UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG

SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY, ARCHAEOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (GAES)



Research Interests and Postgraduate Supervision

Explore research opportunities in the School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies (GAES)

The School of Geography, Archaeology and Environmental Studies (GAES) at the University of the Witwatersrand offers postgraduate research opportunities across a diverse range of disciplines and interdicsiplinaity fields. Our academic staff have expertise in physical geography, environmental science, human geography, archaeology and heritage studies. Their research addresses contemporary and historical environmental challenges, landscape transformation, climate change, sustainability, cultural heritage and the complex relationships between people and their environments.

Prospective postgraduate students are encouraged to explore the research interests and supervision areas of individual academics below to identify potential research opportunities aligned with their academic interests and qualifications.



Physical Geography and Environmental Studies

Climate, water, geomorphology, GIS, remote sensing and environmental science.

RESEARCH AREAS INCLUDE:

- Climate change and climate variability
- Geomorphology and landscape evolution
- Water resources and water quality
- Environmental management and pollution
- Geospatial technologies (GIS, remote sensing)
- Ecological sustainability and biodiversity

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Social Geography (Past and Present)

Urban sustainability, social inequality, climate vulnerability and human-environment relationships.

RESEARCH AREAS INCLUDE:

- Human-environment relationships
- Urban sustainability and development
- Climate justice and social transformation
- Indigenous knowledge and cultural landscapes
- Environmental governance and policy
- Spatial inequality and the green economy

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Heritage Studies and Archaeology

Archaeology, rock art, indigenous knowledge and heritage conservation.

RESEARCH AREAS INCLUDE:

- Archaeological heritage and cultural landscapes
- Rock art and conservation
- Indigenous knowledge systems
- Human evolution and palaeoanthropology
- Heritage management and sustainable tourism
- Community engagement and place-making

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