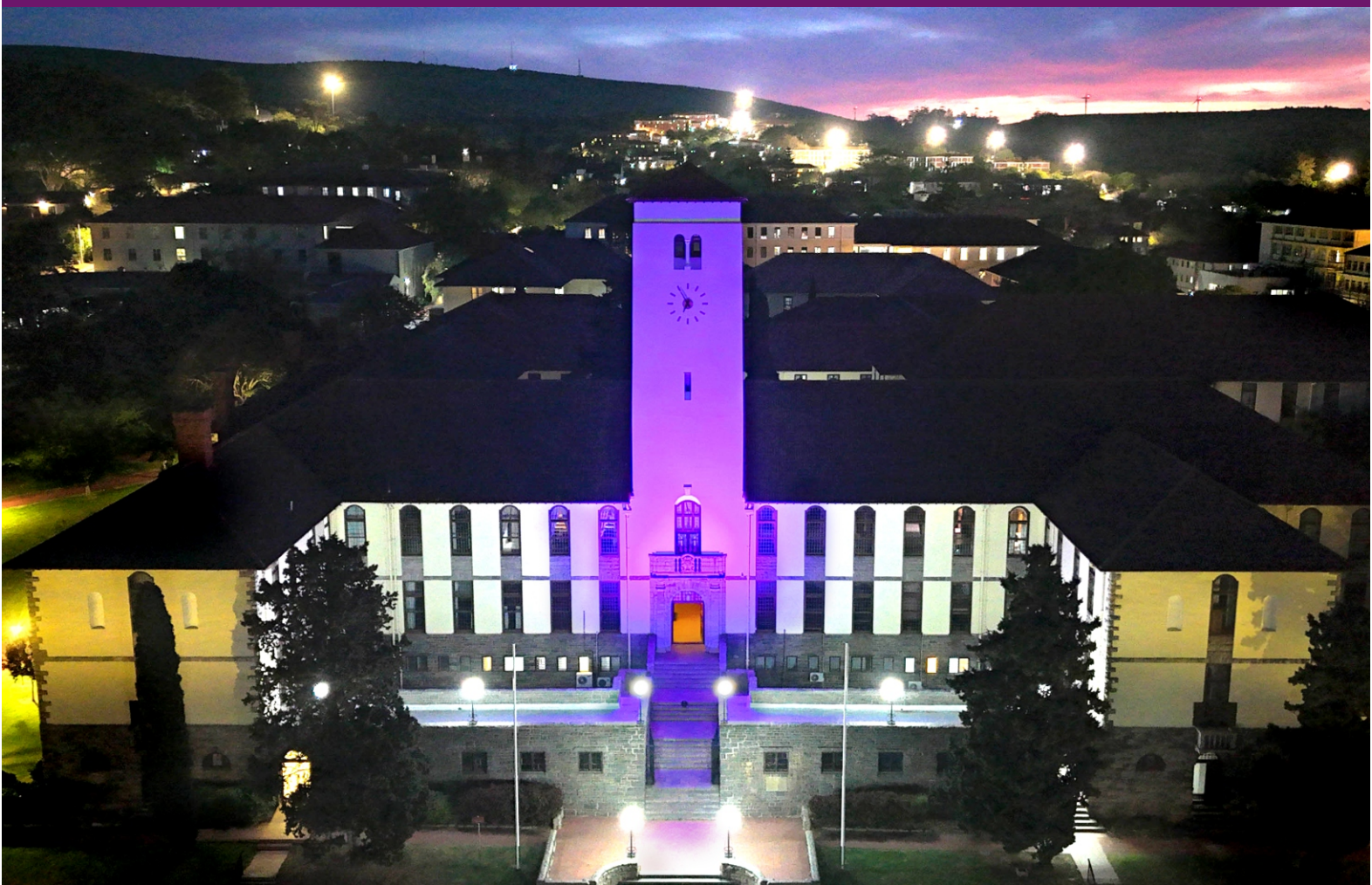


RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn

Orientation to Rhodes University

Orientation week and first-years' academic support guide



2025

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WELCOME FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dr Sizwe Mabizela

It is a singular honour and a distinct privilege for me to welcome you, our new students, to Rhodes University – warm congratulations on earning your place at this prestigious institution. You have been chosen from thousands of applicants who aspired to further their education here. Your academic accomplishments, perseverance, and personal sacrifices have paved the way for your journey with us. This is now your university; well done!



If you have been counting the days to the start of your exciting new experience at Rhodes University, we too have been awaiting your arrival with much anticipation and excitement. You are about to embark on an important and transformative adventure of a lifetime – a journey of self-discovery, growth and development.

You are part of a remarkable cohort of young people joining Rhodes University as it concludes its 120th-anniversary celebrations. This is a time filled with fresh possibilities and new beginnings as we start a new chapter in your life and in the life of our university. As we step forward together, we honour Rhodes University's rich legacy of 120 years of pioneering spirit, academic excellence, innovation, and societal contribution.

Our University enjoys the best pass and graduation rates of any South African university. We have outstanding postgraduate success rates and enjoy one of the best research outputs per academic staff member of any South African university. Our academics are at the forefront of knowledge creation and knowledge dissemination in their fields of research. They are recognised by their peers around the globe as world leaders and experts in their research fields. This means that, even at the undergraduate level, you may be taught by academics who are actively engaged in creating and disseminating new knowledge. You have chosen wisely indeed!

We are proud of, and strive to maintain, our reputation as an outstanding university that provides high-quality formative education in a small, intimate and nurturing environment which is conducive to academic endeavours and building a sense of community for its students. At Rhodes University we do not just equip our graduates with technical skills for jobs; we educate and prepare them for a future – an uncertain future; an unpredictable future; an unknown and unknowable future; a complex future; a future that is constantly changing. We educate, prepare and nurture responsible and engaged global citizens who are able to cope with, and thrive in, uncertainty and change. At Rhodes University, our mission goes beyond equipping students with skills and knowledge. We believe in nurturing individuals who will contribute meaningfully to their communities and the world. You are part of a generation tasked with addressing complex global challenges, from social justice to environmental sustainability. The education you receive here is a catalyst for positive change, a force that enables you to think critically and act ethically as a global citizen committed to the public good.

Through our in-classroom and out-of-classroom activities, we shall endeavour to develop you as a whole person, fully equipped with our graduate attributes of a life-long learner; an ethical leader; a

digitally competent graduate; a curious and innovative thinker and problem-solver; an empathetic person and a critical and engaged global citizen.

A university is a space for contestation of ideas. Ideas are the lifeblood of our intellectual endeavour. And so, not only will you be exposed to new knowledge, technical skills and competencies, we will also develop and nurture your ability and capacity to reason, analyse, reflect and argue using knowledge and evidence. As a research-intensive university, our approach to teaching and learning seeks to expose students to the nature of knowledge and induct them into the intricacies and mysteries of creating new knowledge and adapting or applying old knowledge in new contexts. This will prepare you to contribute to many and diverse fields of human endeavour ranging from science, innovation, corporate sector to justice and social upliftment.

During your time at Rhodes University, you may find yourself challenged by ideas that are unfamiliar or that take you out of your comfort zone – open yourself to these challenges. Do not be afraid to enter alien territory or to explore new horizons. While your education will be nurturing and affirming, it will also challenge you to interrogate the world you inhabit and the views and perspectives that you may hold dear.

Rhodes University is a learning community dedicated to furthering the public good. We learn from and through each other, and for us learning extends beyond a lecture theatre, seminar room, library, or laboratory. It also occurs in sports fields, social clubs, student societies, extra-curricular activities and through participation in community engagement initiatives. Your involvement in these and other activities outside of the classroom setting is essential for your holistic development, growth and education. You must however learn to balance your academic demands, extracurricular activities and social life to become a well-rounded and well-educated graduate of Rhodes University who is able to engage critically, meaningfully and responsibly with all aspects of life.

One of the exciting aspects of the university experience is the opportunity to meet and interact with other young people from different social, economic, geographic, linguistic and cultural backgrounds. At Rhodes University, diversity is a cornerstone of our vibrant community. This diversity is essential to create an intellectual, social and cultural environment which is key to achieving academic excellence and personal growth and development. Engage with peers from all backgrounds, keep an open mind, and share your ideas and experiences in a manner that is respectful and enhances one's understanding of what it means to be fully human. By doing so, you will broaden your understanding and enrich your time at university. In this way, you will grow and develop as a person and as a member of our community, which, in turn, will enhance our collective growth and development and broaden your education. More importantly, we encourage you to form new bonds of friendship with other young people whose lived experiences may be different to yours.

As an institution “where leaders learn” and, with the motto *Vis Virtus Veritas* (Truth, Virtue and Strength), we encourage our students to develop their capacity to raise critical, complex and uncomfortable issues that face our society and humankind in a thoughtful and respectful manner. Using the power of reasoned and rational argument and logic, they can persuade those who may hold views that are different to theirs. We encourage our students to endeavour at all times to uphold the values that we cherish deeply at Rhodes University: treating each other with respect, courtesy, dignity and honesty. Every member of the Rhodes University community enjoys all the rights enshrined in our Constitution. In particular, no one has a right to interfere with the bodily integrity of another person without their consent. Our university has a zero tolerance to sexual and gender-based harm. There is no place at Rhodes University for any behaviour motivated by xenophobia, racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia and any other form of intolerance, bigotry and chauvinistic attitude.

This is an important time of transition for you – from school to university and into young adulthood. This transition, change and adjustment can be equally exciting, daunting and overwhelming. As a university student, you will enjoy much more freedom and independence. With the freedom and independence of university life comes responsibility. Your choices have consequences, and your decisions and actions will shape your future. We are here to ensure that this transition is both manageable and enjoyable for you. Our academic and support staff are here to support and guide you; they are here to help you realise your dreams, hopes and aspirations; they are here to help you navigate the important transition into adulthood; they are here to make your university experience a positive, rewarding and a fulfilling one. As a small University with dedicated, committed and professional staff, we are able to offer that personal touch that may make a difference in your life. We encourage you to use all the professional assistance and support services available to you.

As you begin this journey, it is essential to recognise the context in which you are pursuing your higher education. In South Africa, higher education faces complex challenges, each of you has earned a place here through hard work and determination, and many others dream of the opportunity you now hold. It is a privilege that comes with responsibility—not only to yourself but to those who may not have this chance. Use your time at Rhodes University wisely and productively; discover your passion and find your purpose in life. Develop a work ethic from the get-go; set goals and standards of excellence for yourself. Develop a sense of self-discipline, focus and commitment. Do not be afraid to ask for help if you need it. University study is much more demanding and challenging than school. It requires you to develop the ability for independent study, persistence and dedication. Work hard and consistently, engage deeply in your studies and develop your potential fully. Embrace every resource and opportunity Rhodes offers, and let your journey here honour the sacrifices that made it possible.

The University's orientation programme is designed not only to provide you with information on courses that are on offer at Rhodes University, but also to expose you to a wide range of support services and opportunities provided by the University to enrich your experience and enhance your chances of growth, development and academic success. The orientation programme is also designed to help you settle quickly and smoothly in campus life and in your studies.

May your journey at Rhodes University empower you to realise your fullest potential, inspire you to explore your individuality and uncover the meaningful role you can play in shaping a brighter future for our society and humanity at large.

As you embark on this transformative journey, we extend our warmest wishes for your success in the years ahead. Welcome to a place that stirs the imagination and kindles the spark of curiosity. Welcome to a place that nurtures the creative spirit and fosters the pursuit of knowledge. Here, you will find a space brimming with ideas, hope, and the promise of opportunity for all who enter. Above all, welcome to a community dedicated to growth, purpose, and the making of tomorrow's leaders. Welcome to Rhodes University!

WELCOME FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

Dr Pakiso Tondi



For apart from inquiry, apart from the praxis, individuals cannot be truly human. Knowledge emerges only through invention and the re-invention, through the restless, impatient, continuing, hopeful inquiry human beings pursue in the world, with the world, and with each other. Paulo Freire 1993

Flowing from the University's Institutional Development Plan 2023-2028, the mandate of the Division of Student Services and Development mandate is to *create an engaging and transformative student experience that promotes holistic development, growth and academic success*. Amongst other things, this is to be realised through intentional living and learning communities programmes that will seek to create conducive and safe spaces throughout the university. To ensure that the University realises its vision the Division will play a critical role in ensuring that students are provided services and support with maximum impact and outcomes, informed by evidence-based interventions.

Since Student Affairs and Services Practitioners are people who daily deal with students' bread-and-butter issues and their experiences of a university outside-class or the lecture hall, they will be expected to lead social justice advocacy within the University and capacitate student leaders who are tasked with this responsibility. The following are the three sections of the Division of Student Services and Development that are tasked with the operationalisation of its mandate: Student Wellness; Sport; and Student Services. The following are their functions:

- The Student Wellness section consists of the Health Care Centre; Counselling Centre; Higher Health Programme Unit and Careers Centre. Emphasis is placed on ensuring that each student takes responsibility for their physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and spiritual wellness.
- RU Sports is responsible for recreational and competitive student sports activities, and manages the Rhodes University Health Suite.
- Student Services Section (residence life, student support and development) consists of the Student Representative Council (which includes the governance of all societies), the Residence System (residence managing and leadership structure), Disability Support Services, and the First-year Extended Orientation Programme. The Residence System contributes to a personal transformation in students' development that is meant to be long-lasting.

The living and learning space includes spaces to learn about collaborative leadership, community engagement and social justice. Students are encouraged to engage with the SRC and partake in the residence environment for their own self-reflection and personal holistic growth.

The Division is committed to the establishment and implementation of policies, procedures, programmes, and services that will enhance, enrich, and complement the total educational experience of students at Rhodes University, and which will provide an environment conducive to effective academic learning and holistic development of all students within the RU community. The Division affirms that provision of quality services and a commitment to continuous improvement are essential to the realisation of its vision, underpinned by a clear understanding of the needs, aspirations, and expectations of RU students.

WELCOME FROM THE SRC PRESIDENT

Tsidzo Ella Hove

"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family." Kofi Annan.

I warmly welcome you all to the Rhodes University family on behalf of the Student Representative Council (SRC). You are stepping into an institution with 121 years of history, where trails have been blazed, and now it's your turn to make your mark.



As the SRC, we are leaders of leaders, carrying the voice and mandate of the student body wherever we go. My name is Tsidzo Hove, and I am honoured to serve as the president for 2025. Before anything else, I am a student, just like you. Born in the vibrant streets of Harare and raised in the bustling city of Johannesburg, I have lived a colourful life. My next adventure is embarking on an Honours degree in Political and International Studies, aspiring to become a policymaker and governor on the African continent, where I hope to effect meaningful change. I firmly believe that the youth do not lack potential but simply opportunity.

The council I lead, alongside my Vice-President, Siyanda Vilakazi, represents the potential for anyone from all walks of life to take up space and lead. We are grounded in the values of love, respect, and mutual understanding. The SRC comprises sixteen council members who hold various portfolios encompassing many spheres of life for students at Rhodes University. We do not lead alone and we have a vast network of student governance that empowers us. "Where Leaders Learn," is not merely words on a logo, but a call to action for each of you. By the end of your journey here, may you proudly say Rhodes is indeed "Where Leaders Learn" and I am a leader who learnt at Rhodes University.

We hold certain values dear to the foundation of leadership at Rhodes. Universities are transformative actors within society for positive change, and we must view education as a tool for personal freedom. In doing so, we must ensure that the university environment is conducive to learning. We urge you to cultivate a supportive community where you can thrive. The Division of Student Services and Development is dedicated to helping you navigate this journey, ensuring holistic well-being through networks of students and staff ready to assist you. Beyond the living space, numerous opportunities exist in student governance, sports clubs, and societies that contribute to a vibrant student life. Rhodes University also offers a Wellness Suite committed to addressing your psycho-social needs. Rhodes takes pride in being an institution that is globally engaged and locally responsive, as well as research-intensive. This means our environment is rich with opportunities to engage internationally, create value in the greater Makhanda community, and become knowledge producers. As the SRC, we champion a space free from sexism, gender-based violence, ableism, xenophobia, racism, and discrimination of any kind. As the SRC we will safeguard this environment for all our students because this is Rhodes University—Where All Leaders Learn.

Now the words I leave for you as you embark on this journey, remember the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." Honour this moment, seize the opportunity, and remember you do not have to journey alone for the SRC will be there every step of the way. May your path honour the leader you are and the trail you wish to blaze. This is a young continent filled with vibrant youth, and the opportunities await you! Welcome to Rhodes University!

GENERAL INFORMATION

This booklet contains the 2025 orientation week programme, information about each faculty, and the subjects on offer.

Advice and guidance are also available from the Career Centre (Steve Biko Building), faculty deans, your hall managers, residence managers and lecturers. There is an SRC Helpdesk at the Barratt Complex and students there will be happy to answer any questions you may have. If you are still in doubt about anything, ask a student guide, staff member, hall manager or residence manager, residence student assistant or a member of your house committee.

In planning your curriculum, you need to make full use of the following resources:

- this booklet: read it carefully
- the Rhodes University website: check the details of the subjects which interest you <https://www.ru.ac.za/academic/faculties/>



The booklet also contains information about all the services that are available to you at Rhodes, how to access computing facilities and the internet, and what to do when you get sick, need a leave of absence, or suffer some unexpected misfortune. It also contains important rules about the residential system, student discipline and the examinations.

As a student, you must register each year, so that we have a record of your progress. Your administrative registration ensures that the University has an up-to-date record of all your personal details such as your home address, local Makhanda address, medical aid, car registration, etc. We also take a photograph of you for our records, which appears on your student card.

Remember to quote your student number in all correspondence with the University - this is our primary means of identifying you in our records. Please also note that the University will use your Rhodes email address to communicate with you, so check it regularly.

WELCOME ADDRESS

Welcome Day is one of the most important days of the year at Rhodes University. On this day we welcome first- year students and their parents to the campus. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sizwe Mabizela, will personally welcome you at the Rembrandt Hall on the 1820 Settlers National Monument on **Sunday 02 February 2025 at 16:00**. You are cordially invited to attend this important address.

What happens there?

The session will last approximately one hour. Guests are requested to be seated 15 minutes prior to the start of the programme which will be as follows:

- Welcome by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Sizwe Mabizela.
- Welcome by the Student Representative Council (SRC) President, Ms Tsidzo Ella Hove.

Why does the event take place?

The welcoming event is an annual event that takes place in the Guy Butler Theatre located in the 1820 Settler's National Monument. There will also be live screening of the proceedings available in Olive Schreiner and Thomas Pringle venues should the Guy Butler Theatre reach its full capacity.

DEFINITIONS

Aegrotat: An Aegrotat is a certification one obtains if one is unable to attend an examination because of genuine ill health, or for some other serious reason, such as the death of a member of your family. The Aegrotat then allows one to write another (equivalent) examination later (usually early the following year), known as an Aegrotat examination. Applications to sit such examinations must be made within one week of missing the examination on ROSS and must be supported by a doctor's certificate or other proof that the request is genuine.

Class rep: An elected member of the class who represents the views of the class in the academic departments.

Course: One of several programs in a particular subject for example, 'Sociology 1,' is a single course, which is followed in second year by 'Sociology 2,' and in third-year by 'Sociology 3'.

Curriculum approval: Your curriculum is the group of subjects, which you have chosen to study for the year. This choice must be formally approved by the Dean or his/her assistant at the start of each year and recorded on your academic record.

Credit: A course which has been passed by a student (a pass mark at Rhodes is 50%).

Dean: The academic leader of each faculty, for example the Dean of Science, Humanities, Law, etc.

Degree: What you aim to achieve after three/four years of study, after you have passed the requisite number of courses with credits in two major subjects and other ancillaries. The total number of credits varies from faculty to faculty.

DP certificate: Duly Performed certificate. To write final examinations, students must be able to show that they have attended the required number of classes (usually 80%), written all tests, and handed in all classwork. If you do not perform, you will be notified that you have lost your DP certificate and will not be permitted to write the exam(s) for the relevant course. Your final result for that course will be recorded as DPR.

Extended DP: Special permission from the relevant dean to register (often with conditions) for a course that was failed, without having to attend the lectures of the course, provided that the student participated in the course, earned a DP in the course the previous year, and wrote the examination. A DP can only be extended for one year.

Faculty: A grouping of academic departments (e.g., the departments of English, Anthropology, Politics, etc. are all part of the Humanities faculty).

Head of department: Each department (e.g., Statistics) has a head of department. This is an academic who teaches and is also in charge of running the administrative aspects of the department.

Major: A subject a student takes successive courses in, usually over 3 years. For example, Sociology would be a major subject if the student completes Sociology 1 in first-year, followed by Sociology 2 in second-year, and followed in third-year by Sociology 3. A student must have two major subjects in their degree.

Plagiarism: The unacceptable practice of presenting material written by someone else, as one's own work. All sources must be clearly acknowledged. Penalties for plagiarism at Rhodes are severe.

Professor: A senior academic within a department in a faculty.

Registration: The official record of a student's personal details, identity, and details about the courses they are taking, year by year. Students must register at the start of each academic year.

Semester: The academic year is divided into two semesters. The first semester starts in February and ends in June. The second semester starts in July and ends in November. A semester credit is a half-year course, worth half a credit.

Supplementary exams: These are repeat examinations offered to students who have failed courses and have met the relevant faculty requirements to qualify for such examinations.

Swot days: Usually Saturday to Thursday, following the last day of lectures of semester one (mid-year) and semester two (end-of-year) before the start of exams.

Symbols on Transcripts:

1	Pass 75 - 100%
2A	Pass 70 - 74%
2B	Pass 60 - 69%
3	Pass 50 - 59%
P	Pass
ACR	Pass: Aggregated credit (continuing)
NCR	Pass: Aggregated credit (non-continuing)
3NC	Pass: Non-continuing 3rd class pass
F1	Fail 45 – 49%
F2	Fail 30 – 44%
F3	Fail 0 – 29%
F	Fail
F1S/ F2S	Fail: Permitted to write a supplementary examination in this course
FSM	Fail: Failed sub-minimum
AEG	Permission granted to write Aegrotat examination
DPR	Duly Performed Certificate refused - may not write examination
DNW	Did not write examination

ORIENTATION WEEK 2025

FIRST-YEAR ORIENTATION

The **First Year Orientation** programme is designed to help new students smoothly transition into university life. This program encompasses various initiatives and activities that aim to support students as they adapt to campus culture, tackle academic challenges, and develop critical skills needed in the 21st century.

What to carry daily

Throughout orientation week, make sure to have:

- Your orientation programme booklet
- Your **student card** (as soon as it is issued)

Tip: End each day by planning for the next. Decide on the sessions you need to attend and locate their venues. Expect to be asked for your **student number** frequently, which you can find on your acceptance letter and student card (e.g., 25N1234).

Curriculum approval and registration

- **Preliminary Timetable:** Bring this when you meet for curriculum approval.
- **Subject Choice Confirmation:** Your subject choices are checked and recorded during registration. Generally, you cannot register for classes with schedule conflicts.

Important Note: Curriculum approval does not take place within academic departments. Departments are primarily for **tutorial and practical sign-ups**. Within hours of receiving curriculum approval, you can review your course record on **ROSS** (ross.ru.ac.za). Contact your faculty dean immediately if any listed courses are incorrect.

Administrative registration and attendance

Ensure that **administrative registration** and **formal curriculum approval** are completed before attending any lectures. This process secures your status and ensures that your chosen courses are in order.

This program and preparation will set the foundation for a successful academic experience, so be proactive in engaging with each orientation session!

ACADEMIC ORIENTATION

Studying at a tertiary level requires a very different understanding of what you need to do as a learner, and how you need to go about doing those things. During orientation week, you will also have the opportunity to think about what different groups of subjects can offer you by attending the panel discussions where members of staff specialising in these areas and students from these areas will try to give you a taste of what they offer. You will then have an opportunity to ask questions.

Remember that you do not have to take only subjects from one panel area. Unlike other places, Rhodes University offers you opportunities to combine subjects in any way you like provided your timetable will allow it. This will even include taking subjects from different faculties if you want to. Believe it or not, a combination of Music and Musicology and Mathematics or Computer Science is not unusual!

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

It is *important* for you to attend a **library presentation and tour**. These presentations will give you an understanding of how the library functions.

Introduction to RUConnected and ROSS training sessions will take place in the Jacaranda Labs daily from 05 - 07 February 2025. The session will give you an understanding of how the Rhodes computer services function. The session covers how to log in, check emails, write and print essays, how to use ROSS, RUConnected, etc. Rhodes students must use computers at some point and there are workshops for beginners and new students. You need to attend **at least one of the RUConnected workshops and Transition to University**.

It is also important that you attend the **Mapping Your Career Journey** session on Friday 07 February 2025 at 12.00pm in the Biological Sciences Major lecture theatre.



This is the official digital learning platform for Rhodes University that you can access via the web or free mobile app.

To access RUconnected via the web, please visit <https://ruconnected.ru.ac.za/>

The app for Android is available on the Google Play Store and for iOS devices on the App Store.

App features:

- Access course content even when offline
- Attempt quizzes, post in forums, submit assignments & more both on and offline
- Receive instant notifications of course announcements, forum posts and assignment submissions
- Find and contact peers in your courses
- Upload images, audio, videos and other files from your mobile device
- Check upcoming deadlines
- View your grades
- and much more!

Keeping you connected to your learning!



1. Connect 2. Navigate 3. Critical 4. Responsible 5. Writing 6. Visual

DIGITAL LITERACIES COURSE

You will automatically be added to the Digital Literacies course site. This informal six-week course is designed to support you in developing foundational digital practices and tools for living and learning at Rhodes University. You will receive regular emails about topics and resources for each week:

Week 1: Let's get connected – email, Wi-Fi, Office365, preparing for your studies

Week 2: Let's navigate together – searching online, library resources, saving files

Week 3: Let's get critical – evaluating and selecting credible sources, referencing, plagiarism, fake news

Week 4: Let's get responsible – AI tools, reference management tools, Turnitin, online presence

Week 5: Let's get writing – breaking down an assignment topic, editing and proofreading, Grammarly, links to learning and support toolkits

Week 6: Let's get visual – presentation software, skills and tips

You will also receive email notifications via the course site about sessions you can attend to learn more about accessing library resources and other topics.

ORIENTATION PROGRAMME 2025

TIME	ACTIVITY/EVENT	Venue
SATURDAY 01 FEBRUARY		
07h00 - 18h00	Administrative registration and welcome of first-years	Barratt lecture venues
SUNDAY 02 FEBRUARY		
07h00 - 18h00	Administrative registration and welcome of first-years	Barratt lecture venues
12h00 - 13h30	Lunch	Dining halls
14h30	SRC Time Capsule	Dining halls
16h00 - 17h00	VC & SRC president address to parents and first-years	Monument
17h30 - 18h30	Supper	Dining halls
Monday 03 February		
08h30 - 10h20	Compulsory session for first-years	Monument
10h30 - 12h00	Deans' faculty talks to first-years	Monument
12h30 - 13h45	Lunch and hall welcome reception for first-years	Dining halls
14h00 - 16h15	Academic Orientation	See o-week guide
16h30 - 17h30	Life at University workshop	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall
17h30 - 18h30	Supper	Dining halls
	Hall/residence events	Residences
TUESDAY 04 FEBRUARY		
08h45 - 16h15	Academic orientation	See o-week guide
12h30 - 13h45	Lunch and SRC dining hall visits	Dining halls
16h30 - 17h30	Life at University workshop	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall
17h30 - 18h30	Supper	Dining halls
19h00 - 21h00	International Extravaganza	Great Hall
WEDNESDAY 05 FEBRUARY		
08h45 - 16h00	Academic orientation	See o-week guide
12h30 - 13h45	Lunch and SRC dining hall visits	Dining halls
16h30 - 17h30	Life at University workshop	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall
17h30 - 18h30	Supper	Dining halls
19h00 - 21h00	RU Jamming	Residences
THURSDAY 06 FEBRUARY		
09h00 - 16h00	CURRICULUM APPROVAL HUMANITIES ONLY (first-year students only)	Barratt 1 and 2
09h00 - 12h00	Law Faculty Dean: Success in legal studies (compulsory for Law students)	Law Faculty
09h00 - 11h00	Science Faculty Dean: Curriculum planning (compulsory for Science students)	Bioscience Major
	Commerce Faculty Dean: Curriculum planning (compulsory for Commerce students)	Arts Major
11h15 - 16h15	RUConnected workshops	Jac labs
13h00 - 14h00	Lunch and SRC dining hall visits	Dining halls
15h30 - 16h15	Transition to University workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students	Bioscience Major
16h30 - 17h30	Life at University workshop	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall
17h30 - 18h30	Supper	Dining halls
19h00 - 21h00	RU Jamming	Residences

FRIDAY 07 FEBRUARY		
09h00 - 16h00	Curriculum approval	See o-week guide
09h00 - 15h00	SRC societies & sports, Community Engagement exhibition	Steve Biko Lawns
12h00 - 12h45	Career development in the 21st century	Bioscience Major
13h00 - 14h00	Lunch	Dining halls
12h00 - 15h45	RU Connected workshops	Jacaranda labs
16h00 - 17h30	Financial literacy talk	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall
19h00 - 21h00	RU Jamming finals	Residences
SATURDAY 08 FEBRUARY		
09h00 - 13h00	Curriculum approval	See o-week guide
08h30 - 10h00	Campus 30 Seconds	On campus
10h00 - 12h00	Community Engagement and Environmental Extravaganza	Barratt 1 and 2
14h00 - 20h00	SRC first-years' picnic	Ally Weakley Field

ACADEMIC ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

To plan your week, follow the ordered steps below and mark sessions you will attend with a tick mark.

1. Note all compulsory sessions that already have a tick mark.
2. Note compulsory sessions for your faculty.
3. If you are doing an Extended Studies 4-year degree, note the compulsory session.
4. Choose departmental talks in your faculty to attend (try to go to as many as possible to get a sense of what is offered).
5. If you want to attend talks from other faculties, only choose these if you have time once you have finished Step 8.
6. Choose an *RUConnected* workshop (compulsory, attend ONE of MANY).
7. Choose a *Transition to University* workshop (attend ONE of MANY).
8. Choose a *Library* session (compulsory, attend ONE of MANY).
9. Choose *Career Development in the 21st Century* and *Financial literacy* (for interest, only ONE session of each is offered).

			My plan (✓)
SUNDAY 02 FEBRUARY 2025			
16h00 - 17h00	Compulsory VC & SRC President address to parents and first-year students	Monument - Guy Butler Theatre	✓
MONDAY 03 FEBRUARY 2025			
08h30 - 10h20	Compulsory introduction to university	Monument - various venues	✓
10h30 - 12h00	Compulsory faculty deans' talks to first-year students:	Monument:	
	Humanities Faculty (H)	Guy Butler Theatre	
	Law Faculty (L) (LLB students only)	Council Chambers, Monument	
	Science Faculty (S)	Olive Schreiner Hall	
	Commerce Faculty (C)	Thomas Pringle Hall	
	Pharmacy Faculty (P)	Monument Gallery	
	Education Faculty (E)	Restaurant	
14h00 - 15h15	Primary & Early Childhood Education Department workshop (E)	BLT (Big Lecture Theatre)	
14h00 - 14h30	Accounting Department (C)	Barratt 1	
	Botany Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Drama Department (H)	Barratt 2	
14h45 - 15h15	Biochemistry & Microbiology Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Anthropology Department (H)	Barratt 1	
	Economics Department (C)	Barratt 2	
15h30 - 16h15	Fine Art Department (H)	Barratt 1	
	Statistics Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Transition to University workshop: Commerce, Science and Pharmacy students (compulsory to attend one)	Barratt 2	
16h30 - 17h30	Compulsory 'Life at University' workshop	Barratt 1&2/ Great Hall	✓
Library presentations run from 14h00 - 16h00 on the half-hour in the main library (attend only ONE).			
TUESDAY 04 FEBRUARY 2025			
08h45 - 10h45	Primary & Early Childhood Education Department workshop (E)	BLT (Big Lecture Theatre)	
08h45 - 09h15	Chemistry Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Journalism & Media Studies Department (H)	Barratt 1	
09h30 - 10h00	Computer Science Department (S)	Bioscience Major	

	Legal Theory course (L)	Barratt 2	
	Extended Studies - Science	Arts Major	
10h15 - 10h45	Information Systems Department (C)	Barratt 1	
	Environmental Science Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Literary Studies in English Department (H)	Barratt 2	
11h00 - 11h30	Geography Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Linguistics & Applied Language Studies Department (H)	Barratt 1	
	Extended Studies - Humanities	Arts Major	
11h45 - 12h15	Management Department (C)	Barratt 1	
	Geology Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Philosophy Department (H)	Barratt 2	
14h00 - 15h15	Primary & Early Childhood Education Department workshop (E)	BLT (Big Lecture Theatre)	
14h00 - 14h30	Human Kinetics & Ergonomics Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	History Department (H)	Barratt 1	
14h45 - 15h15	Ichthyology Department (S)	Bioscience Major	
	Political & International Studies Department (H)	Barratt 2	
	Extended Studies - Commerce	Arts Major	
15h30 - 16h15	Music and Musicology Department (H)	Barratt 1	
	Transition to University workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Barratt 2	
	Pharmacy credit transfer (P)	Bioscience Major	
16h30 - 17h30	Compulsory 'Life at University' Workshop	Barratt 1&2/ Great Hall	✓
Library presentations run from 09h00 - 16h00 on the half hour in the Main Library (attend only ONE).			
WEDNESDAY 05 FEBRUARY 2025			
08h45 - 10h45	Primary & Early Childhood Education Department workshop (E)	BLT (Big Lecture Theatre)	
08h45 - 09h15	Mathematics Department (S)	Barratt 1	
	Psychology Department (H)	Barratt 2	
09h30 - 10h00	Physics Department (S)	Barratt 1	
	Sociology Department (H)	Barratt 2	
10h15 - 10h45	Zoology & Entomology Department (S)	Barratt 2	
	Secondary & Post-School Education Department workshop (E)	Bioscience Major	
11h00 - 12h30	School of Languages (African Languages, Afrikaans & Nederlands, Chinese, Classical Studies, German, French, Modern Fiction) (H)	Barratt 2	
11h00 - 11h45	Transition to University workshop: Commerce, Science and Pharmacy students (compulsory to attend one)	Barratt 1	
	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
12h00 - 12h45	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
14h00 - 14h45	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
	Transition to University workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Barratt 1	

15h00 - 15h45	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
16h30 - 17h30	Compulsory Life at University workshop	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall	✓
Library presentations run from 09h00 - 16h00 on the half hour in the Main Library (attend only ONE).			
THURSDAY 06 FEBRUARY 2025			
09h00 - 16h00	CURRICULUM APPROVAL HUMANITIES (first-year students only)	BARRATT 1 & 2	
09h00 - 15h15	Primary & Early Childhood Education Department workshop (E)	BLT (Big Lecture Theatre)	
09h00 - 12h00	Law Faculty Dean: Success in Legal Studies (Compulsory for Legal Theory and LLB students)	Eden Grove Red	
09h00 - 11h00	Science Faculty Dean: Curriculum planning (compulsory for Science students)	Bioscience Major	
	Commerce Faculty Dean: Curriculum planning (compulsory for Commerce students)	Arts Major	
11h15 - 12h00	RUConnected workshop for Commerce, Science and Pharmacy students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
12h15 - 13h00	RUConnected workshop for Commerce, Science and Pharmacy students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
14h30 - 15h15	RUConnected workshop for Commerce, Science and Pharmacy students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
15h30 - 16h15	RUConnected workshop for Commerce, Science and Pharmacy students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
	Transition to University workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Bioscience Major	
16h30 - 17h30	Compulsory Life at University workshop	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall	✓
Library presentations run from 11h00 - 16h00 on the half hour in the Main Library (attend only ONE).			
FRIDAY 07 FEBRUARY 2025			
09h00 - 16h00	Curriculum approval Humanities (returning students only)	Barratt 1 and 2	
	Curriculum approval Science	Eden Grove Blue	
	Curriculum approval Commerce	Eden Grove Red	
	Curriculum approval Law	Law Faculty	
	Curriculum approval Education	Education Faculty	
	Curriculum approval OPharmacy	Online	
12h00 - 12h45	Mapping your career journey	Bioscience Major	✓
	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
14h00 - 14h45	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
15h00 - 15h45	RUConnected workshop for Humanities, Law and Education students (compulsory to attend one)	Jacaranda Lab	
16h00 - 17h30	Financial Literacy Talk	Barratt 1 and 2 / Great Hall	✓
SATURDAY 08 FEBRUARY 2025			
09h00 - 13h00	Curriculum approval Humanities (all students and curriculum changes)	Barratt 1 and 2	
	Curriculum approval Science (returning students)	Eden Grove Blue	
	Curriculum approval Commerce (returning students)	Eden Grove Red	
MONDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2024			
07h45 sharp	University first semester begins		

ACADEMICS

REGISTRATION

Registration is the process through which you officially become a student at Rhodes University. As a student, you must register each year, so that we have a record of your progress. Your administrative registration ensures that the University has an up-to-date record of all your personal details, such as home address, local Makhanda address, medical aid, car registration, etc. We also take a photograph of you for our records, which appears on your student card.

Curriculum Approval - as distinct from the administrative registration discussed above - is the process through which you choose your subjects for the year (this is subject to various constraints). This **takes place from Thursday, 06th February 2025**, after you have had a chance to find out about the various courses which are on offer (see the Daily Programme for details). Your curriculum approval must be finalised by no later than the Friday of week 2 of the start of the semester.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Our academics, administrators and support staff work hard to create an environment that will help you to realise your potential. If you find that you are struggling with your academic studies in the first few weeks, seek help:

- First, approach your tutor or lecturer and speak to them about your difficulties. Most departments offer some guidance for the first assignment, etc.
- Speak to your residence student assistant or residence manager and your fellow students. They can offer support and advice.
- Speak to the dean of your faculty - he or she may advise that you drop one of your subjects and adjust your programme.
- Extended Studies Programmes have been specially devised to help students who have been admitted to Rhodes without meeting the usual entrance requirements (see below).
- Do not keep your problems to yourself. Seek help.

CURRICULUM APPROVAL

What is it? Our orientation programme offers a wide range of talks about what is on offer. Try to go to as many of these as you can before you finally decide which subjects to take. Keep an open mind, and talk to people about possibilities, so that you have a clear idea of what you want to study by Thursday/Friday and can present these choices for approval. When your curriculum is formally “approved”, you will first consult with a senior member of your faculty (e.g., the Dean of Humanities, Science, Commerce) after which the subjects (e.g., English 101/102 or Economics 101/102) which will form the first-year curriculum of your chosen degree (e.g., a BA, BSc, BCom, etc.) will be recorded on the University’s system, and form an official record of your curriculum for the year.

EXTENDED STUDIES PROGRAMME

Extended Studies Programmes are offered in the faculties of Humanities, Science, and Commerce. Students who do not automatically qualify for direct admission to Rhodes University, are selected and invited to be part of the programme, using a variety of criteria. The programmes help students adapt

to the faculties' academic requirements through carefully structured courses in supportive learning environments. All courses in the programmes earn credits that contribute towards achieving a degree, and students can complete their BSc, BCom, BA or BSocSc degrees in four years.

Each faculty programme operates differently. The Science Extended Studies Programme has stand-alone, year-long courses that are separate from the mainstream. In the Humanities Extended Studies Programme students take fewer than normal mainstream courses in their first year of study and are supported during this time with extra classes. For both programmes, the first year is therefore limited in terms of choice of courses, but second-year students have a wider choice of courses and degrees, which they complete along with mainstream students. In contrast, the Commerce Extended Studies Programme is structured over the first two years and includes a mixture of supported mainstream courses and extended courses. Again, there is more choice in courses that can be taken in the later years of study. Extended Studies students are also provided with computer, information and academic literacy courses, and other faculty-specific courses where necessary. For more information on individual programmes see:

Humanities	Judith Reynolds, New Arts Building
Science	Aviwe Matiwane, New Arts Building
Commerce	Sisonke Mawonga, New Arts Building



Or visit the website: <https://www.ru.ac.za/teachingandlearning/esu/>

MAKING CURRICULUM CHOICES

During orientation week, you will need to make decisions about the subjects you want to study in your first year. Rhodes University offers two kinds of degrees at undergraduate level: professional qualifications and general formative degrees.

Professional qualifications, including the LLB and BPharm degrees, lead directly to a career in a particular area.

General formative degrees, such as the BA, BSocSci, BSc and BCom, exposes students to a wide range of subjects in the early years of study. Two subjects are then chosen as 'majors' to study at third-year level.

Many students come to university thinking they are going to do a BA Psychology or a BSc Computer Science. This is not true. What will happen is that you will do a Bachelor of Arts degree in which Psychology may be one of your majors or a Bachelor of Science degree in which Computer Science may be a major. There are many benefits to doing a general formative degree rather than a narrowly focused programme which leads you to careers in only one subject area. You may well find that the area in which you think you want to study this week is actually very different to what you imagined. You might also find that you absolutely love another subject and that this is what you want to study. Yet another advantage of a general formative degree is that it allows you to find a different way to attain your dream of graduating if you fail a subject. The structure of the degree allows you to be guided by the Dean or another senior member of staff towards success if you do have problems along the way.

During Orientation Week, you will have the opportunity to think about what different groups of subjects can offer you by attending panel discussions where members of staff specializing in these areas and students from these areas will try to give you a taste of what they offer. You will then have an opportunity to ask questions of the panel. *Please note that some subjects will appear in more than one*

panel. Remember, also, that you do not have to take only subjects from one panel area. Unlike other places, Rhodes University offers you the opportunity to combine subjects in any way you like provided your timetable will allow it. This will even include taking subjects from different faculties if you want to. Believe it or not, a combination of Music and Musicology and Mathematics or Computer Science is not unusual! So, enjoy the week. Go to as many panels as you possibly can and expose yourself to an entire new world of thinking and interest that has opened to you now that you are registered at Rhodes University! Please refer to your booklet on the daily timetable.

COURSE CHANGES

Students sometimes find that after attending a few lectures in one of their courses, they wish to change to a different course. While it is not advisable to switch a course after teaching has begun (because you will miss lectures and be under pressure to catch up on reading and other work), there is a two-week grace period at the start of **each semester** during which such changes can be made, thereafter **no further changes will be permitted**. The two-week period at the start of semester one allows for changes/ registration of full year courses and semester courses offered in semester one, while the two-week grace period at the start of semester two allows only for changes/ registration of semester courses offered in semester two.

If you wish to change one or more of your courses, go to your faculty office for assistance.

Unless you change your registration in this way, you will encounter enormous problems later such as not being allowed to write examinations in subjects for which you are not registered or being charged fees for handouts for courses you have not taken.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have a registration certificate that accurately reflects all the courses for which you are registered. If you wish to drop a course, then you can do this via your Faculty office. Make sure that your subject registration is accurate for the semester before the end of the first two weeks of the semester. If you don't, your transcript will reflect subjects that you have not deregistered from which will in turn show that you did not write (DNW) the examination for that subject at the end of the semester.

ACADEMIC DEANS AND FACULTY STAFF

ALL students MUST attend one of the faculty presentations. These will provide a basic outline of how the faculty functions and the degrees that are offered. Some Faculty of Humanities students may need to attend some subject presentations in other Faculties if they intend to choose subjects from those faculties.

By Thursday morning, all first-year students must have a clear idea of what subjects they will enrol for.

FACULTIES

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

Dean: Professor Enocent Msindo

Deputy Dean (Teaching, Learning & Undergraduate Affairs)

Professor Maureen De Jager

Deputy Dean (Research and Postgraduate Affairs)

Professor Patrice Mwepu

Senior Faculty Officer

Ms Karen Kouari



The Faculty of Humanities is the largest faculty at Rhodes University with eleven academic departments and two schools. It offers a rich variety of courses within four broad disciplinary categories:

- **Visual and Performing Arts:** Fine Art, Drama and Music
- **Languages:** isiXhosa, English, Afrikaans, English Language and Linguistics, French, German, Latin, Greek, and Chinese
- **Communication:** Journalism and Media Studies
- **Various Human Studies disciplines:** Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology, Political and International Studies, History, Philosophy, Art History and Visual Culture, Classical Civilizations

The Faculty of Humanities offers a very wide range of possible degrees and course combinations - students can major in any subject combinations of their choice, for instance Journalism, Politics, History and Music, German, and Psychology, etc. Students can also major in a Humanities subject and one offered in another faculty, for instance Sociology and Economics; History and Human Kinetics and Ergonomics; Anthropology and Information Systems, to name a few.

As there are many possible combinations - students are requested to read the rules of their degrees to make sure they are on track to complete their degree within the allocated period. The faculty offers an excellent education for life which is formative for any career pathway. Our education provides students with critical reasoning skills, the ability to analyse and evaluate arguments, to probe for hidden assumptions, to organise complex material in coherent ways and so on. A Humanities degree enhances a student's ability to understand the views of others, to communicate well, to cope with ambiguity and uncertainty, and to acknowledge one's own ignorance. Our education system introduces students to the formative moments of their histories, their societies, politics, and their identities. It allows students to enjoy worlds of music, drama, literature, and languages. All of the above may be combined with degrees or courses, which are more immediately career orientated. Specialised degrees in Journalism or Fine Art or Music are offered, but within the context of a broader, rather than technical, education. A Humanities degree opens worlds; it provides education and not technical industrial training. As such, it provides students with critical skills and characteristics, which are so important for our individual and national development.

Academic queries for Humanities students can be directed to humanities@ru.ac.za.

FACULTY OF COMMERCE

Dean: Professor Dave Sewry

Deputy Dean (Research and Innovation)

Professor Lynette Louw

Deputy Dean (Teaching and Learning and Community Engagement)

Dr Xolile Antoni

Senior Faculty Officer

Ms Niki Searle



A Commerce degree from Rhodes University provides vibrant, motivated, hard-working graduates with a qualification that is vital in forging a career within the competitive and exciting world of commerce.

The Faculty of Commerce consists of four academic departments, namely: Accounting, Economics, Information Systems and Management; the Rhodes Business School and the Commerce Extended Studies Programme.

The Faculty of Commerce awards the following degrees

The **Bachelor of Business Science**, a four-year career-focused degree premised on the application of quantitative methods. The curriculum enables students to specialize in one or more of the following fields: Economics, Information Systems, Management, Quantitative Management and Computer Science.

The **Bachelor of Commerce** is a three-year degree with the aim of providing the graduate with a good academic grounding in the major areas of commerce. The four curricula offered are:

- The general curriculum which allows for a wide combination of subjects in second and third year, including at least two major subjects
- The Accounting curriculum, which is aimed at students wanting to enter the accounting profession.
- The Law curriculum is available to students who would like to enter the legal profession or to follow a BCom degree with a legal emphasis. A candidate who follows this curriculum can gain enough exemptions from the LLB degree subjects to complete the LLB requirements in two further years of study.
- The inter-faculty curriculum enables students to include a Science or Humanities major in their BCom degree.

The **Bachelor of Economics** degree is designed for students who want to include the maximum number of Economics courses and related subjects in their curriculum.

The Commerce Extended Studies Programme is intended to supplement the instruction of major subjects within the Commerce Faculty. Students enrolled in the Commerce Extended Studies Programme receive additional literacy and numerical instruction via extended, augmented, or developmental courses. After successfully completing two years of the programme, students may proceed to the regular degree streams offered by the faculty.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Dean: Professor Eureka Rosenberg

Deputy Dean

Dr Kavish Jawahar

Senior Faculty Officer

Shehnaaz Asmal-Motara



The Faculty of Education is committed to understanding what quality education in Africa means, and to increasing the provisioning of quality education relevant to our local context and the diverse communities of our continent. We are concerned with education and learning, for children, youth and adults, encompassing the preparation of initial and in-service teachers, educators in the non-formal education sector, the professional development of academics in higher education and leadership in a variety of educational systems.

There are two ways of becoming a qualified teacher at Rhodes. The first way is by completing a four-year Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree for Foundation Phase Teaching (Grades R to 3). This program addresses the need for competent and inspiring home language teachers in the Foundation Phase. The second way of becoming a teacher at Rhodes is by capping an undergraduate degree (BA, BSc, BCom) with a one-year Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). One PGCE program is offered in 2025: Senior Phase/FET Teaching (Grades 7-9 and 10-12).

There are certain subject requirements at each of these levels in the PGCE program, and a candidate intending to take this route must discuss these requirements with the Head of the Secondary and Post-School Education Department at the outset of their bachelor's degree.

We strive to be a faculty of choice for teacher education and encourage educators from around the continent and our home province, to join our post-graduate programmes. Faculty members are actively involved in research, policy development and professional and community work in a range of service learning and community engagement programs. We are committed to producing capable, critical, creative, ethical, and reflexive teachers, researchers, and leaders in education. We strive in everything we do to encourage reflective practice among educators and educational leaders and to find solutions for Africa's educational challenges, while drawing on our rich collective resources and histories, cutting-edge theory, and many local, national, and international partnerships. Significant in our Faculty are the Centre for Social Development, the Rhodes University Mathematics Project, the Institute for the Study of Englishes in Africa, and several internationally renowned Research Chairs.

The Faculty has a vibrant post-graduate research training programme which offers graduates the opportunity to take their studies further with a Masters or PhD in a research area of their choice, including Mathematics Education, Numeracy Education, Science Education, Geography Education, English Language Teaching, Information Communication Technology in Education, Higher Education Studies, Education Leadership and Management, Environmental Education, Inclusive Education and Special Needs and Primary Education.

Professional growth, through creative and critical engagement with theory, practice, and context, is fundamental to our work in this Faculty. We encourage students to take responsibility for their own success, while also ensuring that all students are offered appropriate high-quality academic support, mentoring, tuition, peer engagement and technology access. This strategy works: Our students' success rates (measured by retention and throughput) is of the best in South Africa.

FACULTY OF LAW

Dean: Professor Michelle Karels

Deputy Dean

Professor Helena van Coller



Rhodes University was the first university in South Africa to appoint a full-time law professor in 1905. We have a long and proud tradition of legal education which, combined with our research and commitment to the community, align us with the institutional vision and mission and commit us to pursuing social justice through constitutionalism and the rule of law. The faculty offers three academic programmes: LLB (at undergraduate level); LLM (at postgraduate level, by thesis only); and PhD (at postgraduate level, by thesis only).

There are several pathways to obtaining an LLB degree at Rhodes University:

- Admission of candidates straight from school who meet the requirements in L.3.1 (as LLB 1 students)
- Admission after the first year of study where candidates have been registered for a bachelor's degree in Humanities, Science or Commerce with Legal Theory as one of their first-year subjects, who meet the requirements in L.3.2b (as LLB 2 students)
- Admission of candidates after the completion of a bachelor's degree with sufficient law courses in accordance with the requirements in L.3.4 (as LLB penultimate year students)
- Admission of candidates after the completion of a bachelor's degree without any or sufficient law courses in accordance with the requirements in L.3.3 (as LLB preliminary/ LLB 2 students).

All students with an LLB degree from Rhodes University obtain the same qualification. Details and examples of curricula, and details as to the rules of the faculty can be found in our Student Handbook, which is available at <https://www.ru.ac.za/law/studying/>. Entrance requirements exist for each of these pathways, as set out in the Rhodes University Calendar and Student Handbook.

In Legal Theory 1, 2, and 3, academic support is provided to students through compulsory tutorials at first- and second-year levels. At these levels, students are divided into small groups, and their learning is guided by a tutor trained and supervised by the course lecturers. Tutorials for Legal Theory 3 students are conducted by academic staff.

The Faculty of Law is housed in Lincoln House on St Peter's Campus. Tutorials for Legal Theory 1 students are conducted at the faculty, while lectures for this course are held on the main campus. Lectures for LLB students are held in Lincoln House. The Alastair Kerr Law Library is situated on the ground floor of Lincoln House and has an extensive collection of South African legal publications and international and comparative legal materials. The library hosts a thirty-station computer lab for student use with printing and photocopying facilities. The library also subscribes to numerous electronic databases for research and learning purposes. Study areas are available throughout the library.

Our Law Clinic is integral to our legal education. The Law Clinic is situated on New Street. The Clinic provides free legal advice to indigent members of our community. At the same time, it exposes our students to legal practice and hone their skills in consultation, communication, case management and file management.

Prospective students and their parents/caregivers/guardians are invited to direct further enquiries to the dean of the faculty at **michelle.karels@ru.ac.za**.

FACULTY OF PHARMACY

Dean: Professor Sandile Khamanga

Deputy Dean

Dr Carmen Oltmann



The mission of the Faculty of Pharmacy at Rhodes University is to promote pharmaceutical care through education, research, scholarship, creative endeavour and service. The faculty falls under two general areas of control: Rhodes University and the South African Pharmacy Council (SAPC), which is the statutory body controlling the pharmacy profession in South Africa. It is a multi-discipline, single department separated into divisions to form a professional faculty. This is because, as a profession, pharmacy comprises a closely integrated body of knowledge and skills. Any student studying for the BPharm degree is required to take very nearly all courses given by the faculty.

The duration of the Bachelor of Pharmacy is four years. At Rhodes University, the cognate departments of the University (Chemistry, Botany, Computer Science, and Mathematics) teach some of the first-year courses. The Statistics Department offers Statistics for Pharmacy in the third year.

The Faculty of Pharmacy at Rhodes is comprised of four divisions: Pharmacology; Pharmaceutics; Pharmaceutical Chemistry; and Pharmacy Practice. Performance in a course is assessed in terms of: the results of prescribed examinations; and/or Essays, exercises, tests, reports, assignments, practicals and other forms of continuous assessment.

The Bachelor of Pharmacy degree (BPharm) offered at Rhodes University grants access to an internship and professional competency evaluation. Internships can be completed in a community, hospital, industrial, wholesale and distribution, or academic pharmacy setting. Interns are required to work at an accredited training site for at least twelve months and are required to successfully complete the pre-registration exam and submit evidence of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Successful completion of the internship is followed by registration as a Community Service Pharmacist (CSP) and working as a CSP in the public sector. Successful completion of the CSP year allows registration with the South African Pharmacy Council as a fully qualified pharmacist, which permits the applicants to practice the profession of pharmacy within the Republic of South Africa.

The work of a registered pharmacist may be performed in the following sectors: manufacturing, wholesale and distribution, community, hospital, research, or academia. Pharmacy as a profession provides an essential component of the health services of the nation and involves a multi-disciplinary degree, which forms a unique link between the broad fields of the basic sciences and the pharmaceutical sciences. Pharmacy is the channel through which the advances of modern science and technology provide the agents needed in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of disease.

Further details will be presented during orientation week and can be found on the faculty website: <http://www.ru.ac.za/pharmacy> or in the Faculty of Pharmacy handbook



Pregnancy

Pharmacy students must inform the Dean or Deputy Dean as soon as they find out they are pregnant. A pregnancy protocol will be developed for the Pharmacy Faculty. There is a need for this because of potential risks associated with practicals.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Dean: Professor Jo Dames

Deputy Dean

Professor Susi Vetter

Deputy Dean

Professor Gladman Thondhlana



The Faculty of Science is a grouping of fourteen academic departments, which teaches subjects such as Physics, Zoology and Chemistry, which are normally taken only in science degrees. Some of the departments offer courses which may also form part of a Humanities degree (such as Geography and Human Kinetics & Ergonomics) and others offer courses that may also form part of a Commerce degree (such as Information Systems).

The departments in the Science Faculty are Botany, Biochemistry, Microbiology & Bioinformatics, Biotechnology Innovation Centre, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Human Kinetics & Ergonomics, Ichthyology & Fisheries Science, Mathematics, Physics & Electronics, Statistics and Zoology & Entomology.

The Science Faculty offers two undergraduate degrees and three postgraduate degrees. The degrees offered at the undergraduate levels are:

- The **BSc (Bachelor of Science)** is the usual first degree in the faculty and requires a minimum of three years of study after school. A wide range of subjects, most of which are scientific in nature, can be studied to qualify for this degree. This degree may be taken over three or four years depending on school results.
- The **BScS (InfSys) (Bachelor of Science) (Information Systems)** is a three-year degree intended for students who wish to become computer specialists in a commercial environment. It has a more rigid curriculum than the ordinary BSc degree. Half of the courses are science courses and half are commerce courses.

The **BSc Extended Studies Programme**. This program is taken by students with the ability to complete a BSc degree but whose socio-economic and educational background has not fully prepared them for their first year. These students spend two years in this program, after which they join the mainstream BSc students. This degree takes four years to complete.

At postgraduate level the degrees are:

- The **BSc (Hons) (Bachelor of Science with Honours)** may be regarded as a fourth year to an ordinary BSc/BScS in which the student normally studies one of the subjects taken in the final year of the BSc, but in greater detail. The usual entrance requirement is that students must have obtained at least a second- class pass (60% or more) in this subject in the ordinary degree.
- The **MSc (Master of Science)** degree is usually taken over two years and is either offered by research whereby students prepare a thesis for external examination or by coursework and research.
- The **PhD (Doctor of Philosophy)** degree is offered by research only and usually takes between three and four years to complete. In this degree, a student conducts detailed research on a topic that is novel and contributes to the academic discipline being studied.

BEYOND-THE-CLASSROOM SUPPORT

SUPPORT AND SERVICES AVAILABLE

As part of Rhodes University's commitment to a supportive and respectful environment, all incoming students, including those in residence and those living off-campus, are required to attend workshops and group discussions during orientation week. These sessions, organised by the Division for Student Services and Development, will address crucial social issues to help you make informed and healthy decisions as you start university life.

Workshop Topics

These compulsory workshops cover a range of important topics:

- **Sexuality and relationships:** Understanding boundaries, respect, and the diverse expressions of sexuality.
- **Substance abuse and alcohol effects:** Information on the risks, prevention strategies, and support for substance-related issues.
- **Mental health and coping mechanisms:** Techniques and resources for managing stress, anxiety, and depression.
- **Diversity, equity, and human rights:** Discussions on tolerance, equity, and acceptable behavior on campus, promoting a deeper understanding of human rights and the importance of mutual respect.
- Health and safety.
- Financial literacy.

Workshops are held in the afternoons, please see the attached schedule

OUR ETHOS: TOLERANCE, RESPECT, AND DIGNITY

Rhodes University is dedicated to fostering an environment of mutual respect, tolerance, and support. Our commitment to respecting the diversity and dignity of every individual is a core aspect of our academic and social community. This orientation program is designed to equip you with knowledge, resources, and a supportive network as you embark on this new chapter, ensuring a positive, safe, and inclusive university experience for all.

AMBULANCE SERVICES

If a student undergoes a medical crisis, the first port of call is the Health Care Centre where staff will make the necessary decisions regarding the need for doctors or an ambulance. All medical expenses (apart from the basic services provided by the Health Care Centre) are the student's responsibility, and if the student does not have any medical aid, they will have to rely on state medical services.

After-hours emergencies	RU ER24 number: 010 205 3068 (from 16h30 until 08h00)
Settlers Hospital	046 602 5000
Provincial ambulance	046 622 9102 Or dial: 10177
First aid	St John's Ambulance, 24 Hill Street, 046 636 1650
Ambuvent	ambuvent@ambuvival.co.za or ambuvent@gmail com, 071 894 8730

ANIMALS ON CAMPUS

Rhodes University does not allow students to keep pets in any residence, or to bring their pets onto campus. The only exception to this rule is where written permission has been granted to have a companion animal for medical reasons. Application for such permission must be made to the Registrar/DSSD.

Students living in town may decide to keep pets, but this means extra responsibilities. Every year scores of animals are left hungry and homeless when careless individuals go away on holiday, leave town, or decide that their pet is no longer young and cute. It is essential to consider the pros and cons of pet ownership before taking this big step.

For more information, please visit www.ru.ac.za/environment/resources/animalcare

AWARDS

Community Engagement Awards

Student volunteers are awarded certificates at the end of each year of volunteering Special awards are made to individuals, residences, halls, sport clubs or societies where exceptional contributions have been made to community engagement including:

- Gold Awards for student volunteers
- Residence/Hall of the year
- Society/Sports Club of the Year
- Student Researcher of the Year

Environmental Awards

Students who demonstrate consistent and noteworthy efforts to promote sustainability are eligible for Environmental Awards They can be nominated in an individual or group capacity in two categories:

- RU individual (staff or student)
- RU society or residence

Rhodes University & Allan Gray Centre for Leadership Ethics

Top 100 Student Leadership Awards

The Top 100 awards seek to highlight the incredible achievements of students who embody the graduate attributes Rhodes University hopes to foster to its students. The categories are as follows:

- Student Leadership Award
- General Excellence Award
- Arts, Culture, Media, and Society Award
- Sports Award
- Community Engagement Award
- Academic Excellence Award
- Health and Wellness Award
- Ubuntu Award
- Academic Citizenship Award
- Student Entrepreneurship Award
- Academic Mentorship Awards

BEREAVEMENT

If a close family member is seriously ill or dies, you must inform your Residence Manager or the Division of Students Services and Development immediately. There are various ways in which the university can support you during such a difficult time, helping you contact a psychologist at the Rhodes University Counselling Centre, and authorizing absence from your lectures.

BOOKS

Departments advertise ahead of time which textbooks are prescribed for courses, often on their departmental web pages. Second-hand copies of the same books are usually available from students proceeding into the next year and they place their advertisements on the departmental notice boards early in the year. **Note: It is important to buy the correct edition of a prescribed book. Earlier editions are often very different. If you prefer to buy new copies, the main local bookseller is:**

Van Schaik, 129 High Street Weekdays: 08.30–17.00 Saturdays: 08.30–12 30

BURSARIES

Should a student wish to apply for external bursaries, please collect a booklet called The Bursary Register which contains information about external bursaries and scholarships. This booklet is available at the Student Funding Office (Student Bureau, Eden Grove Building) and the Main Library.

CAFETERIA

There is a cafeteria near the library which sells light snacks and beverages and operates during work hours. An Oppidan student needs to register for Oppidan meals once they have completed administrative registration. A detailed description of the procedure to be followed, as well as the cost of the meals, can be found at: www.ru.ac.za/residentialoperations/mealbookings/oppidandininghall

CAREER CENTRE

The Career Centre is on the second floor of the Steve Biko building (behind the Rhodes swimming pool) and is open Monday to Friday between 08h00 and 16h30. To book an appointment email

careercentre@ru.ac.za. The Centre offers students personal career counselling and provides the following services:

- **Individual appointments** to discuss and explore study and career options. These range from 30 to 50 minutes and can be booked through the administrative assistant at the Counselling Centre, or by emailing careercentre@ru.ac.za
- **Career assessments** that can be booked through the admin assistant or via email
- Various **workshops** throughout the year to support and encourage future career and academic success
- **Career publications** inform and guide students in their career development while at Rhodes University and upon graduation.
- The **Graduate Recruitment Programme (GRP)** provides students with the opportunity to engage with potential employers. A key element of the programme is the Career Fairs, where companies from various industries visit campus to network with students and offer opportunities such as internships, learnerships, or scholarships. This initiative helps students explore career paths, build professional connections, and secure employment prospects as they transition from academic life to the workforce. The #AskAProfessional series seeks to bring specific professionals to engage with students about their career journey and development.
- The **Student Entrepreneurship Programme** is an initiative aimed at providing programmes, and activities aimed at fostering entrepreneurial skills and mindsets among students. The programme provides resources, mentorship, and opportunities for students to develop, launch, and manage their own business ventures or innovative projects.
- The **Rhodes University & Allan Gray Centre for Leadership Ethics Top 100 Student Leadership Awards** seek to highlight the incredible achievements of students who embody the graduate attribute Rhodes University hopes to foster in its students. The Career Centre is responsible for organising these awards.
- The **Career Champions Programme**: participants in the programme serve as ambassadors for Career Centre's activities on campus, promoting career services, and helping fellow students engage with opportunities offered at the Career Centre. Career Champions act as a bridge between the student body and the Centre.

CELL PHONES

Students are not permitted to bring cell phones into tests and examinations. If you are caught in possession of a cell phone in these circumstances, disciplinary action will follow as per the Student Disciplinary Code. Depending on the nature of the transgression, severe sanctions may be imposed. Students are urged to take note that under no circumstances will staff in test or examination venues take responsibility for cell phones brought to the venue.

It is also important to remember that cell phones can be very disruptive and annoying when they ring during lectures, seminars or in the library. Please be considerate and switch off your cell phones whenever you enter the library.

CERTIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS

If you need an official university transcript of your academic record, or a certificate of "good conduct" you can get it from the Student Bureau. Certain staff in the Student Bureau are Commissioners of Oaths if you need to certify or authenticate any other document.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY

Your university email address is the Registrar's Division's sole means of contacting you. It is imperative that you check this regularly, and that you set an automatic forward from this mailbox to another mailbox that you may use. It is also vital that you provide the University with updated telephonic and address details.

The University will occasionally need to communicate with you while you are a registered student for following reasons:

- To query your curriculum registration if necessary
- To respond to requests /applications from you (e.g., for exam concessions, AEG applications, etc.)
- To inform you of your academic status (including DP warnings or DP refusals)
- To convey faculty board decisions which relate to you (including the award of your degree and for some, decisions about academic probation or academic exclusion)
- To inform you of emergencies and crises on campus (including power and water outages or medical emergencies).

The University also communicates with students in the following two ways:

- Important notices are posted electronically on the Division of Student Services and Development website which is updated daily: www.ru.ac.za/studentaffairs
- Urgent messages are sent to the student news mailing list. Students are encouraged to subscribe to this list: lists.ru.ac.za/mailman/listinfo/studentnews

Note: Rhodes University does NOT send exam results by email. Students can either look them up on ROSS or subscribe to an SMS service through ROSS.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement (CE) is one of the key areas of a student's experience in university (alongside research and teaching & learning). Engagement with our community offers students opportunities to engage in real-world learning and collaborate with communities in contributing to the social and economic development of our community. This engagement becomes a meaningful part of their education at Rhodes University. Rhodes University encourages community engagement that fosters mutually beneficial relationships - moving away from deficit models of engagement that create dependency (e. g., charity and donations). Students are requested to NOT give money or food to beggars in town. There are many more effective ways to help that are meaningful and sustainable. The RU Community Engagement (RUCE) division seeks to contribute to the nexus between engaged teaching and learning: engaged research and engaged citizenship through:

- Community Engaged Learning (volunteer opportunities)
- Engaged Research (research that is responsive to societal challenges, uses deeply participatory methods and ultimately leads to impact)
- Service Learning (the credit-bearing form of CE, linked to various courses)

Community Engaged Learning (CEL), which involves several popular programmes as well as initiatives by halls, residences, clubs, and societies, give hundreds of students an opportunity to go beyond their academic environment and to use their capabilities to work jointly with residents of our community.

There are four volunteer programmes for students to choose from:

- **Engaged Citizen Programme (ECP)** - you can choose from 26 different sites
- **BuddingQ** – an early literacy programme where you will be placed in a school

- **Siyakhana@Makana (S@M)** – this is the residence programme
- **9/10ths Mentoring Programme** – mentoring Grade 12 pupils in local schools

These have proved to be a valuable resource to many of the local NGOs, schools, and CBO's in our community. Over 1000 students of the 8000-strong student body participate annually, and their specific skills, strengths and interests are matched to the needs of organisations. Volunteer training prepares students for their volunteer activities and is followed up by reflection sessions throughout the year. Leadership opportunities are available for students within the respective CEL programmes, so that they are equipped to carry out their roles with training and mentoring support. A year-end function and certificate ceremony recognise student volunteers, student researchers, sports clubs, student societies, community partners, halls, and residences for their contribution.

The four volunteer programmes are based in the Community Engagement Office working with over 76 community partner organisations in Makhanda. The opportunities to volunteer are wide and varied. Transport is provided for all students registered on the respective volunteer programmes.

For more information, contact the coordinator: a.talbot@ru.ac.za

COMPUTER FACILITIES

Rhodes University has widely accessible computer facilities available to all registered students.

Your username and e-mail address

During the administrative registration you will provide the University with an e-mail address that you are actively using, and you will be given a username and password that will let you access all of the University's computer facilities. This username and password are your online identity while you are at Rhodes. Treat your password as you would your ATM PIN. **Do not share it with anyone.**

For most services, your username will be your student number with the letter g in front, e.g., g25a1234. For Wi-Fi access (eduroam) you need to add @wf.ru.ac.za to your regular username e.g., g25a1234@wf.ru.ac.za to login. Your Rhodes e-mail address is your username with @campus.ru.ac.za added, e.g., g25a1234@campus.ru.ac.za. The university will use this email address for all official correspondence with you while you are at Rhodes. Email sent to your @campus email address will be delivered to the e-mail address you specified during registration. You can check or update this forwarding email address in ROSS.

Accessing the Internet on campus

You can connect to the eduroam Wi-Fi service using your own computer or other wi-fi enabled device. You will need to download and install the geteduroam app or eduroam CAT before you can configure a device to connect to eduroam. Older devices and legacy operating systems may not be able to connect at all. Comprehensive information and instructions are available at www.ru.ac.za/studentnetworking



Do not have a computer?

There are computers in public and departmental computer labs in the New Arts Building, Physics, Eden Grove, Bantu Stephen Biko Building, the Main Library, and in-residence common rooms. Labs are often used for lectures and practicals during the day, so you may find that some are only available after hours. Jacaranda lab is open 24 hours.

There are public printers in the main library, computer labs, and residences. Printing is charged per page, so you need to buy printing credit before you start. This can be done through ROSS.

Need help?

In residences student networking representatives can help you get connected to eduroam as well as public printers. Student technicians will assist you with connectivity and other general computer problems at the Student IT Help Desk in the Main Library. IT lab assistants can help with common tasks in the public computer labs.

Acceptable use and discipline

Rhodes University has a comprehensive acceptable use policy, which is available at www.ru.ac.za/aup. Your attention is drawn to the sections about respecting other people's privacy and copyright. Rhodes University does not tolerate copyright infringement. Failure to adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy or IT Facilities Use and Conduct Code, as published by the Information & Technology Services Division, and read with relevant legislation, will lead to disciplinary action as per the Student Disciplinary Code.

Need IT consumables and equipment?

The IT shop is located on the ground floor of the Struben Building and sells most routine IT consumables and peripherals, from flash sticks and portable hard disks to complete computers and laptops. See www.ru.ac.za/itshop for more information and a price list.

COUNSELLING CENTRE

The Counselling Centre is an accredited internship training site for the training of intern counselling psychologists. It aims to provide psychological support for students. A team of counselling psychologists and intern psychologists operate from a holistic wellness model and support students experiencing psychological problems related to mental health and well-being. The services offered by the Centre include:

- Free short-term individual therapy sessions.
- Daily on-call sessions for psychological emergencies.
- Group psychotherapy for students with similar interests and goals.
- Psychological assessments (assessment accommodation/time concession).
- Psycho-educational workshops on Student Mental Academic and Social Health (**SMASH**)
- Wellness Leader Programme: a student-led programme to promote mental health awareness which from a holistic wellness model and supports students in terms of **S**ocial, **M**ental, **S**piritual, **P**hysical, **E**motional well-being (**SMSPE**).
- Referrals: more serious mental wellness cases are referred for specialist psychiatric care.
- An after-hours line for psychological emergencies: 010 205 3068
- 24 Hour Toll-free Counselling: Higher Health toll-free line: 0800 36 36 36
- SADAG (South Africa Depression and Anxiety Group): 011 234 4837

Counselling Centre **contact details** - 046 603 7070

Operating hours

Monday to Friday 08:00 to 16:30

counsellingcentre@ru.ac.za

www.ru.ac.za/counsellingcentre/



CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Students must remember that they are subject to laws of the land while at Rhodes University, and they will not be given special treatment by prosecuting authorities if they break the law.

Typical offences committed by Rhodes University students include driving whilst under the influence of alcohol, shoplifting and vandalism (including stealing or breaking pot plants or road signs). Being a student is not regarded as a mitigating factor. If you are convicted of any of these offences in a court of law, you will have a criminal record and this will mean, among other things, that you will not be able to travel overseas or emigrate.

DISABILITIES

The Division of Student Services and Development at Rhodes University provides support and reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they can fully participate in academic and campus life. Here are some key services available:

- **Application assistance:** The Student Bureau works with prospective students who disclose severe disabilities during the application process to assess and recommend necessary services and support from the university.
- **Residential accommodations:** Special residential placements are arranged to meet the needs of students with physical or mobility impairments.
- **Exam concessions:** The Exam Concessions Committee reviews applications from students requesting accommodations for exams and tests. Details on the policy and application procedures are available on the Registrar's Division website.
- **Needs assessment and support:** The Office of Student Services and Development assesses individual student needs and helps them access support, including assistive technology and devices, depending on available resources.
- **Accessible computer facilities:** Specially equipped computers with software like voice recognition, text magnification, and other assistive tools are available in the main library for students with visual, hearing, or learning disabilities.

For more information or assistance, students can contact the Division of Student Affairs at: disability@ru.ac.za

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

In the vision and mission statement of Rhodes University, there is a commitment to playing a leading role in establishing a culture of environmental concern by actively pursuing a policy of environmental best-practice. Students can work together with their Environmental Representatives, both in residence and off-campus, to address environmental concerns. The SRC Environmental Counselor provides support to environmental reps and sits on the Rhodes University Environmental Committee, which reports to Senate.

Rhodes University has a social-ecological perspective of sustainability which recognizes our need for clean air, drinkable water, healthy food, opportunities to learn, generate income, enjoy a reasonable quality of life, and live in a peaceful and just society and recognizes the needs of other people and future generations. This means that we need to avoid polluting or using up all the natural resources and live within the limits of what natural ecosystems can provide.

The Rhodes University Environmental Sustainability Policy demonstrates a commitment to:

- Enhancing the environmental focus of teaching and research
- Reducing our ecological footprint in terms of infrastructural development and use of environmental goods and services
- Facilitating more sustainable energy, waste and water management, and usage strategies
- Actively engaging with staff, students, and other stakeholders to promote sustainability. For more information visit www.ru.ac.za/environment

EVENT ORGANISATION ON CAMPUS

Student-organised events must follow the correct protocol:

- Any event involving alcohol during the first term requires permission from the Registrar's Division.
- Any large event must be approved by the Division of Student Services and Development at least six weeks prior to the date.
- Division of Student Services and Development permission: Complete a proposal and email it to studentaffairs@ru.ac.za.
- Safety/Events Committee pre-approval: If the DSSD pre-approves the proposal, you need to then submit the proposal to the RU Safety and Events Committee for consideration in terms of safety-related factors. Email your proposal to the chair at exec director iof@ru.ac.za.
- The Safety/Events Committee will invite the student organizing committee to a meeting where the proposal will be tabled and, where necessary, refer the organising committee to the relevant administrative structure to address final logistical concerns.
- Division of Student Services and Development final approval: The DSSD will give final approval for the event to take place, pending approval from the Safety/Events committee. The Director of Student Services and Development decision is final.

For more information, visit www.ru.ac.za/safety/resources/majorevents



EXAMINATIONS

The Registrar's Division co-ordinates the examinations at Rhodes University. The main exams are written in June and November with supplementary sessions written in January/February of the following year. Examination timetables for these are posted on ROSS at least one month before the commencement of the examinations.

Seating plans

Seating in the examination venues is pre-arranged according to courses and a seating plan is placed outside the entrance of the exam venue.

Punctuality

Morning (AM) sessions start writing at 08h30 and afternoon (PM) sessions start writing at 14h00. Candidates are reminded that they must arrive thirty (30) minutes before the scheduled start of the examination and be seated no later than fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled start of each session. For an 08h30 examination students must arrive by 08h00 and be seated by 08h15. The venue doors will be locked ten (10) minutes before the scheduled start of the examination.

If you find the doors have been locked by the time you arrive, do not panic: the doors will be re-opened when the papers have been distributed. Please note that you will only be admitted to the exam venue up to fifty-five minutes (55 minutes) after the start of the session, but you WILL NOT get additional time to compensate for your late start.

No candidate is permitted to leave the examination venue until one hour after the start of the session and to avoid disturbance in the venue no candidate will be allowed to leave the examination venue during the last 30 minutes of any session.

Toilets

Use these before you arrive to write your exams to avoid the queues that build up in the exam venue just before the exam. Students who wish to go to the toilet during the exam may only do so after the first hour and will be required to sign in and out of the venue. Nobody is permitted to leave the exam venue during the last 30 minutes of the exam.

Personal items

Nothing may be brought into the examination venue other than stationery items in a transparent plastic sleeve. These must be placed on the desk. No other bags are permitted inside the venue.

Cell phones

No cell phones may be brought into the venues and no facility to store cell phones will be available. Only items of clothing that are being worn are permitted – no additional items.

Examination entry

Candidates should note that they are eligible to write examinations ONLY in those courses which appear on their CURRENT course record provided their DP certificate has not been refused. Students who have attended a course without being properly registered for it will NOT receive results for it.

If you have stopped participating in a course without formally dropping it, your results will show DNW (did not write) for that particular course. If you have not already done so, it is imperative that you check your course record. Ask for a copy in the Student Bureau if you are unable to use. If necessary, have your record corrected now to avoid the difficulties mentioned above.

Candidates are warned that if they fail to produce positive identification (current RU student card/ID book/passport or driver's license) at any examination session they may be liable to a fine.

Candidates may be disqualified if:

- they take into any examination hall or are found during the examination, to be in possession of any books, memorandum, notes or any papers whatsoever, except such answer books or other books, papers or materials as may be supplied by the Examinations Office;
- they are in possession of any mobile/wireless digital devices with data storage and/or communication capabilities (e.g., cell phones, PDAs, etc.). Cell phones are not permitted in any venue. Leave them at home;
- they aid or attempt to aid another candidate;
- they obtain or attempt to obtain aid from another candidate;
- they communicate or attempt to communicate, in any way, with another candidate or any unauthorised person.

Reporting a timetable clash

Students who have a direct clash (i. e. more than one examination scheduled on the same date and at the same time) should report this clash to academicadmin@ru.ac.za as soon as the final timetable has been released. Arrangements will be made for the students to write the examinations at a separate venue on the day in question - one paper will be written in the morning session and one will be written in the afternoon session. (Please note that having two examinations scheduled for the same day but not at the same session does not constitute a clash).

Applications for extra time

Students requesting extra time or other concessions in examinations because of a temporary disability, permanent disability or because of some other disability impacting their learning, must apply on ROSS with relevant supporting documentation (e.g., educational psychologist assessment report).

The deadline for applications is at least one month before the start of examinations (usually the end of April for mid-year examinations and end of September for end-of-year examinations). Once the application link on ROSS has disappeared, it means that the concession applications have closed.

Only applications for concessions in respect of unexpected and exceptional circumstances (e. g. broken finger of the student's writing hand) will be considered after this date, although it is usually recommended that such students apply for aegrotat exams. The following principles determine whether you will be granted extra time:

- Students facing severe degenerative diseases will be granted extra time on compassionate grounds. Corroborating evidence is usually required.
- Students suffering from permanent disabilities for which additional time is granted need apply to the committee only once, at the start of their academic careers.
- Extra time is not normally granted in the case of conditions that respond well to medication, e.g., epilepsy or attention deficit disorder.
- Dyslexia does not normally constitute a reason for the granting of extra time.
- Not being an English first-language speaker does not constitute grounds for granting extra time.
- Poor handwriting does not constitute grounds for the granting of extra time.

FEES

A detailed explanation of fees appears in the Rhodes University Calendar. You should note that there are fees for different aspects of university life.

- Academic fees to enable you to do the course for which you register
- Subject-specific course charges, which cover the costs of additional handouts or field trips
- Fees for residence (if you choose to live in residence)
- Fees for voluntary extramural clubs, societies, and activities which you choose to sign up for (e. g. debating society or tennis)
- An annual oppidan fee is charged if you live in town, which covers a range of services provided especially for Oppidan students and is not refundable, regardless of whether you use the facilities or not
- An additional levy is charged to international students

FIRE SAFETY

Students should pay special attention to fire safety on and off-campus.

Fire Action – Four Golden Rules Alarm

Raise the alarm to alert others – scream, whistle, push alarm, shout FIRE!

Emergency Services: call the fire department, no matter how small the fire.

Extinguish: only try to extinguish a fire if safe to do so:

- The fire is small and not spreading
- You know how to use the fire extinguisher
- You have your back to a known SAFE EXIT

Evacuate: Everyone must get out AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Avoid suffocation by heat/smoke – stay low and crawl if necessary. Do not take risks:

- Do not open a closed door; there may be fire inside the room
- Do not go back inside, until instructed by the Makhanda Fire Officer

If your clothing catches fire, “stop, drop and roll” can save your life:

- Stop where you are
- Drop to the floor
- Roll around on the floor to smother the flames.

If another person catches fire, wrap them in a blanket, carpet, or rug to smother the flames.

When operating a fire extinguisher, remember the word **PASS**:

P – Pull the pin

A – Aim nozzle at the base of the fire

S – Squeeze the trigger

S – Sweep the nozzle from side to side

It is a punishable offence if any person tampers with or misuses any safety equipment, including fire extinguishers (Occupational Health & Safety Act, Section 38).

General fire safety tips

- Ensure ALL electrical switches are off before leaving the room
- Do not overload electrical plug sockets
- Avoid illegal and faulty electrical connections
- Never place a heater or stove close to furniture or curtains, and never hang anything on or cover a heater
- Never leave a stove (gas/ electric/ paraffin), open fire or braai unattended
- If you have a braai, don't let the fire get too big and out of control, and put it out if the wind is strong
- If the power goes off while you are cooking, switch off the appliance – the power might be restored anytime
- Ensure candles are secure in a candle holder and cannot fall over (cut in half reduces the chance of falling over)
- Extinguish cigarette butts in a container of sand or water
- Never smoke in bed
- Plan for safe evacuation – have more than one exit from your house, and do not block passageways and exit doors/windows
- Do not tamper with fire equipment and never park in front of a fire hydrant (remind your neighbours and visitors about this)
- If you have a garden hose, keep it rolled up and ready for use in case of a fire
- If you have no extinguisher, keep an empty bucket for water or a bucket of sand
- Make sure you know how to use your fire extinguisher

Oppidan fire safety

Oppidan student digs should be managed responsibly, so they do not become a fire hazard. You must be proactive in ensuring fire safety in your digs:

- Electrical safety: ask your landlord to show you an up-to-date wiring certificate – you have a right to know if the electrical system is in safe working order
- Fire extinguishers: ensure there are functioning fire extinguishers, especially in the kitchen and

passageways – these are required by law. Backup: a bucket of sand is also useful

- Smoke alarms: put portable smoke alarms (in each room if possible) if your landlord is not willing to install a smoke detection system.
- Fire drills: have a fire escape plan and practice it together (once a term)
- Emergency contacts: keep a list of emergency contacts (in each room), save the Fire Department number on your cell phone. 046 622 4444 or toll-free 080 111 4444

More info at www.ru.ac.za/safety/emergencies

Residence fire safety

All residences should have an up-to-date emergency evacuation plan of action and hold fire drills at least once per term (four per year). <https://www.ru.ac.za/safety/fire/>

A report on the fire drill and various other fire safety considerations are included in the quarterly Health and Safety Report submitted by the residence manager to the SHE Office.



For more information

www.ru.ac.za/safety/emergencies

www.ru.ac.za/safety/fire/



HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

All staff and student harassment, discrimination, and gender-based violence must be reported to the Harassment, Discrimination and Gender Harm Office.

Contact the Harassment, Discrimination and Gender Harm Office tel: 046 603 8187/7468 or email report@ru.ac.za .For emergencies and after hours contact Campus Protection Services tel: 046 603 8999 or 066 530 2294 (also on WhatsApp).

Once a complainant has reported an incident/experience of any form of harassment or discrimination three options can be considered. The complainant will be asked to select the option that he/she prefers to resolve and or address the matter. The options are as follows:

1. Noting and consultation: report the incident for record purposes or for any possible intervention as determined by the complainant's preferred scenario.

2. Mediation: the complainant will choose a mediator of their choice from the list of university-trained mediators. The Harassment, Discrimination and Gender Harm Office will arrange the mediation process with all parties concerned. This option can only be selected if both parties agree to mediation.

3. Investigation with view of formal disciplinary action: if a student complainant chooses this option, and the alleged perpetrator is a student, the matter is referred to the Legal Office (Prosecutor) who will conduct an investigation to determine the merits of the complaint. The ultimate decision to prosecute or not is made by the prosecutor, although the wishes of the complainant are considered.



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn

REPORT GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

report@ru.ac.za

046 603 8187

Discrimination, Harrasment and
Gender Harm Office

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL CPU

046 603 8999

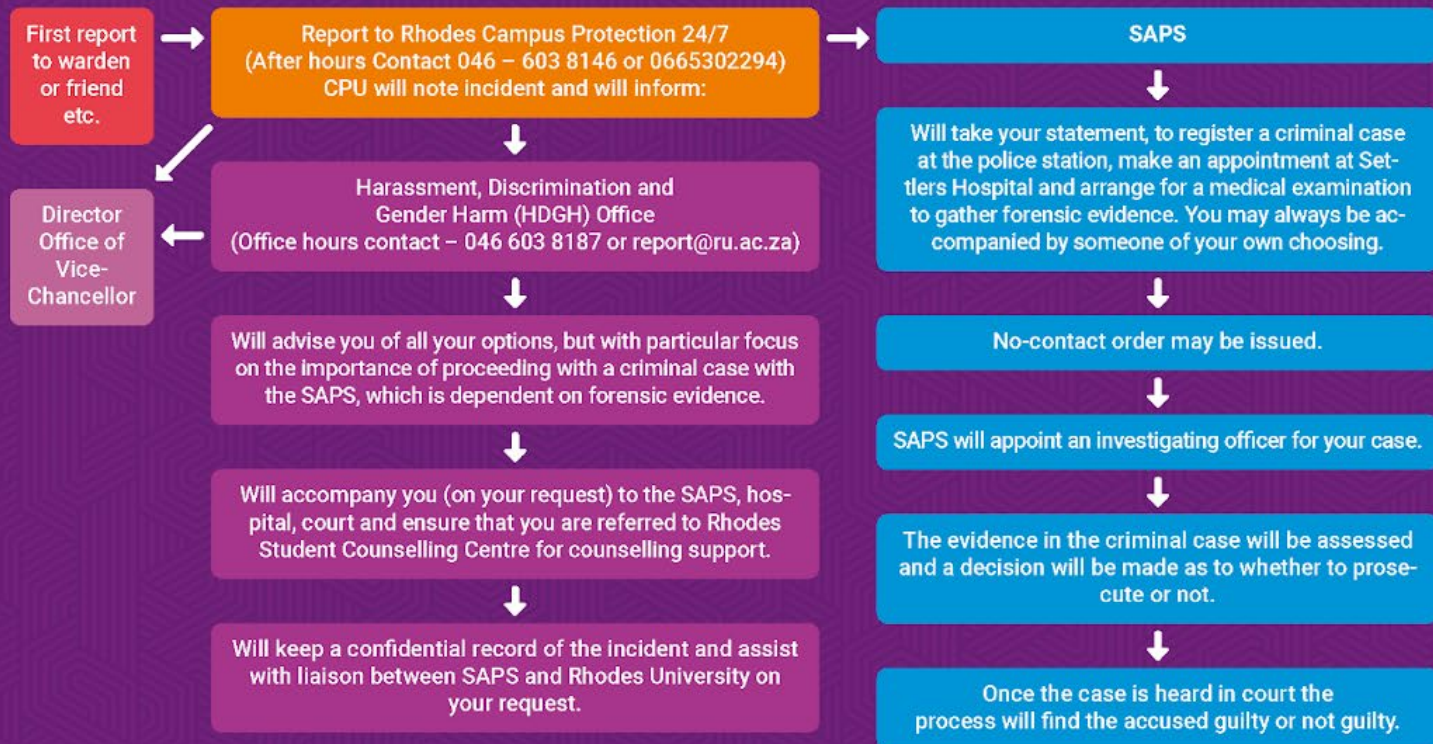
066 530 2294

(also on WhatsApp)

HOW STUDENTS CAN REPORT GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

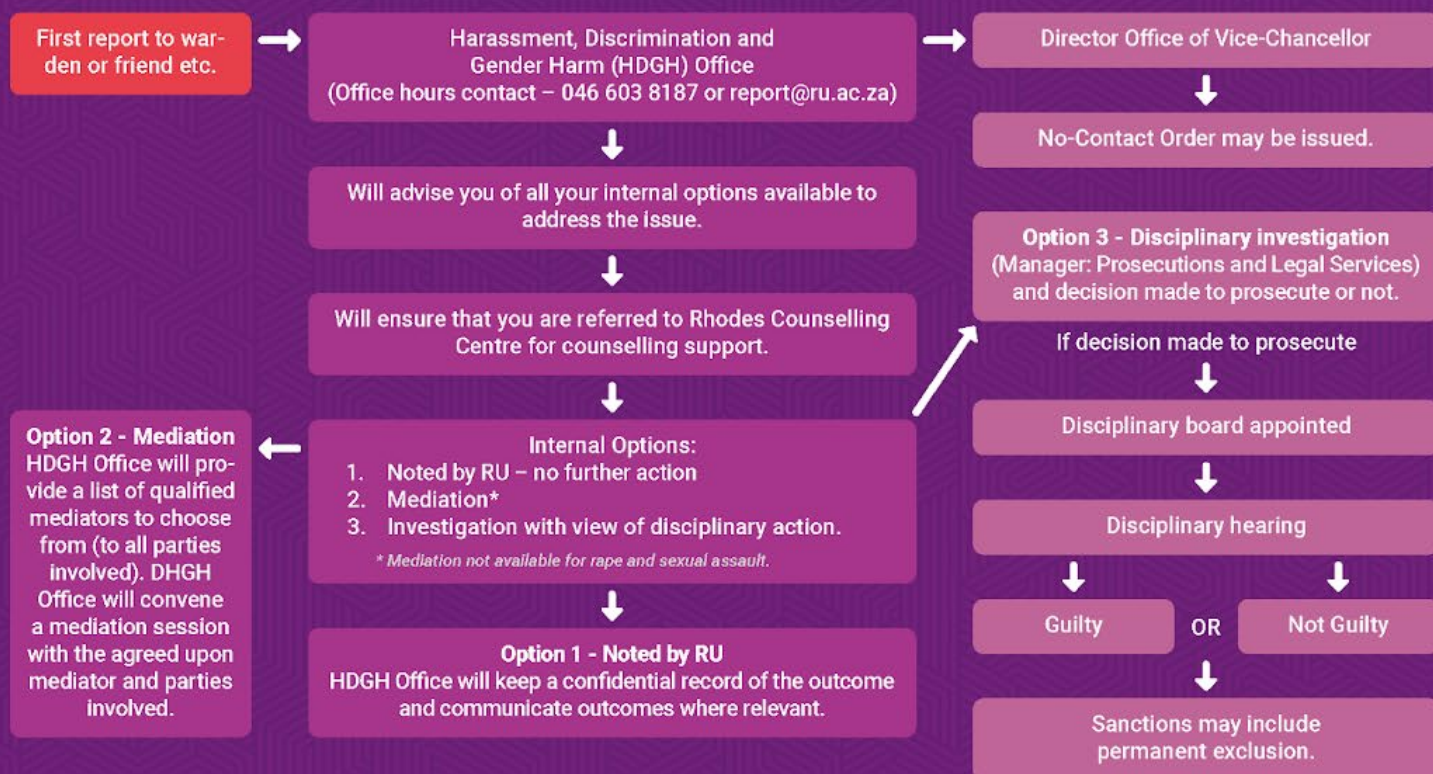
Reporting of GBV incidents with involvement of SAPS

(if person chooses criminal prosecution route, recommended for rape and sexual assault)



Reporting of GBV incident to Rhodes University for internal action

(person decides against criminal prosecution)



Gender-based violence (especially sexual assault and rape)

The reporting of gender-based violence is the same as for all discrimination and harassment. However, there are two differences in how GBV cases are dealt with. These are:

1. We strongly encourage (not force) students to report rape and sexual assault to the South African Police Services. The Office for Discrimination, Harassment and Gender Harm provides ongoing support to any student survivor involved in a criminal investigation and/or court case.
2. If a student survivor chooses not to pursue a criminal prosecution for rape or sexual assault, mediation is not available as an option.

Please see the flow chart below which explains the options available to complainants after reporting gender-based violence. **Note that confidentiality is always highly observed.**

If you experience rape or sexual assault, remember that it is important to **preserve all evidence possible for the forensic examination**. You are advised *not* to:

- Wash or shower or bath
- Wash hands
- Use the toilet or discard your underwear or sanitary products
- Remove, change, discard or wash any clothing, bedding or towels that could be used for evidence
- Smoke
- Clean teeth
- Eat or drink anything
- Disturb the scene in any manner
- Destroy or delete any evidence such as text messages on your cell phone, emails, or social media.

HEALTH CARE CENTRE (HCC)

The HCC is the building on the left, near the top of Rhodes Avenue, the steep road that goes up the hill past Hobson House and CPU. The nursing staff in the HCC are on duty throughout the term to provide a professional and caring service to students at Rhodes University. Five qualified nursing sisters who provide the services below run the Health Care Centre. Students are welcome to discuss their problems and these discussions are confidential.

For students on medical aid, all emergencies will be referred to Settler's Hospital via ER24 or Gardmed ambulance and the hospital staff will organise that the doctor meets the patient there. If no private Dr after hours, the hospital doctor will see the emergency. Appointments can also be made for the students to see the doctor at the surgery.

The student is responsible for the medical practitioner's charges and the cost of prescribed medicines from local pharmacies. A doctor is available to see students every weekday and the charge is approximately half the normal consultation fee from the private sector per visit from the student account.

An appointment will be secured with the doctor via the Health Care Centre staff or Counselling Centre. Admissions at the HCC is free for ALL students, not only residence students but also for Oppidans.

There are ten beds for in-patients suffering from infectious diseases or ailments such as flu, tonsillitis, and gastroenteritis for those recovering after surgical procedures. It is also a haven for those suffering from stress, anxiety, and depression. This in-patient facility is available free to students in residence and at a nominal fee to Oppidans.

Opening hours

During the term, please make an appointment online via ROSS, call 046 603 8523, or email healthcarecentre@ru.ac.za.

Monday - Friday: 08h00–16h30

Saturday, Sunday, and Public Holidays: 08h00–13h00

Vacations: Monday- Friday: 08h30–16h30 (call 010 205 3068 from 16h30).

Medical emergency after-hours

For any medical emergencies after hours (from 16H30–08H00 daily and on the weekends), please contact the RU ER24 emergency number 010 205 3068. If the problem is not an emergency, then visit the Health Care Centre during office hours.

Free services

- Treatment of minor ailments such as flu, tonsillitis etc.
- In-patient care for acute illnesses.
- Management and care of patients with infectious diseases.
- Post-operative observations
- Emergency assessment and crisis management (e. g. sexual assault)
- Voluntary HIV testing, including pre- and post-test counselling
- HIV AIDS medication including PREP and PEP
- Screening tests e. g. blood pressure, blood glucose
- Family planning advice and contraceptives

Services at a minimal cost

- Vaccinations (flu shot)
- Pregnancy tests
- Crutches
- Pap smears and blood tests as per private Laboratory costs.
- Doctors clinic: approximately R337.37 per consultation, the fees rise annually
- Vitamin injections

Referral services

Staff at the Health Care Centre can make referrals to a range of other medical services in the town, including private doctors and dentists, the Counselling Centre, the Psychology Clinic, the hospital, social workers, and private counsellors. Students who have undergone surgery recently or who are under private medical care, which requires follow-up treatment by the Health Care Centre sisters, should provide a letter of consent from their doctors.

Admissions at the Health Care Centre

Infectious diseases such as:

- a. Tuberculosis, except for multi-drug-resistant TB and extremely drug-resistant TB the length of stay is (14) days. We admit students who are in residence only, those in digs normally remain there, unless their digs-mates have not had exposure or the infectious illness before
- b. Chickenpox, rubella, mumps, the length of stay is five (5) to seven (7) days.

Acute illnesses such as dysmenorrhea, abdominal pain, and headache the length of stay necessary is 1-2 days. We may admit acute illnesses where we are concerned for the health of the student and we wish to monitor the progress of the illness. This is at the discretion of the HCC staff. If necessary, the student may be referred to Settlers Hospital.

Post-operative care: the length of stay is about five days. Post-operative care may include wound care and pain management where the patient is stable, and admission is at the discretion of the HCC staff.

HIV/AIDS

Free strictly confidential HIV counselling and testing is offered by a partnership between the Counselling Centre and the Health Care Centre. This voluntary HIV testing is done along with the necessary pre- and post-test counselling, by appointment, at the Health Care Centre every afternoon. The entire procedure, including the counselling and the test, is relatively brief, usually somewhere within 30 minutes. Rapid HIV tests are employed, and students will be provided with their test result immediately. Students can be assured that the testing and counselling procedure follows strict protocols and that the service provided is confidential, professional, and efficient. Students can obtain their HIV medication from the HCC.

The Counselling Centre is available to provide psychological support while the HCC provides medical support and advice for any student who is HIV positive. It is university policy that the rights of HIV-positive students are protected. For more information, visit www.ru.ac.za/studentaffairs

INSURANCE

Students are NOT covered by university insurance while at Rhodes unless they are injured while engaged in activities for which the University remunerates them. All other insurance is the responsibility of each student; students are therefore strongly advised to ensure that they carry the necessary insurance against theft, housebreaking, fire and other similar risks.

Rhodes University will in no way hold itself responsible for any loss or damage by theft, fire or any other means to student's property kept in the residences either during term time or during vacations. All students' rooms doors are fitted with locks and students' rooms should be locked at all times.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Each public University in South Africa has its own model for dealing with internationalization of its Research, Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement, and International Student Support Services. Rhodes University adopted a de-centralised internationalization model which means that most international student services are integrated with the student services to South African students. However, the International Office provides support on aspects that pertain uniquely to international students, postgrad and staff, and this includes advice on immigration compliance for visas and medical aid as outlined below.

Visas

- All international students who physically enter South Africa to study, require a valid study visa
- Study Visas need to be acquired prior to arrival at a Port of Entry in South Africa and copies of the passport and visa must be emailed to the International Office before you may proceed with pre-registration
- Under no circumstances, should you arrive at Rhodes without a valid study visa endorsed for Rhodes University
- Students who arrive with a tourist or visitor's visa will not be able to register at Rhodes University
- The dates on your visa are determined by your letter of offer from the University. Also, known as a Letter of Undertaking issued by the Registrars Division. Please note that the waiting period after an

application for a visa may take six to eight weeks.

- Always check the correct details have been issued at the time you collect your study visa: the visa should stipulate the destination University; the purpose for coming to South Africa/ the degree for which you have been accepted, whether it allows multiple entries and the duration of your intended study period.
- Please note that you are permitted to work for 20 hours a week, while you are studying, without any further endorsement on your visa.
- If you are extending your stay for the purpose of continuing your studies, you may renew your study visa at the nearest VFS centre from within South Africa, by making online bookings, providing you do so 60 days before the expiry date of your current visa.
- The International Office also makes arrangements for the VFS Mobile Biometric Service to come to Rhodes University, twice a year.
- The International Office will assist with any visa-related queries or refer you to the nearest VFS Centre.
- For ease of reference, the VFS website is as follows: <https://www.vfsglobal.com/dha/southafrica/>

Medical aid

- Membership of a Medical Aid Scheme is a core requirement to maintain a valid study visa
- The Medical Aid you purchase must come from a scheme on the list approved by the South African Council for Medical schemes
- Different Medical Aid schemes have designated service providers/ doctors
- Not all the South African Medical schemes have medical practitioners in the locality of every South African University
- Rhodes University, through IEASA, has therefore appointed Simeka Health Consultants to assist international students coming to Makhandla, with all queries relating to appropriate medical cover, applications for membership to a Medical Scheme, and membership renewal
- Simeka Health can be reached via international.students@simekahealth.co.za or by telephone 0860 100 380
- You will need to submit proof of cover from an acceptable South African Medical Aid before you will be allowed to proceed with pre- registration. This is to be done via email.
- Your Medical aid needs to remain in place for the same duration as your study visa
- Medical aid is however cost annually and may be purchased for one year at a time, but it needs to be renewed annually.
- Please ensure that you always keep your medical aid up to date.
- When in Makhandla, International students should check to ensure that they are registered with the doctor they make an appointment with, and that the Doctor is participating in their medical aid scheme.
- Remember if you change address to please update your information at the provider's rooms.
- Students will be responsible for all related medical costs should they not follow above guidelines.

It is incumbent on the student to ensure that they comply with immigration regulations. Failure to do so may lead to termination of registration, studies, and forfeiture of credits.

More info: <https://www.ru.ac.za/internationalisation/>

Contact details: internationaloffice@ru.ac.za and +27 46 603 8217

LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA)

If any student misses a class or cannot hand in an assignment for any reason whatsoever, they must apply for an LoA. Only the academic Head of Department has the power to grant LoA.

To get a LoA, a student must obtain an LoA form from the Student Bureau and get it filled in by the appropriate person who can support their claims. Usually, this is a medical doctor/ staff at the Health Care Centre/ Counselling Centre.

Students are given leave of absence for representing the University at high-level sports events, in which case Sports Admin must support the LoA request. LoA's will only be supported on the spot to students who display clear evidence of being ill at the time of appointment.

LoA will NOT normally be granted in the following circumstances:

- When a healthy student comes to claim a retrospective LOA for being sick at a time prior to the consultation
- When the student misses a lecture due to waiting in the HCC but proves to be in good health when attended to

Students who claim to be suffering from severe headache, diarrhoea or vomiting will be kept in bed for observation before LOA is supported. If the symptoms do not recur within a few hours, the request for LOA will not be supported.

Students in residence are reminded that their Residence Managers can support requests for LOA's on the grounds of illness as well, and that a subsequent visit to the HCC is not necessary. Oppidan students and students in residence may visit the HCC to get a leave of absence form signed, even if they do not wish to receive any medical treatment for their ailment.

LEGAL PROBLEMS

The Rhodes University Law Clinic is a non-profit organization which provides free legal services to disadvantaged people living in and around Makhanda as well as a practical, hands-on learning experience for Law students. A wide range of legal services are provided by the Clinic, but there is a specialist focus on family law, consumer law and land law matters.

The Clinic at 118 High Street is available to provide legal services to students in most cases. Tel: 046 603 9301 The SRC also provides students with legal advice and support in relation to University disciplinary matters.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Guide to Rhodes University Library (RUL) Services

Who are we?

We are an academic support service and partner that provides access to diverse contextual learning and research collections, services, spaces, and facilities to support the academic project. We value strategic collaborations and partnerships with stakeholders and communities.

Purpose statement

Rhodes University Library and Information Services are committed to supporting the mission of Rhodes University in the pursuit of knowledge by students, researchers, scholars, and communities by providing quality learning resources, user-centered services and the skills required to participate effectively in the knowledge economy and a conducive physical and virtual learning environment that

enhances intellectual creativity, free and open exchange of knowledge and ideas.

Our services and programmes

The Library operates in a hybrid environment. It provides on-site and off-site services. On-site services include but are not limited to access to all our learning resources, including print, lending/Circulation services, faculty-based services and hubs with context-relevant print collections, IT Helpdesk and technology support, library venues and facilities, services and the differently abled.

The library website is a gateway to all our learning resources and services. Online/Remote services include but are not limited to access to online resources and search platforms, LibAnswers with a Chatbot where you can chat and ask specific questions to librarians; subject, research, general LibGuides; operating hours, a virtual tour, and our popular online tutorial and videos. About 80% of our learning resources are accessible online. Our search-all tutorial will guide you through the search process.

Opening hours

The Main Library's opening hours are subject to change due to public holidays, term breaks, extended times during the examinations, etc. Changes in the Library's opening times are communicated regularly on the Library's entrance, the Library's web page, social media and e-mail.

Borrowing Library Books

The most relevant loan schedule related to first-year students is set out as follows:

User Category	Number of items	Duration of time
Undergraduates	6 items	2 weeks
Postgraduates	12 items	4 weeks
Senior postgraduates	20 items	8 weeks

Teaching, Learning and Research

Support resources for learning

The Library Services Division receives a substantive annual Information Resources (IR) grant to develop learning resources from the institution. It also uses other grants to develop context-relevant and discipline-specific learning resources to support the academic project.

These collections are developed through several processes, including:

Curriculum-aligned procurement (once-off purchases and/or subscription-based) of materials (printed books, e-books, journals, databases, deposits, donations, verified Open Access resources, Rhodes University community research outputs, research data, articles, conference proceedings, theses, dissertations, digitised analog materials and special collections). Registered Rhodes Library users may recommend purchasing an item through their dedicated Faculty Librarian.

Access to all Learning Resources

The Main Library has +- 300 000 volumes of print books onsite, +- 299 439 unique e-book titles, and more than 66 online scholarly databases. The A-Z is an alphabetical list of databases subscribed to by Rhodes University. Access to content and other services is through the Main Library's web page. Once you are here, you can search our Library catalogue using the exact title/subject/keyword(s). Rhodes University staff and students have seamless access to our services and learning resources. However, new students and new staff members must set up or activate their library accounts to access online databases, e-journals, and e-books remotely/off-campus. You can set up your account in "My Library Account".

The Short Loan Collection

This is heavily used by staff and students. Short loan includes materials reserved by lecturers for immediate and short-term access. You will have to visit the library to access short loan material and other print resources held by the Library during operating hours. For all access or loan-related inquiries, contact our Circulation desk or send an e-mail to libloansupport@ru.ac.za.

Access to Electronic Learning Resources

Library users can use our e-resources, accessible both on campus and remotely. The Rhodes University Library is a member of the South East Academic Library System (SEALS), a consortium of the Eastern Cape's four academic libraries (Nelson Mandela University Library, Walter Sisulu University Library, Fort Hare University Library and Rhodes University Library). The Common Library Management Information System hosts the myriad of learning resources of the four libraries using a shared catalogue. The common library catalogues across SEALS enables sharing of resources through InterLibrary loan systems within the consortium. The subscription-based e-resources are accessible to the current Rhodes University staff and students only as significant portion of e-resources is subject to terms and conditions stipulated in license agreements with vendors. Community members, including Makhanda residents, who need access to subscription-based electronic resources must contact the Circulation Desk staff via libloansupport@ru.ac.za. You can browse our e-journals by subject. You can also filter through the Rhodes Library discovery tool to find our resources.

Our Programmes

First-year Experience (FYE) Programme: Our FYE programme starts with Orientation Week (O-Week) each year. The Library O-Week programme is paired with the 1st Year poll, whose results help to inform the ongoing Information Literacy Skills Instruction. The Librarians offer an Information and Digital Literacy (I&DL) skills programme to 1st year students. The discipline specific I&DL skills programme is offered to all 1st year students who are registered for the Extended Studies Programme (ESPs).

Academics are encouraged to arrange with their faculty librarians for their students to attend the ongoing I&DL skills programme.

Information Commons

The Undergraduate Librarian is available to assist first-year undergraduate students with transitioning to the academic learning environment. The Unit provides all undergraduate students with an Information and Digital Literacy programme to support teaching and learning. We also offer training on the effective use of scholarly databases. You are responsible for booking an appointment with your Librarians. The Faculty Liaison programme provides a conducive interface between the Library and faculties. Your knowledgeable faculty librarians are accessible at Levels 2, 3 and 4 of the Main Library.

Research Support

Our research support ranges from specialised Digital Scholarship services to a myriad of other valuable research support services, including Scholarly Communication and the Rhodes Research Commons. The Institutional Repository, Research Data Repository, and Rhodes Journal service (OJS) are some of our flagship research support platforms provided by the Library. Research support also includes workshops on using systematic reviews as a research methodology, setting up researcher identifiers, citing and referencing, avoiding plagiarism, research integrity (avoiding predatory journals, conferences, publishers, and publishing) and fake news. For more information, visit our research page.

Library Facilities

The Rhodes University Library has always endeavoured to be a "desired space" for all patrons. Seen as a world-class academic facility, it supports the University's Teaching and Learning requirements. It

is a space that is aligned with the current educational trends. Using an online booking tool, library users may book group study rooms, a dedicated space for students to collaborate on projects, discuss course materials, and work together on assignments. Our virtual tour will enhance your experience with our venues and facilities.

Where to find us

Rhodes University Library has both an onsite and virtual footprint. The physical presence comprises five library sites, the Main Library, the Cory Library for Humanities Research, the Alastair Kerr Law Library, the Sound Library, and the Teacher Resource Centre. The two affiliated libraries are the Margaret Smith Library at the South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) and the International Library of African Music (ILAM). There is more information on each of these libraries.

Library Membership

All registered students and Rhodes University staff are members of the Main Library. For all your membership queries and problems with login procedures, contact the Circulation Desk or libloansupport@ru.ac.za.

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property is handed to the Campus Protection Unit (CPU) in Rhodes Avenue above Hobson House.

MEALS

All halls of residences have a self-service system, and formal dinners are held once or twice a year. Balanced meals are planned on a two-week cycle, ensuring that the nutritional needs of students are met. Menus, which cover two-week periods, are also available online. For lunch and supper, a student can choose from one of eight meal types: default, fast food default, fast food vegetarian, fast food Halaal, and vegetarian, health platter Halaal/ Hindu and African. All students are automatically booked for all meals according to the diet that they specify when they pre-register online. The default choice can be changed online, after registration.

Making a meal booking: log onto ROSS (<http://ross.ru.ac.za>) and follow the options under «meal bookings. There you can:

- print the chosen meal list
- unbook meals (single or blocks e.g., if the student does not eat breakfast, they can unbook for the year or if they go away for a weekend, they can unbook all meals for that period)
- Change the preferred diet

All these options must take place at least 48 hours in advance of a particular meal. If a student does not take a meal and has not un-booked 48 hours in advance, the meal is regarded as taken and no credit will be given for that missed meal.

Credit accumulated from unbooked meals up to an amount specified annually in the University Calendar (amounts for undergrad and postgrad residences differ) will be credited to the student's fees account at the end of the 2nd and 4th terms. The university does not monitor meal cancellations. No student will be permitted to cancel all meals. Oppidan students (those living in town) can also have a regular midday meal, using the same meal booking system after having registered as Oppidan meal takers. A concise user manual for using the system is available [here](#):



OPPIDAN FACILITIES

An Oppidan is a student who does not live in a university residence. Most students living in digs have experienced life in residence for a year or two before taking the plunge to greater independence and responsibility.

Rhodes University provides a comprehensive support base for all Oppidan students for which they pay an annual levy.

Support services include:

- Access to all facilities at Rhodes, including the Health Care Centre and the Counselling Centre.
- An Oppidan Hall Manager who can provide advice and assistance on issues related to living in digs.
- A team of five Residence Student Assistant whose role is largely a nurturing one: they visit the students living in their area, encouraging them to get involved in social and sporting activities. They also promote good relations between 'town and gown' and encourage students to get to know their neighbours and clear up potential misunderstandings before they occur.
- A voluntary mentoring programme which pairs experienced students with first year students to assist them with their transition and getting to know the campus and ins and outs of being an Oppidan student.
- A Committee of Oppidan students who provide leadership for the Oppidan Hall.

PARKING ON CAMPUS

All students who have cars in Makhanda must supply the relevant information when they register. Parking on campus is limited. Anyone acquiring a car during the year must register it at the Student Bureau within three days. Failure to register a car is an offence in terms of the Student Disciplinary Code. You are requested to take care when driving on campus, observe the speed limit, be wary of pedestrians and park only in designated areas.

Parking spaces with a red dot outlined with a white circle are for staff only. You will be fined if you park in them. Traffic management falls under CPU. The National Traffic Act and the Rhodes University Student Disciplinary Code is implemented in the instance of contravention of traffic rules.

POLICIES OF THE UNIVERSITY

There are many policies and protocols, which are of relevance to students. Please visit the Rhodes University website for a complete list at

<https://www.ru.ac.za/institutionalplanningunit/policies/policiesa-z/>



PREGNANCY

Rhodes University will make every effort to support a pregnant student and ensure that the pregnancy does not disrupt her academic career. Although each case will be considered on its merits, the University cannot take any responsibility for any potential health risks associated with pregnancy, or assume financial responsibility for special dietary requirements in residence, etc. Counselling and advice (for both parents-to-be) is available through the Counselling Centre, the HCC, or a private practitioner. While we respect a student's right to confidentiality and the usual professional rules

regarding this confidentiality will be respected, it is reasonable to expect a pregnant student to inform those parties who might be most immediately affected by their pregnancy. We strongly encourage the student to inform:

- The HCC to obtain basic health advice
- A medical practitioner to obtain expert advice. A student with no medical aid can make an appointment at the HCC to see the University doctor at the normal reduced rate, who will then refer her to the Grahamstown Clinic for ongoing treatment during the pregnancy or to the State Hospital for termination
- The house/Hall Manager, if the student lives in residence, so that she is aware of the student's condition and can assist her to make the necessary arrangements for the final stages of the pregnancy, when she will have to move out of residence

In the normal course of events, provided there are no medical complications, a student may remain in residence until the 36th week of pregnancy. The student will need to arrange for alternative accommodation during the final weeks of pregnancy or the actual birth of the baby. While the student may return to residence after the birth of the baby, the child will not be permitted to live with her there, and she is responsible for making appropriate child-care arrangements. There will be no financial penalty to the student if she wishes to have her room kept vacant so that she may return to it after the birth of the baby.

The usual arrangements regarding leave of absence can be made, with medical certification. The student can apply for an extended LoA if circumstances qualify for this. If the time of birth is close to or coincides with examinations, the student can apply to write an Aegrotat examination at a later stage.

The HCC does provide anti-retro-viral to deal with the prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT). If the student is HIV positive, she should arrange with her private doctor (if on medical aid) who will, in turn, implement their protocol to deal with PMTCT.

Pharmacy students must inform the Dean or Deputy Dean as soon as they find out they are pregnant. A pregnancy protocol will be developed for the Pharmacy Faculty. There is a need for this because of potential risks associated with practicals.

PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLNESS

Emotions and feelings of distress may include, tearfulness, feelings of sadness, irritability, difficulty concentrating on academic work, difficulties in sleeping (either difficulty falling asleep or once asleep, waking up during the night or early in the morning), feelings of worthlessness, loss of interest in previously enjoyable activities, changes in appetite, decreased energy and fatigue, and/or suicidal thoughts. Anxious thoughts and feelings may also be experienced, particularly when academic deadlines are close.

Tips for managing psychological distress:

- Get some exercise
- Physical activity can help reduce stress. Spend some time doing enjoyable physical activities.
- Take time out
- Give yourself short breaks during times of the day that tend to be stressful. A few moments of quiet time might help you feel better prepared to handle what is ahead without getting overly stressed.
- Using humour to release tension and lightening up can help manage stress/anxiety. Use humour to help you face what is making you stressed and remember to have realistic expectations for the day.

- Practice relaxation skills
- Practice deep-breathing exercises, imagine a relaxing scene, or repeat a calming word or phrase, such as, "Take it easy." You might also listen to music, write in a journal, or do a few yoga poses, whatever it takes to encourage relaxation.
- Talking to friends/ loved ones Talk to your friends in digs or res to support each other and / talk to your loved ones.
- Know when to seek help

When all the above seems to not be helping do not hesitate to seek professional help.

The Counselling Centre is at the top floor of the Steve Biko Building. You can make an appointment by going to the Counselling Centre or email counsellingcentre@ru.ac.za or phone 046 603 7070 if professional help is needed. The after-hours number is available from 4.30 pm until 8 am the following morning, and over the weekends 24/7. The contact number is 010 205 3068.

Additional resources are:

- SADAG (South African Depression and Anxiety Group)
- SADAG Suicide Crisis Line 0800 567 567
- SADAG 24-hour helpline 0800 12 13 14
- Lifeline Eastern Cape, Port Elizabeth 041 373 8666

RESIDENCE SUPPORT

Rhodes is more than simply an educational institution, it is a community, and one of the hallmarks, which makes that community especially remarkable is the residence system; each residence is run by a residence manager, a few residence student assistants, and a house committee. If you are in residence and need special help or support for any reason, you are strongly encouraged to draw on the resources available to you in your residence: Residence student assistants and residence managers will respect the need for confidentiality, and they are always ready to help and offer solutions to your problems.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The Campus Protection Unit (CPU) office and control room are situated in Rhodes Avenue next to Hobson House. The 24-hour control room operates 365 days a year and is the nerve centre of the security operations and the after-hours help- desk on campus. It has radio communication with the guards, monitors burglar, panic, and fire alarms, is the after-hours switchboard and call centre for the University, and responds to first information of crime reports, calls out University standby technicians and deals with lost and found property. It employs nineteen Rhodes guards, six supervisors and 28 contract guards from a local security company, HiTec. All staff work on a shift cycle to provide a security service throughout the year. Rhodes CPU guards wear blue uniforms, while HiTec guards wear black uniforms with a yellow badge. These guards are all highly visible and patrol campus 24 hours a day, both on foot and on bicycles.

The CPU Manager performs various tasks under safety and security for the University and works closely with all departments and committees in the university. The supervisors are responsible for the day-to-day running of the shifts, posting of the CPU and HiTec guards and running of the control room and Help Desk.

CPU is the first point of contact for any issue on campus and to callout any of the standby support personnel and emergency services, be they fire, ambulance, police, etc. In addition to their patrol work, guards also open and close lecture venues, administrative buildings and after-hours function venues, escort students and staff on campus, perform traffic and parking duties and report defunct lights on campus.

CPU also operates a lost-and-found service. All emergencies must be reported immediately to the CPU control room

Residence managers can phone the control room for assistance with any matter, at any time of the day or night. On receipt of a call, a guard will be dispatched immediately to assist the Residence Manager.

CPU: 046 603 8146/7

After-hours emergency number: 046 603 8999

Safety hints on campus

Guards will accompany students on campus at night for protection, if requested, and students are encouraged to make use of this facility. Students can approach the nearest CPU guard or visit the CPU offices on Rhodes Avenue and request an escort.

All incidents should be reported immediately to CPU for assistance. Students should make use of the Blue Route, a well-lit, clearly demarcated, patrolled route that runs from the bottom of Prince Alfred Street (across the road from the Drama Department), all the way to the top of the hill, past Nelson Mandela Hall. It also runs along St Peter's Campus and up to Winchester House on Beaufort Street. Forty-eight SOS panic buttons are installed at various places around campus. They are identifiable with a yellow chevron backing board and red button. A student in trouble can push this and the CPU will pick up the signal at their headquarters. Students are also encouraged to remember that common sense is their best defense!

Students should always be aware of their surroundings and the people in their environment. It is also not advisable for students to walk around Makhanda alone, particularly at night. Students should always walk-in groups, stick to well-lit areas or try to arrange a lift home. Students should also note that CPU is not allowed to transport any student to a destination on or off campus.

Other hints to pass on to students include the following:

- Take out personal insurance
- Lock your doors and windows when leaving your room and when going to sleep
- Keep items such as laptop computers, cell phones, iPods, and cameras etc. away from the window and out of sight, preferably in a locked cupboard
- Report the presence of strange people in your residence to someone in authority immediately
- Do not keep large sums of money in your room
- Keep serial numbers of your valuables, and take them with you during vacations
- Do not leave any messages on your door to indicate that you will be away for any length of time
- Do not leave bags unsupervised in public areas such as cafeterias, computer labs and the library
- Always keep your cell phone on you (preferably out of sight)
- If you have a car, invest in a gear-lock and anti-theft wheel nuts
- Never leave items on display, i.e., jackets and valuables inside your car
- Report theft of items immediately

Safety for oppidan students

The CPU has neither the resources nor the mandate to patrol the whole of Makhanda. The greater Makhanda area is monitored by the South African Police Service, which works closely with Rhodes to keep us up to date about criminal activity and crime prevention for Oppidan students. Unfortunately, Oppidan students are quite vulnerable to petty crime because they are “soft targets”. Many students forget to set house alarms, leave windows open or do not lock doors when they go out. Oppidan students must remember to take basic precautions: setting alarms, closing windows, and locking doors all make a big difference to your personal safety. It is also NOT advisable for students to walk around Makhanda alone, particularly at night. Students should always walk-in groups, stick to well-lit areas or try to arrange a lift home.

The Oppidan Residence Manager and five Oppidan Residence Student Assistants are available to help students after a theft or break-in. Oppidans need to be proactive in ensuring their safety, by selecting digs that are secure, and attending the monthly Police Forum for their area. If they are the victims of a crime, they should:

1. report the matter to the police, and
2. report the matter to the Oppidan Office.

SPORT AT RHODES

All students are entitled to make use of the sports facilities and join one or more of the 27 clubs which are affiliated to the Sports Council. A small annual fee is charged for each sports club that a student joins. Each club is a centre of social activities, with meetings, practices, fixtures, and fun events organised by the students who are assisted by full-time sports administrators.

Many clubs play in competitive provincial leagues, while some also offer internal leagues. Because not all students enjoy playing competitive sports, the residence system offers students the opportunity for a social and less competitive team sport. The sports rep on each house committee is charged with organising such events. In addition, the Rhodes Health Suite offers weight training, aerobics and spinning classes. The weight training facility consists of cardio-vascular; circuit and free-weight training sections and instructors are available to assist with personal training programmes.

A student on financial aid may apply to the Sports Council via the Manager: Sports Administration for a rebate to join one sports club or one section of the Health Suite.

Sports on offer at Rhodes

Archery, athletics, basketball, cricket, canoe, first aid, chess, golf, dance sport, fly fishing, hockey, karate, mixed martial arts, mountain climbing, netball, supa-pool, rifle rowing, rugby, sailing, squash, soccer, surfing, taekwondo, tennis, underwater, and volleyball.

STUDENT DISCIPLINARY CODE

In an ideal world, there would be no need for disciplinary codes. Disciplinary codes are indispensable. The Rhodes Student Disciplinary Code is available at <https://www.ru.ac.za/registrar/discipline/studentdisciplinarycode/> and all students are expected to have read it.



There are wide ranges of issues that are covered in the Code, from making excessive noise to the most serious of criminal offences. If students adopt a common-sense approach, they are likely to be alright 95% of the time.

- The source of the University's discipline procedures is the Student Disciplinary Code which is published on the website.
- The Vice-Chancellor is the Chief Disciplinary Officer for the University. He may delegate such authority.
- The Vice-Chancellor has appointed two officials called the University Prosecutors. Their duties, functions and powers are set out in the Code. In effect, they act as the prosecutor in all cases that are heard by the Proctors, in higher discipline cases.
- The most serious disciplinary cases are heard by the proctors who have the power to exclude students from the University permanently or for a specified period (e.g., two years) in addition to various other powers that are set out in the Code. The proctors are appointed by the Vice-Chancellor and are usually members of the staff of the faculty of law who have served as judicial officers or practiced as advocates or attorneys. (Prosecutors are assisted in investigating and prosecuting by final-year law students. The right to a fair hearing is critical and is taken very seriously).
- There are a number of other disciplinary officers or bodies, which include Hall Managers, Residence Managers, hall and/ or house disciplinary committees, sub-Residence Managers and the SRC Disciplinary Board. The Main Library, Information Technology, CPU and Sports Council Disciplinary Committees have the power to run cases in their area of jurisdiction.
- Normally sanctions take the form of a number of hours of compulsory service which must be completed within a given period. Failure to complete these hours results in further charges being laid for the failure to obey a lawful instruction and may result in exam results being withheld.

The rules in the Student Disciplinary Code apply to all students. Issues like theft, assault and cheating in exams are obvious. Perhaps less obvious is the fact that unlike in the criminal justice system where intoxication sometimes acts as mitigation, at Rhodes intoxication is an aggravating factor.

Some offences worth noting include: all the usual traffic offences; unlawful possession of drugs; failure to give one's name and to produce one's student card when required to do so; removing street signs or car number plates and being violent or disorderly. It is also an offence to harass people or engage in hate speech, making disparaging remarks about people based on their race, gender, or sexual orientation.

If it is probable that the sanction will not exceed 75 hours of compulsory service or 10% of a first-year academic fee, then a Hall or Residence Manager, including the Oppidan Hall Manager, may deal with the issue. Hall Managers may exclude students from residence for serious offences including theft.

In addition to the University Disciplinary Code, every hall has its own rules dealing with less serious matters, for example making noise after certain hours.

STUDENT FUNDING

Financial aid at Rhodes is offered to South African citizens who are financially needy and academically deserving. There is also financial aid for students with certain disabilities. A means test is applied, and each case is evaluated on its own merits.

Undergraduate financial aid is predominantly in the form of student bursaries from the National Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS). Applications for financial assistance are only considered if the family income is below a certain level. The Student Funding office also administers internal bursaries and scholarships.

What is NSFAS?

NSFAS is a government entity under the Department of Higher Education and Training established according to the NSFAS Act (Act 56 of 1999) to provide financial support to disadvantaged students who wish to further their studies at public universities or TVET Colleges.

Who qualifies for NSFAS funding?

- All South African citizens
- All SASSA grant recipients qualify for funding
- Applicants whose combined household income is not more than R350 000 per annum
- Persons with a disability: Combined household income must not be more than R600 000 per annum
- Students who started studying before 2018 and whose household income is not more than R122 000 per annum.

NSFAS Residence packages: cover both tuition and residence.

How to apply?

It is as easy as Create a myNSFAS account via this link: <https://my.nsfas.org.za/>

Click on the 'Apply' tab to update your personal information and upload your application supporting documents. Submit your application **www.nsfas.org.za**

STUDENT IDENTITY CARDS

Your student identity card which is issued during administrative registration and is a very important and precious item. You will need it to get into the Main Library, borrow books from the Library and to get into the Library's after-hours facility. Student cards are also used for photocopying in the campus libraries. You must also show it when writing exams. If you lose your student card, you must report it to the Main Library immediately. As soon as you have a new card issued by the Student Bureau, you must bring it to the Library so that the barcode number can be updated on your Library record.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

The Rhodes Student Representative Council (SRC) represents students and negotiates with the University authorities on their behalf. When necessary, the SRC calls meetings of the student body.

The President of the SRC meets with the Director of Student Services and Development on a weekly basis. The University Council allocates an annual budget to the SRC and they may also raise additional funds for special projects, with the permission of the Senate and Council.

The SRC finances, controls, and coordinates the activities of registered societies and clubs on campus and organises events benefiting students. Grants are also made to various committees, to publications controlled by the SRC and for student social functions. The SRC also arranges seminars and speakers on current social and political issues of particular interest to students.

In terms of the Student Disciplinary Code, the Student Disciplinary Board has the power to exclude a student from SRC functions and facilities or impose a fine of up to 10% of the Bachelor of Arts fee. All disciplinary action is reported to the vice-chancellor who deals with offences that are more serious. The Student Defence Council can represent students in disciplinary cases.

SRC incentives

Rhodes University has an incentive scheme for students elected to the SRC. The SRC president

receives a rebate of 50% of the BA tuition fee. The SRC President has the option to either take up the offer of a monthly honorarium or the prestigious leadership bursary. The leadership bursary is calculated at the average tuition and residence fee for one year, regardless of whether the student lives in residence. The other four members of the executive council (vice-president, secretary-general, treasurer and two elected executive members), each receive a 35% rebate of the BA tuition fee. The remaining councilors are awarded a 25% BA tuition fee rebate.

SRC staff

Three full-time employees, who assist the SRC members with the day-to-day running of SRC activities, staff the SRC office. The SRC office is open weekdays from 08h30-16h30.

SRC SOCIETIES

Welcome to Rhodes University! You're about to start an exciting journey, and it's not just about academics. By joining one of our nearly 60 societies, you'll become part of a fun, supportive, and active community where you can grow, make new friends, and follow your passions. If you're into politics, check out societies like the EFFSC, SASCO, MK Students Movement, and ActionSA, perfect for those passionate about leadership and change. For those interested in faith and culture, we have a range of options, including the Christian Societies, Muslim Students Association, African Traditional Beliefs, and more. You can also join the Western Students Society, East African Society, SwaziSoc, ZimSoc and many more to celebrate and connect with others from your background or heritage while creative types can join groups focused on writing like OppidanPress and Activate. We have Lawsoc, Economics Societies and other Societies which help you to explore your interests, pick up new hobbies, and meet people who enjoy the same things you do. And if you can't find a society that matches your interests, don't worry! You can start your own. Be sure to check out the Society's Exhibition and Extravaganza during orientation week to find out more and connect with different groups.

Why join an SRC society?

At Rhodes University, we are committed to IDP Goal 3 which is fostering an engaging and transformative student experience that promotes **holistic development, personal growth, academic success, and leadership for social change**. This means that we believe that your university experience should help you grow in all areas of life, not just academically. That's why we encourage students to get involved in societies. It's part of our commitment to creating an experience that helps you grow, succeed in your studies, and make a difference in the world. Joining a society can help you build new skills, form important connections, and get involved in activities that not only make your time here fun and meaningful but also contribute to positive change around you.

Here are some awesome benefits of joining an SRC Society:

1. Develop new skills

Societies give you the chance to develop skills that go beyond the classroom. Whether you're leading a group, planning an event, or working in a team, you'll gain real-life experience that will help you succeed in the future.

2. Networking and building relationships

University is all about meeting new people and making lifelong friends. Societies connect you with people who share your interests, and these friendships and networks can lead to collaborations and career opportunities in the future.

3. Personal growth

Stepping outside your comfort zone is a great way to grow as a person. Whether you're organising events or speaking in front of a crowd, being involved in societies helps you build confidence and discover what you're capable of.

4. Support your well-being

University life can be stressful, but being part of a society can help. It gives you a supportive environment where you can relax, have fun, and connect with people who understand what you're going through. This sense of belonging is great for your mental health and well-being.

5. Explore your interests

Societies offer you the chance to try new things and discover passions you didn't know you had. Whether it's art, community service, or debating, you can explore activities outside your studies that make your university experience even richer.

6. Build your CV

Employers love to see students who are involved in more than just academics. Being part of a society shows that you're motivated, can work in a team, and can take initiative, all things that will help you stand out when you're applying for jobs.

7. Develop leadership skills

If you take on a leadership role in a society, you'll develop the kind of skills that will prepare you for future roles in leadership, both at university and beyond. It's a great way to gain experience and show you can handle responsibility.

8. Community engagement and social justice

Many societies are involved in community engagement and social justice, giving you the chance to make a difference while learning about social responsibility and leadership. You'll gain valuable experience and life lessons while helping others.

9. Experience cultural exchange

Rhodes University is home to students from all over the world. By joining a society, you'll meet people from different backgrounds, experience new cultures, and learn to appreciate different perspectives, helping you grow as a global citizen.

10. Just have fun!

University isn't all about work! Societies organise all sorts of social events, trips, and activities that give you a chance to unwind, have fun, and make great memories.

Joining an SRC Society at Rhodes University is a great way to make the most of your time here. Each society is run by a committee of students that works together to deliver affordable and accessible events and activities that their members want. They are always keen to welcome new people, so get involved and one day you could be leading your group!

STUDENT SERVICES COUNCIL

The Student Services Council (SSC) is a senate committee that has been set up to hear the student's voice on campus. In accordance with South African Legislation, half the council is made up of students and the other half of university staff who, by virtue of their position or suitability, are elected to the SSC. The Committee meets once a term and discusses issues relating to the students' quality of life.

STUDENT STATUS

The following status levels for students and scholars are recognised.

Undergraduate status

A student who is registered for one of the following bachelor's degrees:

- 3 years: BA, BCom, BSc
- 4 years: BJourn, BAcc, BBusSci, BEd, BPharm, BFA, LLB

Graduate status / Honours

A student who already has a degree and is registered for:

- A one-year postgrad degree/ diploma/certificate
- An LLB
- Honours

Privileges:

- They may take out 12 library books at a time.
- They may keep these books for 4 weeks. They may use inter-library loan facilities.
- They are permitted to stay in a postgraduate residence (This does not negate the current practice of allowing students in their 4th year of an undergraduate degree from staying in a postgraduate residence)

Postgraduate status

A student who has completed one of the degrees listed above (or who has been granted eundum gradum by Senate) and who is registered for one of the following (full-time or part-time):

- Masters
- PhD

Privileges:

- They may take out 20 library books at a time.
- They may keep these books for 8 weeks. They may use inter-library loan facilities.
- They have access to designated postgrad computer laboratories.
- They may have free networking services if they have a laptop connected through their academic department (this does not apply to connections elsewhere).
- They may stay in the Gavin Reilly Postgraduate Village and other designated postgraduate residences.
- They have access to a special workstation or office in some departments.

Postdoctoral status

A scholar who has completed a PhD and is engaged in full-time research for a fixed period in the department to which they are affiliated.

Privileges in addition to the above:

- Staff library privileges
- A Rhodes email address (i.e., name-based, and not number based)
- Access to a computer provided by the department in which the scholar is working
- Free network services if they have a laptop connected through their academic department (this does not apply to connections elsewhere)
- Access to short-term university transit housing (recognising that preference for transit housing bookings is given to staff)

- Access to staff parking
- Office space, but this remains the business of the relevant department

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Possession and supply of any controlled substance or dangerous drug, as defined by the South African law, is prohibited.

Rhodes University undertakes to deal with students who commit such offences and who break the disciplinary code and thereby bring the University into disrepute. However, the University also recognises that in some cases, substance abuse can become a medical problem rather than solely a disciplinary matter and we, therefore, supply information about the dangers of illicit drugs and will refer those who need support to the relevant support services.

Students with substance abuse problems are encouraged to contact:

- the Counselling Centre (counsellingcentre@ru.ac.za) or the
- the Health Care Centre (healthcarecentre@ru.ac.za)

For information or assistance. For more information on the protocol for students, using illicit drugs visit <https://www.ru.ac.za/studentaffairs/resources/>

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) Meetings take place twice a week. Tuesdays at Fort England Hospital at the substance abuse centre from 19h00-20h00 and Thursdays in the RA Room of the Steve Biko Building opposite Rhodes Music Radio from: 19h00-20h00 (NA/AA: 082 784 7685)

Al-Anon Support Group

This group is for friends and family of alcoholics. Al-Anon meets every Tuesday 18:30 to 19:30 at the College of Transfiguration (13 Worcester Street) in the old rector's residence. For details telephone 079 473 3925 or email alanongrahamstown@gmail.com

If you are worried about a friend, contact SADAG's Substance Abuse Helpline on 0800 12 13 14 or sms 32313. Open seven days a week.

Tobacco

Rhodes University is committed to supporting the health and wellness of its employees, students, and others on campus. RU recognises that illness and disease are associated with tobacco products, and that breathing in other people's tobacco smoke (second-hand smoke) is a public and workplace hazard, as well as a fire hazard. The RU Smoking Policy is guided by the OHS Act and the Tobacco Products Control Act.

Note that smoking means to inhale, exhale, hold or otherwise have control over any smoke-producing device, and that a "tobacco product" refers to any smoke-producing device, intended for use by smoking, inhalation, chewing, sniffing, or sucking, including tobacco products, electronic smoking devices, weeds, or plants.

If you are a smoker:

- Respect the rights of non-smokers to not be forced to breathe second-hand smoke, it's the law
- Do not smoke in or near any building
- Do not smoke in partially enclosed areas, e.g., walkways, verandas, courtyards, balconies, etc.
- Smoking must be downwind and at least 10 metres away from openings including doors, windows,

aircon inlets, etc.

- Smoking is a fire hazard – dispose of extinguished cigarettes in cigarette butt bins

More info: www.ru.ac.za/safety/resources/smoking

SUICIDAL AND PARA-SUICIDAL CRISES

A suicidal crisis is very difficult to deal with. It is usually unanticipated and requires the helper to mobilise a variety of skills and resources. Firstly, call the Rhodes Psychological Emergency Number at 010 205 3068. If the person forbids you to call, is angry about it or upset, you must call anyway.

If the person is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or if an attempt is imminent, call an ambulance (10177) because the person requires medical and psychological intervention as soon as possible. If the student is behaving in a manner which is difficult to control or which might be placing his or her life or your life in danger, call the police (10111).

If the person has indicated that, they are feeling hopeless or are thinking about suicide or “ending it all”, take the person seriously. Many people have taken their lives when people thought their statements about suicide were “manipulative” or the person was being “melodramatic” or it was just “a cry for help”, while it may be true to say a person is being manipulative, it is best to err on the side of caution. Do not panic. Keep your voice calm and matter of fact.

Encourage the person to discuss what prompted “death” thoughts. The more the person can talk about the specific details of the experience, the better he or she is able to understand the source of the crisis.

Elicit the person’s feelings. Expressing emotions is a way for the person to vent frustrations while securing validation and support. Common probes and statements include “how did you feel when that happened” or “I would have felt hurt if that happened to me”.

Assist the person in defining alternatives and options. Those who are contemplating death do not see life as having positive alternative solutions. Alternative solutions are available. With assistance, the person in crisis can have the option to select the best solution for the situation.

Involve professionals who can assist the person in crisis to deal more effectively with the problem and work to instill hope again. The challenge may be cultivating a sense of trust to include an outside person. In many cases, the suicidal person wants the helper to maintain confidentiality. It is important to emphasise that he or she came to you because of trust and confidence that you care to do the right thing. Encourage the person in crisis to value your decision to involve a professional counsellor if needed.

Talking with someone after the crisis is overtaking the time to share what it was like to be in a stressful situation. Venting your feelings and decision processes is crucial to re- stabilising after your adrenaline surge. In addition, you may find yourself feeling guilty or inadequate for securing outside help. Remember that by bringing other helpers into the situation your intention was not to betray a confidence, but to save a life.

Realise the limits of your responsibility. There are a few ways to help in a crisis. Some include connecting the suicidal person with a counsellor accompanying the person to a counselling centre, making an appointment with a psychologist, notifying his or her parents or calling the police. If you have taken substantial measures to prevent someone from committing suicide and the suicidal person

refuses, there may be nothing more that can be done. Anyone who is determined to end his or her life will find a way to do so. Your responsibility as a friend or associate is to assist, support and possibly refer. Once you have taken care to incorporate all these aspects, your responsibility as a fellow human being ends.

Inform the Division of Student Services and Development of the crisis as soon as you have dealt with immediate concerns. While confidentiality will be maintained, it is obviously important that senior management is kept aware of such extremely serious incidents.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Rhodes University Health Care Centre, Rhodes Avenue RU ER24 number (from 16h30 until 08h00) Settlers Hospital, Milner Street Fort England Hospital, York Street Settlers Day Hospital, Cobden Street	046 603 8523 010 205 3068 046 602 5000 046 602 2300 046 622 3033
AMBULANCE SERVICES	
Gardmed	082 911
St John's Ambulance	24 Hill Street 046 636 1650
Grahamstown Ambulance/ Provincial Service	Temlett Street 046 622 9102 or 10177
Acupuncturist	
Dr Stuart Dwyer	18 Henry Street 046 622 4846
Biokineticist	
Hannah Knott-Craig	083 737 1962
Chiropractor	
Dr Terri Blake	41 African Street 083 276 1362
Dentists	
Dr Du Toit	15 Milner Street 046 622 4258
Dr Herring	The Colcade, 41 Hill Street 046 622 8503
Dr Eichhof	6 Allen St 046 622 3789
Dr Luke Moller	7 Queen Street 069 812 6224
General Practitioners	
High Street Medical Practice: Drs Gainsford, Baart, Meihuizen, Zietsman & Slyper	120 High Street 046 636 2063

This practice DOES NOT accept the following medical aids: Boncap, Primecure & Beryl, Ruby, Sapphire, Care cross, Renaissance, Africa, Managed Care, Network GP, Network X, Foundation, and Nessess.	
Drs Godlonton, Lloyd & Mutesasira	The Colcade, 41 Hill Street 046 636 1732 082 554 7800 a/h
This practice DOES NOT ACCEPT the following medical aids: Discovery & Key Care	
Dr Santhia	10 High Street 046 622 6648 082 555 0799 a/h
This practice DOES NOT ACCEPT the following medical aids: Ingwe & Care Cross	
Meta-Clinic Grahamstown	Shop 49, Peppergrove Mall 046 622 6362
Optometrists	
Dr Davies & Associates	18 Bathurst Street 046 622 6205
Jenny Gopal	4b Allen Street 046 622 4310
EyeStore	8 Allen Street 046 622 2828
Specsavers	Shop 50, Pepper Grove Mall 046 622 2295
Orthodontist	
Dr K Johannes	1 Oatlands Road 046 622 2251
Pharmacies	
Alpha Pharm Grahamstown Pharmacy	117 High Street 046 622 7116
Frontier Pharmacy	Shop 5, 63 New Street 046 004 0032
Clicks Pharmacy	Peppergrove Mall 021 488 8170
Clicks Pharmacy	High Street 046 636 1268
Physiotherapists	
Jane Holderness	084 800 1577
Daleen Ferreira	074 155 9265

Nicola Brown	072 180 1594
Radiologists	
Drs Visser and Partners	15 Milner Street 046 622 6464
Clinical Psychologists	
Ms Karen Andrews	13 George Street 079 880 0832 karen@clinpsych.co.za
Adult & adolescent psychotherapy, psychological assessment	
Ms Ann Ashburner	Colcade Centre, 41 Hill Street 046 622 4386 083 632 6350 ann@imagnet.co.za
Adult & adolescent psychotherapy, couples & family therapy, parent-infant psychotherapy, mindfulness-based stress reduction	
Mr Duane Booysen	Rhodes University Psychology Clinic, Rhodes Avenue, 046 603 8507 078 167 6607 duaneb85@gmail.com
English and Afrikaans, adults and adolescents (individuals), cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), anxiety disorders; major depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, supportive work for severe mental health related disorders, neuropsychological assessments	
Dr Lisa Brown	3 Parry Street 046 636 1035 073 230 6331 lisajoy@imagnet.co.za
Child, adolescent and adult psychotherapy, attachment related difficulties; bereavement; resilience & adjustment; personal growth	
Ms Verna Connan	Psychological Care Centre, 5 Donkin Street 046 622 8197 084 512 8826 verna@psychcarecentre.co.za www.psychcarecentre.co.za
English and afrikaans, adult and adolescent psychotherapy, couples therapy Special interests: depression and anxiety, trauma, CBT and person-centered therapy	
Mrs Gwenda Euvrard	8 St Aidens Avenue 046 622 8023

	082 773 3985 gwendauevrard@gmail.com
Adult and young adult psychodynamic psychotherapy including verbal therapy, dream analysis, art and Jungian sand play therapy (international teaching member of ISST)	
Mr Conrad Rocher	29 Somerset Street 046 636 1583 conradrocher@gmail.com
English and Afrikaans, adult, young adult and older adolescent psychotherapy (depth psychotherapy - incorporating psychoanalytic and analytical psychology orientations), marital/couples' therapy, Expressive arts therapy	
Ms Pumza Sakasa	084 882 6608
Adult and adolescent psychotherapy, medico-legal assessment, marital/couples therapy	
Mr Thulani Vazi	076 377 8449 thulanivazi@gmail.com
Adolescent and adult psychotherapy, neuropsychological assessment, medico-legal assessment, scholastic assessment	
Counselling Psychologists	
Ms Nicola Graham	11 Worcester Street 076 259 2303 nicolagraham@telkomsa.net
Adult and Adolescent Psychotherapy and Counselling, Psychological Assessments	
Dr Christine Lewis	1st floor, Steve Biko Building, Prince Alfred Street 083 969 2129 christine.lewis@ru.ac.za
English and Afrikaans, therapy for children, adolescents and adults couples and family therapy, group therapy, career counselling, psychological assessment, career assessment	
Ms Chantel Minnie	Psychological Care Centre, 5 Donkin Street 064 853 6446 chantel@psychcarecentre.co.za
English and Afrikaans, psychotherapy, psychological assessment, career assessment, child and adolescent therapy, relationship therapy	
Ms Lumka S Qangule	Soyisa Consultancy, 72 High Street 046 622 7899 082 969 0176 lumka.qangule@soyisa.co.za www.soyisa.co.za

Child, adolescent and adult psychotherapy, psychological assessment	
Ms Adele van der Merwe	22 Somerset Street 072 279 7952 psychologist avdm@gmail.com
Grahamstown: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Port Elizabeth, 26 Aragon Road: Thursday, Friday English and Afrikaans, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), adolescent and adult psychotherapy, couples and relationship counselling, psychological assessment (child and adult): learning difficulties/ scholastic assessment & neuropsychological assessment	
Mr Greg Wilmot	072 264 1452 greg@wilmotpsychology.co.za
Adolescent, young adult and adult psychotherapy, family therapy and couples therapy, sport psychology: motivation/mental skills, high performance/injury rehabilitation, team-based workshops, athlete lifestyle management & wellness	
Neuro-feedback therapy, adolescent and adult psychotherapy, hypnotherapy, couples therapy	
Lifestyle management and wellness	
Elaine Verster	072 768 8889 etr@worldonline.co.za
Neuro-feedback therapy, adolescent and adult psychotherapy, hypnotherapy, couples therapy	
Educational Psychologist	
Mr Jan Knoetze	Rhodes Psychology Department 046 603 8344 081 3676 848 j.knoetze@ru.ac.za
Family therapy, group psychotherapy with adolescents, educational/scholastic assessment	
Educational Consultant	
Dr Rose Grant	11 Jacobus Uys Way 079 516 5499 rose.grant@gmail.com
Study and life skills for individual learners, study and life skills courses for groups consultations for parents of learners, specialised support for postgraduate writing professional development of teachers	
Gwendolyn Johnson	Fort England Hospital, York Street 072 626 9362 gwen@tutorgap.co.za
Hospitalisation, adult and adolescent psychotherapy, group therapy, marital/couples' therapy, community work, family therapy, intellectual and personality assessment, counselling occupational therapists	

Ghida Bernard	Kingswood College 046 602 2300 079 697 9750 bernardghida@gmail.com
Medical negligence/ Functional capacity assessments (FCE) Insurance claims	
Pastoral therapist	
Ms Kim Barker	41 Oatlands Road 084 400 6145 kimbarker@telkomsa.net
Narrative therapy, Individuals, couples/families and groups, workshops and retreats	
Mr Vic Graham	076 098 5763 vicgraham9@gmail.com
Adolescent and adult therapy, marital/couples' therapy Special interests: trauma recovery; bereavement; loss and recovery; spiritual meaning; personal growth and navigating life transitions; addiction to sex, relationships and/or pornography; workshops and retreats	
Psychiatrist	
Dr Kiran Sukeri	Thursdays @ Settlers Hospital 046 602 5126 046 602 5000
Rhodes University Counselling Centre	
Steve Biko Building, Prince Alfred Street 046 603 7070	
Personal counselling, career counselling, psychotherapy, job search skills HIV counselling, comprehensive career library, crisis intervention academic and study skills	
Rhodes University Career Centre	
Steve Biko Building, Prince Alfred Street 046 603 7070	
Career assessment, career counselling	
Rhodes University Psychology Clinic	
Rhodes Avenue 046 603 8502	
Adult and adolescent psychotherapy, marital and couples' therapy, group therapy, family therapy, intellectual and personality assessment, counselling, diagnostic assessment	
Social workers	
Ms Matebese & Ms Adam	Settlers Hospital

	046 602 5000 (ext 1158)
Ms N Stamper, Private Social Worker	7 Cyrus Street 071 351 5905 nomondestamper@gmail.com
Marital & pre-marital, parenting skills, family therapy, dealing with divorce (impact) relationship problems, trauma debriefing/dealing with loss/death	
Speech and Language therapists	
Ms Valerie Olivier	084 200 0821 val.anneolivier@gmail.com
Lara Day	18 African Street 082 669 4497

USEFUL ADVICE

- Participate in clubs or societies; apply for part-time work, internships, job shadowing, and volunteering. This will help you develop self-awareness and build valuable skills and experience for the world of work.
- Celebrate diversity and learn more about others who are different from you. This will enrich you and will help you become a global professional.
- Establish a balance between meeting academic demands, your personal/social life, and recreational activities.
- All activities both on and off campus will help you learn and develop. Maintaining a balance is important and includes the following:
 - Self-management: the ability to plan, organise and work responsibly while managing stress levels.
 - Time-management: the ability to meet deadlines and pace yourself so that you do not have periods of inactivity and periods of chaos.
- Explore what Rhodes University has to offer academically and study what you are most passionate about.
- Do not give up on your goals. Instead, modify them to meet your current situation.
- Ask for help when needed.
- Be yourself
- Reflect on values that will guide and enable you to live life harmoniously.
- Pave your own individual path and work towards a career that is just right for you.

Have you

- completed administrative registration?
- obtained your student identity card?
- read this booklet from cover to cover?
- attended a library tour and a library workshop?
- attended workshops on aspects of university life?
- ensured that the university has your medical aid details?
- registered with a medical doctor in town?
- completed your vehicle registration form (where applicable)?
- seen to your study permit (foreign students only)?
- had your curriculum formally approved?
- ascertained when and where your first lectures are to commence?
- had fun?

Yes?

In that case, well done!

We hope you have a successful and enjoyable time at Rhodes University in 2025

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