

STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

Fact Sheet

2026 - 2027

ABOUT THE INSTITUTION

Name of Institution

Stellenbosch University

Address

Stellenbosch University International
Stellenbosch University
Krotoa Building
Cnr. Ryneveld and Victoria Street Stellenbosch,
7600 South Africa

Name of Unit

Unit for Student Mobility, Centre for Global
Engagement, Stellenbosch University
International

Website

[SU International](#)

[Semester Mobility](#)

CONTACTS



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Mobility

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Ms Andrea Engelbrecht

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NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Nomination periods	First Semester and Full Year	1 – 31 August
	Second Semester	1 – 28 February
Application deadlines	First Semester and Full Year	30 September
	Second Semester	30 March

Admission requirements

Students should have completed 1 year/2 semesters of study at the home university with an average of 65% for their studies.

Language requirements

English B2

Nomination form for partner universities

Exchange students must be nominated on the following [webpage](#).

Should you be unable to meet the nomination deadline, due to your own exchange processes and deadlines, please contact exchange@sun.ac.za to arrange for a later nomination date. Study Abroad and Free mover students do not have to be nominated they can just apply, using the steps in the application section.

Online application process

Documents to submit with an online application:

1. Certified copies of all official academic records / transcripts; please attach English translations if the documents are not available in English.
2. Learning Agreement (You must list all the courses that you wish to take, and this must be signed by you International Exchange/Academic Coordinator
3. Copies of the identification pages of your passport (Your passport should be valid for the time indicated by the SA Mission after leaving South Africa).
4. Proof of English Proficiency (where applicable)

[Application for semester exchange can be completed here](#)

Documents to be provided before registration

- Proof of Payment where fees are charged as part of a partnership agreement and for Study Abroad and Free mover students.
- Proof of Medical Insurance: Please note that all students are required to have South African medical insurance for the purposes of the visa application and registration at Stellenbosch University. Students will only be able to procure this after a letter of admission has been issued. As soon as the letter has been issued, apply for a South African Medical Insurance. This is a requirement from the Department of Home Affairs.
- List of Medical Scheme Options on our website: List of Medical Scheme Options on SUI Website
- List of registered Medical Schemes: List of Registered Medical Schemes in South Africa
- Kindly contact Carlyn Hewitson (immigration@sun.ac.za) should you require additional information or assistance with medical cover and/or immigration enquiries.
- Unfortunately, no student will be registered without proof of membership of a medical scheme registered in terms of the Medical Schemes Act, 1998 (Act No 131 of 1998) of South Africa.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND COURSES

Academic calendar

Kindly visit the academic calendar, for important semester dates here: [Academic Calendar](#)

Orientation Week will commence one week before the start of class. We recommend that you arrive before the start of Orientation Week. Please schedule your holidays or visits by family and friends for the mid-term (recess) break or after the end of the semester.

Students staying longer than the allocated calendar dates do so at their own risk and are not the responsibility of Stellenbosch University.

NO EXAMS WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE TAKEN AT HOME. FOR THIS REASON, IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT STUDENTS SHOULD BOOK THEIR RETURN FLIGHT FOR AFTER THE END OF THE 2ND EXAM PERIOD.

SEMESTER DATES FOR 2027

1st Semester (February – June)

University reopens: **4 January 2027**

First Term commences (start for all students):
8 February 2027

First Term ends: **25 March 2027**

Mid Semester 1 Recess: **26 March - 4 April 2027**

Graduation Ceremonies: **5 - 16 April 2027**

Second Term commences: **5 April 2027**

Second Term ends: **14 May 2027**

Assessments:

a) June A2 Assessment Period: **17 May - 7 June 2027**

b) June A3 Assessment Period: **8 - 22 June 2027**

First Semester ends: **25 June 2027**

Mid-Year Recess: **26 June - 18 July 2027**

2nd Semester (July – December)

Third Term commences: **19 July 2027**

Third Term ends: **3 September 2027**

Mid Semester 2 Recess: **4 - 12 September 2027**

Fourth Term commences: **13 September 2027**

Fourth Term Ends: **22 October 2027**

End of Year Assessments:

a) November A2 Assessment Period:
25 October - 15 November 2027

b) November A3 Assessment Period:
16 - 19 November 2027

Second Semester Ends: **10 December 2027**

Academic Course Selection

- You can list more courses than you need credit for, but please make sure that you indicate how many credits you need, and which courses are compulsory for your programme. We will then liaise with the relevant academic departments.
- You will not be able to attend mainstream courses for which you did not get pre-approved. Once we have received feedback on your course selection, we will provide sufficient feedback. You can, however, take fewer courses than you were pre-approved for. The final learning agreement must then be signed by your home coordinator.

Languages of instruction

Although we acknowledge that all South African languages function as resources for communication, we choose to focus our institutional commitment on the users of Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa, which are the three official languages of the Western Cape Province.

Credits and grading

The number of courses that can be registered for per semester amounts to 60 SU Credits, 30 ECTS, 15 USA Credits . Please refer to this webpage for more information on our credit and grading system.

Selecting courses

For general instructions on finding courses, please visit the **Course Information Section** on our website. Useful links in your search for courses are supplied in the above two documents, and will lead you to:

- The Online Yearbook (Overview of Degree Programmes and Course Lists per Faculty)
- The Faculty Websites (which will lead you to the Departments' websites)
- The Departments' websites can also be found under the university's A – Z links

Course approval & registration

Firstly, SU International works through the courses, making initial approvals and rejections – mainly based on semester offering, course prerequisites and clear proof of academic background.

Secondly, the courses are sent to the relevant Departments for their input. The approval or rejection of these courses are at the Department's discretion and their decision cannot be overturned by the Office. After the Evaluation Process, each student will receive the list of approved courses.

After Arrival, during the compulsory orientation week, students are to hand in a Final Course Registration Form. This form lists the students' final choice of courses for the Semester. No changes are to be made after a certain date as set out by the Office and University Guidelines. If a course is not deregistered within these dates and the course is not complete, it will reflect as a Fail on the Academic Transcript.



LIVING IN STELLENBOSCH

Arrival/Airport transfer

Stellenbosch University International provides a transfer service between Cape Town International Airport and Stellenbosch. Once you have booked your flight ticket, please fill in the online arrival sheet, to arrange for an airport pickup free of charge. Please complete the [online arrival](#) sheet at least one week before your arrival. Our transport coordinator may be contacted at suiarrivals@sun.ac.za.

The transfer service is available to all international students. Please look out for our representative bearing a "Stellenbosch University International" sign or t-shirt. If you are lost or cannot find your transfer, phone one of the following numbers:

Office: +27 (0)21 808 2567 (office hours)

Transport Coordinator: suiarrivals@sun.ac.za

Welcoming & Orientation Details

During the Welcoming and Orientation programme, we aim to equip a new arrival with the essential information to ensure that your integration into the university- and Stellenbosch life is easy and enjoyable as possible.

We will introduce you to the many services and societies that the University has to offer and create the opportunity for you to get to know many other students before the real work begins.

The Welcoming & Orientation webpage is available [here](#).

Stellenbosch University International has reworked the format of the Welcoming and Orientation Week. The bulk of the Pre-departure information will be available online beforehand. In addition to this online component, the Welcoming and Orientation Week will also consist of several face-to-face presentations on important academic and financial information prior to the commencement of classes.

Get a Matie buddy

The Matie Buddy programme is designed to put you in contact with experienced Stellenbosch University students who want to assist you with your arrival in South Africa. This programme provides exchange students with an intercultural experience prior to arrival at Stellenbosch University and during your stay in Stellenbosch.

Instructions will be provided in terms of how to sign up, please contact Leone Wilkinson for more information: isos@sun.ac.za

Late Arrival

Students who can't arrive in time for the orientation period must arrange with the semester coordinator.

Only valid reasons are accepted as an excuse for late arrival. You CANNOT arrive after the start of class.

Writing home exams at Stellenbosch University

In the case of students who still need to write examinations for their home universities after the beginning of orientation – we can accommodate you as we have procedures in place to ensure that you can write the exams here – please request the application form for writing home university exams at Stellenbosch University by contacting the relevant Stellenbosch University Coordinators:

Study Abroad and Free mover's:

studyabroad@sun.ac.za

Exchange students:

exchange@sun.ac.za

Housing

International students are responsible for securing their own accommodation. Information pertaining to accommodation options for students within the Stellenbosch area is available [here](#).

Kindly contact our Administrative Housing Officer at interhouse@sun.ac.za should you require additional information.

Housing FAQ's

1. Is housing guaranteed?

No (Apply as soon as possible)

2. Approximate rent per month?

ZAR 7200 (staying privately)

3. What types of housing are available?

Co-ops, apartments, private houses

4. What's the distance from housing to the university?

Varies from on-campus to ± 10 km

5. Are meals included in housing?

No

6. What means of transport are available from accommodation?

Walk, bike, car

7. What are the options for University Accommodation?

Read more about university administered housing at:

<https://www.su.ac.za/en/suinternational/university-administered-housing-0>

8. General Housing Information:

<https://www.su.ac.za/en/suinternational/services/accommodation>

The housing application for university accommodation must be completed by the same deadline as the semester application.

Please note that we work on the principle of first come first serve, so the sooner you apply the better your chances of getting a place in university accommodation. Even if you have not been admitted (and not yet received a Letter of Admission), it is important to apply as early as possible.

VISA and residence permit

If you are enrolling at Stellenbosch University as an international semester student for one or two semesters, then you will require a study visa. A study visa is normally issued for the duration of the academic programme, and it is each student's responsibility to maintain the validity of their study visa.

Please contact your nearest South African High Commission or Embassy to confirm the requirements. The contact details of the High Commissions or Embassies are available on the following page: [**Contact Details of Country Representatives**](#). The different forms that you will need are available from them.

Kindly contact immigration@sun.ac.za should you require additional information or assistance with medical cover and/or immigration enquiries.

Please apply for your study visa the moment you receive your letter of acceptance from Stellenbosch University. It can take 6 – 8 weeks before you receive your visa and for that reason you need to apply timeously.

No student will be registered without a valid study visa.

Estimated living expenses

GENERAL

Books & Study Material (per semester): **ZAR5000 (Course dependent)**

Medical Insurance per month: **ZAR450 - 500 (Provider dependent)**

STAYING IN PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION

- Accommodation on average **ZAR7000 per month**
- Living allowance **ZAR5000 per month**

STAYING IN A UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE

- Accommodation on average **ZAR5700 – 8700 per month**
- Living allowance **ZAR5000 per month**

RENTING A MATIE BIKE

Cost per semester: **ZAR2500 (Deposit is required)**

For more information on rental procedures, visit the Matie Bike Webpage [here](#).

For all financial enquiries please contact mobilityfinance@sun.ac.za

Fee structure

All students from partner universities receive a tuition waiver based on the exchange agreement between Stellenbosch University and their home institution. This will differ on the level and type of agreement that your home institution has with Stellenbosch University.

If your institution has a faculty /departmental level agreement, you must take AT LEAST 2/3rds of your coursework in this faculty/department to qualify for a tuition waiver.

Fee Structure for students from Partner Universities

Study Abroad and Freemover student refer to the below link for the cost of study:

Fee Structure for students from Non-Partner Universities

All semester mobility students will receive an invoice together with their letter of admission indicating the amount payable. You will not be able to register unless you have paid your fees.

Student Support Services

Please refer to our **Centre for Student Counselling and Development website** for more information.