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**INSTITUTIONAL DETAILS**

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<b>Name</b>	<b>University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg</b>
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<b>City, Country</b>	Johannesburg, South Africa
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<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.wits.ac.za/">https://www.wits.ac.za/</a>
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<b>About the university</b>	Wits is a remarkable university that is internationally distinguished for its excellent research, high academic standards and commitment to social justice.
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Wits is taking the lead in reimagining trendy Braamfontein to further our contribution towards delivering high level scarce skills for the global knowledge economy. Our location in Johannesburg, the economic and industrial heartland of the continent, places us in good stead to interact with the public and private sectors, civil society and other social agents to effect meaning-ful change in society.

From trying to discover what lies beneath the Earth's surface to saving lives through better healthcare systems, Wits is on the ground, making a difference. We have over 50 active projects on the African continent and the University is represented globally through our partnerships, collaborations, staff and student exchanges and our alumni around the world. Wits was also the co-founder of the African Research Universities Alliance.

With more than 85% of our research published in accredited international journals, we encourage cross-disciplinary research and collaborate with the best researchers and institutions across the globe. From telling the story of life, to finding solutions to deep level mining problems; from searching for the Higgs boson at CERN, to understanding the complexities of human interaction, Wits is at the forefront.

Wits graduates have gone on to become global leaders in every field of endeavour. Through their civic engagement, they have built cultural institutions, fought injustice, and worked to make their communities better places.

Wits University has 5 faculties encompassing the Sciences, Commerce, Law, Management, Engineering, Health Sciences and Humanities with 33 schools offering over 3000 courses.



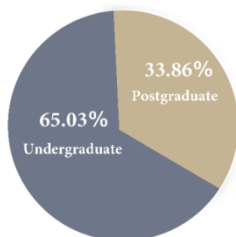
# ABOUTWITS

96 YEARS OLD (2018)

**11 libraries**  
**17 residences**



TOTAL STUDENTS  
37 374



**1125**

Number of Full-Time Permanent Academic Staff  
**26.93% international**  
**64.80% with PhDs**

**21 Alumni**  
**awarded National**  
**Orders by the**  
**President**

**7072**

TOTAL GRADUATES (2016)

**2**  
**COMMERCIAL**  
**COMPANIES**

Wits Enterprise & Wits Health Consortium

**largest fossil collections in the**  
**southern hemisphere**  
**internationally recognised as a leader in**  
**paleosciences**

WORLD RANKINGS  
2017/2018

**#1 (nationally)**  
**#181 (globally)**  
Centre for World University  
Rankings

**#1 (nationally)**  
**#201-300 (globally)**  
Academic Ranking of  
World Universities

**#36**  
BRICS Rankings

**In top 2 (nationally)**  
**#251-300 (globally)**  
Times Higher Education  
Rankings

**#364**  
QS World University Rankings

**33**

**SCHOOLS**

**28** A-rated researchers

**381** NRF-Rated Researchers

**3610**

**COURSES**

**14** Distinguished Professors

**26** SARChI Research Chairs

**5**  
**FACULTIES**



13.62%

Science



24.73%

Commerce, Law  
& Management



19.19%

Engineering & the  
Built Environment



16.01%

Health Sciences



26.45%

Humanities

Home to the Bidvest  
Football Club



Wits owns the Sterkfontein  
Caves (in the Cradle of  
Humankind World  
Heritage Site)

home to  
**4 Nobel**  
**laureates**

Sir Aaron King  
Nadine Gordimer  
Nelson Mandela  
Sydney Brenner

more than  
**160 000**  
**DEGREES**

conferred since the first graduation  
ceremony on 4 October 1922, with around  
70 000 students graduating since 1994.

**10 national**  
**centres of**  
**excellence**

highest number of government  
funded centres of excellence in  
South Africa



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**(INTERNATIONALISATION &) STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS OFFICE**

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**Website** <https://www.wits.ac.za/research/strategic-partnerships/>

**Head** **Dr Mahomed Moolla**  
[Mahomed.Moolla@wits.ac.za](mailto:Mahomed.Moolla@wits.ac.za)

**Staff responsible for Erasmus+ ICM projects** **Mrs Alison Simons**  
[Alison.Simons@wits.ac.za](mailto:Alison.Simons@wits.ac.za)

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**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE**

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**Website** <https://www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/>

**Head** **Mrs Gita Patel**  
[Gita.Patel@wits.ac.za](mailto:Gita.Patel@wits.ac.za)

**Study Abroad (Inbound and Outbound)** **Ms Masego Bosilong**  
[Masego.Bosilong@wits.ac.za](mailto:Masego.Bosilong@wits.ac.za)

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**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

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**Academic calendar** It is divided in four terms:

- February - March
- April - June
- July – August
- September - November

<https://www.wits.ac.za/students/academic-matters/term-dates/>

**Course offer for Bachelor, Master and PhD students** <https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/>  
<https://www.wits.ac.za/postgraduate/>

**Credit system** The South African National credit rating system rates 10 notational study hours as equivalent to one credit. Credits represent a measure of all the learning activities engaged in by the student and include, among other, contact time, self-study, Work Integrated Learning (WIL) assignments, projects and examinations. Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor's degree and Bachelor of Honours degree qualification types assume a 30 week full time academic year.

Master's degree and Doctoral qualification types assume a 45 week full time academic year. An average full time equivalent student is expected to study for a 40 hour week, thus requiring minimum credit load of 120 credits per academic year for Certificates, Diplomas, and Bachelor's degrees and 180 credits per academic year for Master's degrees and Doctorates. On average, there are four 45 minutes lectures per week, per course. Attendance of tutorials and practicals is usually compulsory.

**Usual work load** 40 hour week

<http://www.wits.ac.za/students/academic-matters/rules-and-syllabuses/>

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**Grading System**

Class	Wits Percentage	Code
Fail	0% to 49%	F
Third	50% to 59%	D
Second	60% to 69%	C
Upper Second	70% to 74%	B
First	75% and over	A

Credit Conversion Guidelines – based on the Wits System

<https://www.wits.ac.za/media/migration/files/cs-38933-fix/migrated-pdf/pdfs-10/Credit%20Conversion%20Guidelines.pdf>

**Deadlines for registration**

Registration upon arrival

**Enrolment**

Complete and email the form below to [Alison.Simons@wits.ac.za](mailto:Alison.Simons@wits.ac.za)  
[http://www.wits.ac.za/media/wits-university/study/international/documents/Semester%20Study%20Abroad%20Application%20Form\(Incoming\)\\_editable.pdf](http://www.wits.ac.za/media/wits-university/study/international/documents/Semester%20Study%20Abroad%20Application%20Form(Incoming)_editable.pdf)

This application form should be accompanied by:

- A letter motivating why you want to study abroad at Wits
- A letter of support from your Wits supervisor
- A letter of award form A4U
- Copy of your most recent academic transcript
- CV
- Learning Agreement
- Proof of Medical Aid
- Proof of Accommodation
- A copy of passport (face page)

**Language of teaching**

Courses are taught in English.

**Recommended language skills**

A pass in the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a score of at least 7.0.

**Language learning**

Exchange students can enrol to study English at the Wits Language School, however they have to do so at their own cost and in their own time.  
<http://www.witslanguageschool.com/>

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

**Visa**

Students require a Study Visa for exchanges longer than 90 days. A Study Visa is issued to study at a specific institution and can take up to 8 weeks.

<https://www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/immigration-information/>

**Medical Insurance**

Students require South African Medical Aid Cover with a registered South African Medical Aid Provider for exchanges longer than 90 days.

<http://www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/applying-to-wits> 'Click' on



Medical Aid

- CompCare Wellness Medical Scheme  
<http://www.studentplan.co.za>  
0860 112 4636
- Discovery Health Medical Scheme  
<http://www.360students.co.za>  
0860 99 88 77 / +27 (0)11 529 6496
- Momentum Health  
<http://www.ingwehealth.co.za>  
0860 10 24 39 / +27 (0)12 671 8511

**Housing**

International House

**Self-catering mixed gender postgraduate residence**

International House is set in a beautiful manicured garden

- Housing: 88 postgraduate, honours, masters and PhD students
- Amenities include two TV lounges (one with DSTV), laundry, study room with computers and a tea room
- WiFi in all common areas
- Sports facilities on campus
- Free Wits bus service to all nearby campuses, and weekend buses to Rosebank shopping mall

Email: [studysa.international@wits.ac.za](mailto:studysa.international@wits.ac.za)

Phone: +27 11 717 1054

**Cost of living**

The average rate is around \$1 = R12.00 – R15.00.

The figures are to be used as guidelines only. Please note that prices are correct at the time of going to print.

Value Added Tax (VAT) is levied on most goods and services in South Africa. The current rate is 15% which is usually included in the marked price. Non-South African citizens or residents may claim back VAT on items taken out of the country provided the total value exceeds a specific amount. Documentation as proof will be required at the point of exit.

<b>FOOD</b>		
<b>Bread</b>	1 loaf	R12.00 – R15.00
<b>Potatoes</b>	1 kilogram	R15.00 – R25.00
<b>Milk</b>	2 litres	R20.00 - R25.00
<b>Eggs</b>	1 dozen	R23.00 – R30.00
<b>Pizzas</b>		R50.00 – R100.00 (depends on the size)
<b>Monthly groceries/meals for one person</b>		R2,000 – R4,000



OTHERS	
Computer Desktop	+/- R10,000
Laptop	+/- R15,000
Textbooks	R1,000 – R2,500 (locally printed)
	+/- R2,000 (imported)
Bus Ticket	R350 – R500 per month
Minibus Taxi	R15.00 single trip (depends on the distance)
Movie Ticket	R70.00 – R90.00 (discounted prices on various days)

EXPENSES	MONTH		YEAR	
	Rand (ZAR)	US\$	Rand (ZAR)	US\$
Rent*	5,000	335	60,000	4,000
Groceries/meals	2,000	135	24,000	1,600
Transport*	500	35	6,000	400
Pocket Money	1,000	67	12,000	800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>102,000</b>	<b>6,800</b>

\* Rental is for one bedroom apartment in the city. The amount quoted excludes electricity and water, which amounts to R400.00 – R800.00 per month depending on usage.

\* Transport: this amount is for the Metro Bus Service. The amount will vary depending on the area that you are traveling from.

\* Private/Metered Taxi fares are considerably higher than minibus taxis or buses. The fare will also vary depending on the distance.

### Students with disabilities

Disability Rights Unit (DRU)

As a University we are committed to working towards the goal of creating an accessible and welcoming environment for all students with disabilities. The University endeavours to make the learning environment a rich and rewarding one and continually strives to improve all aspects of accessibility – physically, technologically and socially.

The Disability Rights Unit (DRU) is able to assist students with the following disabilities:

- Visual
- Physical
- Hearing
- Learning
- Psychological
- Speech
- Chronic illnesses & painful conditions
- Seizure disorders
- Students with temporary disabilities (e.g. broken limbs) may request services for the period during which they are disabled.

DRU serves students who meet the following criteria:

- Those who have documented physical, medical, learning and/or psychological conditions;
- In cases where professionals have verified that the person needs individualised services to overcome severe disadvantages.

<https://www.wits.ac.za/disability-rights-unit/>



**Integration activities**

The International Students Office and Strategic Partnerships Office seeks to complement the services provided by faculties and academic departments to international students.

External to the University, the office interfaces with foreign representatives in South Africa, the Department of Home Affairs, Medical Aid providers, the SA Medical Schemes Council, the Matriculation Board and Universities South Africa (USA) and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)

The office offers the following non-academic services:

- Provide information on Wits and on studying (and living) in South Africa,
- Provide information and guidance on obtaining a Matriculation Exemption,
- Advice on immigration issues - application procedure for study visas and renewals of study visas,
- Provide information on South African approved medical aid service providers,
- Ensure that all international students are in compliance with university and government requirements prior to registration

In cooperation with the Strategic Partnerships Office (SPO), the International Students Office also facilitates the Semester Study Abroad Programme as well as other programmes creating opportunities for Wits students to study/conduct research at partner universities abroad.

The International Students Office also assists students in finding accommodation on campus.

Together with the Dean of Students Office, the International Students Office provides orientation for new international students in January and July. During orientation students will learn the values of the Wits community, discover the full array of what can be done as a Wits student and how to find support when needed. Although there is much to learn, there are student volunteers and staff members who are ready to offer advice and support throughout the transition to Wits. The goal of orientation is to enable Witsies to consider how to explore and pursue intellectual and personal interests.

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