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Faculty of Science

[Research-based MSc and PhD degree programmes](#)

Dear Student

Given the nature of postgraduate training in the Faculty of Science (extended periods of supervision that usually involve working in research laboratories with high overheads) acceptance into research-based MSc and PhD degree programmes is highly competitive.

Applications where there has been no prior contact between potential supervisors and prospective students are invariably unsuccessful, principally because no thought has been given to the project's running expenses and to bursary support for the candidate. The capacity to accommodate random applications simply does not exist. Consequently, prospective postgraduate students who wish to pursue research MSc and PhD degrees must first identify potential academic supervisors who are active in their field of interest.

If you have not already done so, please go to the webpage of the department of your choice. Click on the research and staff pages where you will find details of the various research groups, research topics and any additional departmental requirements that may be required from applicants.

You are requested to contact a potential supervisor to determine if he/she is accepting new students and to discuss the availability of postgraduate student bursaries.

Applications will be processed only after a supervisor has been identified.

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