

2020

BACHELOR OF COMMERCE
BACHELOR OF BUSINESS SCIENCE

YOUR GUIDE
TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES IN
commerce



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 degree.
-  **You do not need to have Accounting, Economics or Business Studies 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 31 July. 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 you apply to Commerce you do not need to specify a degree choice, you only need to choose ONE of the options below:

ACTUARIAL SCIENCE BBusSc/BCom

-  Mainstream OR  Academic Development programme*

ALL OTHER COMMERCE DEGREES BBusSc/BCom

-  Mainstream OR  Academic Development programme*

(* See pages 11 & 12 for details)

For more information, visit the Faculty Downloads page at

www.commerce.uct.ac.za or contact the

Commerce Faculty Office (details on page 27).

A range of student advisors will be available during orientation and registration to offer further advice and guidance.



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WELCOME TO THE FACULTY OF COMMERCE

We are delighted that you are considering the Faculty of Commerce at UCT as the place to pursue your tertiary studies. Here you can join top students from all over the country, continent, and the world and become part of a richly diverse student body who are all striving for academic excellence. You will be learning with and from the brightest and the best. Importantly, 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. If you have a

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.

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. We invite you to explore the various options that are available to you and to enjoy studying new courses that will include Economics, Information Systems, and Evidence-based

Management, i.e. learning how to think critically. You will soon find your strengths and interests at UCT, and the flexibility between our degrees means that, should you wish to, you will be able to swap after your first year.

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

Wishing you all the best,

Associate Professor Linda Ronnie (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 or Actuary), 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



Nobody can fully predict the future or what needs the economy and society may have in 10 years' time. 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 ENJOY

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

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.



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. 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.

7

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 in your career.

8

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

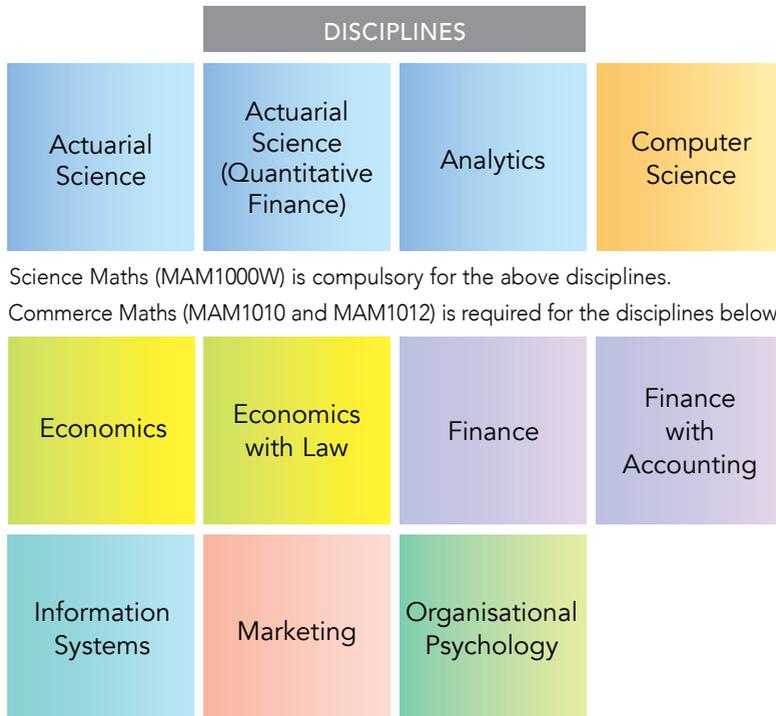
Commerce offers both degrees as standard or Academic Development (AD) programmes. If you meet the requirements for the AD BCom or BBusSc programmes, you may plan to complete your degree over the standard or an extended period (depending on your faculty points score).

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)



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

Information
Systems and
Finance

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 employment needs. 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 first-year students to finalise their degree choices before being exposed to the disciplines at a tertiary level. The degrees are similar to give students the flexibility to change 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 degree. BCom students can apply to do a 4th year (level 8) qualification known as Honours or a Postgraduate Diploma after completing their 3-year degree. This enables them to apply to a related Masters degree after finishing Honours.

The BCom and BBusSc degrees may also be taken through the Education Development Unit (EDU) by South African 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 a range of additional support. You can find out more about the EDU on pages 12 and 13.

BCom in Management Studies

The BCom in Management Studies is the most flexible degree offered in the Faculty of Commerce. The degree enables students to take the same core courses as BBusSc students up to third-year level. Students on this degree are prescribed more courses than those on the other BCom degrees. In addition to the 18 core courses, students are required to complete another 9 electives.

This is the ideal degree for a student who wants a more personalised combination of disciplines and the opportunity to tailor the degree to their specific requirements. The BCom in 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, Mathematics and Philosophy.

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 degrees. 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 degree.

All other Commerce undergraduate programmes: Your final choice of which degree or discipline 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 degrees and the different disciplines offered.

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT UNIT (EDU)

BBusSc 4- or 5-year degree

BCom 3- or 4-year degree

(Both options also include Actuarial Science)

The EDU recognises and specifically addresses disparities in South African 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 degrees 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. 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.

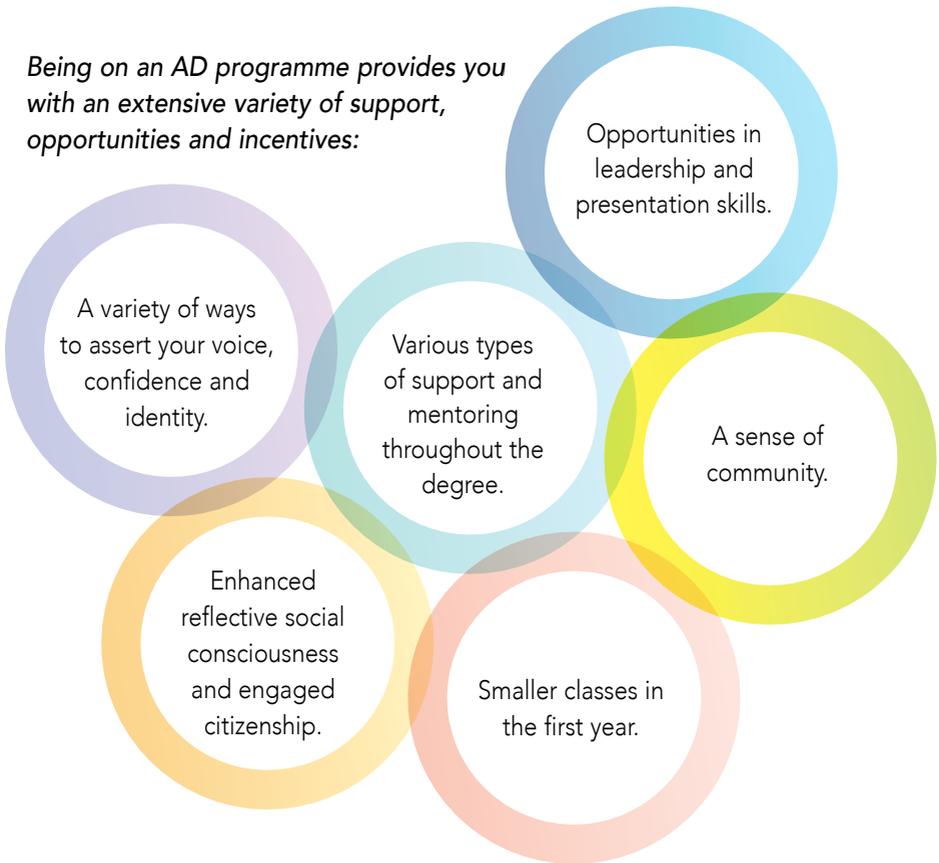
Admission to the EDU

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), 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 page 27 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.



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 they 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 9 of 12 professional examinations during their undergraduate degree. A further 2 can be obtained as part of a postgraduate qualification.

The ASSA website (www.actuarialsociety.org.za) provides comprehensive information for aspiring actuaries, as well as detailed information on the curriculum effective from 2019, which includes 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, 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.

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 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 by 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 design, create and implement IT solutions to help organisations to 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). Both subjects differ from Information Systems. Information System focuses on designing and implementing computer applications while CAT and IT focus on using computer applications.

As with Computer Science, Information Systems graduates are in high demand. All organisations (big and small, business and community) and all sectors (public, private, non-profit) employ information systems graduates. Medical insurance companies, banks, accounting firms and government departments depend on information systems. With their skills in understanding people, computers and organisations, Information Systems graduates are able to design and implement new solutions that further the development of our society.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Computer Science is about the creation of computer software, which is required for economic, social and for human development in every country. Many countries have economies that either hinge strongly on or were raised out of the low-income status because of computing.

The 4th Industrial Revolution arose out of the radical changes 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.

The most sought-after jobs in the world are in the computing industry. The ability to design and develop software, to understand the concepts of artificial intelligence, to mathematically solve some of our greatest software challenges, is, without doubt, the most marketable skill 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. The degree of Computer Science has little in common with IT at school. The first year of Computer Science introduces you to programming languages, as well as architecture and databases of computing. After that, you move on to more substantial fields such as artificial intelligence, image processing, networks, etc.

The computer science field requires a great number of qualified graduates every year but also needs graduates with different skills to fulfil 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.

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 leverage their strengths and interests makes graduates attractive to employers.

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.

Possible marketing roles include product manager, brand manager, social media marketer, public relations manager, advertising executive and marketing manager. 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 applies psychology to work. 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 applied in the manufacturing industry and served to increase business profits. Some universities' departments are still called Industrial Psychology, but UCT uses the term Organisational Psychology to reflect the broader sphere in which practitioners now work. For example, as advisors to government departments on how to improve the effectiveness of policy or consultants to business, social organisations and communities on how to eradicate inequality in society.

Organisational Psychology has become increasingly crucial as contemporary organisations realise that people are their most important asset. 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. Did you know that next to digital skills understanding how to manage people is considered one of the most important skills for jobs in the future?

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 skills.

Our graduates are employed as practitioners in a variety of areas ranging from change management, employee relations, learning and development to human resources management – across diverse sectors: corporate business, government, NGOs, and management consultancies.

(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."

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

PLEASE NOTE: * If Computer Science or Analytics is selected at REGISTRATION in February 2020 applicants must obtain a minimum of 70% for Mathematics.

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	<p>GUARANTEED ADMISSION</p> <p>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)</p>
ALL APPLICANTS	BAND B FPS	<p>PROBABLE ADMISSION</p> <p>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)</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 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)</p>

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: Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy (AQL) and Mathematics (MAT)

FACULTY OF COMMERCE CONTACT DETAILS

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For information about the EDU and AD programmes,
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Tel: 021 650 4022 or Email: Sherry.Stuart@uct.ac.za

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