

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND, JOHANNESBURG



WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Congratulations, Witsie!

Your place at Wits is proof of your hard work and bright potential. Embrace our diverse, innovative community, stay committed, and success will follow. Remember—support is always here when you need it

UPCOMING EVENTS

GTS ORIENTATION

20 JANUARY–2 FEBRUARY 2026

Compulsory 2-week induction into the University

SPIRIT GAME

30 JANUARY 2026

First year students enjoy a thrilling football match when the two teams clashed at the annual Spirit Game



1. Contact Information

Keep your details up to date! Log in to the Student Self-Service Portal at <https://self-service.wits.ac.za> to update your address, phone number, and emergency contacts.

This ensures you receive all important University communication. If you can't update your details online, contact your Faculty Office for help. And remember to check your MY-WITS email regularly.

Can't Find Your Way?

Download Wits Maps



2. Day-to-Day Communication with the University

Most communication from Wits will be sent to your MY-WITS email account—not in paper form. Access it via www.wits.ac.za/mywits/.

It's your responsibility to:

- Set up and regularly check your MY-WITS inbox (or forward it to your personal email).
- Always include your student number when emailing any University office.

For help with setup, contact the ICT Helpdesk at **011 717 1717** or itstudenthelp@wits.ac.za.

3. Student Support Services

Wits is here to support you every step of the way!

From health and wellness to career development and disability support, there's a service for your needs.

If you're unsure where to start, contact the Dean of Student Affairs at **011 717 9168** or visit **SH039**, Solomon Mahlangu House (Ground Floor).

More contact details are listed on the last page of this newsletter.

4. Request for Biographic Data

As a new member of the Wits community, you are required to complete the Biographical Questionnaire (BQ). This important step helps the University maintain accurate student records and provide the necessary support for your academic journey. Please log in to the **Student Self-Service portal** to complete your BQ as soon as possible. Should you need assistance, contact the BQ Help Desk at bqhelp.BIS@wits.ac.za or call 011 717 1175/73 during office hours.

5. Rules and Syllabus and Fees Booklets

Make sure you understand the rules of your degree programme and take note of all fee payment deadlines.

You can find the Faculty Rules and Syllabuses and Fees Booklets at www.wits.ac.za/students.

Check that your course registrations are correct, as no changes are allowed after the published deadlines.

Remember: you may not attend classes for courses you are not officially registered in..



Good Luck
With your studies!



WITS. FOR GOOD.

6. Book Lists

Some lecturers do list prescribed texts for the subjects they teach. Students wishing to access the book list may visit

<https://www.wits.ac.za/students/academic-matters/comprehensive-book-list/>

Activity	Dates
Publication of Matric Results	Monday 12 January
First Year Students Registration	Refer to the registration date in your firm offer letter.
Assisted Registration	Wednesday 14 January - Saturday 24 January (10 days)
Gateway to Success	Tuesday 20 January - Monday 2 February (10 days)
Start of Term	Tuesday 3 February

Please note:

Faculty of Health Sciences Term Dates may vary Term Dates = 130 Teaching Days

Consult the University's website for more detailed information about dates of registration for different cohorts of students

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JUMP START YOUR YEAR WITH FYE

Participate in the **First Year Experience (FYE)**



7. The First Year Experience (FYE)

is a year-long programme designed to help you make a smooth and successful transition from high school to university life.

Our goal is to support you – both academically and personally as you find your footing and begin your journey as a university student. Through a range of interactive and experiential learning opportunities, the FYE Programme encourages you to grow, connect, and thrive as part of our campus community.

8. FYE Mentorship Programme

As part of the FYE, you'll be connected with a senior student mentor (someone who knows the ins and outs of university life and is here to guide you).

The FYE Mentorship Programme is all about creating a community of care, connection, and success where every first-year student feels seen, supported, and ready to thrive.

Welcome to the start of your university journey – we're so excited to ENGAGE with you!

9. Orientation

Wits does not support hazing or initiation in any form. You're encouraged to join the fun activities before classes start on Tuesday, 3 February 2025, but never feel pressured to do anything that violates your dignity or comfort. If anything makes you uncomfortable, report it immediately to the Wits Integrity Hotline at 082 938 4559 or wits.integrity@wits.ac.za.

10. Amending Courses or De-registering

To change courses, visit your Faculty Office and complete the required form within the first two weeks of term.

If you plan to de-register, do so by 23 February 2024 at your Faculty Office.

Remember: failing to cancel officially means you'll still be liable for fees.

Students in residence must cancel through their Accommodation Officer.

11. Your Safety Matters

Be alert and move in groups, especially around Braamfontein.

Keep valuables out of sight and avoid using headphones in public.

Use the University bus service

(www.wits.ac.za/students/wits-bus-service) or contact Wits Protection Services for an escort after hours (call 45 minutes before you leave; contact details are on your student card).

12. Lost Your Student Card?

Report a lost card immediately to Protection Services to prevent misuse.

Visit the Lost and Found Office (Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House) for lost belongings like keys, cards, or laptops. Access is via the passage between the Post Office and Kudu Card Centre.

FIRST YEARS



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Department	What They Do	Contact Details / Where They Are Found
Wits Student Call Centre	Address all general student-related queries	www.wits.ac.za/askwits
Central Accommodation Office	Responsible for all residences, meals, and related matters	Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House
Fees Office	Handles all fee-related matters, e.g. tuition fees and residence fees	Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House, East Campus, 011 717 1071
Financial Aid and Scholarships Office (FASO)	Provides information on student funding, scholarships, and awards for undergraduate and postgraduate students	Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House, East Campus
Counselling and Careers Development Unit (CCDU)	Provides career services, therapy services, HIV/AIDS education and support, Graduate Employment	1st Floor, The Matrix, East Campus, 011 717 9234
Development and Leadership Unit (DLU)	Offers holistic opportunities that expose students to information, ideas, and worldviews	Lower Ground Floor, The Matrix, East Campus, 011 717 9111
Campus Health and Wellness Centre (CHWC)	Offers convenient, accessible, caring and cost-effective health services to the Wits community	West Campus, 011 717 9132/40
Sports Administration	Provides staff and students the opportunity to take part in various sports on an elite or recreational level	Sturrock Park, West Campus, 011 717 9409/305
Student Transitions and Persistence Unit (STPU)	Assists first-year students in the transition from high school to university through mentorship, workshops and referrals	STPU Office, 2nd Floor, Marang Building, Wits Education Campus, 011 717 8684/5, FYE.STPU@wits.ac.za
Disability Rights Unit (DRU)	Assists students with disabilities to ensure accessibility – physical, technological and social	1st Floor, East Wing, Solomon Mahlangu House, 011 717 9151/9

Department	What They Do	Contact Details / Where They Are Found
Student Representative Council (SRC)	Addresses queries, concerns, and complaints of Wits students	Solomon Mahlangu House, East Campus, 011 717 9172/3/4
Protection Services	Responsible for safety and security issues on all Wits Campuses	Main Campus: 011 717 4444/6666, Medical School: 011 717 2222/2232, Education Campus: 011 717 3340, Business School: 011 717 3589
International Students Office (ISO)	Supports international students with queries such as matriculation exemption and study visa	Ground Floor, Solomon Mahlangu House, 011 717 1053/6
Wits Citizenship and Community Outreach (WCCO)	Provides students with opportunities to enhance their learning and civic responsibility while addressing community needs	Hostel Road (Cricket and Rugby Field), Wits Braamfontein East Campus, 011 717 9255/17
Parking Office	In charge of all aspects of parking and orderly admission of vehicles onto the different campuses	East Campus, 011 717 1881/4
Kudu Bucks Terminals	Load up with cash to use in dining halls, libraries, print stations, etc.	Around Campus – e.g. Solomon Mahlangu House concourse, outside the Matrix (ground floor), West Campus outside Commerce Library
Gender Equity Office	Sexual harassment advisory office	20th Floor, University Corner, East Campus, 011 717 1053/6

