



Student Records Office

Level 4, Masingene Building, Middle Campus, University of Cape Town,
Rondebosch, 7701

Tel: +27 (0) 21 650 3595 Fax: +27 (0) 21 650 5714

E-mail: graduation@uct.ac.za

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2 JUNE 2020

NOTICE ABOUT 2020/2021 GRADUATION

1. Graduation sessions and deadlines

Due to the delayed 2020 academic year caused by the national lockdown in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be a small graduation session in December 2020 with the main graduation session taking place in July 2021.

Once approved by Senate and Council, the roster of graduation ceremonies will be published at <http://www.students.uct.ac.za/students/current-students/graduation>.

Invitations will be sent out only to qualifiers. It is thus important that you note and adhere to the closing dates, which will be enforced in all cases. This means that to be invited to graduation, you must be a qualifier on the date the list closes and the invitations are issued. Check your qualifier status on Peoplesoft self-service. Also check that your full name, programme, any distinctions and all other details are correct. Please refer any queries regarding the above to your faculty office.

Submission dates for master's and PhD students to submit their dissertations and theses are a *guide* only. However, the date by which you must be a qualifier on system is an **absolute deadline** and will be applied strictly.

1.1 December 2020 graduation

Research students June 2020	Submission of dissertation/thesis (to have been preceded by the intention to submit) is recommended 5 months before the deadline for qualification entry to allow for delays in examination. It is possible that submissions after this are examined in time for the 31 October deadline.
All students 31 October 2020	December graduation list closes. Final date for qualifier status to be on system.

1.2 July 2021 graduation

Research students December 2020	Submission of dissertation/thesis (to have been preceded by the intention to submit) is recommended 5 months before the deadline for qualification entry to allow for delays in examination. It is possible that submissions after this are examined in time for the 28 April deadline.
All students 28 April 2021	July graduation list closes. Final date for qualifier status to be on system, after Faculty Examination Committees and DDB have met.



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2. Automatic letter of qualification

Students who qualify when results are decided in January and February for the award of their qualifications in the July 2021 graduation session will be sent an automatic system-generated letter of qualification which may be used for job-seeking purposes etc. This letter will be sent to your UCT student email account in late January and late February.

The letter will indicate the **confer date** in the July 2021 graduation session, which should not be confused with the **graduation date**. UCT's student system records one confer date per session which means that we use the first date of the session for **all** students and **all** qualifications. The actual date on which a student graduates will differ. The dates of the various ceremonies will be published on the web by March 2021.

3. Certificates

Please be aware that certificates are only issued at graduation ceremonies and graduands cannot receive them in advance. The automatic letter of qualification will suffice for use in cases in which third parties require proof that students have completed their studies. The global verification MIE database will be updated in January and February so graduands for the July 2021 graduation session will be able to have their qualifications verified by their (prospective) employers.

4. *In absentia* at graduation

Graduands unable to attend their graduation ceremony will graduate *in absentia*. They will be able to arrange for collection or couriership of their degree certificates.

In absentia graduates will **not** be allowed to attend a subsequent graduation ceremony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Karen van Heerden'.

Dr Karen van Heerden
Deputy Registrar: Academic Administration