



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



Neuroscience
Institute

MASTER OF NEUROSCIENCE 2026 (MNEUROSC)

Given the revolutionary scope of brain research today, this novel taught programme aims to upskill students from diverse undergraduate disciplines to contribute to knowledge production in the exciting field of neuroscience. Scholars from 7 different departments across 3 different faculties at UCT contribute to teaching and supervision on this cutting-edge programme, making it the most interdisciplinary offering yet.

Apply online through the
UCT Admissions Office
(programme MM194CHM16)
before 30th September 2025

INFO SESSION

Wed 10th Sept

15:00 - 16:30

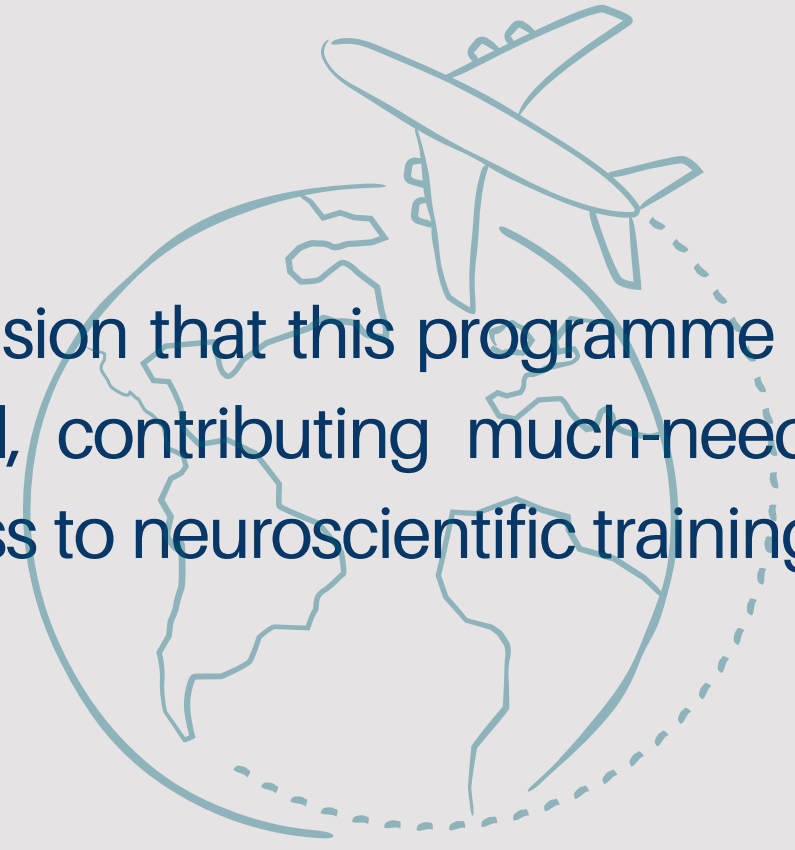
register [here](#)

The MNeuroSc runs as a full-time contact programme with a minimum time to completion of one year. To accommodate students unable to complete all coursework in one year, it is also offered part-time over two years. No other programme of this nature currently exists within South Africa.



Neuroscience
Institute

Housed at the innovative UCT Neuroscience Institute, we envision that this programme will draw students from across South Africa and further abroad, contributing much-needed diversity to the field and broadening the currently limited access to neuroscientific training in Africa.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- ✔ Hold an approved honours or 4-year degree (NQF Level 8 qualification) in a relevant discipline including, but not limited to, Health Sciences, Psychology and Social Sciences, Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics, and Philosophy, OR
- ✔ Hold a qualification recognised by Senate as equivalent to the above;
- ✔ Have achieved a final mark of $\geq 65\%$ in their prior qualification. If you do not yet have a final mark for your qualification, you must include a letter from your course convenor confirming the partial marks you have.
- ✔ Have proven proficiency in written and spoken English.

THE FOLLOWING IS REQUIRED FOR YOUR UCT ONLINE APPLICATION:

- ✔ Certified degree certificates and copies of original academic transcripts.
- ✔ Curriculum Vitae (including previous research and work experience).
- ✔ A letter of motivation (max 500 words), which outlines your interest in neuroscience, career goals, and why you should be considered for the programme. Please also indicate which elective course you would be interested in (see Curriculum below).
- ✔ Names and contact details of two referees.

IMPORTANT: Your two chosen referees (of whom at least one should be academic) should be informed to submit their referee reports to MNeuroSc.NI@gmail.com with the subject:

Referee Report: Your Name and Surname, MNeuroSc.

Referee reports are due when internal applications close on 30 September 2025. It is your responsibility to ensure these reports are submitted by your referees on time, no late reports will be accepted.



For more information contact the
programme convenor:
Dr Melike Fourie
(melike.fourie@uct.ac.za)



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD





Neuroscience
Institute

SELECTION PROCESS

There are limited placements for this programme, and admission is highly competitive. Selection will be based primarily on research and academic merit, to ensure candidates can master the considerable course load in the minimum amount of time (full-time students will be prioritised). Equity targets and the potential to contribute to the field of Neuroscience in Africa and beyond will also be considered.

FUNDING

Based on funding availability, the Neuroscience Institute may award a limited number of partial scholarships to support students financially. All applicants are encouraged to apply for funding from the Postgraduate Funding Office, however, please note that only those accepted into the programme who also applied for financial aid through the PGFO will be considered for a scholarship.

You may apply for a scholarship by sending a short motivation letter to MNeuroSc.NI@gmail.com.

CURRICULUM

The taught component of the programme comprises two-thirds of the credit weighting and spans the entire academic year. The research component consists of a single mini-dissertation carrying a third of the credit weighting.

THE PROGRAMME STRUCTURE IS AS FOLLOWS:

Compulsory Courses:

- ✓ Neuroanatomy and Neuropathology
- ✓ Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience
- ✓ Clinical Applications in Neuroscience
- ✓ Bioinformatics Programming with Python
- ✓ Ethics of New and Emerging Health Technologies
- ✓ Social and Behavioural Neuroscience
- ✓ An Introduction to Machine Learning for Neuroscientists
- ✓ Neuroscience Research Skills

Electives (choose one):

- ✓ Neuroimaging Technologies for Research and Clinical Practice
- ✓ Introduction to Processing and Interpreting Human Genomic Data

Research Project:

- ✓ A mini-dissertation offered in a variety of contributing disciplines.



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD