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Centre for Graduate Support

newsletter

Your guide to navigate through postgraduate studies

April 2022



Postgraduate Write Space

Writing support for postgraduate students!

Do you need writing support for your thesis or dissertation? Are you wondering how to write your research proposal, introduction or literature review, or you are worried your thesis or dissertation chapter does not make sense? Visit the Write Space for free writing consultations.

You choose what to discuss during the consultation - from writing a research proposal or thesis chapter, to referencing and, logic, flow and articulation of ideas. You will receive writing support in a friendly, relaxed and non-judgmental space, with the aim of improving your academic and scholarly writing skills.

Click here to access the Write Space on Blackboard. If you are struggling to access the link, contact Dr Pamela Makati at MakatiP@ufs.ac.za or +27 51 401 3174

Nurturing Emerging Scholar's Programme (NESP)

NESP is a three-year programme that includes a two-year master's scholarship followed immediately by a one-year academic internship at a recruiting South African university.

The NESP application is only for students studying for these qualifications:

- Law
- Optometry

Eligibility criteria for selection for NESP, in addition to meeting the requirements specified by the University:

- Be 35 years or younger;
- Be a South African citizen;
- A minimum average of 65% attained in an appropriate Level 8 qualification, e.g., Honour's degree;
- Show evidence of eligibility to undertake postgraduate studies at master's level;

- Commitment to placement at the recruiting university for the entire three years of the programme (2 years of studying at any university and one year of internship at the recruiting university)
 - Show an interest in becoming an academic;
- Click here to apply**
Scroll down to the University of the Free State logo to apply. Please note that you need a Gmail address to complete the application.

The closing date for applications is 5 August 2022.



The Postgraduate School changes its name to the Centre for Graduate Support



The University of the Free State (UFS) made an institutional commitment to excellence in postgraduate education and established the Postgraduate School (PGS) in 2011. The name was changed to the Centre for Graduate Support (CGS) as approved by Council on 18 March 2022, to better communicate what the Centre does and encompass its role within the university's strategies objectives.

The Centre for Graduate Support (CGS) takes cognisance of the knowledge and skills required to work in a 21st-century knowledge economy and the personal needs and desires for achieving research excellence. As such, the Centre will provide a hub of services that will develop students' postgraduate identity, offer customised support to the postgraduate community at the UFS and champion postgraduate policy development.

Since conducting quality research requires an ever-evolving set of skills, the CGS offers a variety of workshops and related events that aim to develop professional research skills. The CGS also assists with funding for honours, postgraduate diploma, masters and doctoral studies. The CGS Funding Office provides the training needed for acquiring prestigious research funding for postgraduate students. The Write Space at the CGS assists postgraduate students with the critical academic writing skills required to successfully complete postgraduate studies.

In addition, The CGS has an information desk, an information-rich website, regular electronic newsletters which deliver reliable information relevant to postgraduate students and the university community. The CGS also works closely with the Postgraduate Student Council to create an enabling environment for postgraduate studies.

The CGS will be working closely with Faculties and the Department of Student Academic Services. This means the CGS will be assuming the management of postgraduate student applications, admissions and enrolment, and these submissions.

Staff Study Support Grant

If you are busy with your master's or doctoral degree and need financial assistance to complete your degree, the Centre for Graduate Support (CGS) would like to extend an invitation to you to apply for the 2022 UFS Staff Study Support Grant. The Grant provides financial assistance to UFS staff registered for their master's and doctoral degrees at the UFS or other South African universities to complete their studies.

Who can apply?

- Any permanent UFS academic and support staff registered for a master's or doctoral programme.
- UFS contract academic staff and contract support staff whose contracts are still valid for at least two years at the time of application.
- Staff who have not received any other funding for their research.

For more information and to apply click [here](#)

Work-integrated learning to help with graduate unemployment

South African tertiary institutions are preparing to roll out a bold new initiative aimed at bridging the gap between universities' lecture halls and the world of work.

The initiative will ensure that students gain experience in the workplace to obtain the skills required for employment in a manner that is seamless and in line with the curriculum, says Professor Thandwa Mthembu, the vice-chancellor of the Durban University of Technology.

[read more](#)

How to 'stay woke' is now an urgent question for academia

'Stay woke'

And this is going on at a time when the world needs its universities more than ever before. 'Woke issues' are often language issues, because words are hardly ever neutral. But, besides language, there is also a movement towards 'decolonisation of the curriculum'.

[read more](#)

