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Discover, learn, and be inspired: UCT Summer School 2025 offers world-class talent, free lectures and unique excursions

The University of Cape Town (UCT) will host the 2025 Summer School through its [Centre for Extra-Mural Studies](#) from Monday, 20 January 2025 to Saturday, 1 February 2025. This vibrant programme of short courses offers a unique opportunity for individuals of all ages to engage with diverse topics, expand their horizons, and explore new ideas in a welcoming and dynamic environment.

The programme spans a range of disciplines and topics, including literature, art and music; philosophy, politics and history; medicine and science; language and writing courses.

Highlights of the programme include lectures and presentations by well-known artist William Kentridge; Jonny Steinberg, who recently won the Sunday Times Literary Award for his book *Winnie and Nelson: a portrait of a marriage*; famous cricketer Vince van der Bijl; and many others.

Several lectures are free of charge, including a lecture by the university's Vice-Chancellor Professor Mosa Moshabela, in which he will speak about his vision for the university; the Distinguished Alumni lecture, which Emeritus Associate Professor Richard Calland will present; and the annual Professor Stuart John Saunders lecture.

There are In Conversation sessions, which include author Karen Jennings, who was shortlisted for the Booker Prize for her previous novel; Jolene Young, who has just written a book on dispossession in Simons Town; and editor John Linnegar.

Emeritus Registrar Hugh Amoore will lead bespoke UCT campus tours. These free tours will tell the rich history of the campus, its buildings and its people.

Other exciting excursions will include visiting Boulders Beach with an expert to observe the penguin colony, tree identification excursions to Newlands Forest and examining moss and trees on campus.

Boulders Beach in Simon's Town is one of the last remaining penguin breeding colonies in South Africa; and with African penguins at risk of extinction in the wild, this site plays an important role in African penguin conservation. As one of only two major land-based colonies, it faces many challenges, including land-based predators, human disturbance, road kill, and other threats such as the lack of fish to eat and climate change. However, it also

presents many opportunities, as management interventions such as fishing restrictions, habitat restoration, and the rescue of eggs and chicks have proven successful for penguin conservation. As a tourist attraction in South Africa, this colony also provides an important income for both the local community and the country.

Attendees will also be treated to concerts at the Baxter Theatre and at Erin Hall. Grant McClachlan will perform with the ever-popular Vox Choir. Additionally, opera students from the university's College of Music will participate, along with world-renowned pianist Gustave Romero and Dominic Daula.

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Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department

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