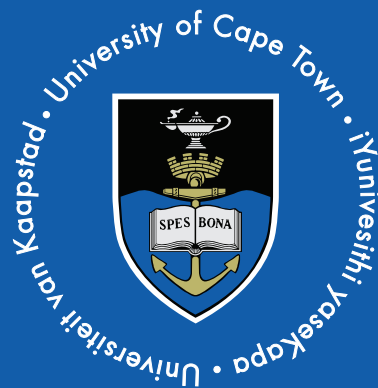




GRADUATION CEREMONY

Faculty of Humanities (Ceremony 2)

SARAH BAARTMAN HALL

8 September 2026

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES (CEREMONY 2)

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Academic Procession.

(The congregation is requested to stand as the procession enters the hall)

The Presiding Officer will constitute the congregation.

The National Anthem.

Welcome by the Master of Ceremonies.

Musical Item.

The graduands and diplomates will be presented to the Presiding Officer by the Dean of the faculty.

The Presiding Officer will congratulate the new graduates and diplomates.

The Master of Ceremonies will make closing announcements and invite the congregation to stand.

The Presiding Officer will dissolve the congregation.

The procession, including the new graduates and diplomates, will leave the hall.

(The congregation is requested to remain standing until the procession has left the hall.)

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika
Maluphakanyisw' uphondolwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.

Morena boloka etjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa la matshwenyeho,
O se boloke,
O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika – South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,

Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

NAMES OF GRADUANDS/DIPLOMATES

An asterisk * denotes that the qualification will be awarded in the absence of the candidate

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

Dean: Professor S Kessi

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN FET TEACHING

*Mankhoetshi Pearl Komana
Mxolisi Isaian Motaung
Nkosentsha Tamana
*Danel Van Tonder
Phumla Zondo

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN SENIOR PHASE AND FET TEACHING

Rowan Rivaldo Basie
*Zikhona Bovana
*Nokuthula Daweti
Aakifah Ferguson (with distinction)
Joel William Fisher
*Nathan Foster
*Tamia George
Keitumetse Hendricks
*Khanyisa Khafu
Chloe Le Fleur
Cleeshay Lynn Loeks
*Sanelisiwe Madikizela
Neve Vuyelwa Mafuna
*Asiphe Maqungo
Ntombizanele Maqwina
*Themedi Matloga
Khodani Mukange
*Carla Newman (with distinction)
Anele Ntshotho
*Chante Diane Petersen
Andrea Rachelle Salomo
*Mahlogonolo Sebashe
*Thobinceba Godfrey Siyatha
*Thato Thapo (with distinction)
Khanya Tinise
Zukile Zide

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ADULT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Zainab Adams
Joniff Cleophas
*Tarryn Eva Dirks

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION

*Duduzile Octavia Mahlangu

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Mandlakazi Mandla Bikitsha
Bradley Thomas Van Ster

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

Nokulunga Nonkie Makhalinyani
Thabile Nontobeko Manzi
*Fortunate Thembelihle Ntanz
Nonguquko Ralarala
*Yanga Tolbadi
Aobakwe Arnold Tshikinya

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Lusanti Brundyn (with distinction)
*Ellen Mari Pretorius (with distinction)
Sampi-Kufamurase Mavis Neliswa

BACHELOR OF ARTS HONOURS

Britney Andrea Chabell (in the first class)
Brianna Tracy Christopher
Gabriella Adetutu Coker
Masuda Galsoolker
*Mila Ruby Grant
*Bilqis Isaacs
Tamzyn Jones
Adam Stuart-Daniel Kieffer-Walker
Azola Krweqe
Selihamashango Tshifhiwa Kutame
*Luca Lagerstrom
Mumtaaz Lorgat
Onthatile Kegomoditswe Marumo
Leila Mathias

William Ian Stinson Moultrie
Suad Samsodien
Alexandra Short
Mogamad Zain Tape (in the first class)

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION HONOURS

Fikiswa Cetywayo
Yolanda Amber Khumalo
Cynthia Kontyo (in the first class)

BACHELOR OF MUSIC HONOURS

*Siviwe Nomkala

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE HONOURS

Akhanani Balfour
*Nwabisa Thandekile Guma
*Romy Lynn Maron
Snethemba Lwandle Mhlongo
Refilwe Itumelang Molefe
Deborah Moyo
*Thabiso Ndzantsi
Temachane Oteng Nkosi
*Lindokuhle Neville Patiwe
Mogomotsi Inocentia Rapanyane
*Shaakirah Ridder
Tyler Roos Smith
Onwabile Vakalisa (in the first class)

MASTER OF ARTS

Ashley Jenna Allard (with distinction)
*Kaylie Ann Low Chernotsky (with distinction)
Xavier Jesse Clarke
Silulundi Coki (with distinction)
Natasha Eagar Espag (with distinction)
Kent Dale Fobian (with distinction)
*Samuel Robin Frere-Holmes
Loyiso Gasa
Zoë Hanslo
*Milena Amara Haricharan (with distinction)
Giovanni Jacobs
Brandon Janse Van Vuuren
Lihle Joka
*Rachel Natalie Joska
Matthew Norman Kleineibst (with distinction)
Byron Jeffrey Levey
*Yang Liu

Njabulo Mabena
 Cwenga Madikane
 Bukelani Mboniswa
 Joy Henrietta Millar (with distinction)
 *Motlatji Dikeledi Mjamba
 *Shadya Iman Mohammed (with distinction in the dissertation)
 Monageng Isaac Motshabi (with distinction)
 *Litha Lethu Mzinyati
 *Nathan Peter Phillander
 Katherine Sarah Poggenpoel (with distinction)
 Tasmiyah Randeree
 Thalén Kerchhoff Rogers (with distinction in the dissertation)
 Reinhard Gustav Schreiber (with distinction)
 Tandzile Tivumile Shongwe
 *Skye Simpson
 Markus Vorster Smit (with distinction)
 Amica Swanepoel
 Adam Matthew van Graan (with distinction)
 Nomandla Siphumelele Vilakazi
 *Shaotong Wu (with distinction)
 Julian Kennedy Yeates (with distinction)

MASTER OF ARTS IN NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Timothy Bean
 Rhiannon Chernotsky (with distinction)
 Celine Helene Le Roux (with distinction)
 Ayanda Philile Precious Ndlovu (with distinction)
 Candice Kim Pillay (with distinction)

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Marilyn Johanna Cloete
 Melissa Cohen
 Nomonde Nancy Foli
 Kim Gush (with distinction)
 Matthew Charles Halvey
 Lintle Kente
 Lana Lesley Gillman Manson (with distinction)
 Kimberley Amy Morris (with distinction)
 Henrico Roderick Alexander Murphy (with distinction in the dissertation)

Kirstin Sarah Schumacher (with distinction)
 Michelle Sylvester

MASTER OF FINE ART

Anso Van Wyk
 Laura Avyola Viruly (with distinction)

MASTER OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

Theresa Chijioke Ilonze

MASTER OF MUSIC

Maria Gakenye Kimotho
 Yamkela Lizo Ntshakaza
 Cebolenkosi Siphesihle Zuma

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

Chenayde Ashleigh Abrahams
 Margret Balekire Chavula
 Tinashe Bruce Moses Chipuka
 *Embeth Du Toit (with distinction)
 Sarah Robyn Farrell (with distinction)
 *Sharna Calsi Fester
 Emma Gisondi (with distinction)
 James Joseph Granelli (with distinction)
 *Colleen Nyasha Gwazani (with distinction in the dissertation)
 Shameelah Khan
 Jodi Knipe
 Cwenga Katlego Koyana (with distinction)
 Caitlin Sarah MacDonald (with distinction)
 Sphesihle Mchunu
 Makhosi Sharon Mkhize
 Jasmine Hope Motinga (with distinction in the dissertation)
 Deon Du Preez Schutte (with distinction)

MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Nico Edward Benting
 Beth Loren Caygill (with distinction in the dissertation)
 Maud Chinyama
 Nande Ayabonga Gantsho
 Alicia Bronwin Goosen
 Khumo Salaminah Isaacs

Kako Ryan Kaphale
 Anke Krogh (with distinction)
 Masimthembe Muriel Kula
 Rebecca Lazarus
 Derek Linda (with distinction)
 Alexa Paris Lipparoni (with distinction)
 Samiha Mahomed (with distinction)
 Clara Delaida Nanchinga
 Anthony Ndebele
 Thandokuhle Ndala
 Bhekumusa Mabel Ndlovu (with distinction)
 Siphosethu Nguta
 Asanda Zanele Nkwanyana
 Haneefah Safi (with distinction)
 Naazneen Sheik
 Nompumelelo Marry Shezi (with distinction)
 Ryan Casimir Van Litsenborgh (with distinction)
 Josphine Zvinawashe

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Winnifred Arthur
 Thesis Title: *'Proper' attitudes without proper jobs? Popular support for welfare in Mogoditshane, Botswana, with comparative insights from Kamanga (Zambia) and Site C (South Africa)*

Winnie Arthur holds a BA in Economics from Berea College, Kentucky, USA and an M.S.Ed. from the University of Pennsylvania, USA. She began her doctoral studies at UCT in 2021.

Winnie Arthur's thesis focuses on popular attitudes towards welfare in low-income urban neighbourhoods in southern Africa. Whilst her primary focus is on a neighbourhood in Gaborone, Botswana, she offers a comparative analysis of a neighbourhood in Cape Town, South Africa and another in Lusaka, Zambia. Aiming to assess attitudes towards social grants, deservingness, and preferences between workfare and social grants, she conducted mini surveys (which included experiments) in all three of those urban neighbourhoods. She found significant cross-site differences in support for welfare and deservingness evaluations, all of which have implications for policymaking about the conditions

that should be tied to social assistance programmes.

Supervisor: Professor J Seekings
(Sociology)

*Ochega Ann Ataguba

Thesis Title: Digital citizenship in Nigeria: gender, politics and resistance on X

Ochega Ataguba holds an Honours and a Master's degree in Media Studies from UCT. Before beginning her PhD studies in 2020, she worked as a copywriter in the advertising industry in Nigeria and as a Professional Communications lecturer at Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

Ochega Ataguba's thesis examines how Nigerians who are outside the country's elite political networks used the social media platform X (formerly Twitter) for civic engagement and social justice activism during Nigeria's 2023 national elections. She uses digital methods to analyse their platform behaviour. Her central dataset comprises hashtags, posts, and interactions alongside a digital ethnography of user practices and online political cultures. She reveals how, under an illiberal regime, digitally enabled citizens enact alternative forms of citizenship. She does that by drawing on theories of digital citizenship and intersectionality to illuminate the ambiguities and everyday struggles that shape online political participation. Ochega Ataguba demonstrates that digital citizenship in Nigeria is dynamic, contingent, and rooted in micro-political acts through which social media users resist heteropatriarchal structures, misrecognition, and perceived injustices by producing counter-narratives and irreverent online practices.

Supervisor: Professor T Bosch (Film and Media Studies)
Co-supervisor: Professor FB Nyanmjoh (Anthropology)

Kayembe Augustin Bamupale
Thesis Title: "Beyond the clash of civilizations" (Todorov)? The representation of the "sociorevolutionary" Islamist terrorism in contemporary Francophone literature (Philippe Lançon, Julien Suaudeau, Ousmane Diarra, and Bréhima Touré)

Augustin Bamupale completed his BA in Rural Development and Social Organization at ISDR Tshibashi (Democratic Republic of Congo) in 1997, his BA(Hons) in French at the University of Johannesburg in 2013 and his MA in French at UNISA in 2018. He began full-time study towards his PhD in 2020.

Augustin Bamupale's thesis explores how four contemporary Francophone literary texts represent Islamist terrorism in its "sociorevolutionary" form. The texts are Julien Suaudeau's *Dawa* (2014), Philippe Lançon's *Le lambeau* (2018), Ousmane Diarra's *La route des clameurs* (2014), and Bréhima Touré's *La guerre des influences* (2019). While such terrorism is generally portrayed as drawing on religion and the idea of a Sharia-based theocracy, Augustin Bamupale shows that these four texts foreground a strong relation of the phenomenon to socio-political motivations. Comparing French and African literary perspectives, he also shows how these four novelists challenge Huntington's (1996) "clash of civilizations" theory, one which reduces Islamist terrorism to a supposed civilisational dimension. By engaging with Todorov's (2008) emancipatory and humanist ideas that lead "beyond the clash of civilizations", Augustin Bamupale ultimately shows the committed nature of these four literary works in their nuanced representation of political violence linked to complex social and ideological circumstances.

Supervisor: Associate Professor M Arnold (School of Languages and Literatures)

Ragi Bashonga
Thesis Title: Mirrors in frames: Identity and belonging in the lives of second-generation Congolese immigrants in South Africa

Ragi Bashonga holds an MSocSc in Industrial Sociology from the University of Pretoria. She has worked as a researcher in various organisations, including government and NGOs, and is currently a lecturer at the University of Johannesburg.

Ragi Bashonga's thesis explores the lived experiences of second-generation Congolese immigrants in South Africa, focusing on identity and belonging in a context shaped by Afrophobia. She introduces the poetic-portrait – a fusion of portraiture and poetic inquiry – as a creative research methodology. This approach highlights the value of storytelling in academic work. Her work contributes to Afrocentric scholarship by introducing the concept of the perpetual internal-outsider, a concept that emphasises the tension arising from being both insider and outsider in South Africa's racialised social landscape. Her thesis further offers the notion of *citi(sense)* as a way to think about how emotion influences the extent to which immigrants are able to access various forms of citizenship. By considering the meanings of being Black, African, as well as Congolese, Ragi Bashonga reveals how national and cultural identities, though taken-for-granted as true, evolve over time and are shaped by socio-historical forces, offering new insights into the complexities of identity and belonging.

Supervisor: Associate Professor R Chaturvedi (Sociology)
Co-supervisor: Associate Professor F Garba (Sociology)

Hannah Henderson Carrim
Thesis Title: Difficult Work: History teachers' experiences of teaching colonialism and Apartheid in South African schools

Hannah Carrim holds a BSocSc and BSocSc(Hons) from the University of KwaZulu Natal, and an MA in

Development Studies and PGCE from UCT. She worked as a history teacher before beginning her PhD studies in 2020.

Hannah Carrim's thesis investigates how South African history teachers experience and navigate the teaching of colonialism and apartheid. Foregrounding teachers' voices, she extends understanding of what it means to teach 'difficult histories' in South Africa. Drawing on teachers' narratives, she reveals how they interpret and mediate the history curriculum through their own subjectivities, emotional investments, and historical consciousness, as well as in response to their learners' and schools' contexts. She illuminates the profound affective and pedagogical demands teachers face when engaging with the unresolved legacies of racism, coloniality, and trauma. She not only demonstrates that history teaching is 'difficult work', but also provides evidence regarding the current curriculum's lack of support for teachers for teachers to do that work. By foregrounding the complexity of teachers' work, Hannah Carrim highlights the need for professional learning and systemic support that recognises the emotional and ethical dimensions of history teaching in a deeply fractured and unequal world.

Supervisor: Dr K Angier (School of Education)

Co-supervisor: Professor C McKinney (School of Education)

Christopher Edyegu

Thesis Title: *China's role in facilitating the development of Ethiopia's leather industry*

Christopher Edyegu completed a Master's degree in International Relations at UCT before beginning fulltime study towards a PhD in 2018.

Christopher Edyegu's thesis focuses on China's role in facilitating the development of African manufacturing, particularly in Ethiopia's leather manufacturing sector. Using the structural power framework within an International Political Economy (IPE) model, he sought to understand why the expected mass movement of

Chinese jobs and companies to the continent failed to materialise. His findings, which identify key challenges hindering the development of African manufacturing industries, will be useful in understanding how African leaders can better develop their economies to integrate, more deeply than presently, into global value chains and can meet the objectives of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor J Akokpari (Political Studies)

Keitumetse Betsy Eister

Thesis Title: *Researcher-librarian collaborations: a case for structural transformation towards the realisation of research goals through digital scholarship services in selected higher education institutions in South Africa*

Keitumetse Eister holds Library and Information Science qualifications comprising a BBibI from the University of Fort Hare, a BBibI(Hons) from the University of South Africa, and a MInf from the (then) Rand Afrikaans University. She began part-time study towards a PhD in 2022.

Keitumetse Eister's thesis focuses on researchers' collaborations with librarians whilst they are conducting research towards the fulfilment of higher education institutions' (HEIs) research goals. She focuses, in particular, on librarians' provision of digital scholarship services. She investigates the extent to which HEIs' current research environments enable or impede such researcher-librarian collaborations. She further investigates organisational, individual and social factors which contribute to an environment that supports such research collaborations. She uses data she has collected to conclude that the research infrastructure at South Africa's HEIs supports research conducted by academics and researchers only, and thus impedes researcher-librarian collaborations. Based on her findings, she proposes a framework that HEIs could use to develop research infrastructure that recognises the evolved researcher-role of librarians and enables researcher-librarian collaborations towards the realisation of

research goals through digital scholarship services.

Supervisor: Professor J Raju (Knowledge & Information Stewardship)

'Manthabile Cecilia Maduna

Thesis Title: *Analysis of newly created Sesotho riddles from the selected villages in Leribe and Maseru, Lesotho*

'Manthabile Cecilia Maduna has been employed as a high school teacher in Lesotho since 2007. She holds a BEd and an MA in African Languages and Literature from the National University of Lesotho. Whilst pursuing PhD studies at UCT she has served as a part-time lecturer at the National University of Lesotho.

'Manthabile Maduna's thesis focuses on and qualitatively analyses newly created Sesotho riddles. She draws on data she collected through participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and focus group discussions in Lesotho. She finds that the structure of newly created Sesotho riddles aligns with authentic Sesotho riddles. She further shows that these riddles serve purposes beyond entertainment: they foster socialisation, critical life skills, and pedagogical power by addressing issues such as history and indigenous knowledge. She classifies newly created Sesotho riddles into three main types: sexual, religious, and miscellaneous, the categories respectively reflecting their thematic content. Moreover, she highlights how these riddles employ diverse expressive devices, revealing a broad thematic scope. She concludes by recommending structured riddling sessions involving adults in order to educate youth on Sesotho riddles, and that extensive research is needed on new Sesotho riddles.

Supervisor: Associate Professor R Possa (School of Languages and Literatures)

*Vayda Lee Megannon

Thesis Title: *Lived realities of unemployment and the Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress Grant*

Vayda Megannon holds a BA from the University of the Witwatersrand, a BSocSc(Hons) in Sociology and an MPhil in Politics from UCT. She is a member of the Universal Basic Income Coalition and the regional programme manager for the Family Caregiving Programme in Southern Africa.

Vayda Megannon's thesis examines how South Africa's Covid-19 Social Relief of Distress (SRD) Grant – the country's first national cash transfer for unemployed, working-age adults – reshaped everyday life. Introduced in 2020, the R350 grant became a lifeline, but also a site of struggle including contestations around digital systems that continue to determine who qualifies and who is excluded. Drawing on two years of interviews with forty-one people in Cape Town's Khayelitsha and the Eastern Cape's KwaBhaca, she explores families' reliance on shared income, care and remittances, and how automated means tests often misread these collective sustenance practices as disqualifying income. Her research inspired two new ideas: the Care Penalty, depicting SRD Grant exclusion resulting from women's unpaid care work, and Boundary Parity, referring to a principle for fair social protection. While pointing toward a future of just and caring social policy, Vayda Megannon's thesis reveals how digital welfare systems can reproduce old inequalities in new ways.

Supervisor: Professor E Moore
(Sociology)

Co-Supervisor: Dr N Vally (Sociology)

Mutsawashe Helen Mutendi

Thesis Title: *The Alchemists: Women, mercury, gold and artisanal mining in Zimbabwe*

Mutsawashe Mutendi completed her BA at the University of the Witwatersrand. She obtained her BA(Hons) and MA in Anthropology at UCT. She began full-time study towards her PhD in 2019.

Mutsawashe Mutendi's thesis

follows the pathways of mercury as it circulates across borders, through bodies and into environments in the worlds of female artisanal miners in Zimbabwe. Mercury is toxic. It causes organ damage, reproductive disorders, and environmental harm. There are numerous attempts to alert artisanal miners to its dangers, yet its use persists. Mutsawashe Mutendi's research traces how female miners who practice serengeta (washing gold out of ore by using mercury) make sense of their multiple deleterious exposures, including to toxic substances, to a precarious political economy, and to various different forms of violence. She shows that, whilst being aware of the dangers of exposure to mercury, Zimbabwe's female artisanal miners do not always attribute their ill-health to it. Their interpretations of their symptoms are shaped by their everyday concerns, including the nature of serengeta and their need to practice it. Moreover, imagining themselves as engaged in reciprocal relations with the land and seeking to offset damage through ritualised care, they find they are frequently blamed for environmental destruction.

Supervisor: Professor FC Ross
(Anthropology)

Stella Ngeh Emade

Thesis Title: *Medicinal content curation and dissemination in the digital era: biomedicine and indigenous medicine in South Africa*

Stella Ngeh Emade completed a Master's degree at UCT and began a PhD in 2022.

Stella Ngeh Emade's thesis questions the epistemic tensions, power dynamics and governance structures that shape how indigenous medicinal content is managed and perceived when digitised and made accessible. Through applying a rigorous exploratory sequential mixed-methods research approach, she highlights the need to recognise and respect indigenous healers and their communities. She highlights the absence of well-established protocols to protect indigenous medicinal content, and she proposes a framework for ethical curation and dissemination

of indigenous medicinal content that emphasises community custodianship, access control, cultural protocols and intellectual property protection. By bridging digital scholarship, health communication and decolonial theory, Stella Ngeh's thesis is not only a contribution to new knowledge. It should also be influential in policy-relevant recommendations for equitable indigenous knowledge governance in South Africa. Her work has significant implications for research, medicinal practice and community empowerment in the digital age.

Supervisors: Professor J Raju (Library and Information Studies)

Phakamani Ntentema

Thesis Title: *An investigation into the importance of digitising South Africa's old paper-based indigenous language literatures and non-literary works*

Phakamani Ntentema holds BSocSc, BA(Hons) (First Class), and MA (Second Class) degrees from UCT. He began full-time PhD study in 2021 and has been a part-time lecturer at UCT from 2019-2025.

Phakamani Ntentema's thesis investigates the urgent need to digitise South Africa's endangered paper-based African-language literature, particularly isiXhosa texts from the early to mid-20th century. His work constitutes an act of epistemic justice and cultural reclamation. Moving beyond technical preservation and grounded in Ubuntu philosophy and decolonial theory, he reframes digitisation as "re-memory" and "restorative temporal justice". Through qualitative analysis of texts like Amavo, Izwi Lama Afrika and Umyezo, and interviews with librarians, authors, and citizens, he reveals how community-centred, multimodal digitisation can revitalise language, restore narrative sovereignty, and challenge colonial archival logics. In order to achieve his goals, he proposes a relational model that integrates oral performance, ethical metadata, offline access, and co-governance that together position digitisation not as salvage but as an active, loving reanimation of

African intellectual heritage for present and future generations.

Supervisor: Associate Professor R. Possa (School of Languages & Literatures)

Thulani Blessing Nzama
Thesis Title: *"African Names, African Narratives": Exploring literary anthroponymy in selected Isizulu texts from the Apartheid and Post-Apartheid periods*

Thulani Blessing Nzama holds a BA(Hons) (cum laude) and an MA in African Languages and Linguistics from the University of the Witwatersrand. He began his PhD in African Languages and Literatures at the University of Cape Town in 2024. He is currently a full-time lecturer at Durban University of Technology.

Thulani Nzama's thesis explores the sociolinguistic and literary significance of personal naming (anthroponymy) in isiZulu novels published during the apartheid and post-apartheid eras. Through textual and comparative analysis, he examines how authors employ naming as a vehicle for social commentary, identity construction, and resistance. His findings reveal that names function as cultural texts that reflect ideological shifts and socio-political transformations in isiZulu literature. Thulani Nzama's thesis contributes to literary onomastics by demonstrating that naming in fiction is both a linguistic and a cultural act that shapes meaning, memory, and identity in African narratives.

Supervisor: Associate Professor R. Possa (African Languages & Literature)

Mukhtar Raban
Thesis Title: *A design-based research approach to critical digital language pedagogy at a South African university: Towards critical consciousness and humanisation*

Mukhtar Raban holds a Diploma in Arabic, a BA and a BTech from the University of Madinah, Saudi Arabia; a Certificate in Teaching and Learning from Nelson Mandela University, a Certificate in Counselling from UNISA, and an MA in Language Learning from Stellenbosch University. He started his PhD at UCT in 2021.

Mukhtar Raban's thesis interrogates the constraints and affordances of digital environments for linguistic identity construction and student agency in a South African higher education context. In it he extends Paulo Freire's 'humanising pedagogy' to digital English language learning spaces to foster critical consciousness and to valorise marginalised linguistic identities. He draws on a design-based research methodology and revisits its conceptual tools to align strongly with a Critical Theory paradigm. Through two cycles of research, design and praxis, he generated digital interventions such as 'My Presence' and 'My Voice'. He highlights that these interventions affirm students' agency and their critical role in knowledge co-construction; and that they destabilise the structural inequities related to English hegemony, particularly in digital spaces. His thesis concludes with ten design principles to generate a Critical Digital Language Pedagogy Framework – a framework for reorienting digital environments as liberatory spaces for mutual humanisation in language education.

Supervisor: Dr A Hunma (Centre for Higher Education Development)
Co-supervisor: Dr T Mayisela (Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching)

Sylvia Sinkari Sam
Thesis Title: *Ghana-China partnership: resource guaranteed indebtedness and its implications*

Sylvia Sam holds a Bachelor's degree in Development Studies and an MBA in Marketing Management from universities in Ghana and France respectively. She started her PhD studies in 2022 whilst working as an administrator and adjunct lecturer at Ghana's Academic City University, teaching innovation, entrepreneurship, and business in Africa.

Sylvia Sam's thesis delves into the intricate relationship between Ghana and China, focusing specifically on the extent to which resource-guaranteed loans have shaped this bilateral relationship. She describes having adopted a mixed-methods approach to provide holistic research by triangulating multiple data sources and having selected research-survey participants through purposive sampling. Her analysis of both primary and secondary data is based on quantitative and qualitative methods. Through examining the implications of resource-guaranteed indebtedness, she uncovers the broad impacts on both China and Ghana, and on the African continent in general. She does that by evaluating the motives and conditions shaping resource-guaranteed indebtedness and investigating the macro and micro-level impacts of China's debt guarantees. She concludes by highlighting the far-reaching consequences of resource-guaranteed debt and their implications in the future trajectory of Sino-African relations. She also urges policymakers and stakeholders to take direct action and to address pressing issues with urgency and clarity.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor J Akokpari (Political Studies)
Co-supervisor: Emeritus Professor A Seegers (Political Studies)

Senanta Fanidh Sanogo

Thesis Title: *Making Faces: An ethnography of makeup amongst girls in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso*

Senanta Fanidh Sanogo holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree from Glasgow Caledonian University (Mauritius campus) and an MSocSc in Anthropology from UCT, her study toward the latter having been supported by the Mandela Rhodes Foundation. Her PhD studies have been as a Doctoral Fellow at UCT's Institute for Humanities in Africa, supported by the Wenner Gren and the Andrew Carnegie Foundations.

Senanta Fanidh Sanogo's thesis explores the epistemic possibilities of approaching makeup as what she calls a social grimace, rather than merely as use of cosmetics. She does that by examining the art of makeup and making faces amongst young women in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. She describes how young women strategically deploy face masking as a resource for navigating through the challenges of survival in a context of dwindling opportunities. She argues that makeup in Ouagadougou is best understood as an intentional and visceral act of political declaration through facial expression, and concludes that young Ougadougou women's use of makeup is not just made up or a temporary act of contortion, but is a tool enabling young women to inhabit particular social positions, to make up for their failures in achieving social mobility, and to avoid social death.

Supervisor: Associate Professor D Fuh (Anthropology)

Chiedza Nyengetera Zharare

Thesis Title: *Cultural heritage and changing societies after natural disasters in eastern Zimbabwe: A case of Chimanimani and Chipinge after Cyclone Idai.*

Chiedza Zharare holds a BA in History and Development Studies and an MA in African History from Midlands State University, Zimbabwe. She began PhD studies in 2021. She is currently a curator with National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe.

Chiedza Zharare's thesis focuses on the effects of natural disasters on cultural heritage in Eastern Zimbabwe, focusing particularly on circumstances in the wake of Cyclone Idai in 2019. She investigates the effects of climate change on heritage and subsistence livelihoods as increasingly experienced in Zimbabwe and beyond. She documents the devastation, especially as regards cultural heritage, caused by Cyclone Idai. Her analysis enables her to identify knowledge and institutional gaps in relation to Zimbabwe's heritage and disaster management policy and strategies, and also to show how those kinds of gaps have disabled understanding of the significance of climate change impacts in local, national and regional settings. Using a decolonial framework, she offers an approach to environmental and climate impact on the management of cultural heritage, one that is different from what has prevailed thus far. She also recommends that the heritage and disaster management legal framework in Zimbabwe should incorporate local and indigenous knowledge, thereby to ensure sustainability of cultural heritage.

Supervisor: Emeritus Professor S Vawda (African Studies)

VISION AND MISSION

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Vision

An inclusive and engaged research-intensive African university that inspires creativity through outstanding achievements in learning, discovery and citizenship; enhancing the lives of its students and staff, advancing a more equitable and sustainable social order and influencing the global higher education landscape.

Mission

UCT is committed to engaging with the key issues of our natural and social worlds through outstanding teaching, research and scholarship. We seek to advance the status and distinctiveness of scholarship in Africa through building strategic partnerships across the continent, the global south and the rest of the world.

UCT provides a vibrant and supportive intellectual environment that attracts and connects people from all over the world.

We aim to produce graduates and future leaders who are influential locally and globally. Our qualifications are locally applicable and internationally acclaimed, underpinned by values of engaged citizenship and social justice. Our scholarship and research have a positive impact on our society and our environment.

We will actively advance the pace of transformation within our University and beyond, nurturing an inclusive institutional culture which embraces diversity.

OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Chancellor

Precious Moloi-Motsepe, MBBCh DCH *Witwatersrand* Dip in Women's and Reproductive Health *Stellenbosch*

Vice-Chancellor

Matlagolo Mosa Moshabela, MBChB *Natal* Dip in HIV Management (SA) *CMSA* MMed *Limpopo (MEDUNSA)*
MSc *LSHTM* PhD *Witwatersrand* *MASSAf*

Chair of Council

Norman Martin Arendse SC, BA LLB *Cape Town* LLM *UCL*

President of Convocation

Yumna Moosa, MBChB *Cape Town* MMedSci PhD *KwaZulu Natal*

Deputy Vice-Chancellors

Brandon Ian Collier-Reed, PrEng BSc(Eng) MSc(Eng) PhD *Cape Town* FSAIMechE
Thokozani Majosi, BScEng MScEng *Natal* PhD *Manchester* CEng FICChemE Order of Mapungubwe: Bronze
Elelwani Ramugondo, BSc (Occupational Therapy) MSc (Occupational Therapy) PhD *Cape Town*

Registrar

Kathleen Idensohn (Interim), BA LLB *Cape Town* LLM *Cantab* PhD *Cape Town* Advocate of the High Court

Chief Operating Officer

Richard John van Huyssteen (Acting), Project Management Dip *FTI* BSc *Nelson Mandela*
HDE (PG) BCom(Hons) *Cape Town*

Deans of Faculties

<i>Commerce:</i>	Suki Lesley Goodman, BSocSc(Hons) MBusSc PhD <i>Cape Town</i>
<i>Engineering & the Built Environment:</i>	Aubrey Njema Mainza, BMinSC <i>UNZA</i> PhD <i>Cape Town</i>
<i>Health Sciences:</i>	Lionel Patrick Green-Thompson, DA FCA <i>CMSA</i> MBBCh MMed PhD <i>Witwatersrand</i>
<i>Humanities:</i>	Shose Kessi, PDBA <i>Witwatersrand</i> BA(Hons) <i>London</i> MSc PhD <i>LSE</i>
<i>Law:</i>	Mohamed Paleker, BA LLB LLM PhD <i>Cape Town</i> Attorney of the High Court
<i>Science:</i>	Hussein Suleman, MSc <i>Durban-Westville</i> PhD <i>Virginia Tech</i>

Dean of Higher Education Development

Kasturi Behari-Leak, BA(Hons) HDE BEd *Durban-Westville* MEd *Cape Town* PhD *Rhodes*

Director of the Graduate School of Business

Catherine Duggan, BA *Brown* PhD *Stanford*

YOU'RE A GRADUATE!

NOW STAY CONNECTED TO UCT!

Today does not mark the end of your journey with UCT, but the beginning of a new chapter in your lifelong relationship with your alma mater. We invite you, as a graduate, to join a vibrant global community of more than 200 000 alumni making an impact around the world.

We hope to stay connected as your journey continues - celebrating your milestones, sharing opportunities, and keeping you connected with classmates, mentors, and the university community.

To make sure you remain part of the UCT network, we just need one simple thing from you: please update your contact information.



Alternatively, send your updated contact information via email to alumni@uct.ac.za.

Other ways of staying connected

- Attend alumni events in your region
- Participate in the Convocation AGM
- Follow us on LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook
- Visit the Alumni Engagement team at the Development and Alumni Department
- Share your achievements with us at alumni@uct.ac.za

UCT's global network of alumni chapters, affinity groups, and volunteer networks provides opportunities to connect, collaborate, network, and support your alma mater. Contact our team to get involved locally or internationally:

SOUTH AFRICA

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We look forward to connecting with you as alumni of UCT.

PLEASE SCAN & COMPLETE THE 2026 SURVEY

- Voluntary, takes 7 mins
- Helps current students and faculties with world-of-work insights



CAREERS SERVICE

OWN YOUR FUTURE

Centre for Higher Education Development