

FACULTY FACT SHEET



ON GOOD AUTHORITY



A message from the executive dean, Prof David Modise

The Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences offers diverse and interesting qualifications, characterised by relevant and integrated training. In addition to acquiring subject knowledge, our students develop life skills that equip them to handle challenges in the workplace and make a success of their careers.

Our academic staff are diligent and committed to students and research activities. Some of our staff enjoy international recognition and are leading scientists in the global arena.

THIS IS US

We offer quality training, personalised attention, state-of-the-art research equipment and meaningful, outcomes-based academic programmes in various disciplines.

Faculty facts

- The NWU is rated among the top 4,5% of universities in the world (Center for World University Rankings).
- The Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences excels in research and innovation and has 95 NRF-rated scientists.
- Our facilities include a state-of-the-art weather radar on the Lekwena Wild Life Estate in Potchefstroom.
- We have two astronomy sites with top-of-the-range equipment: one at the Mahikeng Astronomical Observatory and the second at the Nooitgedacht farm near Potchefstroom.
- Staff from our Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management are world-leading researchers in their fields, with 27 organisms named after some of these scientists.
- Our Centre for Radiation Science and Technology works closely with nuclear industry bodies such as the National Nuclear Regulator and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- We offer services such water-quality testing, eco-analytic tests, statistical consultation services, instrument making, screening for rare metabolic diseases and genetic testing to the public.
- The Centre for Human Metabolomics hosts the national metabolomics platform and is the only site to offer newborn screening for treatable rare genetic diseases in Africa.

Internationally known

The NWU proudly represents the African continent on the global stage as one of the largest and most respected universities in the world. Well known for its excellence in teaching-learning and research, the university boasts a student population that is representative of over 65 different nationalities, highlighting the NWU's global competitive advantage.

Adding to the NWU's high-quality global footprint are its strategic international collaborations with experts and other institutions of higher learning.

The NWU takes great pride in the quality of its comprehensive undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, as well as its proven research track record. It is therefore no surprise that employers the world over hold NWU graduates in high regard.



Our faculty in numbers

(Staff and student figures as on 31 May 2022)



Undergraduate students:
6 181



Postgraduate students:
1 318



International students:
264



Academic staff:
446



Support staff:
685



NRF-rated researchers:
95

SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMMES



The faculty consists of six schools:

- School of Physical and Chemical Sciences
- School of Biological Sciences
- School of Geo and Spatial Sciences
- School of Agricultural Sciences
- School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
- School of Computer Science and Information Systems

The faculty has two centres at an undergraduate level:

- The Centre for Business Mathematics and Informatics (CBMI)
- The Indigenous Knowledge Systems Centre (IKS) on the Mahikeng Campus

RESEARCH

Research chairs

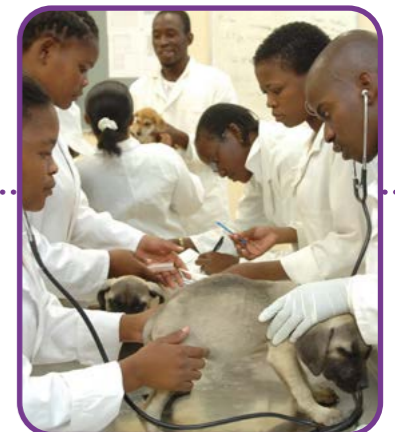
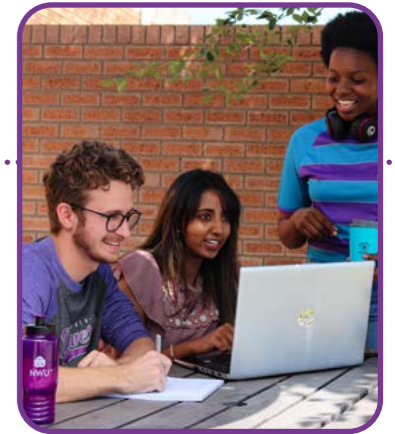
- DST/NRF Research Chair in Astrophysics and Space Physics (SARChI)
- DST/NRF SA-NAM Bilateral Research Chair in Astronomy and Astrophysics (SARChI)
- Centre for Business Mathematics and Informatics (CBMI)
- Centre for Water Sciences and Management (CWSM)

Hosted platforms, centres and institutes

- DST/NRF Centre in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS)
- Centre for Human Metabolomics (CHM)
- Centre for Applied Radiation Science and Technology (CARST)

NWU research entities

- Centre of Excellence for Space Research
- Unit for Data Science and Computing (UDSC)
- Unit for Environmental Sciences and Management (UESM)
- Chemical Resource Beneficiation (CRB)
- Human Metabolomics (HM)
- Pure and Applied Analytics (PAA)
- Material Science Innovation and Modelling (MaSIM)
- Food Security and Safety (FSS)



APPLICATIONS

Admission requirements

The Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences has 11 different admission requirements for various diploma and degree courses. [Click here](#) for detailed information.

How do I apply?

Please refer to our [website](#) for online application.

Money matters

For a wide range of bursaries and financial support, please contact 018 299 2672 or visit our [website](#).

We want to hear from you

Phone 018 852 761 (undergraduate and honours) or 018 299 2816 (higher degrees). You can also send an email to [Adelle Jerling](#) (undergraduate and honours) or [Farzana Hussain](#) (higher degrees), or visit our [website](#).

[Click here to see which undergraduate programmes we offer](#)

[Click here for our honours studies and postgraduate diplomas](#)

[Click here for our postgraduate programmes](#)