

# University of the Free State

## Inspiring excellence. Transforming lives.

The University of the Free State (UFS) is a research-led, regionally engaged, globally competitive university which embraces diversity, inclusivity, and academic excellence. The University has several high-quality international partnerships and continues to strengthen its international research collaborations.

The University is home to 158 NRF-rated researchers, and five prestigious SARChI chairs. Seventy-five percent of the university's research is published in international journals.

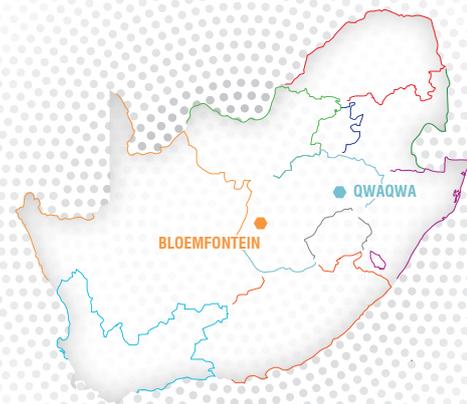
In 1904, the university opened its doors in Bloemfontein. It expanded with the addition of the Qwaqwa Campus (in the Eastern Free State) in 2003, and the South Campus – also in Bloemfontein – in 2004. Today, the University has more than 40 000 students, including 1 735 international students who have made the UFS their academic home away from home.

As a research-led university, the institution's approach to its academic enterprise is informed by research. The university's ever-expanding facilities and knowledge base present manifold opportunities for scholars to impact locally and globally.

### Research

Since 2010, the UFS was able to increase its research output by 221%. The University is home to 158 NRF-rated researchers, and five prestigious SARChI chairs. Seventy-five percent of the University's research is published in international journals. Hundred-and-sixty-three postdoctoral research fellows, of whom 88 hail from outside South Africa, strengthen research and innovation at the university. In the period 2013-2017, there has been a 114% growth in papers published with international co-authors, underlining the international outlook of research at the UFS.

UFS is a highly internationalised university with a proud history of international engagements. For example, in the period 2013-2018, UFS researchers co-authored 2 533 publications with 1 512 collaborating institutions.

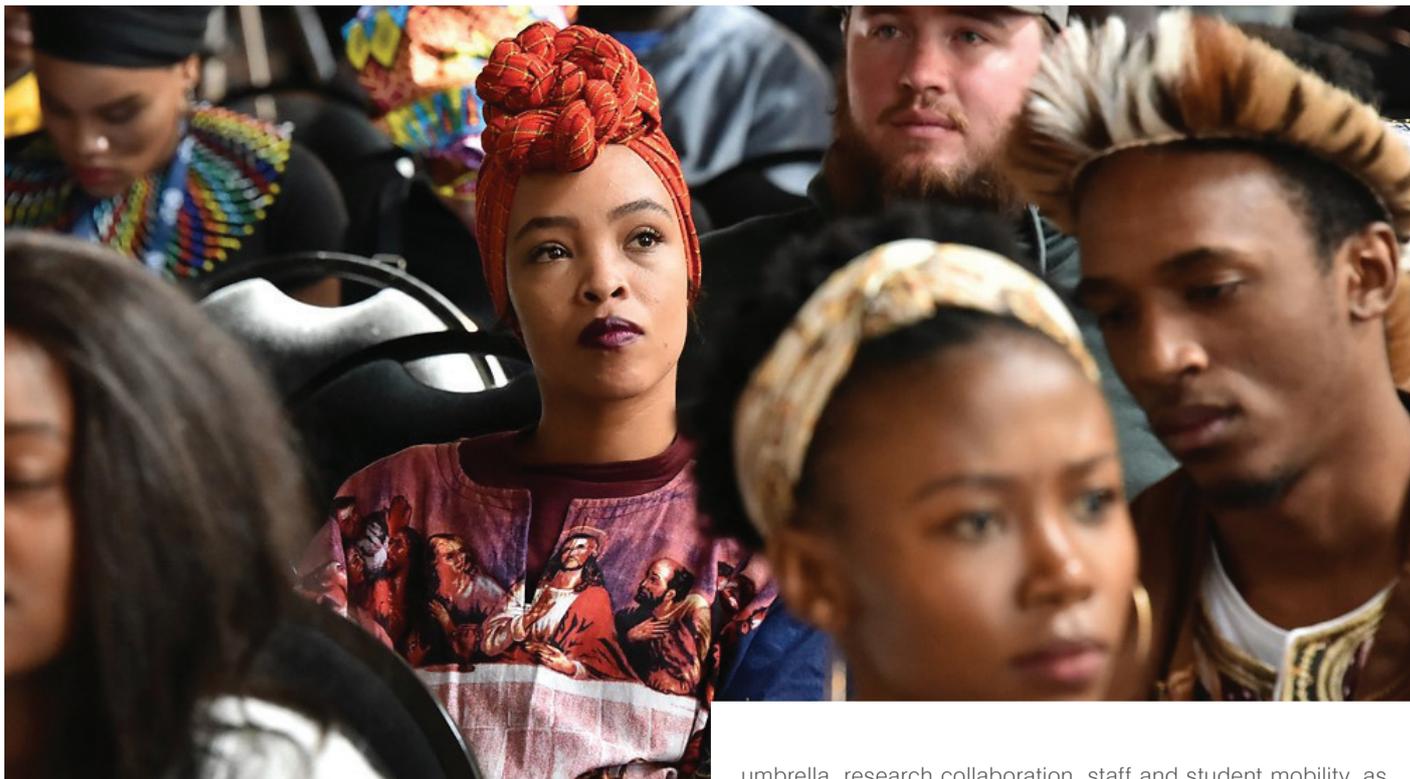


### Academic Programmes

The academic programme of the UFS is delivered by its seven faculties (Economic and Management Sciences, Education, Health Sciences, Law, Natural and Agricultural Sciences, the Humanities, Theology and Religion) and its Business School. Postgraduate studies are supported by the Postgraduate School. The postgraduate prospectus can be downloaded at [www.ufs.ac.za/ufsprospectus2019](http://www.ufs.ac.za/ufsprospectus2019), and the undergraduate prospectus is available at [www.ufs.ac.za/ufspostgradprospectus2019](http://www.ufs.ac.za/ufspostgradprospectus2019).

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### International Students

The UFS provides international students with an excellent experience. Dedicated support is provided by the Office for International Affairs, which serves as the first port of call for all international students at the UFS. To further enhance the international student experience, the university has piloted its Umoja buddy programme, which connects first-time entering international students with local students. Students can participate in 22 different sports disciplines and study from 671 182 library books, including 14 000 E-books. The university has a holistic, coordinated approach, rendering individualised support to students with disabilities.

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### Internationalisation

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umbrella, research collaboration, staff and student mobility, as well as other projects are implemented. Internationalisation is enabled by the Office for International Affairs, which renders strategic advice on internationalisation and supports the international activities of internal UFS stakeholders.

#### University of the Free State (UFS)

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#### Qwaqwa Campus

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