History of the University of KwaZulu-Natal

The University of KwaZulu-Natal was formed on 1 January 2004 as a result of the merger between the University of Durban-Westville and the University of Natal.

The new university brings together the rich histories of both the former Universities.

The University of Durban-Westville was established in the 1960s as the University College for Indians on Salisbury Island in Durban Bay. Student numbers throughout the 1960s were low as a result of the Congress Alliances’ policy of shunning apartheid structures. This policy gave way in the 1980s to a strategy of “education under protest” which sought to transform apartheid institutions into sites of struggle. Student numbers grew rapidly and in 1971, the College was granted University status. The following year, the newly-named University of Durban-Westville moved into its modern campus in Westville and was a site of major anti-apartheid struggle. UDW became an autonomous institution in 1984, opening up to students of all races.

Founded in 1910 as the Natal University College in Pietermaritzburg, the University of Natal was granted independent University status in 1949 owing to its rapid growth in numbers, its wide range of courses and its achievements in and opportunities for research. By that time, the NUC was already a multi-campus institution, having been extended to Durban after World War I. The distinctive Howard College building was opened in 1931, following a donation by Mr. T B Davis, whose son Howard Davis was killed during the Battle of Somme in World War I. In 1946, the government approved a Faculty of Agriculture in Pietermaritzburg and, in 1947, a Medical School for African, Indian and Coloured students in Durban.

The two KwaZulu-Natal universities were among the first batch of South African institutions to merge in 2004 in accordance with the government’s higher educational restructuring plans that will eventually see the number of higher educational institutions in South Africa reduced from 36 to 21. Confirmed by a Cabinet decision in December 2002, the mergers are the culmination of a wide-ranging consultative process on the restructuring of the Higher Education Sector that began in the early 1990s.

Faculties:
Commerce & Management
Community & Development Disciplines
Education
Engineering
Health Sciences
Humanities
Human & Management Sciences
Human Sciences
Law
Management Studies
Science
Science & Agriculture
KwaZulu Vision & Mission Statement

VISION
To be the premier university of African scholarship.

MISSION
A truly South African university that is academically excellent, innovative in research, critically engaged with society and demographically representative, redressing the disadvantages, inequities and imbalances of the past.

PRINCIPLES AND CORE VALUES
The University commits itself to the principles and values enshrined in the constitution of the Republic of South African and articulated in the preamble to the Higher Education Act of 1997 (as amended).

GOALS
The goals of the University are to:

- Promote access to learning that will expand educational and employment opportunities for the historically disadvantaged, and support social transformation and redress.
- Create and develop an enabling environment for all learners and scholars to pursue their studies in accordance with the principles of academic freedom.
- Advance knowledge and culture through globally competitive teaching, learning, scholarship and research, innovation and scientific investigation.
- Foster a capacity for independent critical thinking, free engagement in fundamental discovery and a reappraisal and extension of traditional views of the world amongst students and staff.
- Support and contribute, across the academic enterprise, to national and regional development, and the welfare and upliftment of the wider community.
- Provide holistic education which promotes an awareness of social responsibility and sound ethical practice in a diverse society.
- Promote and foster tolerance and respect for multilingualism, diverse cultures and social values.
- Promote excellence in teaching and learning through creative and innovative curriculum design and development, pedagogical strategies and assessment practices in accordance with sound quality assurance principles.
- Strengthen the institution through local and international collaboration, exchanges and partnerships with the private sector and higher education institutions in teaching, research and development enterprises.
- Conserve the physical environment, and foster a culture of responsible, ethical, sustainable use of natural resources.
- Increase opportunities for lifelong learning in response to the educational, social, political, scientific and economic challenges of our time.
- Equip graduates to serve as future leaders of the nation.
- Ensure effective governance through democratic representation, accountability, and transparency.
- Promote the social and personal well-being of staff and students, and foster the realization of their full human potential.
- The University views this vision and mission statement as a reflection of its core values and commitments. In carrying out its various activities, the University seeks to contribute to the building of a just South African society.
Choice of Campuses

From the mountain vistas of the Drakensberg to the wild reaches of Maputaland, KwaZulu-Natal is a province of contrasts. The University of Kwa-Zulu Natal offers prospective students the choice of five campuses, each with its own distinctive character.

Edgewood

Formerly the Edgewood College of Education before its incorporation in 2001, the Edgewood campus in Pinetown is the University’s primary site for teacher education and the home of the University’s Faculty of Education. Situated in Pinetown with easy access to the N3 highway and approximately 20 minutes’ drive from Durban, the campus offers sophisticated and attractive facilities to a growing number of Education students. The Faculty provides initial and in-service teacher education and offers university higher degrees in a wide range of specialisms in education as well as carrying out research and consultancy. The Faculty is actively engaged with policy-making in education in South Africa and contributes to the international profile of the university through participation in international conferences, teaching international students, hosting international visitors and publishing in international books and journals.

Howard College

Durban is a vibrant coastal city renowned for its beaches and coastal resorts. The city is also a major South African port. The magnificent game reserves and estuaries of Maputaland, north of Durban, are a favourite getaway for staff and students alike. Opened in 1931 following a generous donation by Mr. T B Davis, whose son Howard Davis was killed during the Battle of Somme in World War I, the Howard College campus is situated on the Berea and offers spectacular views of the Durban harbour. The campus is situated in a successful environmental conservancy and the lush gardens of the University reflect a commitment to indigenous flora and fauna. The Howard College Campus currently offers a full range of degree options in the fields of Science (including Geography and Environmental disciplines), Engineering, Law, Management Studies, Humanities (including Music) and Social Sciences (including Social Work). In addition, the campus offers Architecture and Nursing.

Medical School

The University’s Medical School has been producing quality doctors for 53 years. Founded in 1950 as a “black faculty” in a “white institution”, for most of its history, the School has been synonymous with the struggle for democracy and racial equality. On its 50th anniversary in 2000, the Medical School received the finest birthday present it could have wished for – the agreement of former president and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Nelson Mandela, to link his name to the school. The campus is also home to the Doris Duke Medical Research Institute which was launched in July 2003, and which will train a new generation of clinical researchers, enhance the clinical research infrastructure in KwaZulu-Natal, and foster collaborations between research groups working on similar projects in South Africa and other countries.
Pietermaritzburg
Pietermaritzburg is located in the centre of the scenic Natal Midlands, close to numerous nature reserves and parks, only one hour's drive from Durban and two hours' drive from the Drakensberg. The city has a rich architectural heritage, with many fine examples of Victorian and Edwardian buildings. The city is the birthplace of the former University of Natal and its forerunner, the Natal University College, which opened its doors to 57 students in 1910. Two years later, Old Main Building was completed and the hub of the present-day PMB campus was established. The campus offers a wide range of innovative academic programmes, which have been successful in responding to local and provincial needs in the broad areas of Science and Agriculture, Education, Law, Human and Management Sciences. Unique to the Pietermaritzburg campus are the disciplines of Agriculture, Theology and Fine Art.

Westville
Located within an environmental conservancy about 8 kilometers from the CBD of Durban and Pinetown, the Westville campus combines state of the art infrastructure with beautiful natural surroundings. The campus’s Hindu temple and an Islamic place of worship reflect its rich multicultural history. It is also the official address of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, housing the Vice-Chancellor’s office, the offices of Executive members and University-wide administrative divisions. The campus currently offers programmes in Science, Engineering, Law, Commerce and Management, Humanities, Social Sciences and Health Sciences. As the merged institution takes shape, the Westville campus will be the home of Commerce and Management disciplines and some Health Sciences.

The Leadership “Centre” of Natal University
The Leadership Centre represents the actualization of one of the major strategic initiatives of the University of Natal. Activities currently include a number of graduate programmes, seminars and short courses. The Centre exists to promote new, appropriate forms of leadership in the African context; to develop new knowledge about leadership through partnered research; to develop and present programmes, short courses and workshops for leadership development; and to act as a resource to practice. The Centre recognises the relationship between leadership and sound development practice. It therefore aligns itself with the key purpose of social upliftment and leadership development at all levels of civil and corporate society. In so doing, the Centre promotes the practice of ethical leadership and seeks to enable the management of rapid change in the context of social and cultural diversity.

About the Centre
The Centre represents the actualisation of one of the major strategic initiatives of the University of Natal.

The Centre exists
- to promote new, appropriate forms of leadership in the African context
- to enable and conduct research so as to produce new knowledge about leadership
- to develop curricula and present educational programmes, short courses, seminars and workshops for leadership development
- to generate and support ethical, visionary, effective and efficient leadership
- to provide consultancy services
- to act as a resource to practicing leadership through publication and the development of an accessible resource centre.
Intervention Skills
The Centre recognizes the primacy of leadership in acts of intervention intended to improve the human condition.
It aims therefore to develop intervention skills in problem situations so as to promote
• effective, inclusive decision-making
• personal and organizational development through learning
• recognition of cultural diversity
• environmental awareness
• an appreciation of multi-disciplinary approaches to research and practice

Philosophy
Programmes and practices of the Centre are typified by the ideas of
• forging mutually-beneficial partnerships between research and practice
• concern with "real-world" problems in organizational and civic life
• flexibility
• contributing to change and innovation in instructional and research practice.

Programmes
Programmes and projects are framed in the context of intervention and not within the context of disciplines.
Context and place of work itself provides the laboratory for research and learning.
The focus is one of "learning by doing", with the explicit purpose of modeling the theory/practice, research/development dialectic.
Personal change and broadening of understanding of complex problems is valued as a programme outcome. For details on programmes currently offered, or under development see our Postgraduate courses.

Non-graduate Certificate and Diploma Programmes
The Centre's activities include the development and delivery of non-graduate Certificate and Diploma Programmes in leadership and systems thinking.
Current activity includes delivery of programmes in Project Management to the National Department of Public Works.

Courses
♦ The Centre presents short courses, workshops, seminars and breakfast meetings, which include the subject matter of its major programme offerings and/or reflect the operating philosophy of the Centre. In-house staff development programmes can be negotiated. Some of the courses offered by the University are:
  ♦ Leading in the 21st Century
  ♦ Leading and Managing Teams
  ♦ Inspirational Leadership
  ♦ Manager as Coach
  ♦ Project Leadership

Research
Research supported by the Centre is characterised by its contribution to development and improvement and by its emphasis on partnerships. These explore new modes of learning and knowledge creation, designed to enhance "understandings in practice", hence to contribute to improved leadership practices.
Staff
The work of the Centre and its programmes is shared by a growing number of local and international multi-disciplinary staff. Staff is drawn from a wide range of faculties on both the Pietermaritzburg and Durban campuses of the University, embracing both the natural as well as the human sciences.

W K Kellogg Foundation
The Centre gratefully acknowledges the enthusiasm and support of the W K Kellogg Foundation whose promotion of leadership development in the southern African region has benefited the Centre’s purposes.

Leadership Partnerships

Copenhagen Business School
Centre for Continuing Education and Business Research
The Leadership Centre collaborates with the Copenhagen Business School (CBS) in the development of the Centre’s Master of Science in Leadership and Innovation. Collaboration is also undertaken in research activities of mutual interest. Student exchange, staff exchange and programme development between the University of Natal and Copenhagen Business School is encouraged.

Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
An agreement has been signed by the Leadership Centre and CSIR, which enables both parties to undertake collaborative research in their areas of expertise. The Leadership Centre’s Gauteng office currently operates from the CSIR premises in Pretoria to ensure that students are provided with the best possible teaching.

Texas A & M University
Links with Texas A & M University, which include collaborative research and the exchange of staff for joint teaching and research programmes.

The Open University
Located in the United Kingdom, Open University teaching material, including multi-media material, is widely used by the Centre, offering students a considerable improvement in service delivery.

University of Western Sydney
The Leadership Centre has strong academic ties with the University of Western Sydney through the Centre for Systemic Development. Many of the University’s academics have been guests of the Leadership Centre, offering their knowledge in the field of Systems Thinking. To find more information on the Leadership Centre of the University of Natal, visit http://www.und.ac.za/und/leadershipcentre/.
City of Durban
Durban is blessed with balmy weather all year round, making it a perfect holiday paradise. The beachfront is bordered by five star hotels and luxury apartments, all of which have an idyllic view of the Indian Ocean.

The Central Business District, a hive of activity, is within easy reach of all hotels and convention venues. If however, you wish to travel further afield, there is a very competent public transport system running throughout Durban, as well as an abundance of taxis. Durban is a major gateway to Africa and is also the largest and busiest port city on the continent. Due to this, there is an extensive road network leading to and from any destination in South Africa. Durban International Airport, is only a 10 minute drive from the City and is serviced daily by domestic flights, as well as international flights. The International Convention Centre, centrally located, is an innovative, world class convention centre which can cater for conferences of up to 5000 people.

Food
Amadumbe: Tubers boiled and peeled, enjoyed on their own or as part of a meat stew.
Amasi: Sour-milk often mixed with hard maize porridge, very popular in rural and township areas.
Beans: Cooked as part of a stew, boiled on their own, mixed with puthu into a thick mush, or pounded with puthu into a dish called isithwalaphishi.
Breyani: A blend of spicy curry, cloves, ginger and rice soaked overnight in yoghurt, speciality on offer in many Indian households and restaurants.
Bunny-chow: There is no Durban without bunny-chows. Using half a loaf of white bread, with the hard end as a base, scoop out the middle, pack full with curry and sambals and replace the inside as a lid. An authentic Durban phenomenon.
Cane Rat: A delicacy enjoyed by rural folk.
Chicken Feet: Some people might sneer at our chicken feet, but township folk salivate at the mere mention of this snack called 'walkie talkie'.
Chillies: Hot chilli is the stuff eaten by any self-respecting Durbanite, goes with salad and chutneys.
Curries: Thanks to the Durbanites of Indian extraction, the majority of meals served in Durban households are curries.
Dhania: Fresh green coriander leaves used to flavour curries.
Fish: The turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean teem with a variety of fish ranging from shad to bass. Shad fishing has become so popular that the authorities have introduced strict laws restricting the number of fish one can take home. The annual sardine-run in May has Durbanites taking full advantage of the harvest.
Fruit: Subtropical Durban, the 'Banana City' with fruits such as bananas, mangoes, pawpaws, litchis, pineapples and coconuts.
Pap and vleis: Durbanites enjoy their braai (barbeque). In the townships and at taxi ranks there are shisanyama outlets where you can buy a piece of meat and braai it on the fire that is always going.
Pan: Leaf of the betel tree, wrapped around lime and creca-nut parings, is chewed as a palate cleanser after a meal.

Roti: A pancake made of flour, and filled with curry.

Sambals: Fresh, chopped onion, tomato, chillies and sometimes coriander. Served as a side dish with curry.

Samosa: A three-sided deep fried triangle with spicy curry fillings.

Sorghum: Granules are ground into a fine mixture for breakfast cereal.

Sugar: The 'gold' for Durban. Freshly squeezed cane juice is another favourite.

Uputhu: or Putu is a dry maize porridge enjoyed with a variety of stew dishes or roasted meats.

Vegetables: Colourful varieties grow in abundance, including juicy pumpkins, potatoes, amadumbe, cabbages, carrots, beetroot, mielies (corn) and sweet potatoes.

Culture
If cultural diversity were the criterion for choosing the capital of the new South Africa, then Durban would be the only city in the running. In a country dubbed the Rainbow Nation, this port city is blessed with the most vibrant mix of the ethnic and cultural paintbrush. The metropolis is home to three major social groupings, each with its own rich history and traditions.

It was the labour of the noble descendants of Shaka's mighty Zulu Nation which made the city the commercial and industrial hub of the province. Now with the demise of apartheid, they have become the major political force in the region with members of both the two biggest parties, the ANC and IFP proud to be called Zulus.

The quirks and mannerisms of the British settlers in Natal earned the province its nickname of Last Outpost of the British Empire. Now the great-great-grandchildren of those hardy pioneers consider themselves as South African as their Zulu neighbours.

The forerunners of Durban's thriving Indian community arrived in Durban as penniless indentured labourers last century. Since then they have built themselves into a force to be reckoned with, in the fields of commerce, culture and politics.

Apart from the big three, Durban is also home to people of Dutch, Portuguese and Chinese decent to name only a few. And many of them are second or third generation Durbanites. With such a tapestry as a backdrop, it's little wonder then that the city has such a rich cultural and artistic life.

Cultural enthusiasts will be greeted by a kaleidoscope of Indian, Colonial and African traditions that have prospered in the city and given rise to a wide variety of food, restaurants, arts and crafts, and ethnic dance forms.

Parks
Durban has more than 50 reserves, developed parks and specialised gardens. They are maintained by the City's Parks Department which has 4 500 hectares of parkland and undeveloped open space under its control. The most renowned garden in the city is the Botanic Gardens, a rich 20 ha botanical and park haven at the foot of the Berea, and minutes from the city centre.

The foundation of the Durban Parks Department's success is its horticultural and supporting staff.

The skills shown in the production of indoor and outdoor floral displays have, over many years become an outstanding feature of the city's image. From major indoor exhibitions to carpet bedding displays and bright park flower bedding schemes.

Parks with varying ornamental and floral displays and special recreation features can be found throughout the city suburbs.
ACCOMMODATION
The Durban Metro region has approximately 17 000 beds available. There is an excellent range of accommodation from superb four star hotels, holiday apartments, time-share units, to caravan parks, budget hostels, and youth hostels.

AIRPORT TAX
An arrival tax of R100 is included in the price of an International air ticket, R100 in the price of a regional ticket and R34 in the price of a domestic ticket.

CLIMATE
KwaZulu-Natal and Durban in particular enjoys a warm sub-tropical climate for most part of the year. Summer (Nov - Feb) temperatures are hot, from 24 - 30 degrees Celsius and Winters temperatures average at 20 degrees Celsius.

Sea temperatures vary from 25 degrees in summer to 18 degrees in winter. The average rainfall for the year is in the order of 900mm.

The average minimum and maximum temperatures and rainfall figures for this area are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Min. Temp</th>
<th>Max. Temp</th>
<th>Rainfall (mm)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>135</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>114</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>108</td>
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Temperature Chart
You can also visit the Weather Bureau website for more details.

CREDIT CARDS
Most major credit cards are accepted, as well as traveller’s cheques in major currencies.

CURRENCY
South African currency works on the decimal system with the one Rand equalling 100 cents. - Denominations of Rand notes: R200, R100, R50, R20, R10 - Denominations of Coins R5, R2, R1, 50, 20, 10, 5, 2, 1
DISTANCES FROM DURBAN
City      Distance
Cape Town 1660
Johannesburg 598km
Port Elizabeth 927km
Bloemfontien 667km
East London 667km
Pietermaritzburg 77km
Ulundi 235km

ELECTRICITY
The electricity supply is 220/230 volts, AC 50Hz. US made appliances may need a transformer.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
South African Banks can accommodate all international transactions and are situated throughout the country. Banks are open Monday to Friday 09:00 to 15:30, Saturdays 08:30 to 11:00. Automatic Teller machines (ATM) are available in most towns and cities and offer a 24-hour service.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE
Traveller’s Cheques and foreign currency notes of all major currencies can be exchanged at any commercial bank. American Express offices and most hotels have exchange facilities for guests. Fluctuations in foreign exchange markets are reflected in new rates daily.

IMMUNISATION
No international immunisation is needed when entering South Africa. The only inoculation requirement is a yellow fever vaccination certificate from traveller’s entering South Africa within 6 days of leaving an infected area. Some areas in Zululand are subject to malaria. Before entering these areas, persons are advised to consult a doctor or pharmacist to obtain necessary medication.

LANGUAGE
There are 11 Languages in South Africa. English, Zulu, Xhosa, Afrikaans, Ndebele, Swazi, Northern Sotho, Southern Sotho, Tsonga, Tswana, and Venda. English is South Africa’s first language and is spoken throughout the country; English speaking visitors will have no problems while travelling through South Africa. All signs are in English.

MEDICAL CARE
Medical care is readily available. Doctors are listed under “Medical”, Hospitals under “H” in all telephone directories.

POPULATION
Approximately 4 million people. Durban I said to be one of the fastest growing cities in the world with some 25% of South Africa’s total workforce being employed in the Durban area.

RESTAURANTS
With Durban’s rich diversity of cultures, there is an extensive range of multi-cuisine restaurants, catering for all tastes and pockets.
TAXATION
Foreign Tourist visiting South Africa can have their sales tax paid (known as Value Added Tax (VAT)) refunded at a port of exit, provided the value of items purchased exceeds R250. Visitors should obtain proof of payments of all items purchased during their stay to claim any refunds. To qualify for a refund visitors must be in possession of a valid foreign passport, the necessary tax invoices with the goods. Goods to be shown to Custom officers or VAT refund administrators for inspection as proof of export with tax invoices. Tax invoices to be stamped upon departure. VAT can be claimed on Jewellery, curios, clothing and not on restaurant, hotel, car hire or other accommodation.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS
South Africa has a sophisticated telecommunications network. International dialing and full telex, telefax, and electronic mail facilities are widely available. Phonecards and cellular phones are also on the market and readily available. International dialing codes can be found in South African telephone directories.

TIME
South Africa is 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), one hour ahead of central European Winter Time, 10 hours behind New Zealand Winter Time, 8 Hours behind Eastern Australian Winter Time.

TRADING HOURS
Normal trading hours 08:30 to 17:00 on weekdays, 08:30 to 13:00 on Saturdays. Many shopping malls and centres have extended trading hours and are open on Sundays.

TRANSPORT
The International Airport receives direct flights from various international destinations. Various Domestic services fly frequently from the airport. Intercity coaches and trains are reasonably priced and depart daily for various destinations. The Mynah bus is a frequent and reliable local bus service that plies passengers between the North and South beaches, the CBD and surrounding suburbs.

ESSENTIALS TO PACK
Light cotton clothing (shorts, short sleeve shirt)
Hat
Sunscreen
Sunglasses
Swimming costume
Binoculars
Comfortable walking shoes
Camera and lots of films