



Stellenbosch

UNIVERSITY  
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UNIVERSITEIT

# 2024 OPEN DAY BECOMING A MATIE

forward together  
sonke siya phambili  
saam vorentoe



# *This is Matieland*

Stellenbosch University (SU) is a premier African learning institution that is committed to finding solutions to global challenges and changing the world around us for the better.

Our vision is to be Africa's leading research-intensive university, globally recognised as excellent, inclusive and innovative, where we advance knowledge in service of society.

Guided by this vision, we invite our students to join us in moving forward together towards an inclusive environment that acknowledges our role in South Africa's past and encourages all to help create a better future. As a community of global citizens connected through curiosity, we provide a transformative experience for both students and staff to grow and develop together.

The University's research output has doubled in the past decade, and we boast more centres of excellence than any other higher education institution in South Africa. We are extremely proud of these achievements, as they help deepen our impact on society, our continent and the rest of the world.

From an initial four faculties (Arts, Science, Education, and Agriculture), 503 students and 40 lecturing staff in 1918, SU has grown into a thriving university with 32 225 students, 3 400 lecturing and professional support services staff, and ten faculties spread across five campuses.



Scan QR code for welcome message from Rector & Vice-Chancellor - Prof Wim de Villiers

# Among the best in the world

Over the past few years, Stellenbosch University has consistently appeared among the best tertiary institutions globally on the subject-specific world university rankings of Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), Times Higher Education and ShanghaiRanking. These rankings use different methods and indicators to assess universities' performance.



Scan QR code for more information



# ***IMPORTANT online resources on our unique open day website***

**A** How to apply?  
A step-by-step guide



**E** Minimum admissions requirements booklet



**C** Subject choices and career guidance



**D** Faculty yearbooks



**E** International students and students following international curricula



**F** University and private accommodation options



**H** Student life



**G** Funding your studies



## University will not be like your high school experience.

There will be many adjustments and changes. Here are some things to keep in mind:

It's **normal to miss** the familiarity of home.



The **classes** that you will be attending will be much **larger** and you will be exposed to **different learning** and **teaching styles**. **No one will check** in with you on whether you have done your work so **it's up to you!**



Adjusting to your new campus will take some time. Don't be shy – **ask** your fellow students or any of the staff members **for help** if you need it. We've all been there!



Adjusting to your new academic workload will be challenging. You can **ask** your fellow students and staff members for some **tips** to **manage your workload**.



Make use of the **library!** Not only is it a **great place to study** but you have **access** to a range of books, journal articles, newspaper clippings, and so much more!



**Time management** and **self-discipline** are **important** if you want to make a success of your studies, especially in your first year.



**Budgeting** is very **important** and helps you to make your money stretch. This is a skill that you can learn to master at university and use throughout your life.



## HOW OUR LANGUAGE POLICY IS APPLIED IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

We get that you might be curious about how language works at Maties, and we're here to give you the lowdown. When we talk about language, we aim to help you embrace a multilingual mindset.

Our Language Policy is like the GPS guiding our diverse campus. It ensures fair access, celebrates multilingualism and supports effective learning and teaching. SU is not just about us – we're part of regional, national, continental, and global communities. We therefore aim to create spaces, and produce materials as far as possible in Afrikaans, English, and isiXhosa, the official languages of the Western Cape.

In December 2021, the SU Council (that's the structure responsible for things like good governance and policymaking) approved a new Language Policy after an extensive consultative process. The purpose of our Language Policy is to regulate, manage and govern language use throughout our institution.

The three foundational principles of the new policy are based on our belief that:

- **multilingualism is a resource;**
- **that language should broaden access and enhance success; and**
- **that the policy and its implementation should facilitate sound learning and teaching.**

## MULTILINGUALISM as a mindset



**Now, about that multilingual mindset – it's not just about using multiple languages.** It's a way to embrace inclusivity and celebrate diversity. We want to encourage you to practice multilingualism throughout your time at Maties. You can help us work towards making multilingualism a reality in all our environments – whether it's an official event like Welcoming or everyday meetings, we encourage you to use Afrikaans, English, and isiXhosa where possible.

In the lecture hall, it's a team effort. Lecturers, assistants, interpreters, and you share the responsibility for multilingualism. We help each other grasp academic content because, hey, we're all in this together. So, get ready to join a campus community where we are working hard to grow a multilingual mindset amongst our entire community, and turn multilingualism into more than just a concept.

# LANGUAGE POLICY 2021 IN A NUTSHELL

**What can you expect?** You may be wondering what the impact of the new Language Policy will be on your academic life and language use in social spaces. Visit <https://bit.ly/3Fjk36q> for the detailed language policy.

## UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING AND TEACHING

### 1 Academic modules are offered in one of the following language options:

- Separate lectures in Afrikaans and English: Lectures are either in English or Afrikaans, but group work, practical sessions and tutorials combine students from various language groups. One-on-one consultations with lecturers can be in Afrikaans and English, provided that the lecturer is proficient in both languages.
- Both Afrikaans and English are used in the same lecture: Everything is explained in English, and there are Afrikaans summaries. As a first-year, you can use on-site or online interpreting with this option. The language the lecturer uses to answer your question depends on their proficiency in the language you ask your question.
- One language only: Lectures can be in English or one of the other two languages, if the lecturer and all students in the group are proficient in the language being used. Simultaneous interpreting in Afrikaans, English, or isiXhosa may be offered online or on-site. Consultations and tutorials are conducted in Afrikaans

and English if the lecturer is proficient in both languages.

### 2 Learning material

- All prescribed reading material available in English.
- Prescribed reading material (excluding published material) available in Afrikaans where reasonably practicable\*\*.
- Module frameworks and study guides available in Afrikaans and English.
- Where reasonably practicable\*\* and where a need exists, isiXhosa and other languages may be used to reinforce concepts.

### 3 Assessments and question papers

Assessments and question papers are made available in Afrikaans and English, and students may complete these in either English or Afrikaans.

## STUDENT COMMUNITIES

In student communities, such as residences and commuter student communities, language must be used to ensure that everyone is included and can participate.

During the annual Welcoming period in February 2024, you should understand all the information shared to help you settle into campus life. The multilingual mindset of respect and tolerance for multiple cultures and languages is particularly important in these spaces. That's why student communities are also required to submit language implementation plans and report on their compliance and good practices throughout the year.

## LANGUAGE SUPPORT THROUGH THE LANGUAGE CENTRE

We want you to succeed and language should never be a barrier to doing so. SU's Language Centre is there to ensure that you access a variety of language support services right here on campus. These services include reading and writing development; language services that include translation, interpreting and editing; and research on language and language use. The centre also offers modules in professional communication, academic literacies, and language acquisition for Afrikaans, English, isiXhosa, and South African Sign Language. Visit the Language Centre at <https://bit.ly/3Pj65Wu>

## LANGUAGE COMPLAINTS

Our Language Policy 2021 is meant to create an inclusive and diverse academic community, reflecting our diverse South African heritage.

In student communities, non-compliance with the Language Policy 2021 can be reported to the house committee or residence head. If the matter cannot be resolved at the residence or commuter student community level, it can be referred to the Director: Centre for Student Life and Learning, Mr. Pieter Klopper ([pwk@sun.ac.za](mailto:pwk@sun.ac.za)), or escalated to the Senior Director: Student Affairs, Dr. Kelebogile Choice Makhetha ([choicemakhetha@sun.ac.za](mailto:choicemakhetha@sun.ac.za)). For non-compliance in the academic environment, follow your faculty's complaints procedure. Report the complaint to a class representative or lecturer, then escalate to the departmental head, and if needed to the Vice Dean or Dean. If these channels are not suitable, submit your complaint to the SU Ombud for resolution in consultation with relevant structures.

**\*\*The Language Policy implementation is informed by what is reasonably practicable. This means that each situation will be considered on its merit and factors such as the number of students that will benefit from an arrangement; the language proficiency of staff and students; and the University's resources, timetable, and venue constraints. Other determining factors include the composition of each class group that also changes from year to year, or even from one semester to another, and unexpected staff changes.**

# Centre for Student Counselling and Development (CSCD)

*Here to help you succeed!*

Navigating university life can be an exciting but challenging journey. That's why we want you to know about the Centre for Student Counselling and Development (CSCD) – your go-to resource for psychological, developmental, and support services designed to empower you and help you succeed.

Here you'll find a dedicated team of professionals ready to lend a helping hand. This includes counselling and educational psychologists, counsellors, social workers, psychology interns, student assistants, project/portfolio coordinators, a psychometrist, and administrative staff. Each member is committed to providing the support you need to thrive during your time at SU.

The CSCD is organised into four units, all working together to foster your well-being and personal agency: the Unit for Academic Counselling and Development, the Disability Unit, the Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services, and the Unit for Graduan Career Services.

Whether you're studying at the Stellenbosch or Tygerberg campus, the CSCD team is here to support you every step of the way. Reach out, connect, and discover the resources that can make your university experience more fulfilling. For more information, check out [www.sun.ac.za/cscd](http://www.sun.ac.za/cscd).

## Stellenbosch campus

Telephone: **021 808 4707 / 021 808 4994**  
Address: **37 Victoria Street, Stellenbosch**



## Tygerberg campus

Telephone: **021 927 7020 (office hours)**

You will find the CSCD's Tygerberg office in the Education Building. When standing in front of the main entrance of the Education Building, turn left to the side entrance for disabled persons. The CSCD office (no. 0073) is on the right before you get to the glass door for disabled individuals.

**IMPORTANT TO NOTE**



The CSCD runs a 24-hour emergency service in collaboration with ER24 (dial **010 205 3032** after hours and over weekends). In case of an emergency during office hours, please contact the CSCD office at **021 808 4994** or e-mail them at [supportus@sun.ac.za](mailto:supportus@sun.ac.za).

# Unit for Academic Counselling and Development (UACD)

The Unit for Academic Counselling and Development (UACD) helps you to tackle academic challenges and improve your academic skills.

The team consists of educational psychologists, a registered counsellor and intern psychologists.

The UACD supports students by teaching them study methods, equipping them to cope with test and examination stress, improving their time management, and optimising their potential through individual consultations, working sessions and self-help material. Career counselling for registered students is also available.

You can send an e-mail to [studysuccess@sun.ac.za](mailto:studysuccess@sun.ac.za) to book an individual appointment or to enquire about work sessions.

# Disability Unit (DU)

The Disability Unit (DU) is here to support students with disabilities. If you need advice on academic support, solutions, or accessible study materials that fit your unique needs, they have your back. The DU's activities are guided by the Disability Access Policy of SU and can be accessed here.

The Unit's goal is to create an enabling environment that empowers students with disabilities to achieve their full potential by enabling their effective integration into campus life and the student community. It also creates disability awareness amongst students through training opportunities like the "Lead with Disability" programme. You can follow the DU on Facebook and Instagram (@sudiesabilityunit) for all the latest info and updates, or swing by their office at 39 Victoria Street, Simon Nkoli House, in Stellenbosch.

## Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services (UPSS)

Life at University can be pretty overwhelming at times. The Unit for Psychotherapeutic and Support Services (UPSS) is there to help students get through those challenging times by providing them with individual and group therapy, and work sessions. These confidential services are offered by psychologists and a registered counsellor.

Whether it's stress, adjustment issues, relationship hiccups, or dealing with mental health challenges like depression, the UPSS offers psychotherapy for a broad spectrum of problems experienced by students.

When you first reach out, you'll undergo a screening session so the psychologist or counsellor can understand what's going on in your life and figure out the best care plan for you.

### Need help after hours?

The Unit offers an after-hours psychological emergency service via the ER24 crisis line (010 205 3032) from 16:00 to 08:00, including weekends.



## The role of our social workers at UPSS

**Social workers at the UPSS provide comprehensive and professional psychosocial services to students to tackle social issues that affect a student's ability to succeed academically.**

They also offer support, guidance and counselling and oversee the University's Food Security programme, which ensures that the basic food security needs of students are met. Students who require such assistance will undergo a formal needs assessment process to determine the appropriate intervention through this specific programme. To book an appointment, you can send an e-mail to supportus@sun.ac.za. You can also meet face-to-face or connect online with our social workers – whatever you prefer.

## Unit for Graduand Career Services (UGCS)

Ever wonder what comes after the campus life adventure? The Unit for Graduand Career Services (UGCS) is your guide to rocking the transition from education to employment and books to boardrooms.

The Unit will provide you with the tools you will need to succeed in the workplace – from one-on-one career sessions to practical workshops on CV writing, interview skills, job hunting, and boosting your online presence. And the best part is that all the Unit's counselling services and work sessions are also offered online.

You will also be exposed to network opportunities with companies via career fairs and insightful company presentations.

## Prep for the workplace from day one!

The University encourages all students, which includes newcomers, to register on its online recruitment portal, Gradlinc. Here you can easily search for jobs, apply for vacancies, snag internships and even part-time jobs!

With several employers registered on Gradlinc, you can start paving your career path from your first day at SU by uploading your CV and searching for information on employers and work opportunities on offer.

The Unit also teams up with student societies and Student Affairs partners to bring you amazing co-curricular and online career readiness programmes. Do you have questions or ready to dive in? E-mail UGCS at careerservices@sun.ac.za. Your future starts now, and the UGCS is here to make it shine!



# Get funded!

## Bursaries and Loans

SU believes that every student who can succeed academically should, as far as possible, be given the appropriate opportunities to do so.

The Centre for Undergraduate Bursaries and Loans (CUBL) strives to provide as much financial support as possible to students who gain admission to the University, but lack the financial means required to study.

Please note, however, that the University has limited funds available, and applying for financial assistance is not a guarantee that you will receive bursary funding. Students are encouraged to also explore other external (private and government) funding options.

Scan below to visit the CUBL website.



TAKE  
NOTE

Students who are funded by the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) should apply for top-up or shortfall funding on the CUBL website as the funding that students receive through the NSFAS bursary is not enough to cover all tuition, accommodation and meal costs per year.



# CAMPUS HEALTH SERVICE

The Stellenbosch University Campus Health Service (CHS) offers an integrated and accessible health service for students and staff and has an equipped dispensary too. CHS supports the University's wellness initiative for students and staff and their services are provided at the Stellenbosch and Tygerberg campuses.

The services at CHS include:

- Family medicine (including primary care)
- Health promotion and preventative medicine
- Travel medicine
- Sport and exercise medicine
- Occupational health



# GETTING AROUND ON SU CAMPUSES



**You don't always have to jump in your car to get around! Why not explore alternative means of transportation between point A and point B on campus without relying solely on a car?**

This not only contributes to a decrease in harmful carbon emissions, and benefits the environment, but also assists in alleviating the parking space shortage on campus, where the demand consistently exceeds availability.

## Walk

Embrace walking as a sustainable option, but ensure you are using the pedestrian routes on campus.

## Cycle

Use a **Matie Bike** (click here to rent one for the year for a fee) or your own bicycle to get around. You can register for free access to SU's bicycle sheds by sending an e-mail to [fiets\\_bike@sun.ac.za](mailto:fiets_bike@sun.ac.za).

## Lift clubs

Join an existing lift club or create your own. It will save you money and you won't have to look for parking on campus.

## Parking

Parking is limited. If you have to use a car to travel to campus, you can apply for parking at Stellenbosch or Tygerberg campus.

## SHUTTLES ON STELLENBOSCH CAMPUS

Various shuttle services are available on the Stellenbosch campus. [Click here for more detailed info.](#)

### Day shuttle

The day shuttle operates from Monday to Friday between 07:00 and 17:30 with fixed times, routes, pick-up and drop-off points. It will transport you between general parking areas on the periphery of campus and central campus. Just remember, this service is not offered over weekends, on public holidays, or during recess and the second exam opportunity.

### Night shuttle

A night shuttle is available for students who study until late at night. It operates from Monday to Sunday on the hour between 18:00 and 02:00. Commuters are picked up in the Neelsie parking area at the main entrance of the Neelsie and transported within a 6 km radius to private housing in the broader town. This service starts when classes resume and ends on the last day of the December graduation.

## SHUTTLES ON TYGERBERG CAMPUS

Tygerberg campus provides transport for students to two nearby shopping centres – Tyger Valley Centre (Mondays to Wednesdays) and Parow Centre (Thursdays) – and private housing within a 6 km radius at set times.

Students are picked up and dropped off at the Tygerberg Student Centre on the Tygerberg campus, at entrance 9 at the Tyger Valley Centre, and entrance 4 at Parow Centre. This service starts when classes resume and ends on the last day of the December graduation.

Scan the QR code below to access the full shuttle schedule at the bottom of the webpage.



# REMEMBER!

**You must make a booking to use the Stellenbosch NIGHT shuttle service and the Tygerberg shuttle service.** Visit [my.sun.ac.za](http://my.sun.ac.za), click on Services, then Reservations: Shuttle Service and sign into the booking system with your student username and login.



# Join the Maties Sport family!

**You! Yes, you! Did you do sport at school? Are you considering joining a sports club at SU? Come on, just do it! We also have an esports league for students who are interested in competitive, multiplayer video gaming.**

But if sports ain't your thing at all, you can still be part of the Maroon Machine by supporting your fellow Maties.

Maties Sport believes that engaging in sports significantly contributes to student success, whether you're a high-performance athlete or someone seeking an active and healthy lifestyle. Participation in sports teaches self-discipline and time management and is a valuable outlet for managing stress and tension. Competitive and recreational sports not only offer opportunities for socialisation and the development of friendships, but also contribute to maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle.

Maties Sport accepts co-responsibility for the optimal holistic development of student-athletes and the empowerment of high-performance athletes. That's why we invest in both high-performance sports codes and our recreation and active lifestyle programme, ensuring that ALL students have the opportunity to embrace a healthier and happier lifestyle.

You will have 30 sports clubs to choose from, making it easy to find a sport that suits your needs and skill level. Our high-performance sports codes include rugby, hockey, netball, football, athletics, swimming, cricket, water polo and basketball while our competitive sports codes include cycling, e-sport, tennis, table tennis, squash, badminton, golf, gymnastics, rowing, canoeing, sailing, volleyball, fencing, and chess.

There are a range of recreational and active lifestyle sports codes on offer at Maties Sport, including the equestrian club, underwater sports, boxing, karate, wall climbing, tug of war, Ultimate frisbee, and cheerleading. The Maties Parasport Club also offers athletics, swimming, and cycling for people with disabilities.

You will have the opportunity to participate in local, regional, national, and international competitions, such as:

- **Varsity Cup, Varsity Sports, Intersports and University Sports South Africa (USSA)**
- **Regional and local leagues**
- **Residence leagues and competitions**

Only an elite few are selected for a Varsity Cup, Varsity Sports, or USSA teams, but that is no reason to stay at home. Fans are encouraged to support their teams when they play at home!

By getting involved in Maties Sport, you will benefit from:

- **The High-Performance Sport Unit:** *The focus falls on three key areas: sports medicine, performance enhancement, and empowerment.*
- **The Recreation and Active Lifestyle Unit (RALU):** *Promotes physical wellness for staff and students and creates an environment where non-conventional sports and activities are enjoyed and played.*
- **The Centre for Sports Leadership:** *The focus is on expanding the academic footprint of sports at the University.*

Since 2023, Maties Sport also hosts the **Campus Sport Festival** where several sports teams competing on one bumper night. You'll be able to join a team or show support for your residence or commuter student community by rocking up in your community colours!

You can like and follow Maties Sport on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok to become part of the bigger Maties Sport family.

Connect with us:

**Telephone:** 021 808 4642  
**E-mail:** matiesport@sun.ac.za  
**Website:** www.sun.ac.za/sport  
**Facebook:** @SUMatiesSport  
**Twitter:** @MatiesSport  
**Instagram:** @MatiesSport  
**TikTok:** @MatiesSport

Take the virtual 360 tour of our facilities here: <https://sport.sun.ac.za/facilities/>



# Maties Gymnasium

Start your university health and fitness journey at the biggest and most well-known gymnasium in Stellenbosch. Work out where all your friends do!

Scan the QR code below to see our amazing facility in 3D.



## We offer:

- An extensive range of group exercise classes, including Aerial Yoga, Pilates, Bootcamp, and much more
- Exclusive partnership with Les Mills International (Receive 20% discount on Les Mills Plus subscription fees at (<https://link.lesmillsdemand.com/SH1MO>))
- Access to a heated 25 m indoor and a 50 m outdoor swimming pool
- Three dedicated circuit training areas and a range of cardiovascular equipment
- Access to a high-performance gymnasium that is included in your membership
- New and upgraded Technogym and Life Fitness equipment
- Discounted rates, particularly for SU students (less 15%).
- Short- and long-term membership options available

For more info, visit our website at [www.matiesgym.sun.ac.za](http://www.matiesgym.sun.ac.za), connect with us at [gymsales@sun.ac.za](mailto:gymsales@sun.ac.za) or follow us on social media:

Facebook: @matiesgymnasium  
Tiktok: @matiesgym

Skip the queues and join us online (upfront payments and debit order options available). Register for the 2024 academic year and automatically qualify for a 15% discount.

# PLEASE TAKE YOUR SAFETY SERIOUSLY

Safety is a universal concern, and students must be mindful of their safety in Stellenbosch too. With numerous mobile phones, computers, and vehicles in the vicinity, taking precautionary measures is important to ensure your safety and that of your personal belongings.

You can follow some of these tips to keep safe:

- o Never walk alone, especially at night. Instead, walk in groups, use the University shuttle service, or request a security officer to escort you to your destination by contacting Campus Security.
- o Keep your phone and valuables out of sight.
- o Always carry a whistle and pepper spray so you can defend yourself and draw attention if needed. Criminals do not want to draw attention.
- o Choose the safest route, even if it is not the shortest one. Victoria Street and Bosman Street should be the two main routes you use at night as a security officer is on duty in the mobile security kiosks on these roads.
- o Avoid isolated areas, especially when you exercise early in the morning or late in the afternoon.
- o Be conscious of your environment. Criminals tend to target individuals who are not aware of their immediate surroundings.
- o Keep a safe distance if a motorist asks for directions.
- o If you suspect that someone might be following you, change direction and immediately contact Campus Security.
- o Be a caring Matie: accompany a friend.
- o Property on a car seat is tempting to a thief. Lock it in the boot.

## Pedestrian escort service

If you need to move between campus buildings, or from a building to your car after dark (19:00 to 05:00), you can request that a security officer walk with you by contacting Campus Security at 021 808 4891/4202. Please wait for an officer to join you. You can also WhatsApp the security office at 082 808 2333 to request the service.

Please note that voice calls to this number are not possible. A pedestrian escort service is also available on the Tygerberg campus. You can WhatsApp the Tygerberg security office at 083 938 1841.

Ensure that you at least have the numbers below saved on your cell phone:

Stellenbosch 24-hour emergency: 021 808 2333 / Toll-free number: 0800 02 58 27

WhatsApp pedestrian service: 082 808 2333  
General enquiries: 021 808 4202

Tygerberg 24-hour emergency number: 021 938 9507 / Toll-free number: 0800 00 67 67  
WhatsApp pedestrian service: 083 938 1841

Visit [www.sun.ac.za/safety](http://www.sun.ac.za/safety) for more information.