

UNIVERSITY OF THE
WITWATERSRAND,
JOHANNESBURG




WITS TODAY

Wits. For Good.

www.wits.ac.za

100



A World-Class University

Wits is a leading African university that is ranked in the top 1% of universities in the world. In 2022, Wits celebrates 100 years of academic and research excellence, social justice and the advancement of the public good. Our history is inextricably linked to that of mining, the City, and civic and political activism.

IF WITS WAS RANKED IN OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD, IT WOULD BE WITHIN THE:

Top 10
in Canada & Australia

Top 65
in the EU & US

Top 30
in the UK

Located in the Economic Hub of Africa

- 400 buildings, 7 campuses, including the Wits Rural Facility
- 11 Libraries, 18 Residences, 2 commercial companies – Wits Health Consortium and Wits Enterprise
- Wits owns the Sterkfontein Caves in the Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site and a private teaching hospital – the Wits Donald Gordon Medical Centre

Did you know?

Wits' Tshimologong Digital Innovation Precinct facilitates the incubation of start-ups, the commercialisation of research and the development of high-level digital skills for students, working professionals and unemployed youth.



The Home of Talented Scholars

41 100 students (2021)

- 57% female
- Almost 50% are first in their family to attend a university
- 5 Faculties, 33 Schools, 3 000 courses
- 1 665 academics, 6 582 employees, 2 170 joint staff
- Postgraduate students now make up almost 40% of Wits students
- International Students 2 366 (6%)

Wits administers R1 billion in student financial aid, scholarships and bursaries annually. There are numerous services available for students.

SCIENCE
13%

25%
HUMANITIES

13%
HEALTH SCIENCES

COMMERCE, LAW AND MANAGEMENT
26%

19%
ENGINEERING AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

STUDENT ENROLMENT BY FACULTY

Developing Employable Graduates

About 10 000 highly employable students graduate annually

Of those employed, 93% find jobs within 6 months of graduating

+200 000 graduates in 100 years

Ranked 98th in the world for Alumni Employability (CWUR)

FORTUNE GLOBAL 500

Ranked 54th in the world based on the number of Fortune Global 500 CEOs (THE Alma Mater Index 2017)

Cultivating Illustrious Alumni

We build on the legacies of the great Witsies who laid the foundation of a world-class university over 100 years. We walk in the footsteps of Nelson Mandela, Donald Gordon, Nadine Gordimer, Johnny Clegg, Sibongile Khumalo, Patrice Motsepe, Robert Sobukwe, Ruth First, Maria Ramos, William Kentridge, Patrick Soon-Shiong, Adrian Gore, Advocate Thuli Madonsela and generations of others who are changing the world, for good.

Wits is the home of four Nobel prize-winners: Nelson Mandela (Peace), Sydney Brenner (Medicine), Nadine Gordimer (Literature) and Aaron Klug (Chemistry).





Research and Innovation. For Good.

Wits conducts discovery research that changes disciplinary thinking; translational or applied research that influences policy and practice; and innovative research that can be taken to the market to generate economic activity.

6
*DSI/NRF Centres of Excellence
*Department of Science and Innovation

434
*NRF-rated researchers
*National Research Foundation

26
A-rated researchers
Recognised by peers as leaders in their field globally

96 Percent of our research is published in internationally competitive journals

56
Research Entities

30
SA Research Chairs

Did you know?

Many Wits scientists and students conduct world-class science research at CERN in Geneva.

Driving Digital Transformation



Wits is a leader in digital business and governance, big data, artificial intelligence, robotics, supercomputing, and quantum computing. WitsQ - the Wits Quantum Initiative, an African first, seeks to advance quantum technologies through research, innovation, business, education, outreach and ethics.

Visit wits.ac.za/future



DigiMine is a 'mock mine' that seeks to test the latest digital technologies underground.

The Wits Digital Dome is an iconic centenary project that will support data science exploration and discovery in radio astronomy, fluid dynamics, the digital arts, and lightning studies.

Ensuring Better Health for all

Witsies are helping to understand, predict, and contain the coronavirus, to model and manage the public health and socioeconomic impact, and to develop protection, treatment and care regimens. Wits has the potential to build a world-class vaccinology institute, from R&D to manufacturing capacity, in Africa.



Neo Hutiri, a Wits graduate, developed "Pelebox", a smart locker that cuts down the queuing times for patients collecting chronic medication, which was named one of TIME magazine's best inventions.

Professors Bavesh Kana and Lesley Scott developed technology using molecular diagnostics that ensures the efficacy of the equipment that tests for tuberculosis. The technology increases access to TB testing, which improves the diagnosis and treatment of TB around the world, and ultimately inhibits further infection. They also developed the SmartSpot technology which guarantees the quality of the molecular diagnostic tests, and which is used in more than 30 countries worldwide.

Did you know?

Wits trains the highest number of medical specialists and sub-specialists in South Africa.

Inspiring Teaching and Learning. For Good

Wits is known for its academic excellence and agility to adapt to blended teaching and learning, using the latest pedagogies and technologies. Smart classrooms, future libraries, knowledge hubs, simulation laboratories, innovation precincts and e-zones are available to students, even though Wits remains a contact teaching university.

Wits' new digital suite includes full online programmes and e-degrees, short courses and many free Massive Open Online Courses that have registered over almost 100 000 students from around the globe.

Visit www.wits.ac.za/teaching-and-learning



The high-technology eFundanathi (Learn with Us) eZone is a student-centred adaptive learning environment that uses cutting-edge tech and advanced eLearning tools to deliver education that prepares students for the 21st Century.

Did you know?

Of all the new actuaries welcomed by the Actuarial Society of South Africa in 2019, the most were from Wits. The Wits cohort was also the most demographically diverse in South Africa.

Changing Society. For Good

Wits is a catalyst for change that creates hope in society. We celebrate the diversity of people, ideas, disciplines, and place, and empower students and staff to be active social citizens. Wits develops innovative solutions to real-world problems from the perspective of the Global South.

Visit www.wits.ac.za/students

Did you know?

Researchers at the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies, the Wits Centre for Diversity Studies and the African Centre for Migration and Society, seek to find ways to create a more equal society for all.

The Wits Disability Rights Unit caters for students with disabilities and is a model centre for higher education institutions in South Africa.

The Centre for Deaf Studies offers support and education to caregivers and families of the Deaf.

The Emthonjeni Centre offers speech and hearing therapy, counselling, and psychotherapy (to Witsies and the public) and serves as a training laboratory for students in these fields.

Wits was the first South African university to have a nuclear accelerator, to test radar, to have a computer, to study building materials, to produce a systematic climatological atlas of southern Africa and to achieve a successful graft of plastic cornea. We are also the first African university to access a quantum computer.



Curating National Treasures. For Good.



Wits' arts and culture spaces collectively depict the richness of our history, academic endeavours, diversity of disciplines and social interaction.

Science enthusiasts can pay a visit to the Planetarium, the Origins Centre, the Bleloch Geological Museum, the Life Sciences Museum and Biodiversity Centre or the James Kitching Gallery in the Palaeosciences Centre.

The Fossil Vault and underground chamber hold some of the world's priceless faunal, floral and hominid palaeo treasures, which Wits curates on behalf of the people of the world.

Students studying in the health sciences may find the captivating Adler Museum of Medicine compelling, or may fancy a visit to the Brebner Museum, the Hunterian Museum of Anatomy or the Museum of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

New, experimental work is always explored at the Wits Theatre Complex, a stone's throw away from the new Chris Seabrooke Music Hall, which is flanked by the Wits Art Museum. The Fassler Gallery and the Anthropology Museum are important spaces to visit.

Visit www.wits.ac.za/campus-life

Advancing Sport. For Good

Wits offers a myriad of sporting opportunities with almost 30 sporting codes to choose from across all levels. Wits is also home to the Wits Football Club, South Africa's largest football club.

Seven Wits students represented South Africa at the 2020/1 Olympic Games.

Visit www.wits.ac.za/sport



Wits. For Good.

Wits is pursuing 8 priority areas that will impact on society for good. They are:

Driving digital transformation	Catalysing innovation and entrepreneurship
Ensuring better health for all	Solving global challenges and crises
Advancing society, governance and justice	Future-proofing our national treasures
Developing the next generation of leaders	Energising broad-based alumni support

Visit wits100.wits.ac.za

Wits occupies a special place in the hearts and minds of Africans. **For Good.**

For the public good.

For the good of all people.

For the good of future generations.

For the good of our country.

For the good of our economy.

For the good of an inclusive community.

For the advancement of our society.

For you and for me.

For yesterday, today and tomorrow.

For our collective futures.

Wits. For Good.