



Draft Fact Sheet Exchange and Study Abroad Students 2022/3

Address: Robert Sobukwe Road or Private Bag X17 | Bellville | 7535 | South Africa
Website: www.uwc.ac.za

International Relations Office

The International Relations Office ([IRO](#)) reports to the Vice Chancellor and [Rector](#), Professor Tyrone Brian Pretorius

Contact Persons in the International Relations Office:

Director:	Mr Umesh Bawa	ubawa@uwc.ac.za
Manager:	Ms Tracy Beckett	tbeckett@uwc.ac.za
Coordinator:	Ms Debra Lamson	dlamson@uwc.ac.za
Secretary/Admin Assistant:	Mrs Rushni Salie	rsalie@uwc.ac.za

Contact Details:

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Primary Functions:

The primary functions of the IRO include the following:

- Initiating, implementing, managing, advising and reporting on the University's Agreements of Cooperation involving staff
- and student exchanges and collaboration
- Coordinating Student mobility programmes
- Hosting joint projects with partner institutions
- Facilitating incoming and outgoing exchange students and staff
- Preparing programmes for international visitors
- Implementing the UWC's IOP strategies for Internationalisation

The office also works closely with the Registrar's Office, International Student Support Office ([ISSO](#)) and Faculties, who support the enrolment of semester exchange and study abroad as well as full degree international students.

2021 Stats

UWC has seven Faculties: Arts, Community & Health Sciences, Dentistry, Economic and Management Sciences, Education, Law and Natural Sciences. Total student populations for 2021 – 24 793 : 19 328 undergraduate and 5 465 postgraduate; 61% female / 39% male; 1 360 international (5%)(full degree).



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UWC's Mission and Vision

The University of the Western Cape is a national university, alert to its African and international context as it strives to be a place of quality, a place to grow. It is committed to excellence in teaching, learning and research, to nurturing the cultural diversity of South Africa, and to responding in critical and creative ways to the needs of a society in transition.

Drawing on its proud experience in the liberation struggle, the university is aware of a distinctive academic role in helping build an equitable and dynamic society. In particular it aims to:

- Advance and protect the independence of the academic enterprise.
- Design curricular and research programmes appropriate to its southern African context.
- Further global perspectives among its staff and students, thereby strengthening intellectual life and contributing to South Africa's reintegration in the world community.
- Assists students who are educationally disadvantaged, gain access to higher education and succeed in their studies.
- Nurture and use the abilities of all in the university community.
- Develop effective structures and conventions of governance, which are democratic, transparent and accountable.
- Seek racial, gender equality, and contribute to helping the historically marginalised participate fully in the life of the nation.
- Encourage and provide opportunities for lifelong learning through programmes and courses.
- Help conserve and explore the environmental and cultural resources of the southern African region, and to encourage a wide awareness of these resources in the community.
- Co-operate fully with other stakeholders to develop an excellent, and therefore transformed, higher education system.

Faculties

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

<https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes/faculty-of-arts-and-humanities>

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Faculty of Economic & Management Sciences (EMS)

<https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes/faculty-of-economic-and-management-sciences>

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Faculty of Community Health Sciences
<https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes/faculty-of-community-and-health-sciences>

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Manager

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Faculty of Natural Sciences

<https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes/faculty-of-natural-sciences/overview>

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Ms Kadija Parker

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Faculty of Dentistry

<https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes/faculty-of-dentistry>

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Administrator: Undergraduate

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Faculty of Law

<https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes/faculty-of-law>

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Faculty of Education

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Online Application Procedure for 2023

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Please follow the [link](#) for application procedures. Complete the online application. Forward your unique application number and supporting documents to the Coordinator at the International Relations Office.

Supporting documents include:

1. A letter of support / nomination from your home university
2. Your latest study record
3. A copy of your passport
4. The list of courses approved by your home university (learning agreement)

Course selections / information

For detailed course information please visit our website and select all [View all Programmes](#) (Ctrl +leftside click) <https://www.uwc.ac.za/study/faculties-and-programmes>

Programmes are listed per faculty. You will also find a course outline and workload /credits per module.

Study Permit

Once the application is completed and submitted, the relevant Faculty will complete the selection process. A provisoanl letter of acceptance will be issued. All Exchange and Study Abroad students must apply and obtain a **STUDY PERMIT** from the High Commission, South African Embassy/ Consulate in your country of residence. For More information on the South African VISA requirements can be obtained [HERE](#).

According to the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997, the University of the Western Cape may not admit a Foreign Student without valid and appropriate immigration documentation.

<http://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/contact-us/18-dha-head-quarters>

Medical Insurance

All exchange and study abroad students must, **according to the *Immigration Regulations 2014 (12)*, provide "proof of medical cover for the period of study with a medical scheme registered in terms of the Medical Schemes Act"**. For more information visit the [Medical Page](#). For additional assistance with selecting and applying for the appropriate Medical Cover, contact the UWC International Student Services Office Medical Aid Scheme Consultant.

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Language Policy

The University of the Western Cape promotes multilingualism. The main language used for internal and in most cases for external communication for academic and administrative purpose shall be English. Language used in lectures, tutorials, practicals and tasks, assignments and tests and examinations shall be in English.

Assessment Policy

Assessment practices vary from discipline to discipline and the policy can be viewed on our website.

Housing

Limited private accommodation on campus is available at [Kovacs Student Village](#). [VACORPS](#) offer private accommodation off campus in [Observatory](#) (22km to Bellville). Email Sean Walpole: sean@vacorps.com

Housing is unfortunately not guaranteed on campus. Assistance will be given in finding suitable accommodation off campus, where necessary.

Living Cost

Living cost differ from person to person and depends on your personal needs. An estimated cost would be approximately ZAR 3000 – ZAR 5000 for food and accommodation.

Transport

The cost for travel to and from campus depends on the distance you are from campus and the method of transport you use. Public transport is reasonably cheap but not very reliable at all times. Options include Golden Arrow [Bus](#) (Mowbray or City Centre Cape Town to Bellville via Robert Sobukwe Road); Metro [Train](#) (Cape Town station to UWC's Unibel station); mini-bus taxi; Uber and private car hire, for which you require a valid drivers licence. Discuss your travel option with the International Relations Office.

Covid-19 Policy

Please observe the UWC website for an update on the Covid-19 Policy

<https://www.uwc.ac.za/news-and-announcements/covid-19-portal/workplace-plan>

The EMC has replaced the Interim COVID-19 Vaccination Policy with the Return to Campus Risk Plan that no longer requires any person attending Campus to be vaccinated.

No proof of vaccination will be required to enter the University Main Campus. The Return To Campus Risk Plan is effective 25 July 2022.

The University encourages all stakeholders to continue to be vaccinated, wear masks, and maintain social distance where appropriate.

Academic Calendar: 2023



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We will once again observe the Covid -19 protocols and the safety of our students and staff, and if conducive will introduce face-to-face or blended learning. Should the pandemic still present a high risk in 2023, we will communicate with partner institutions to confirm if we are continuing with the online classes and allow for the exchange and study abroad students to participate in these classes. The steps outlining the welcome, orientation and registration and orientation process will be shared with our partners/institutions and applicants in good time.

Welcome, Orientation and Registration for semester Exchange and Study Abroad Students

Proposed dates for Welcome, Orientation and Registration for semester exchange and study abroad students are scheduled a week prior to the commencement of lectures for the current semester and is subject to Covid-19 regulations and restrictions

2023

FIRST SEMESTER

February 13, 2023 – June 30, 2023

Welcome & Orientation: Wednesday & Thursday, February, 08 – 09, 2023
Registration: Monday & Tuesday, February 6 – 7 and Friday, February 10
Lectures to commence: Monday, February 13, 2023

SECOND SEMESTER

Welcome & Orientation: Wednesday & Thursday July 19 -20,2023
Registration: Monday & Tuesday, July 17 - 18 and Friday, July 21
Lectures to commence: Monday, July 24,2023

For matters related to the academic calendar for semester study abroad and exchange mobility please do not hesitate to contact:

International Relations Office
Coordinator for Mobility
Debra Lamson
dlamson@uwc.ac.za or iro@uwc.ac.za



UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE CALENDAR 2023 - REVISED

RATIONALE

- Later start than originally proposed, due to late publication of 2022 Grade 12 results. Results will only be published after mid-Jan as opposed to the norm which was the first week of Jan.
- Aligns with school holidays for term 1 and winter vacation (partially)
- Dates adjusted by approximately one week

BASED ON OPTION B (APPROVED BY SENATE IN 2022) – 120 teaching days, study break and vacation aligned with school holidays.

SEMESTER 1		
TERM 1	13 February – 31 March	34 days (excluding weekends and 1x public holiday)
Break	01 April – 10 April	10 days (including weekends and 2x public holidays)
TERM 2	11 April – 19 May	26 days (excluding weekends and 2x public holidays + 1 special holiday)
Mid-year Final Assessments	25 May – 09 June	12 days (excluding weekends)
Mid-year Supplementary Assessments	19 -28 June	8 days (excluding weekends)
Senate Discretionary Assessments	26-27 July	2 days (can be extended if needed)
Mid-year vacation	07 July – 23 July	16 days (including weekends and 0x public holiday)
Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5 days study break (including weekend): 20-24 May ▪ 1 week to capture marks and issue Supplementary Assessment notices after Final Assessments ▪ 1 week to capture marks and upload to MAS and SASI after Supplementary Assessments ▪ Promotions: TBC ▪ Publication of results: TBC ▪ Second semester registration: 17-20 July ▪ Amendment period: 24-27 July 		
SEMESTER 2		
TERM 3	24 July – 01 September	29 days (excluding weekends and 1x public holiday)



Break	02-10 September	09 days (including weekend)
TERM 4	11 September – 24 October	31 days (excluding weekends and 1x public holiday)
Year-End Assessments	30 October – 14 November	12 days (excluding weekends)
Year-End Supplementary Assessments	22 November - 01 December	8 days (excluding weekend)
Senate Discretionary Assessments	January 2024	3 days
Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5 days study break (including weekend): 25 – 29 October ▪ 1 week to capture marks and issue Supplementary Assessment notices after Year-End Assessments ▪ 1 week to capture marks and upload to MAS and SASI after Year-End Supplementary Assessments. ▪ Promotions: 07-19 December ▪ Publication of results: 21 December 		

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2023

- 03 April – 11 April
- 26 June – 17 July
- 02 – 09 October