



FACULTY FACT SHEET



Our hands-on training, led by industry pioneers, equips our graduates to thrive in the modern workplace. We strive to be a hub where the bold ideas of our staff and students transform into successful ventures, empowering individuals to become visionary leaders, forward-thinking innovators, and influential entrepreneurs.

The Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences has a legacy that spans over 70 years. We take pride in having a vibrant, industry-relevant, and dynamic staff team with a strong presence across all three campuses: Potchefstroom, Mahikeng, and Vanderbijlpark. We believe in promoting educational inclusivity, expanding opportunities, sustainability, and innovation to empower our students to shape industries, uplift communities, and build a better future.

THIS IS US



Faculty facts

- The Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences has been operating for over 70 years, but boasts a young, industry relevant and dynamic team. We have a footprint on all three campuses – Potchefstroom, Mahikeng and Vanderbijlpark.
- Our staff serve on the boards of several national accreditation bodies.
- We offer more than 30 programmes in the following fields:
 - Accounting
 - Business, marketing, sports and safety management
 - Econometrics
 - Human resources management and development
 - Industrial psychology
 - Information systems
 - International trade
 - Labour relations
 - Operations Research
 - Risk management
 - Tourism management
 - Transport economics and logistics management
 - Safety management

* We strive to be an internationally recognised, innovative faculty that unlocks human potential through excellence.

- The School of Accounting Sciences is a leader in professional excellence, ranking among South Africa's top institutions. All undergraduate accounting degrees are accredited by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), granting maximum exemptions. The management accountancy programme has earned various awards, including the Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA) employability award and elite university partner recognition.



ON GOOD AUTHORITY

A message from the executive dean, Prof. Mabutho Sibanda

At the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, we know that to thrive in today's rapidly changing world. You need more than ambition; you need quality education and the skillset to create real impact. At the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences we are committed to offering our students an inclusive, forward-thinking, and transformative education.

With over 30 accredited programmes, we equip students with the skills to navigate complex business landscapes. Our approach integrates entrepreneurship, management cybernetics, and emerging technologies to prepare graduates who drive meaningful change. We bridge the gap between learning and real-world application through hands-on training, research, and mentorship.

- Our South African Institute of Chartered Accountants' Initial Assessment of Competence (SAICA IAC) candidates rank among the best in the country every year, with NWU graduates achieving pass rates above 90%. In addition, our forensic accountancy programme, backed by South Africa's largest commercial forensic team, offers specialist degrees aligned with the Institute of Commercial Forensic Practitioners. The NWU also offers Africa's only Master of Commerce in accountancy embedded with the ACCA strategic levels curriculum, which is comparable to Oxford Brookes.
- The School of Economic Sciences addresses Africa's needs through specialised undergraduate programmes in operations research, statistics, econometrics, and information systems. The Centre for Applied Risk Management (UARM) offers a two-year, part-time master's degree in applied risk management.
- The School of Tourism Management is known for its excellence in tourism management. With a strong emphasis on practical learning, the school engages students in real-world experiences through industry collaborations, research projects, and initiatives. The school's academic staff are regarded for their expertise, and graduates have succeeded in both local and international tourism sectors. Through innovation and industry engagement, the School of Tourism Management continues to shape future leaders in global tourism.
- The School of Management Sciences equips future professionals with industry-relevant skills through specialised undergraduate programmes in marketing, business, sport, and safety management, blending academic excellence with practical learning to prepare graduates for success in a dynamic business environment. The School is also home to the bhive Enterprise Development Centre, which fosters entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainable business development through tailored training, mentorship, and resources, empowering individuals to transform ideas into impactful enterprises.
- The School of Industrial Psychology and Human Resource Management is dedicated to shaping the future of work. Through innovative research and a passion for developing employable, critical-thinking graduates, the school equips its students to drive meaningful change in businesses and society. With a mind for business and a heart for people, the school provides relevant solutions to workplace and human capital challenges – ensuring their graduates make a lasting impact. Postgraduate industrial and organisational psychology studies are known for their practical focus, with industry partners praising the real-world readiness of our graduates.
- Student academic chapters on each NWU campus foster academic and professional development.

Getting down to business

The NWU Business School was the first in Africa to receive international accreditation from the Business Graduates Association (BGA). It is among the top 2% of business schools globally with its MBA accreditation renewed for five years by the Association of MBAs (AMBA). The school is also one of only three in South Africa to receive the maximum five-year accreditation from the Association of African Business Schools (AABS).

Our programmes include an MBA, a postgraduate diploma in management, and a PhD, along with a highly sought-after selection of executive education short courses. We develop ethical, strategic thought leaders equipped to navigate modern business challenges through innovative solutions and pioneering research, shaping leadership across Africa.

Internationally known

The NWU continues to excel in global rankings. In the 2024 Global 2000 list, the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) placed NWU in the top 4.2% of universities worldwide, improving from 4.7% the previous year. The university is ranked 10th in Africa and 7th in South Africa.

Among 20 966 universities globally, NWU's academic performance ranking improved from 924th to 880th, with a score rising from 77,1 to 71,3. In research, the university climbed from 887th to 869th, reflecting continued growth and excellence on the international stage.

Our faculty in numbers

(Staff and student figures as on 15 April 2025)



Undergraduate students:
10 733



Postgraduate students:
1 367



International students:
293



Academic staff:
360



Support staff:
371



NRF-rated researchers:
29

SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMMES

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

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

[Click here for our postgraduate programmes](#)

The faculty offers a wide array of learning opportunities through our six schools:

- School of Accounting Sciences
- School of Economic Sciences
- School of Industrial Psychology and Human Resource Management
- School of Management Sciences
- School of Tourism Management
- Business School



RESEARCH

Research chair

- The **WTO Chairs Programme (WCP)** strengthens knowledge and understanding of the multilateral trading system by establishing research chairs at selected universities and research institutions in developing and least-developed countries. The WTO's Chair Programme has three pillars: research, curriculum development, and outreach. This initiative supports academic research, policy analysis, and capacity-building to foster informed trade discussions and decision-making at national and global levels.

NWU research entities

- Tourism Research in Economic Environments and Society (TREES)** publishes high-quality, impactful and multidisciplinary research that enhances economic environments and societies, contributing to developing local communities and the tourism industry.
- WorkWell** is a multidisciplinary research entity focused on optimising organisational functioning by developing policies, measures, and methodologies to enhance the utilisation of organisational resources such as information, personnel, customers, marketing, finances, and management.
- Trade and Development (TRADE)** specialises in international trade and development economics across all three NWU campuses. Home to the World Trade Organization (WTO) Chair, it enhances knowledge of global trade systems.
- Global Innovative Forefront Talent (GIFT)** focuses on developing evidence-based standards and guidelines for effective talent management in the workplace.
- Technology-Enhanced Learning and Innovative Education and Training, South Africa (TELIT-SA)** bridges theory and practice in technology-enhanced learning (TEL), driving interdisciplinary research to advance teaching practices and integrate technology into education innovatively.
- Applied Research in Management Cybernetics** integrates management and engineering sciences to strengthen academia-industry collaboration, equipping graduates with analytical and multidisciplinary skills for the 4th and 5th industrial revolutions.



APPLICATIONS

Admission requirements

For details of admission requirements, please refer to our [website](#).

How do I apply?

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

Money matters

For a wide range of bursaries and financial support, please contact +27 (0)18 299 2672 or visit our [website](#).

We want to hear from you

Phone +27 (0)18 285 2127 (undergraduate administration) or +27 (18) 285 2792 (postgraduate administration). You can also send an email to [Linda Grimbeek](#) (undergraduate administration) or [Louise Jansen van Rensburg](#) (postgraduate administration), or visit our [website](#).

