



INSTITUTIONAL DETAILS

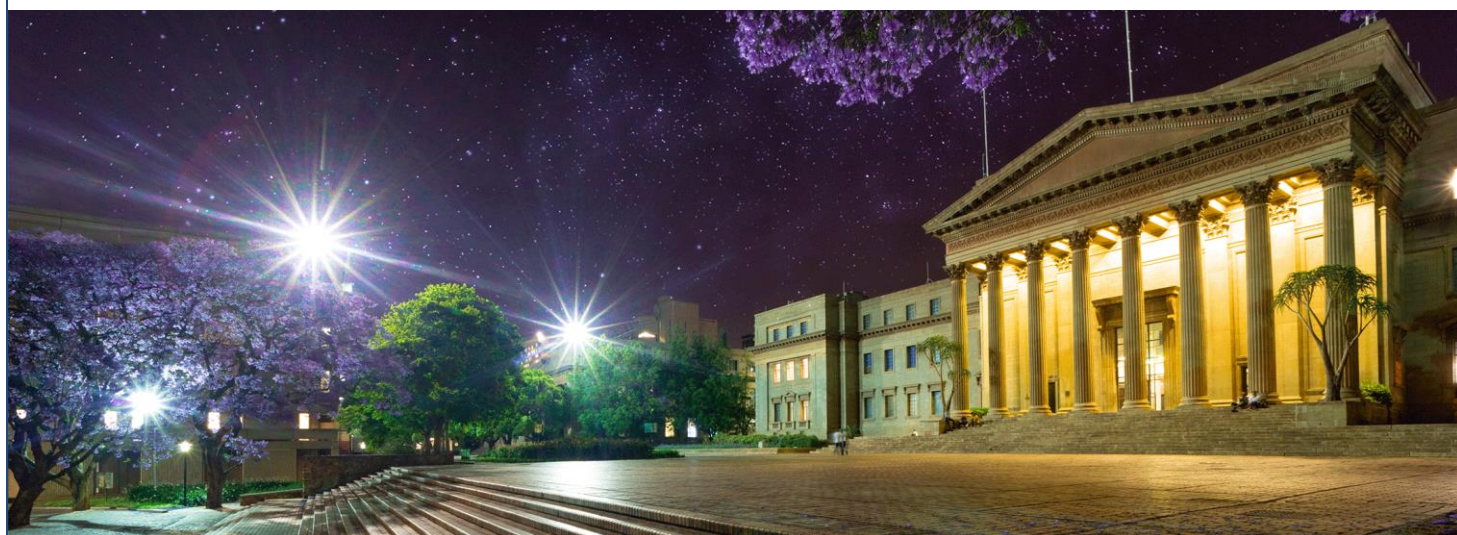
Name	University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg (Wits)
City, Country	Johannesburg, South Africa
Website	https://www.wits.ac.za/
Address	1 Jan Smuts Avenue, Braamfontein 2000, Johannesburg, South Africa
General enquiries	Tel: +27 (0)11 717 1000
Admission enquiries	Tel: +27 (0)11 717 1888
Erasmus code	998014086
About the university	Wits is a remarkable university that is internationally distinguished for its excellent research, high academic standards and its commitment to social justice in Africa and beyond.

Wits University is taking the lead in reimagining trendy Braamfontein to further our contribution in delivering high level scarce skills for the global knowledge economy. Our location in Johannesburg, the economic and industrial heartland of the African continent, places us in good stead to interact with the public and private sectors, civil society and other social agents to effect meaningful change in society.

From discovering what lies beneath the earth's surface to saving lives through better health care systems, Wits is on the ground making a difference. We have over 50 active projects around Africa and the University is represented globally through our partnerships, collaborations, staff, student exchanges and our alumni. Wits University is 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 University produces [more millionaires than any other university](#) in SA. Our graduates have gone on to become global leaders in every field of endeavour. Through their civic engagement, they have built cultural institutions, fought injustices and made their communities better places to live in. Our alumni office provides access to exclusive services, networks and news. There are immense benefits in being part of Wits.



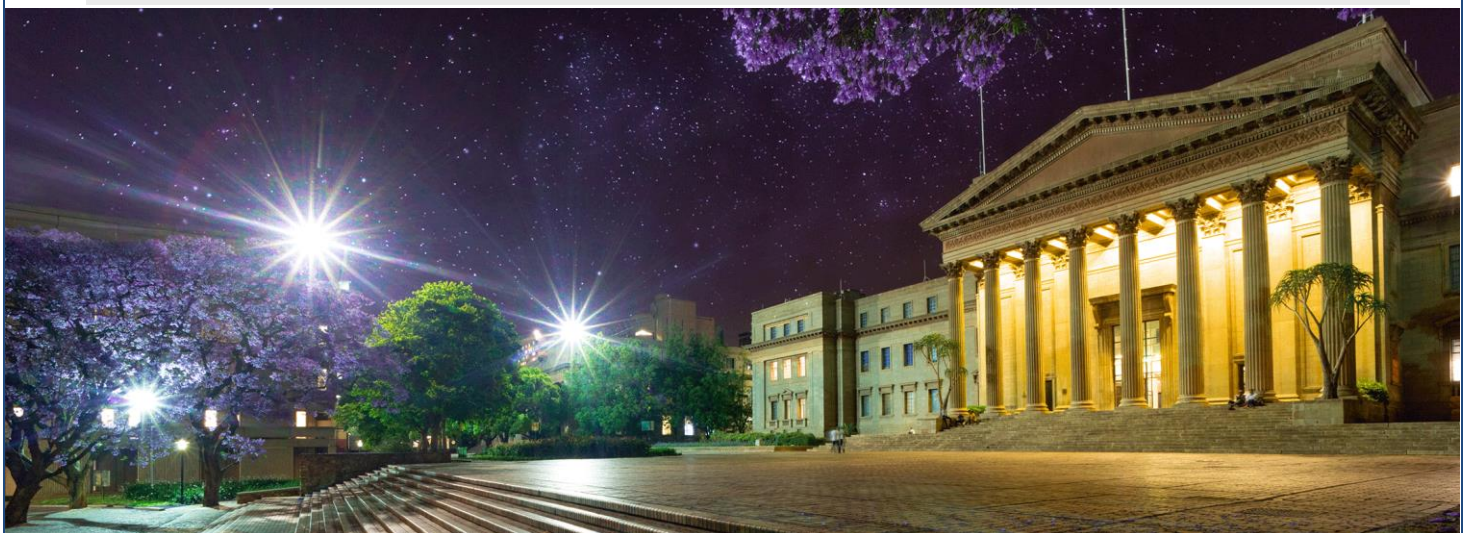


Wits University provides a wealth of academic, cultural and sporting options for undergraduate and postgraduate students. Our [support programmes](#) provide a bridging gap between high school and university by providing a support structure aimed at empowering and equipping first year university students with the necessary and essential skills to navigate successfully through university.

Wits University has five faculties (Commerce, Law and Management; Engineering and the Built Environment; Health Sciences; Humanities; Science) and 33 schools, it offers approximately 3 400 courses to 40 259 students. Over a third of the student body comprises postgraduate students. Library facilities consists of two central libraries and 12 branch libraries with students having access to over 1,5 million books. Approximately 5 000 students are accommodated in a number of residences and student villages. There are 42 sport clubs and many cultural opportunities in the form of over 60 student societies, the Wits Theatre, art galleries, concert hall and 7 museums.

Interesting Facts about Wits

- Wits is home to one of the largest fossil collections in the southern hemisphere and is internationally recognized as a leader in the palaeo-sciences. Wits scientists have been contributing to the palaeo-sciences record for almost a century.
- The University owns the Sterkfontein Cave (in the World Heritage Site), the Wits Rural Facility in Mpumalanga, and half of a private teaching hospital, the [Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre](#).
- Our medical school is one of the best on the continent and through the Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre we train more specialists and super-specialists than any other university in southern Africa.
- Wits will host the second African IBM Research Laboratory, one of only 12 such mega-labs across the world.
- Wits staff and students have access to 1 206 144 book volumes, 150 012 print and electronic journal titles, 234 online databases and over 3 300 collections of historical, political and cultural importance, encompassing the mid-17th Century to the present, some of which are being digitised for preservation.
- The Wits Arts Museum is one of Johannesburg's premier tourist attractions located in Wits' cultural arc, currently numbering over 9 000 items.





- We are also home to the Bidvest Football Club, which we co-own, and run one of the largest football clubs in the country - the Wits Football Club.
- The former Chancellor of the University, Dikgang Moseneke, is the former Deputy Chief Justice of South Africa. Wits Law School, one of the country's premier institutions, produced two of South Africa's post-1994 Chief Justices of the Constitutional Court.
- The Origins Centre, a world-class international tourist site at Wits, includes exhibitions on the Khoisan and Rock Art and tells the unique story of humankind's creativity. The University also boasts one of the largest and most diverse groups of geoscientists in Africa.
- The Wits School of Governance is the largest postgraduate school of public management in southern Africa.

28
A-RATED
SCIENTISTS



**4 NOBEL
LAUREATES**

Sir Aaron **Klug** Nadine **Gordimer**
Nelson **Mandela** Sydney **Brenner**

2 COMMERCIAL
COMPANIES

Wits Enterprise
&
Wits Health
Consortium

21 Alumni
awarded
National
orders by the
President



**Largest fossil
collections in
the southern
hemisphere**
Internationally
recognised as a
**leader in
Paleosciences**

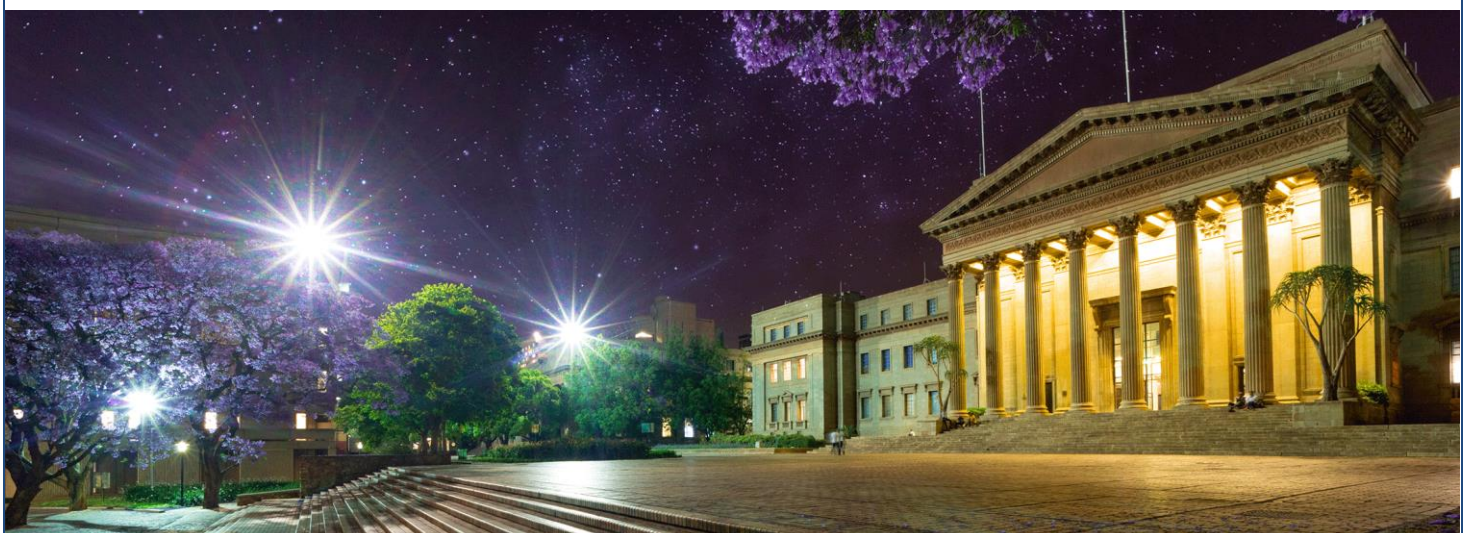
Home
to the
**Bidvest
Football Club**



10 **National
Centres of
Excellence**

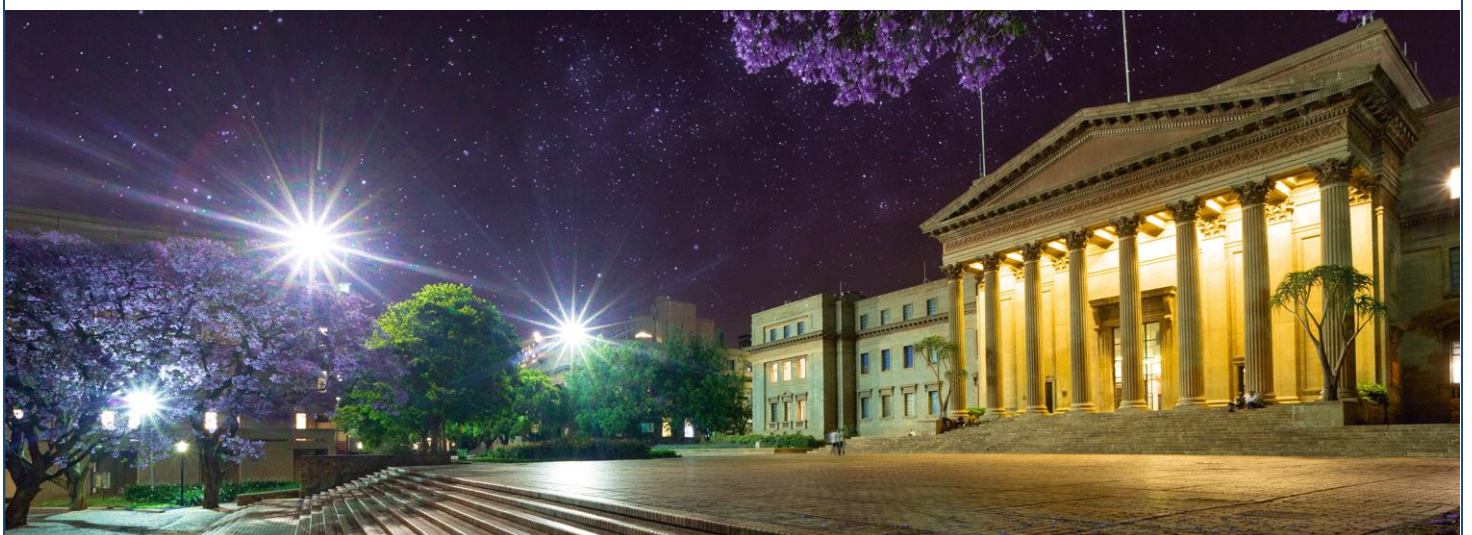
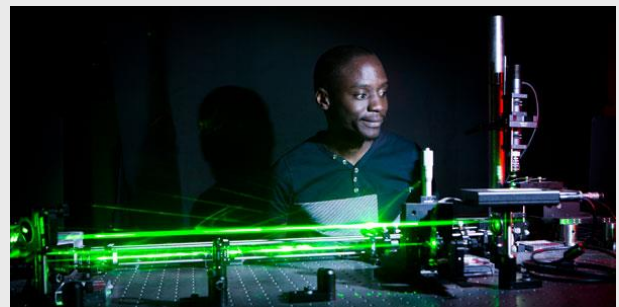


Highest number of
government funded
centres of excellence in
South Africa





- Wits offers a range of services to the community. The Disability Rights Unit is a model centre for higher education institutions that caters for disabled students, while the Centre for Deaf Studies offers support and education to caregivers and families of the Deaf. The Speech Pathology and Audiology offers speech and hearing therapy, counselling and psychotherapy to the public and acts as a practical training ground for students in this area.
- [Wits University Press](#) was established in 1922 and is South Africa's oldest university press. It has a long history of publishing in fields as diverse as politics, psychology, history, archeology and Rock Art, theatre and literary studies.
- [Facts and Figures Brochure 2018/19](#)





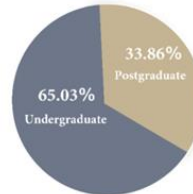
ABOUT WITS

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

3610
COURSES

28 A-rated researchers

NRF-Rated Researchers 381

14 Distinguished Professors

SARCHI Research Chairs 26

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

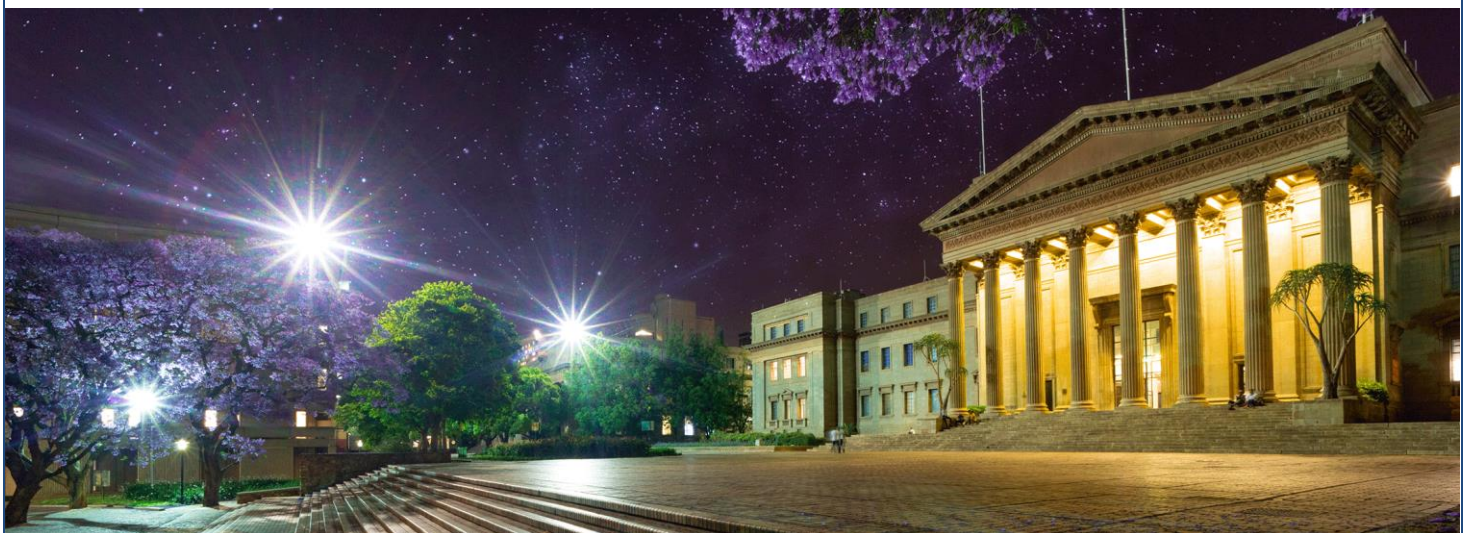
Sir Aaron King
Nadine Gordimer
Nelson Mandela
Sydney Brenner

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





(INTERNATIONALISATION &) STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS OFFICE

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

Head **Dr Mahomed Moolla**
Mahomed.Moolla@wits.ac.za

**Staff responsible for
Erasmus+ ICM
projects** **Mrs Alison Simons**
Alison.Simons@wits.ac.za

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE

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

Head **Mrs Gita Patel**
Gita.Patel@wits.ac.za

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

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

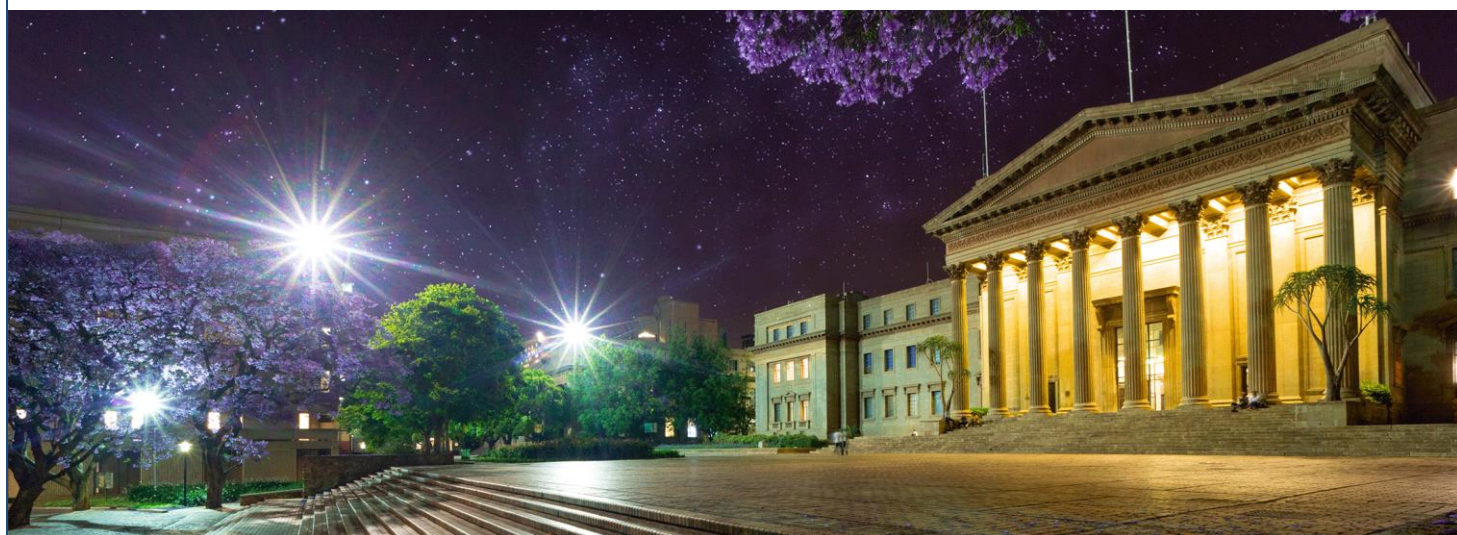
Academic calendar It is divided in four terms:

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

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

Please note:

- The Faculty of Health Sciences' term dates differ from those of the University and they may commence with lectures as early as the first working day in January.
 - Consult the University's website for more detailed information about dates of registration for different cohorts of students.
-





Recommended nomination period

Bachelor and Master students

Mobilities need to coincide with WITS teaching blocks

<https://www.wits.ac.za/students/academic-matters/term-dates/2020/>

PhD Students and Staff by mutual agreement between Wits and Home University, mobilities need to occur within Wits' teaching blocks

Semester 1 (February – June)	Semester 2 (July – November)
Nomination: 1 October	Nomination: 10 April
Enrolment: 21 October	Enrolment: 2 May
Registration: February (upon arrival)	Registration: July (upon arrival)

Course offer for Bachelor, Master and PhD students

<https://www.wits.ac.za/undergraduate/>

<https://www.wits.ac.za/postgraduate/>

Credit system

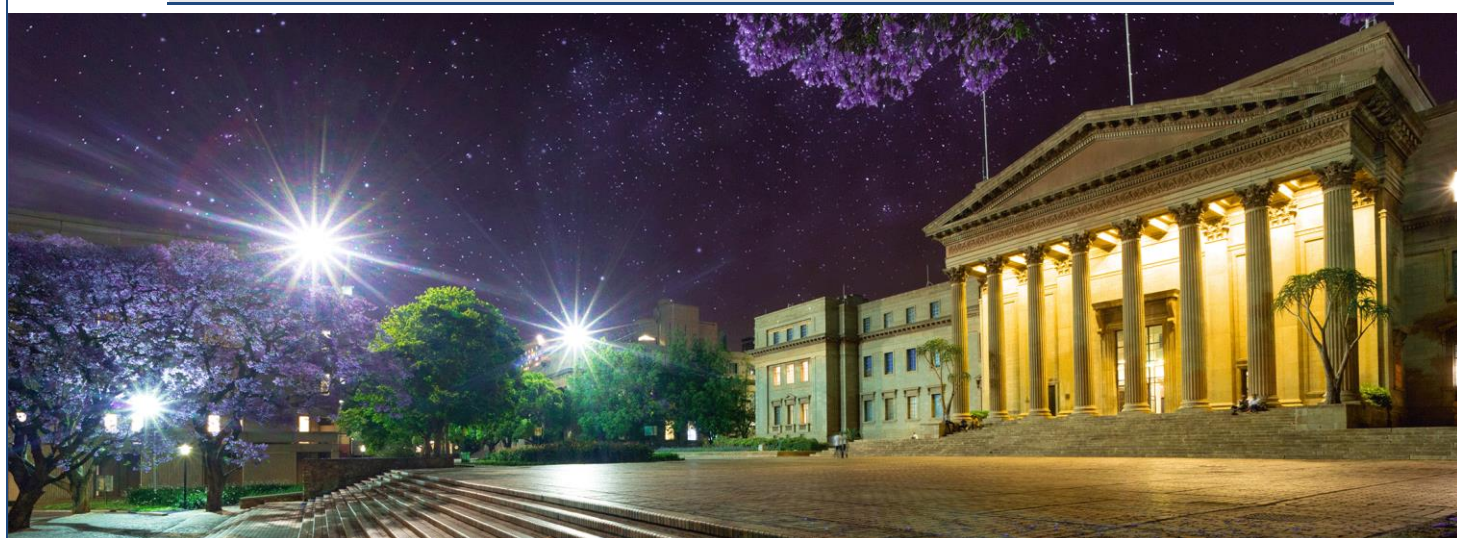
The South African National credit rating system rates 10 notational study hours as equivalent to one credit. Credits represent a measure of all the learning activities engaged in by the student and include, among other, contact time, self-study, Work Integrated Learning (WIL) assignments, projects and 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/>





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>

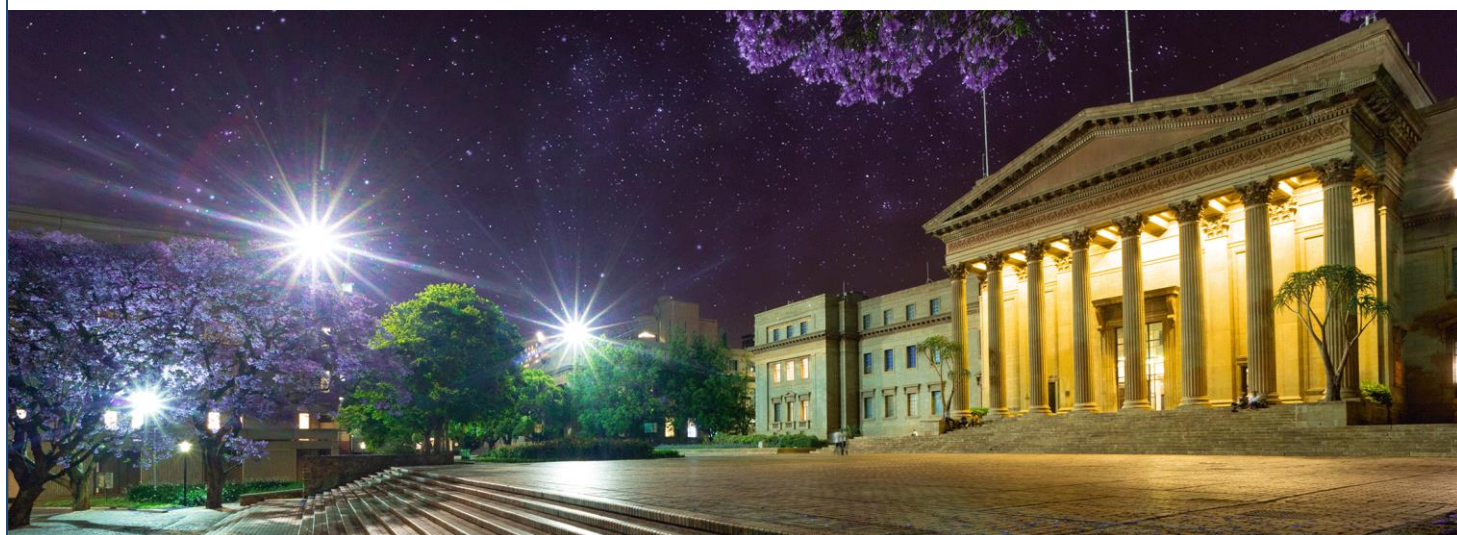
Deadlines for Nomination	Semester 1 (February – June)	Semester 2 (July – November)
	Nomination: 1 October	Nomination: 10 April
Deadline for Enrolment	Enrolment: 21 October	Enrolment: 2 May
Deadline for Registration	Registration: February (upon arrival)	Registration: July (upon arrival)

Enrolment

Nominated students must complete and email the form below to
Alison Simons 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 from your Home University
- Copy of your most recent complete academic transcript
- Curriculum Vitae
- Learning Agreement (signed)
- Proof of Medical Aid
- Proof of Accommodation
- A copy of passport (face page)

Language of teaching Courses are taught in English.

Recommended language skills The minimum level required for either language is B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Sending institutions should make sure they nominate students with sufficient language abilities to be able to understand lectures and successfully pass exams.

Certificates are only required if the student pursues a joint degree, in which case, a pass in the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a score of at least 7.0 is mandatory.

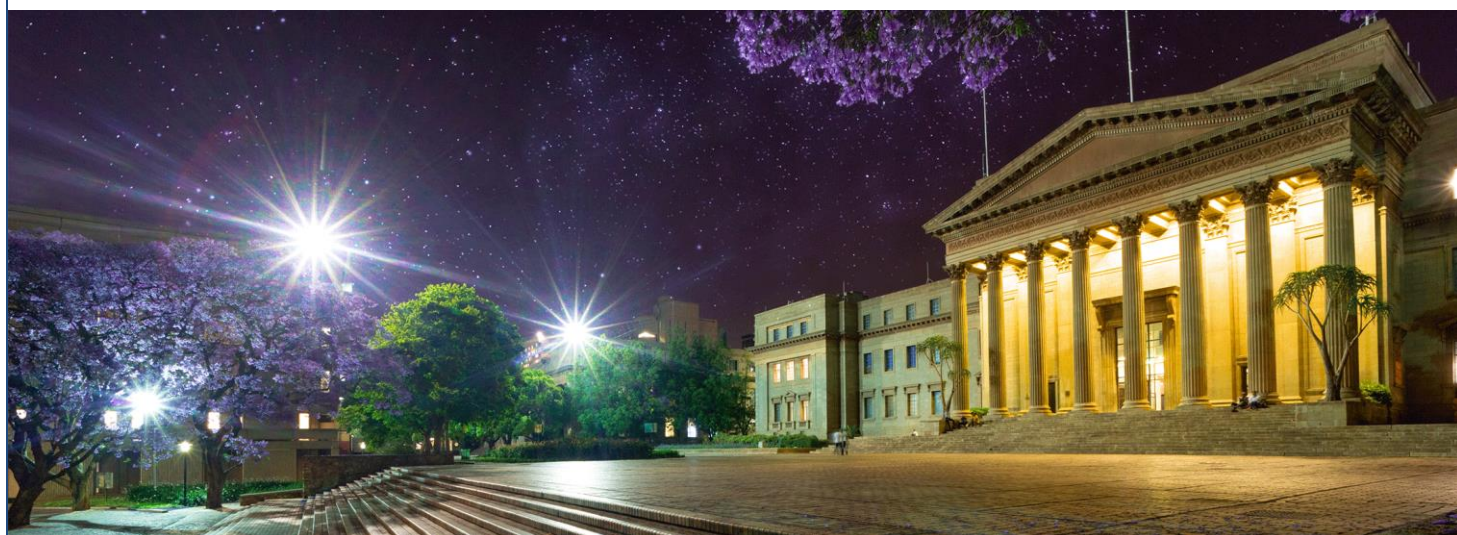
Language learning Exchange students can enrol to study English at the Wits Language School, however they have to do so at their own cost and in their own time.
<http://www.witslanguageschool.com/>

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Visa Students require a Study Visa for exchanges longer than 90 days.

Students are required to apply for a Study Visa at the South African High Commission, Embassy, Consulate or Trade Mission in your country of residence. If there is no South African representative in that country, you must apply at the nearest South African High Commission, Embassy, Consulate or Trade Mission.

A Study Visa is issued to study at a specific institution and can take up to 8 weeks. For more detailed requirements, please click the link below:
<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>
email: student@universal.co.za
Tel: +27 (0)86 122 2777
Tel: +27 (0)867 4450
- Momentum Health
<http://www.ingwehealth.co.za>
email: studenthealth@momentum.co.za
Tel: +27 (0)86 010 2493
Tel: +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

<https://www.wits.ac.za/accommodation/description-of-residences/east-campus-cluster/>

Email: studysa.international@wits.ac.za

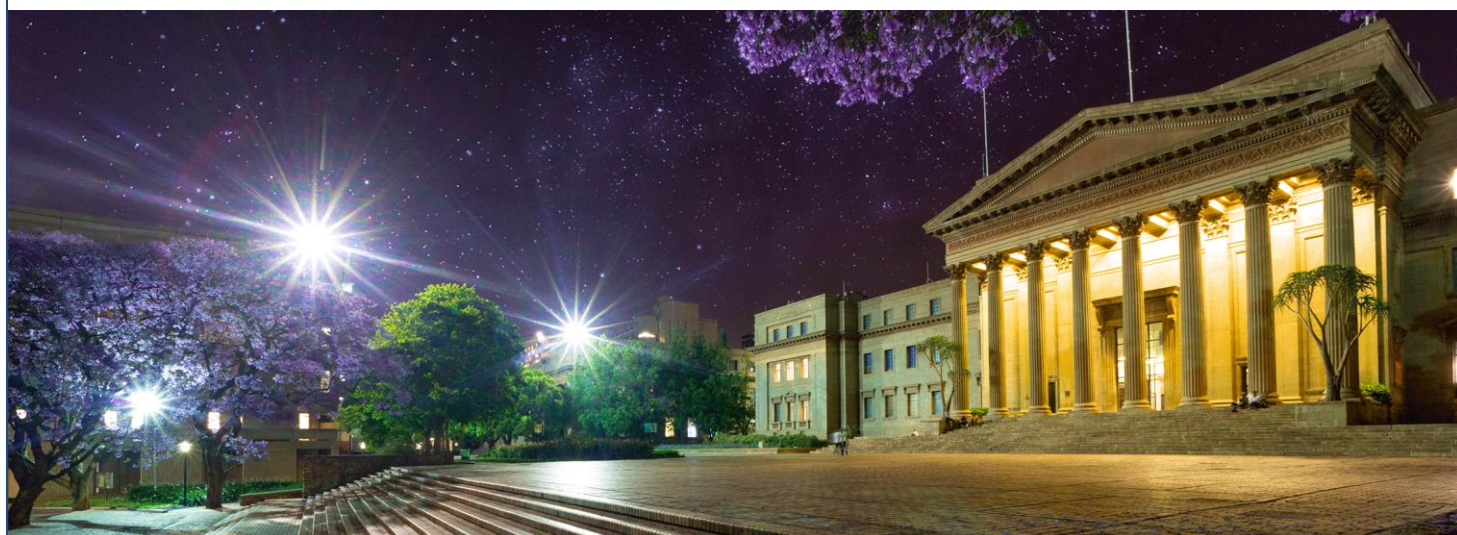
Tel: +27 (0)11 717 1054

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.



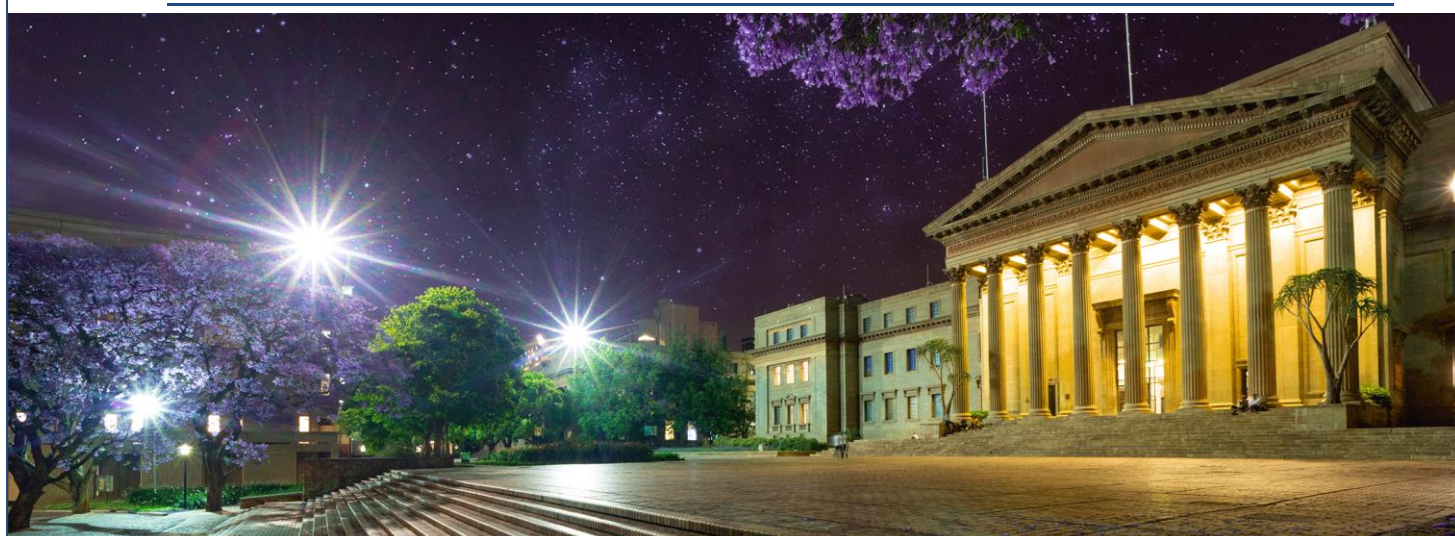


FOOD		
Bread	1 loaf	R12.00 – R15.00
Potatoes	1 kilogram	R15.00 – R25.00
Milk	2 litres	R20.00 - R25.00
Eggs	1 dozen	R23.00 – R30.00
Pizzas		R50.00 – R100.00 (depends on the size)
Monthly groceries/meals for one person		R2,000 – R4,000

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
TOTAL	8,500	572	102,000	6,800

* 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.

<https://www.wits.ac.za/internationalstudents/financial-information/average-living-costs/>

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.

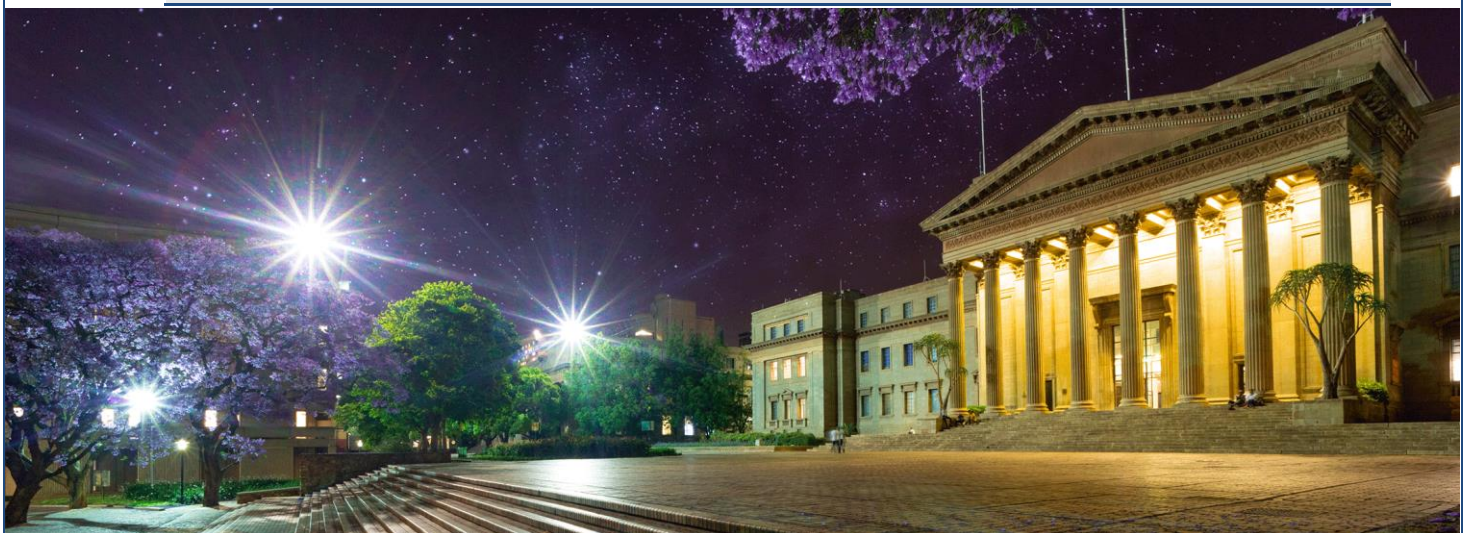
The Disability Rights Unit (DRU) is able to assist students with the following disabilities:

- 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)

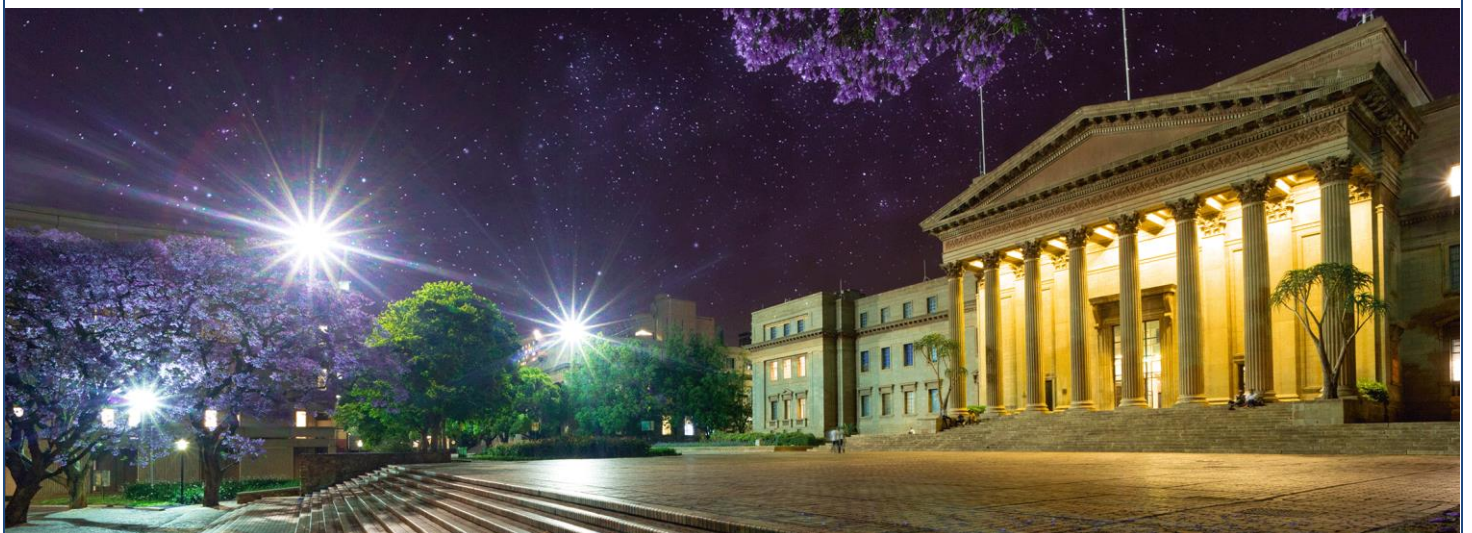
The office offers the following non-academic services:

- 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.





Student support

Wits University provides a wealth of academic, cultural and sporting options for undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The Student Affairs Office is your starting point for information on [health](#), [counselling](#), [accommodation](#) and [sport](#).

Snatch opportunities for self-development and use the facilities and programmes at your disposal like those being offered by the [Counselling and Careers Development Unit](#) and the [Postgraduate Hub](#).

Contact the Student Affairs Office: enquiries.studentaffairs@wits.ac.za

