



2019

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 at UCT. Mathematical Literacy is NOT sufficient.



If you are studying **Mathematical Literacy** you may want to **apply to Humanities** where Mathematics is not necessarily required for every programme.



You do not need to have Accounting or Economics as subjects at school to study in Commerce.



Write both National Benchmark Tests (NBTs) as early as possible. You need to do the Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy (AQL) and Mathematics (MAT) tests to be considered for Commerce.



The closing date for applications is 30 September. Late applications will not be considered.



If you want to apply for **Student Housing**, you should do so as early as possible. Applications are open from April of each year.



When applying to Commerce you **do not need to specify a degree choice**, unless you want to do Actuarial Science and/or be considered for an Academic Development programme. For more information read 'Your Guide to Undergraduate Studies in Commerce'.



2019 YOUR GUIDE TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN commerce

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WELCOME TO THE FACULTY OF COMMERCE

I am delighted that you are looking at the Faculty of Commerce at UCT as the place to pursue your tertiary studies. Here you can join top students from all over the world and become part of a richly diverse student body who are all striving for academic excellence. You will be learning together with and from the brightest and the best. Your world view will be challenged and expanded through your interactions with other exceptional young minds.



You and your classmates will go on to become leaders in your chosen fields, and the people you meet at UCT will form part of a powerful network for you.



YOUR WORLD VIEW WILL
BE CHALLENGED AND
EXPANDED THROUGH
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OTHER EXCEPTIONAL
YOUNG MINDS

If you have a flair for mathematics and you see yourself excelling in the world of business, then the Faculty of Commerce at UCT is an excellent choice for you. I invite you to explore the various options that will be open to you and to relish studying new courses which will include Economics, Information Systems and Evidence-based Management (learning

how to think critically). You will soon find your strengths and interests at UCT, and the flexibility between our degrees means that you will be able to swap after your first year if you wish to do so.

I hope that this booklet will prove useful to you as you make the important decision of where and what to study. If you choose to join us, and I hope you do, you can be assured that there is an exciting future ahead of you.

Wishing you all the best,
Professor Ingrid Woolard (outgoing Dean of Commerce)

MAKING CAREER CHOICES

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SETTLE ON A CAREER RIGHT AWAY



Career choice is not a once-off decision taken in Grade 12. Career development is an ongoing process, and most people have a number of different careers during their working life.

CHOOSING A COURSE OF STUDY IS NOT THE SAME AS CHOOSING A CAREER

Even though some qualifications appear to be directly connected to certain fields of work (e.g. Chartered Accountant), it does not mean that the career options open to those studying in these disciplines are limited to this subject area.



DO SOME RESEARCH BEFORE DECIDING



Many people have a mistaken idea about what an occupation involves. If you have a specific career in mind, find out as much as you can about it.

IF YOU WANT TO BE FULFILLED, CHOOSE SOMETHING YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AND GOOD AT

Students who are happy and interested in their studies are more committed and successful, so ensure that YOU choose something that makes YOU feel fulfilled.



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 other universities both locally and internationally. This research is brought into the classroom to enhance learning.

3

TEACHING METHODS

We place great emphasis on innovative teaching methods, provide small group tutorials, and high levels of consultation with academic staff.

4

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

We offer 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.



5

DEGREE FLEXIBILITY

While in the early stages of your undergraduate studies, you may choose to move from one specialisation to another. Many students also change degrees from BCom to BBusSc or from BBusSc to BCom.

6

CAREER CHOICES

Our undergraduate degrees meet international standards of excellence within an African context. Whether you want to work here or go abroad, change jobs or even careers, your Commerce degree will enable you to succeed in a rapidly changing work environment.

7

WHAT'S ON OFFER?

The Faculty offers two undergraduate degrees designed to give you maximum flexibility in your career – a Bachelor of Commerce (BCom) and a Bachelor of Business Science (BBusSc).

8

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commerce offers both degrees as standard or Academic Development (AD) programmes. If you meet the requirements for the AD BCom or BBusSc programmes, you may plan to complete your degree over the standard or an extended period (depending on your faculty points score).

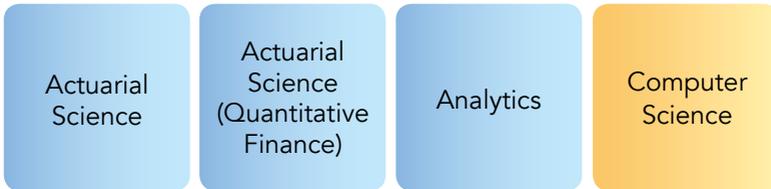
DEGREE PROGRAMMES AT A GLANCE

Remember that you must compare equivalent educational experiences, so you cannot compare a BBusSc degree with a BCom. You should compare a BBusSc with a BCom Honours degree in the particular discipline. Please note that for Chartered Accountants, you must complete the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting regardless of whether you do the BBusSc or the BCom as an undergraduate degree.

Even if you don't do a Commerce undergraduate degree, there are options to study in Commerce at postgraduate level through our Postgraduate Diplomas in Management or our BCom Honours in Financial and Portfolio Management (FAPM).

Bachelor of Business Science Degree (4 or 5 years)

DISCIPLINES



Science Maths (MAM1000W) is compulsory for the above disciplines.

Commerce Maths (MAM1010 and MAM1012) is required for the disciplines below.



Bachelor of Commerce Degree (3 or 4 years)

ACCOUNTING: SPECIALISATIONS

General Accounting

Chartered Accountant

Accounting with Law

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

MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Management Studies

BCOM OR BBUSSC? HOW DO I CHOOSE?

What are the similarities?

Entry requirements are similar for both degrees, and each offers a variety of programmes and options to cater for both the interests of our students and the employment needs of the country. The first year of the BBusSc and the BCom is more or less common, for two main reasons:

1

All Commerce graduates should have a solid academic foundation in a range of 'core' subject areas: Accounting, Information Systems, Economics, Business Law, Mathematics, Statistics, Evidence-based Management and Ethics.

2

We do not expect new students to finalise their degree or programme choices before being exposed to the disciplines at a tertiary level. The programmes are similar to give students the flexibility to move around as they discover where their strengths and interests lie.

What are the differences?

In the standard format, a BBusSc takes four years to complete, and a BCom takes three. As the BBusSc takes a year longer to complete, it includes a compulsory core of business-related subjects, which are also required for the BCom Management Studies degree.

A BBusSc gives students the opportunity to specialise in an additional discipline taken at 4th year (level 8) enabling them to apply for a related Masters programme. BCom students can apply to do a 4th year (level 8) qualification known as Honours after completing their 3-year degree. This will also enable them to apply to a related Master programme after finishing Honours.

The BCom and BBusSci degrees may also be taken through the Education Development Unit (EDU) by students affected by disparities in educational or life experiences. The BBusSc can be taken over a four- or five-year period, and the BCom over a three- or four-year period. In the EDU, students receive range of

additional support not offered in the standard programmes. You can find out more about the EDU on pages 12 and 13.

BCom in Management Studies

The BCom Management Studies is the most flexible degree offered in the Faculty of Commerce. The degree enables students to take courses traditionally reserved for BBusSc students up to third-year level. Students on this programme take more courses than those on the other BCom programmes. In addition to the 18 core courses, this degree requires students to complete another 9 electives.

Please read through this brochure and the relevant sections in UCT's Undergraduate Prospectus. You can also visit our website or contact the Commerce Faculty Office (details on the back cover) for more information. In addition, a range of student advisors will be available during orientation and registration to offer further advice and guidance.

When do I have to choose?

You DON'T select a degree when you apply unless it is for Actuarial Science. Because we want students to make informed choices after they learn more during Orientation at the beginning of their first year, we have made the application process really simple. A student accepted into Commerce may register for ANY Commerce degree or programme provided that their final Grade 12 scores and NBTs meet the minimum subject criteria specified on pages 24 to 26. **You may only choose ONE of the following four options when you apply.**

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE BBusSc/BCom

 Mainstream OR  Academic Development programme*

ALL OTHER COMMERCE DEGREES BBusSc/BCom

 Mainstream OR  Academic Development programme*

* See the next page for information about Academic Development programmes

Actuarial Science: If you do not meet the conditional offer points for Actuarial Science, but you meet the criteria for the other Commerce degrees, we will automatically make you an offer for those programmes. If, in your final Matric and NBTs, you meet the minimum Actuarial Science entrance criteria, you will be eligible to register for an Actuarial Science programme.

All other Commerce undergraduate programmes: Your final choice of which programme or degree to register for is made ONLY at the end of orientation once you have received more information on the common core of 10 courses in all degrees, the flexibility between the programmes and the different disciplines offered.

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU)

BBusSc 4- or 5-year programme
BCom 3- or 4-year programme
(Both options also include Actuarial Science)

The EDU recognises and specifically addresses disparities in students' educational or life experiences, so that they can more easily succeed – and excel – in their studies at UCT. EDU students in turn contribute to the rich diversity of the Commerce Faculty which benefits from a creative and dynamic teaching and learning environment.

The BBusSc and BCom degree programmes have been structured over a four-or five-year period and three- and four-year period respectively, and provide a range of additional support and value not included in the standard programmes. The EDU aims to enhance their students' university experience by helping them develop a comprehensive range of educational and life skills that will not only help them achieve success in their studies, but will also be of value in their future careers.

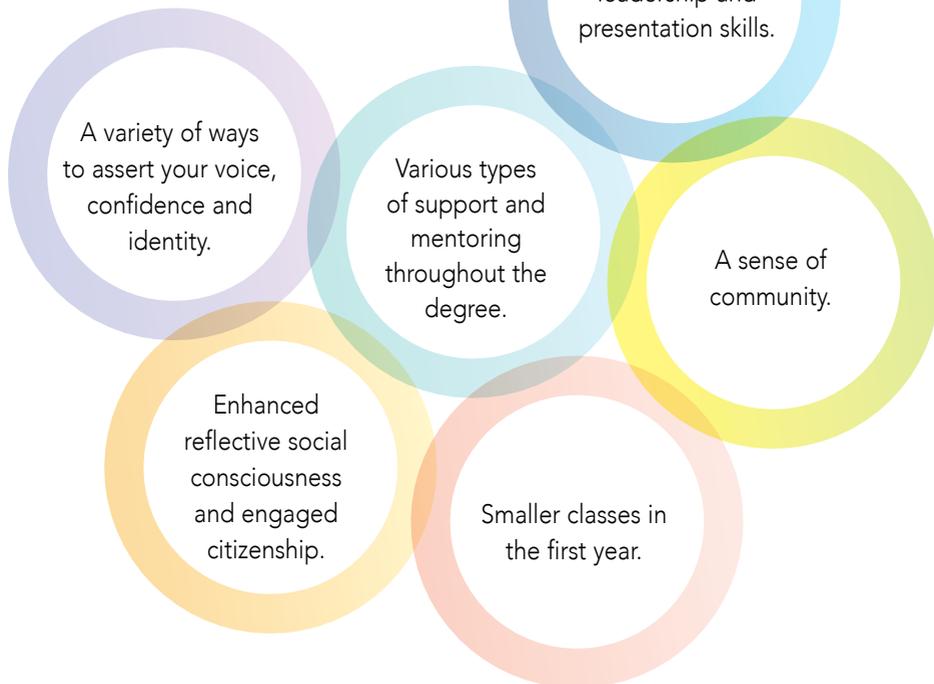
Admission to the programme

Your application for the EDU Academic Development programmes is carefully screened to assess whether you will benefit from 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 AD BBusSc or AD BCom you are eligible to complete any of the BBusSc/BCom specialisations (providing that you meet the particular requirements for the given specialisation).

Being on an AD programme provides you with an extensive variety of support, opportunities and incentives:



EDU structure

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

It is important to remember that a student who has completed the requirements for the EDU BBusSc/BCom will be awarded exactly the same degree certificate as a student who has completed the standard BBusSc/BCom degree.

For more information about the EDU, please do not hesitate to contact us (see contact details on the back cover 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.

In the first year, depending on your choice of programme, you may be exposed to the disciplines outlined in this section. A number of these disciplines are included in the core courses required for all undergraduate degrees (BBusSc and BCom) as introductory knowledge is fundamental for a Commerce graduate working in any organisation. Items marked with an asterisk * are part of the core for all degrees.

We asked the academic leaders of each discipline to answer these questions below and their answers are outlined on the following pages.

- How does your discipline contribute to general economic and social development in SA and globally?
- What is special about your discipline?
- What kind of person succeeds in this discipline?
- If your discipline is also taught at high school, what is the main difference between the school and university versions?
- What sorts of organisations or sectors employ graduates with specialist knowledge in your discipline?

For more information, download the Commerce Undergraduate Handbook
<http://www.commerce.uct.ac.za/Pages/Prospective-Students>

ACCOUNTING *

A good understanding of accounting is essential for financial literacy. This is important in any organisation and in life. So, understanding financial information is empowering whether you are an entrepreneur, the owner of a spaza or corner shop or leading a multinational. It is the ability to understand the financial impact of decisions on a range of stakeholders (investors, employees, government and society) that drives our economy and contributes to a more equal society. And accountants are key because generally we understand the flow of the money.

Accounting is essential as financial literacy underpins everything we do in our personal lives and is an integral part of all organisations.

A person who is; honest and ethical, committed to hard work, responsive to change, a problem solver, a good communicator, detail focussed and a lifelong learner will make a good accountant.

School accounting is largely focused on the recording of transactions with an internal focus. At university accounting studies focus on the decision making that influences those transactions, communicating financial information to a broader audience outside the organisation, and interrogating that financial information to ensure that it is reliable.

All organisations employ accountants (and particularly those who wish to function well). Accountants can work in different areas, including financial reporting, tax, management accounting and decision making, auditing and corporate governance, or in broader business. Many people who qualify as accountants later choose careers in senior management.

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE

Actuaries use statistical techniques to solve financial and business problems. This is used to evaluate uncertain future events and various other financial risks. Being able to quantify uncertainty and risk helps individuals and businesses concentrate on the things that really matter. Actuaries operate within a strict professional and ethical framework.

Actuaries have an extensive skill set that can be used in insurance, pensions, investments, banking, health care and risk management, and other areas. Many

actuaries use their training to branch into wider business fields, such as agriculture, infrastructure and telecoms.

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 generally have great starting salaries and enjoy good job security.

Actuarial Science is suited to anyone who is willing to undertake several years of exacting study and has a well-disciplined approach to problem-solving. As the professional qualification is so demanding, the University generally requires an applicant to have obtained at least 80% for Mathematics (higher grade for NSC) and at least 60% for English (home language) in addition to the required admission points score.

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), and as such, students can gain exemptions from some of the professional examinations required for the FASSA designation. Students who meet the demanding standard can currently obtain exemptions up to 10 of the 15 professional examinations.

The ASSA website (www.actuarialsociety.org.za) provides comprehensive information for aspiring actuaries.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science (along with related disciplines) is about the creation of computer software. This is required for economic and for human development in every country. Many countries have economies that either hinge strongly on or were raised out of the low-income category because of computing. Information Communication Technology (ICT) for development is a specific discipline in computing that is a focus at UCT and is about the application of computing for social/human development.

The Information Age arose because of the radical changes constantly brought about in society because of computers. No other discipline has had such a profound influence on modern society. Many of the wealthiest people in the world made their fortunes in computing and numerous economically successful companies are computing companies.

Most of the most sought-after jobs in the world (according to regular surveys) are in computing. It is not unusual for more than half of the 10 most desirable jobs on any such listing to require a computer science (or related) degree. Computing is one of the most marketable skills on the planet.

Successful computer scientists are logical thinkers, disciplined, have an eye for detail, can communicate in written and verbal form and collaborate well with others.

The high school IT subject concentrates on the mechanics of basic programming, without a solid foundation in fundamental principles and with more emphasis on problem solving than design. Computer Science has some overlap in the first semester of the first year, with very little overlap thereafter. Moreover, a new programming language is introduced immediately and there is more focus on the fundamental aspects of computer science.

The computer science field requires a great number of qualified graduates every year, but also needs graduates with different skills to fulfill a variety of roles in industry, across all sectors. According to industry data, a considerable number need to have a combination of computer science and business skills. Both the BBusSc in Computer Science and the BCom in Information Systems and Computer Science fulfil this requirement.

ECONOMICS *

Economics focusses on the ways in which consumers, firms, and markets operate and thereby teaches students how to critically analyse the factors that affect economic and social development both locally and internationally. Furthermore, it equips students with a useful set of 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 between institutions in our society. Economics is a constantly 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 that is 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 who is interested in the way the world works (e.g., why is poverty so hard to eradicate, what is the role of the Reserve Bank, how should the Finance Minister

allocate the budget, why consumers purchase the goods that they do, why firms make the decisions that they do, why markets operate in more or less efficient ways, etc.) will find economics fascinating. Someone with a critical mind and an ability to understand logic, mathematics, and statistics will excel in economics.

While economics is taught at school, it is at a very simple level and without exploring alternative explanations for fundamental economic phenomena. At university, students are assumed to have no prior knowledge of economics, so it is taught from first principles and students are shown 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 work as trade diplomats. In the private sector, they include financial analysis and asset management, journalism, research for NGOs, consulting firms, business associations and trade unions, as well as independent consulting work.

FINANCE

Money is the lifeblood of all organisations and economies. Because the availability of money is limited, it is important that funds be raised in the most economical and effective way and be invested as effectively and profitably as possible whilst minimising the risk involved. This applies to households, communities, businesses, investment funds, and governments. Finance is the discipline that is concerned with the sourcing, allocation and investment of funds. Thus, good financial skills and professionals are fundamental to the growth and success of any organisation and country.

Finance is both a science (it is based on rigorous theory and quantitative models), and an art (it requires judgment and insights into things like human behaviour). Thus, it is an extremely diverse discipline, which overlaps with accounting, economics, mathematics, politics, psychology, strategy, statistics and many other disciplines. Furthermore, although finance considers the past, it is mostly focused on the future.

People who succeed in finance like to deal with diverse information and the complexities of the real world.

One of the challenges that first year students have when choosing a degree is that they are often not familiar with the finance discipline. However, some finance

elements are covered at school in economics, accounting and business-related subjects.

Finance has a role to play in most organisations, but specialists in the field are specifically employed in the investment industry (asset management), the financial industry (for example in banks), and in large organisations.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS *

Information systems are pervasive throughout organisations and society today. People interact with them daily - when using mobile phone apps, posting messages on social media, booking a flight ticket online, or even ordering an Uber. Organisations use information systems to, amongst other things, deliver better customer service, improve business processes and make better decisions through sophisticated analysis and visualisation of data. Information Systems professionals play an essential role in optimising new and existing information technologies, to design and develop innovative solutions for the benefit of organisations and society.

Information Systems is highly dynamic, and there is always something new. Whether our current era is defined as the Information Age, Knowledge Age, Digital Age or Second Machine Age, Information Systems are an underpinning feature.

Information Systems is an exciting field in which you dream, design, create and implement IT solutions to help all organisation operate better. People working in this area need an interest in and understanding of both business and information technology, effective communication and teamwork skills, and a flair for design and creativity.

At school computer-based subjects include Information Technology (IT) and Computer Applications Technology (CAT). Information Systems is different to CAT; CAT focusses on using computer applications and Information Systems on designing them. There is a small overlap between Information Systems and the school subject IT. IT focuses on the development, or programming, of computer applications. In Information Systems, while there is some programming (the create part), the emphasis is on design.

All organisations (big and small, business and community) and all sectors (public, private, non-profit) employ information systems graduates. Some of our alumni chose to start their own businesses, building on innovative solutions developed as part of their studies, examples include GetSmarter and WhereIsMyTransport.

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; using 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 personal legal documentation in order; and contributing to 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 and attorneys in law firms, by the Department of Justice as state attorneys, prosecutors, legal drafters, magistrates and judges and by 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; there are forensic auditors and ombudsmen, ethics and employment officers, 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 the 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.

With some undergraduate degrees, including the BCom and BBusSc Law options, it is possible to complete the postgraduate LLB degree in two years rather than three. This is because some of the courses offered in the LLB have been incorporated into the curricula of these degrees. Commerce options leading to a two-year postgraduate LLB include the BCom Accounting with Law, the BCom Economics with Law, and the BBusSc Economics with Law specialisations.

MANAGEMENT STUDIES

Management Studies options are offered through various BBusSc specialisations as well as the BCom in Management Studies. Students registered for the BCom have an extensive range of choice in subject areas but need to complete the general core

courses of the first three years of the Business Science degree. The combination of academic rigour and flexibility which enables students to make the most of their strengths and interests makes graduates very attractive to employers.

The BCom Management Studies option, offered over a minimum of three years, requires students to complete 27 courses, of which 18 are prescribed and mirror the core courses of a Business Science degree, as well as 9 or more courses from a basket of electives ranging for example, from Marketing to Political Studies to Statistical Sciences.

This is the ideal degree for a student who wants a more bespoke combination of subjects and the opportunity to tailor the degree to their specific requirements. The BCom Management Studies enables students to select a varied range of subjects in their graduation year. Students have graduated in disciplines such as Spanish and Economics, Maths and Philosophy.

MARKETING

Marketing is an area of study which leads to exciting and challenging work opportunities, both locally and overseas. Marketing is recognised as being crucial to the success of both private sector and other organisations not traditionally regarded as being business enterprises. Given the massive changes taking place in the contemporary business environment, the tasks of identifying and serving customers' needs, managing communications with ever-advancing technology and meeting management objectives through marketing strategy have never been more challenging.

The increasing demand for marketing graduates who can immediately apply their knowledge and skills in the workplace, particularly those with a solid knowledge of the fundamentals of business, testifies to the popularity of the Marketing specialisation of the BBusSc degree or from any undergraduate degree via the Postgraduate Diploma in Management specialising in Marketing.

Individuals who are successful in marketing are creative; they think out of the box and could convince you to buy ice in winter.

Career prospects are not limited to companies traditionally associated with marketing, i.e. consumer goods sellers; banks, insurance companies, retailers, market research houses, the public sector and many other organisations increasingly employ marketing graduates. Additionally, with the emphasis today on small business, many graduates experience great success in starting their own businesses.

ORGANISATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Organisational Psychology is an applied field of Psychology. It deals with individual and group behaviour in organisations, and the management of people in the workplace. Previously the discipline was called Industrial Psychology, because it was mainly used in the manufacturing industry and served to increase business profits. Some universities' departments are still called Industrial Psychology or Human Resource Management. UCT uses the term Organisational Psychology to reflect the broader sphere in which practitioners now work.

Today, people working in the field apply their knowledge to meet much broader goals. For example, by advising government departments on how to improve policy to make them more effective or consulting to business, social organisations and communities on how to eradicate inequality in society. At UCT a number of staff members use their expertise to contribute to fulfilling the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

In Organisational Psychology you gain an in-depth understanding of what drives people's behaviour. By understanding people, you can carefully select how to communicate and how to structure organisations and processes to direct people's behaviour.

Successful organisational psychologists are interested in people and problem solving, have strong analytical skills, think strategically and creatively, and seek to develop an in-depth understanding of situations. We require students to build logical arguments substantiated by evidence, and develop strong writing and research (statistical) skills.

Organisational Psychology has become increasingly crucial as organisations realise that people are their most important asset. Our graduates are employed in human resources and other areas across all sectors – business, government, NGOs, management consultancies, etc. In the Future of Jobs report the World Economic Forum predicts that people management skills will be among the skills most in demand by 2020.

QUANTITATIVE FINANCE

The increasing complexity of the modern financial services environment created a demand for professionals with strong quantitative skills. The Quantitative Finance specialisation, therefore, shares much of the same foundation as Actuarial Science,

with a greater emphasis on applications in the world of 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 such fields as investment banking, derivatives trading and quantitative asset management. Most graduates go on to pursue postgraduate studies in financial economics or mathematical finance, or the internationally recognised Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) qualification.

STATISTICAL SCIENCES *

(Analytics in the BBusSc)

Big Data has become the subject of attention worldwide, with its sudden rise creating a demand for analysts globally. Big Data is characterised by high volume, high velocity, or high variety. Big Data comes from sensors, devices, video/audio, networks, log files, transactional applications, web, and social media – much of it generated in real time and on a very large scale.

Statisticians are key players in the analytics/data science environment, using their quantitative skills to transform large amounts of data into information to solve real-world problems and enhance decision making. The skills learnt during studies in Statistical Sciences are current and have universal application.

Analytics/data science is a multidisciplinary field incorporating statistics and computer science that uses quantitative skills in 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."

In 2017 the most in-demand skill in South Africa (and second most in-demand globally) was Statistical Analysis and Data Mining. It has thus been our experience that our students find it easy to obtain jobs immediately after graduation, and that they are promoted rapidly into management positions. If you enjoy quantitative subjects, have problem-solving skills and consider yourself to be a logical, creative and innovative thinker, then a career in analytics and data science is for you.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants need to write both of the National Benchmark Tests (Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy, and Mathematics) at the earliest opportunity. The results of these tests may lead to an early offer.

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 the calculation of your Faculty Points Score (FPS).
- Performance in both of the National Benchmark Tests (AQL and MAT). A maximum of two attempts will be allowed. For further information about NBT dates and venues, please visit www.nbt.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 COMMERCE PROGRAMMES EXCLUDING Actuarial Science

* If Computer Science or Analytics is selected at REGISTRATION in February 2019 a minimum of 70% for Maths is required.

ELIGIBLE	BAND	REQUIREMENTS
ALL APPLICANTS	BAND A FPS	<p>GUARANTEED ADMISSION</p> <p>FPS of 480 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 60%* English HL 50% English FAL 60%</p>
ALL APPLICANTS	BAND B FPS	<p>PROBABLE ADMISSION</p> <p>FPS of 440 - 479 NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 60%* English HL 50% English FAL 60%</p> <p>Minimum required for possible admission FPS of 425 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 60%* English HL 50% English FAL 60%</p>
Only SA applicants in targeted redress race groups with a disadvantage factor greater than 1	BAND C FPS	<p>POSSIBLE ADMISSION TO THE COMMERCE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU)</p> <p>FPS of 420 or above NBT scores of Lower Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 60%* English HL 50% English FAL 60%</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances a Basic score for QL may be mitigated by a score of Intermediate in NBT Maths</p>

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

BCom and BBusSc ACTUARIAL SCIENCE

ELIGIBLE	BAND	REQUIREMENTS
ALL APPLICANTS	BAND A FPS	GUARANTEED ADMISSION FPS of 500 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 80% English HL 60% English FAL 80% (but require Proficient for AL & QL)
ALL APPLICANTS	BAND B FPS	PROBABLE ADMISSION FPS of 480 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 80% English HL 60% English FAL 80% (but require Proficient for AL & QL)
Only SA applicants in targeted redress race groups with a disadvantage factor greater than 1	BAND C FPS	POSSIBLE ADMISSION TO THE COMMERCE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU) FPS of 475 or above NBT scores of Upper Intermediate for AL & QL Maths 80% English HL 60% English FAL 80% (but require Proficient for AL & QL)

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

IMPORTANT: It is compulsory for all applicants to write BOTH of the National Benchmark Tests: AQL and Mathematics

FACULTY OF COMMERCE CONTACT DETAILS

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For information about the EDU and AD programmes, contact Sherry Stuart:

Tel: 021 650 4022 or Email: Sherry.Stuart@uct.ac.za

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