigate using the national database of schools organized into different quintiles once this is completed by the Department of Education.

Accordingly, we shall use the terms "Black", "Coloured", and "Indian" and "White" in our application forms, and South African citizens and permanent residents applying for admission are requested to describe themselves in these terms. Students who are neither South African citizens nor permanent residents are categorized as "international" for the purposes of reporting to the Department of Education. Applicants should note that different Faculties have different entrance criteria for international applicants.

Where applicants do not act in good faith and are discovered to have gained unfair advantage through misrepresentation, the university reserves the right to cancel an offer of admission, registration as a student and any awards made.

Minimum requirements for admission

The minimum admission requirement for the Bachelors degree is a National Senior Certificate (NSC) with an achievement rating of 4 (Adequate Achievement, 50 – 59 %) or better in four subjects chosen from the following list.

These subjects are : *Accounting, Agricultural Sciences, Business Studies, Dramatic Arts, Economics, Engineering Graphics and Design, Geography, History, Consumer Studies, Information Technology, Languages (one language of learning and teaching at a higher education institution and two other recognized language subjects), Life Sciences, Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy, Music, Physical Sciences, Religion studies, Visual Arts.*

In addition, applicants must meet subject and points requirements for admission into specific programmes. Applicants must also obtain a pass in English (home language or first additional language) in the NSC or equivalent examination. The subject requirements, as well as the means of allocating points, are indicated below.

At UCT we use the following table to convert the achievement of applicants to a score which we call the Academic Points Score. The following table reflects the number of points we will allocate to the various ratings.

When calculating the scores required for admission, applicants will be required to double the scores they achieve for specific subjects. The ratings achieved in all subjects, except Life Orientation, will be awarded points. What follows is a guide to how we weight scores.

ACHIEVEMENT RATING	POINTS
7 at 90% or better	8
7 at 80% or better	7
6	6
5	5
4	4
3	3
2	0
1 below 30%	0

Weighting of scores

- For undergraduate programmes in
- Commerce, the score for Mathematics must be doubled
 - Engineering & the Built Environment, the scores for Mathematics and for Physical Science must be doubled (for Engineering and Geomatics programmes only)
 - Humanities, the score for English (home language or first additional language) must be doubled. If two languages were passed at home language level, an extra point is added.
 - Science, the scores for Mathematics and for the better of Physical Science or Life Sciences (or Information Technology in the case of applicants to BSc Information Technology programme) must be doubled

For Health Sciences, an extra point is added if the applicant has a third official South African language at Home or First Additional Language level.

SUBJECT CHOICES AND STUDY OPTIONS

The three columns below indicate the areas of study options that are available to you depending on your National Senior Certificate subjects.

MATHS & PHYSICAL SCIENCE REQUIRED	MATHS REQUIRED	MATHS OR MATHS LITERACY
<p>ENGINEERING & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT</p> <p>Construction Studies</p> <p>Civil Engineering Chemical Engineering Electrical Engineering Electrical & Computer Engineering Electro-Mechanical Engineering Geomatics Mechanical Engineering Mechatronics</p> <p>Note: Applicants may be offered a place on the Academic Support Programme for Engineering in Cape Town (ASPECT).</p> <p>HEALTH SCIENCES MBChB Physiotherapy* Occupational Therapy* Audiology* Speech-Language Pathology*</p> <p>*Maths or Maths Literacy and Physical Science or Life Sciences. Applicants to degree courses in the Health Sciences Faculty are required to write the Health Sciences Placement Tests.</p> <p>SCIENCE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Biology, Earth and Environmental Sciences: Archaeology #, Atmospheric Science, Ecology, Environmental & Geographical Science #, Biodiversity & Evolutionary Biology, Geoinformatics, Geology, Marine Biology, Ocean & Atmosphere Science, Zoology Chemical, Molecular and Cellular Sciences: Biochemistry, Chemistry, Genetics, Microbiology, Physiology Information Technology: Applied Computing ##, Bioinformatics, Business Computing ##, Computer Engineering, Computer Games Design ##, Computer Science ## Mathematical, Physical and Statistical Sciences: Actuarial Sciences, Applied Mathematics, Astrophysics, Demography & Statistics, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics <p>Note: Applicants who do not meet the standard admission requirements may be offered a place on the extended General Entry for Programmes in Science (GEPS).</p> <p># Specialisations for which Physical Science may be replaced by Life Sciences.</p> <p>## Specialisations for which Physical Science may be replaced by Life Sciences or Information Technology</p>	<p>COMMERCE</p> <p>Bachelor of Business Science</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Actuarial Science Quantitative Finance Management Studies Finance Finance (CA option) Computer Science Information Systems Economics Law Marketing Organisational Psychology Quantitative Management <p>Bachelor of Commerce</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accounting General Accountant Chartered Accountant Accounting & Law Economics Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE) Economics & Finance Economics & Statistics Economics & Law Information Systems <p>Note: Applicants may be offered a place on the BCom Academic Development Programme or BBusSc Academic Development Programme.</p> <p>ENGINEERING & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT Architectural Studies Property Studies</p> <p>HUMANITIES NAMED DEGREE PROGRAMME Philosophy, Politics & Economics</p> <p>GENERAL DEGREE PROGRAMME Applied Statistics* Economics Mathematics* Statistics*</p> <p>*Majors offered by departments not established in the Faculty of Humanities.</p>	<p>HUMANITIES</p> <p>NAMED DEGREE PROGRAMMES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dance BMus in Dance Specialised certificates and diplomas Education Certificates and Diplomas Film And Media Production Fine Art Drawing Painting Sculpture Photography Design Labour, Organisational Psychology & Human Resources Management Music BMus in Music Specialised Diplomas Social Work Theatre and Performance BA Theatre and Performance Performer's Diploma in Theatre <p>GENERAL DEGREE PROGRAMMES Bachelor of Arts Majors Afrikaans Business French Classical Studies Dance Drama Economic History English Film Studies French German # Hebrew Language and Literature History Italian Jazz Studies Law* Linguistics Media and Writing Music Spanish Visual and Art History Xhosa</p> <p>Bachelor of Social Science Majors Archaeology* Environmental & Geographical Science* Gender Studies Industrial Sociology Organisational Psychology* Philosophy Politics Psychology Public Policy and Administration Religious Studies Social Anthropology Sociology</p> <p># Please contact the Faculty Office to confirm *Majors offered by departments not established in the Faculty of Humanities.</p> <p>LAW The Bachelor of Laws (LLB) is offered in three different ways: • 3-year Postgraduate • 5-year Combined Under- and Postgraduate • 4-year Undergraduate</p>

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Booking of appointments & campus tours, and general enquiries:

Nolindo Wabani 021 650 4556 nolindo.wabani@uct.ac.za

Student Recruitment Officers:

Gcinumzi Haduse 021 650 3731 gcinumzi.haduse@uct.ac.za
Iegsaan Isaacs 021 650 3743 iegsaan.isaacs@uct.ac.za
Nambita Ngcingwana 021 650 3737 nambita.ngcingwana@uct.ac.za
Thando Tsotsobe 021 650 4400 thando.tsotsobe@uct.ac.za

Faculty-based Recruitment Officers:

Humanities Joy Erasmus 021 650 5235 joy.erasmus@uct.ac.za
Science Shanaaz Smith 021 650 5179 shanaaz.smith@uct.ac.za
Engineering & the Built Environment Roger Wood 021 650 4526 roger.wood@uct.ac.za

The University has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information provided. However, we reserve the right at any time, if circumstances dictate, to make changes to any of the published details.

LAW

ADMISSION PROBABLE: SA WHITE & INDIAN	ADMISSION PROBABLE: SA BLACK & COLOURED	ADMISSION PROBABLE: INTERNATIONAL*	MINIMUM REQUIREMENT: SA WHITE & INDIAN	MINIMUM REQUIREMENT: SA BLACK & COLOURED	MINIMUM REQUIREMENT: INTERNATIONAL	MINIMUM SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS
45+ NSC points	40+ NSC points	47+ NSC points	42+ NSC points	37+ NSC points	45+ NSC points	4 in English; pass in Mathematics or 5 in Mathematical Literacy

*AS/O level or AS/GCSE = 42+ (probable); 40+ (possible). These are guidelines only and do not guarantee admission. Study offers may be limited for reasons of capacity.

SCIENCE

REGULAR PROGRAMMES

	PROGRAMME & SPECIALISATION	ADMISSION PROBABLE	ADMISSION POSSIBLE	SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS
Information Technology	Applied Computing/ Bioinformatics/ Business Computing/ Computer Games Design/ Computer Science	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 5 & either Physical Science 4 OR Life Sciences 4 OR Information Technology 4
	Computer Engineering	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 5 & Physical Science 4
Biology, Earth & Environmental Sciences	Archaeology/ Environmental & Geographical Science	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 4 & Physical Science 4 OR Life Sciences 4
	Atmospheric Science/ Ecology/ Biodiversity & Evolutionary Biology/ Geoinformatics/ Geology/ Marine Biology/ Ocean & Atmosphere Science/ Zoology	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 4 & Physical Science 4
Chemical, Molecular & Cellular Sciences	Biochemistry/ Genetics/ Microbiology/ Physiology/ Human Biology/ Genetics	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 4 & Physical Science 4
	Chemistry	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 5 & Physical Science 4
Mathematical, Physical & Statistical Sciences	Applied Mathematics/ Actuarial Science/ Mathematics/ Statistics/ Demography & Statistics	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 5 & Physical Science 4
	Astrophysics/ Physics	45 NSC points or more	43 to 44 NSC points	Mathematics 5 & Physical Science 5

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ADMISSION TO EXTENDED PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMME	ADMISSION POSSIBLE	SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS
General Entry for Programmes in Science (GEPS)	34 to 42 NSC points and AARP scores in deciles 1, 2 and 3	Mathematics 4 & Physical Science 3 OR Life Sciences 3

COMMERCE

PROGRAMME	MINIMUM SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS	EARLY OFFER REQUIREMENT FOR WHITE AND INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS	EARLY OFFER REQUIREMENT FOR BLACK, COLOURED & INDIAN APPLICANTS	ADMISSION PROBABLE (ALL APPLICANTS)	MINIMUM REQUIREMENT TO BE WAITLISTED (ALL APPLICANTS)
BCom (Accounting) BCom (Information Systems) BCom (PPE) BCom (Accounting and Law) BCom (Economics and Law) BCom (Economics and Finance) BCom (Economics and Statistics)	60% (5) for Mathematics 50% (4) for English Home Language or 60% (5) for English First Additional Language	45 NSC points	43 NSC points	43 NSC points	38 NSC points
BBusSc (Management Studies)	50% (4) for Mathematics 50% (4) for English Home Language or 60% (5) for English First Additional Language	47 NSC points	45 NSC points	45 NSC points	43 NSC points
BBusSc (Actuarial Science)	80% (7) for Mathematics 60% (5) for English Home Language	52 NSC points	50 NSC points	50 NSC points	49 NSC points
BBusSc (AD)* BCom (AD)* †	50% (4) for Mathematics 50% (4) for English Home Language or 60% (5) for English First Additional Language	Disparities in educational, language or socio-economic background; Student evidencing an ability to succeed on the basis of AARP test results; Number and type of courses passed at National Senior Certificate level.			

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* AD Academic Development Programme

† In exceptional circumstances Maths Literacy may be considered subject to a minimum score of 7 (80%).

ENGINEERING AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

PROGRAMME	ADMISSION PROBABLE	ADMISSION POSSIBLE (SEE NOTE BELOW)	MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS
Architectural studies	Applications are assessed on the basis of school-leaving results and a portfolio of prescribed creative exercises, with equal weighting given to each. A number of places will be reserved for Black, Coloured and Indian applicants from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds.		31 NSC points 25 for the portfolio and 3 for Mathematics or Physical Science
Engineering: Chemical Civil	48 NSC points and above 6 for Mathematics and Physical Science	45-47 NSC points 5 for Mathematics and Physical Science	45 NSC points 4 for Mathematics and Physical Science
Engineering: Electrical Electrical & Computer Electro-Mechanical Mechanical Mechatronics	46 NSC points and above 6 for either Mathematics or Physical Science and a 5 for the other	44-45 NSC points 5 for Mathematics and Physical Science	43 NSC points 4 for Mathematics and Physical Science
Geomatics	40 NSC points and above 5 for Mathematics and Physical Science	Not applicable	40 NSC points 4 for Mathematics and Physical Science
Construction Studies	36 NSC points and above 4 for Mathematics and 3 for Physical Science	30-35 NSC points 4 for Mathematics and 3 for Physical Science	27 NSC points 3 for Mathematics and Physical Science
Property Studies	36 NSC points and above 4 for Mathematics	30-35 NSC points 4 for Mathematics	27 NSC points 3 for Mathematics
ASPECT (Engineering and Geomatics)	40 NSC points and above 5 for Mathematics and Physical Science See NOTE below	Not applicable	37 NSC points 4 for Mathematics and Physical Science

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Note: Applicants for any Engineering, Geomatics or the BAS programme may be waitlisted. Engineering programme applicants may be considered for ASPECT. Selections from the waiting list and for ASPECT will address equity of access, with special attention to the recruitment of Black South Africans. These selections will be finalised in early January 2009 by the Programme Convenors concerned in consultation with the Dean or the Dean's nominee.

Alternative Admissions Tests: If you have written the University's Alternative Admissions tests and have obtained excellent results, you may be offered a place in the Faculty, subject to meeting the minimum subject requirements described above. If you have written the Alternative Admissions tests and have not been offered a place on the basis of these test results, you will be treated as ordinary admission.

HEALTH SCIENCES

PROGRAMME AND SELECTION CATEGORY	SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS	MINIMUM LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE AND NSC POINT SCORE TO BE CONSIDERED	ADMISSION POSSIBLE:	ADMISSION PROBABLE:	Health Sciences Placement Tests (HSPTs) Decile Ranking Table	
MBChB						
Black	Mathematics Plus Physical Science	Level 4 for all subjects NSC score 36	NSC points: 36 HSPT: 16 Overall weighted score: 65 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	36 28 74	The performance per test is reported by decile: A result in the top 10% of applicants to UCT in the relevant selection category is in decile 1, in the bottom 10% is in decile 10. The four decile ratings are reduced to a single numerical score using the decile ranking table below.	
Coloured			NSC points: 36 HSPT: 16 Overall weighted score: 65 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	36 28 78		
Indian			NSC points: 40 HSPT: 28 PR: 5 Overall weighted score: 77	47 32 8		
Open			NSC points: 42 HSPT: 28 PR: 5 Overall weighted score: 86	47 34 10 91		
BSc Physiotherapy						
Black	Mathematics OR Mathematical Literacy Plus Physical Science OR Life Sciences	All subjects other than Mathematical Literacy: level 4 Mathematical Literacy: level 5 NSC points: 28	NSC points: 28 HSPT: 10 Overall weighted score: 55 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	28 16 58		HSPT Decile Ranking Table
Coloured			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 10 Overall weighted score: 55 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	28 16 58		
Indian			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 16 Overall weighted score: 57 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	35 20 70		
Open			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 16 Overall weighted score: 58 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	35 20 71		
BSc Occupational Therapy						
Black	Mathematics OR Mathematical Literacy Plus Physical Science OR Life Sciences	All subjects other than Mathematical Literacy: level 4 Mathematical Literacy: level 5 NSC points: 28	NSC points: 28 HSPT: 8 Overall weighted score: 55 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	28 8 55	Decile ranking Point score	
Coloured			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 8 Overall weighted score: 55 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	28 8 55		
Indian			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 10 Overall weighted score: 57 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	35 10 68		
Open			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 10 Overall weighted score: 57 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	35 10 68		
BSc Audiology and BSc Speech-Language Pathology						
Black	Mathematics OR Mathematical Literacy Plus Physical Science OR Life Sciences	All subjects other than Mathematical Literacy: level 4 Mathematical Literacy: level 5 NSC points: 28	NSC points: 28 HSPT: 8 Overall weighted score: 55 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	28 8 55		1 10 2 9 3 8 4 7 5 6 6 5 7 4 8 3 9 2 10 1
Coloured			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 8 Overall weighted score: 55 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	28 8 55		
Indian			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 8 Overall weighted score: 57 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	35 8 68		
Open			NSC points: 28 HSPT: 8 Overall weighted score: 57 (PR used to distinguish between equally competitive applicants)	35 10 68		

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HUMANITIES

Admissions points are allocated to six subjects. The points for English are doubled and the scores for the next five best subjects are added. If two languages were passed at home language level, one bonus point is added. Life Orientation must be passed at level 4, but is not included in the points calculation.

a. Arts and Social Science degrees

PROGRAMME #	ADMISSION PROBABLE	ADMISSION POSSIBLE*	CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY	MINIMUM SUBJECTS REQUIREMENTS
BA and BSocSc and BSW**. Film & Media Production Labour, Organisational Psychology & HR Management	43 NSC points and above	37 – 42 NSC points	below 37 NSC points	English level 4
BSocSc/BA majoring in Psychology	43 NSC points and above	40 – 42 NSC points	below 40 NSC points	English level 4
BSocSc/BA majoring in Economics	48 NSC points and above	45 – 47 NSC points	below 45 NSC points	English level 4. Maths level 5# #
BSocSc in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)	48 NSC points and above	45 – 47 NSC points	below 45 NSC points	English level 4. Maths level 5# #

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* Admission Possible: If applicants have obtained excellent results on the PTEEP, they may be made an early offer of a place in the Faculty, subject to meeting the minimum subject requirements described above in the final exams. Certain applicants, selected on the basis of these tests and on educational background, may be offered a study place in the Extended BA/BSocSc degree (four-year programme).

** Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

Admission to a programme may be subject to further requirements for admission to certain majors or courses.

In exceptional circumstances Maths Literacy may be considered subject to a minimum score of 7 (80%).

b. Performing and Creative Arts programmes (degrees and diplomas)

PROGRAMME	MINIMUM ADMISSION CRITERIA
Music Diploma Programmes	NSC endorsed for diploma studies with English at level 4; Music at level 5; OR Grade V Theory of Music and Grade VII Practical (Unisa); OR a qualification deemed by the Director of the College of Music to be equivalent. PTEEP and successful audition.
Performer's Diploma in Opera	NSC endorsed for diploma studies with English at level 4; and the PTEEP; the ability to read music; a good voice. A successful audition.
Bachelor of Music (Foundation Programme)	NSC endorsed for degree studies, 37 points with English at level 4, PTEEP and successful audition.
Bachelor of Music	NSC endorsed for degree studies, 37 points with English at level 4, Music at level 5; OR Grade V Theory of Music and Grade VII Practical (Unisa) OR a qualification deemed by the Director of the College of Music to be equivalent, PTEEP and successful audition.
Dance Teacher's Diploma	NSC endorsed for diploma studies with English at level 4 and PTEEP; successful audition, Royal Academy of Dancing or ISTD Cecchetti Intermediate Certificate or a qualification deemed by the Head of Department to be equivalent, or at least three years of formal training in a recognised Dance discipline.
BMus (Dance)	NSC endorsed for degree studies, 37 points with English at level 4 and PTEEP, Royal Academy of Dancing or ISTD Cecchetti Intermediate Certificate or a qualification deemed by the Head of Department to be equivalent, or at least three years of formal training in a recognised Dance discipline. A successful audition.
BA (Fine Art)	NSC endorsed for degree studies, 37 points with English at level 4, PTEEP results and an assessment of artistic competence by submission of portfolio.
Performer's Diploma in Theatre	NSC endorsed for diploma studies with English at level 4; a successful audition and the PTEEP. Post Grade 12 theatre or language experience may be considered by the Head of Department in lieu of the English at level 4.
BA Theatre and Performance	NSC endorsed for degree studies, 37 points with English at level 4; a successful audition and the PTEEP.

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