



2026 TERM DATES AND SKELETAL ACADEMIC CALENDAR

(Approved by Senate on 03 September 2025 and ratified by Council on 13 September 2025)

UNIVERSITY RE-OPENS – Monday, 05 January 2026

ACADEMIC TERMS			
TERM	FROM	TO	NOTES
1	09 February	27 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Term 1 and 2 = Semester 1 Term 3 and 4 = Semester 2 Term 1 to 4 = Annual
2	07 April	19 June	
3	13 July	18 September	
4	28 September	18 December	

2026 REGISTRATION DATES			
Undergraduate	FROM	TO	NO. OF WEEKS
New Students	12 January	06 February	4
Returning Students	12 January	06 February	4
Postgraduate			
Full Research (Master's and Doctorates)			
New Students	12 January	31 July	29
Returning Students*	12 January	06 February	4
*Exception (Returning Master's/Doctoral Students Awaiting Examination Outcome)	The day after the Higher Degrees Committee meeting in March	10 Working Days after the Higher Degrees Committee meeting in March	2 **
**This late re-registration period only applies to returning Master's or Doctoral students who submitted their dissertation/thesis for examination by 02 November 2025 and are awaiting the outcome of the March 2026 Higher Degrees Committee meeting. If approved for the Autumn graduation ceremony, registration is not required.			
Course Work (Master's)			
New Students	12 January	06 February	4
Returning Students	12 January	06 February	4
Late Registration	09 February	20 February	2
Refer to Annexure 3 for dates for module/programme changes			

LECTURES			
	FROM	TO	NO. OF DAYS
First Semester	09 February	19 May	64
Annual	09 February	29 September	137
Second Semester	13 July	13 October	61

GRADUATION CEREMONIES			
	FROM	TO	NO. OF DAYS
Midlands - Autumn Graduation	11 May	13 May	3
Durban - Autumn Graduation	18 May	27 May	9
Durban - Spring Graduation	16 September	17 September	2

EXAMINATION STUDY PERIOD FOR STUDENTS (Inclusive of Weekends)			
	FROM	TO	NO. OF DAYS
First Semester	20 May	24 May	5
Annual	30 September	04 October	5
Second Semester	14 October	18 October	5

MAIN EXAMINATION DATES			
	FROM	TO	NO. OF DAYS
First Semester	25 May	10 June	13*
Annual	05 October	16 October	10
Second Semester	19 October	03 November	12

*Eid-ul-Adha Day: 28 May 2026 - No examinations will be scheduled on this day.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION DATES			
	FROM	TO	NO. OF DAYS
First Semester	06 July	13 July	6
Annual	16 November	20 November	5
Second Semester	25 November	02 December	6

PUBLICATION OF EXAMINATION RESULTS		
	EXAM SESSION	PUBLICATION DATE
First Semester	Main Examinations	03 July 2026
	Supplementary Examinations	27 July 2026
	Special Examinations	28 August 2026
Annual	Main Examinations	06 November 2026
	Supplementary Examinations	30 November 2026
	Special Examinations	24 February 2027
Second Semester	Main Examinations	30 November 2026
	Supplementary Examinations	18 December 2026
	Special Examinations	24 February 2027

UNIVERSITY CLOSURE: 21 - 31 DECEMBER 2026

See Annexure 1 for information on how the above dates are accommodated in the Calendar, and Annexure 2 for public holidays and religious days

2026 SKELETAL ACADEMIC CALENDAR

NOTE:

This schedule is aimed at:

1. Illustrating all prescribed factors that need to be accommodated when devising the academic calendar, including the provisions of:
 - 1.1 A 5-day study period for students (including weekends); and
 - 1.2 An estimated 14 weeks per semester for lectures/practicals for semesterised programmes.
2. Indicating the number of days allocated for lectures/practicals (see column 9 below) after all prescribed factors have been accommodated.

(1)		(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)		(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
REGISTRATION PERIOD		TOTAL NUMBER OF WEEKS FOR 2026 (CALCULATED FROM FIRST DAY OF LECTURES TO LAST DAY OF RESPECTIVE SEMESTER/ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS)		(MINUS) MID-SEMESTER VACATION PERIOD		(MINUS) STUDY PERIOD * (Excluding Weekends – Not included in the calculation of the days)		(MINUS) EXAMS		(EQUALS) REMAINING WEEKS	(EQUALS) REMAINING DAYS (EXCLUDING WEEKENDS)	(MINUS) PUBLIC HOLIDAYS THAT ARE NOT PART OF THE VACATION PERIODS	(EQUALS) DAYS FOR LECTURES/ PRACTICALS
DATES	WEEKS	DATES	WEEKS	DATES	WEEKS	DATE	WEEKS	DATE	WEEKS				
<u>Semester 1</u> 12 Jan – 06 Feb	4	<u>Semester 1</u> 09 Feb – 10 June	17 + 3 days	30 Mar – 02 April	4 Days	<u>Semester 1</u> 20 May – 24 May	3 days + *w/end	<u>Semester 1</u> 25 May – 10 June	2 + 3 days	<u>Semester 1</u> 13 + 3 days	<u>Semester 1</u> 68	<u>Semester 1</u> 4	<u>Semester 1</u> 64
<u>Annual</u> 12 Jan – 06 Feb	4	<u>Annual</u> 09 Feb – 19 June	19	30 Mar – 02 April	4 Days	<u>Annual</u> -	-	<u>Annual</u> -	-	<u>Annual</u> 18 + 1 day	<u>Annual</u> 91	<u>Annual</u> 5	<u>Annual</u> 86
MID-YEAR VACATION 22 JUNE TO 10 JULY (3 WEEKS)													
<u>Semester 2</u> -----	-----	<u>Semester 2</u> 13 July – 03 Nov	16 + 2 days	21 Sept – 25 Sept	5 Days	<u>Semester</u> 14 Oct – 18 Oct	3 days + *w/end	<u>Semester 2</u> 19 Oct – 03 Nov	2 + 2 days	<u>Semester 2</u> 12 + 2 days	62	1	<u>Semester 2</u> 6
<u>Annual</u> -----	-----	<u>Annual</u> 13 July – 16 Oct	14	21 Sept – 25 Sept	5 Days	<u>Annual</u> 30 Sept – 04 Oct	3 days + *w/end	<u>Annual</u> 05 Oct – 16 Oct	2	<u>Annual</u> 10 + 2 days	52	1	<u>Annual</u> 51

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND RELIGIOUS DAYS FOR 2026

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS			RELIGIOUS DAYS		
HOLIDAY	DATE	DAY	RELIGIOUS DAY	DATE	DAY
New Year's Day	01 January	Thursday	Isaiah Shembe Day	10 March	Tuesday
DUT Holiday	02 January	Friday	*Eid-ul-Fitr	21 March	Saturday
Human Rights Day	21 March	Saturday	Isaiah Shembe Day	02 May	Saturday
Good Friday	03 April	Friday	Ascension Day	14 May	Thursday
Family Day	06 April	Monday	*Eid-ul-Adha	28 May	Thursday
Freedom Day	27 April	Monday	Rosh Hashanah	11-13 September	Friday - Sunday
Workers' Day	01 May	Friday	Yom Kippur	20-21 September	Sunday - Monday
Youth Day	16 June	Tuesday	Deepavali/Diwali	08 November	Sunday
National Women's Day	09 August	Sunday			
*Public Holiday; National Women's Day is observed	10 August	Monday			
Heritage Day	24 September	Thursday	*Dependent upon the sighting of the moon		
Day of Reconciliation	16 December	Wednesday	The University respects the religious beliefs of all staff and students. As a result, tests, assessments, and examinations will not be scheduled on the above days; however, the University will remain open and operational on these days.		
Christmas Day	25 December	Friday			
Day of Goodwill	26 December	Saturday			
*The Public Holidays Act (Act No 36 of 1994) determines whenever any public holiday falls on a Sunday, the Monday following it shall be a public holiday.					

DATES FOR PROGRAMME/MODULE CHANGES

MODULE/PROGRAMME CHANGES	DATE
Final date for any changes to <u>first-semester</u> modules /programmes already registered for (except cancellations and de-registrations)	06 March
The last day to cancel <u>first semester</u> modules or to de-register for first semester programmes. A student cancelling or de-registering after this date will be regarded as having failed that module /programme and officially published results will be reflected accordingly. A student cancelling or de-registering from any module /programme prior to or as of this date will be recorded as having withdrawn and no result will be published.	24 March
Final date for any changes to <u>annual</u> modules /programmes already registered for (except cancellations and de-registrations)	13 April
Last day to cancel <u>annual</u> modules or to de-register for annual programmes. A student cancelling or de-registering after this date will be regarded as having failed that module /programme and officially published results will be reflected accordingly. A student cancelling or de-registering from any module /programme prior to or as of this date will be recorded as having withdrawn and no result will be published	26 May
Final date for any changes to <u>second-semester</u> modules /programmes already registered for (except cancellations and de-registrations)	07 August
The last day is to cancel second-semester modules or de-register for second-semester programmes. A student cancelling or de-registering after this date will be regarded as having failed that module /programme and officially published results will be reflected accordingly. A student cancelling or de-registering from any module /programme prior to or as of this date will be recorded as having withdrawn and no result will be published	25 August

2026 Academic Calendar Mapping



January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1 Th <small>New Year's Day</small>	1 Su	1 Su	1 We Vacation	1 Fr Workers' Day	1 Mo	73 1 We	1 Sa	1 Tu 36 122	1 Th 53	1 Su	1 Tu 2nd Semester Supplementary Exams
2 Fr DUT Holiday	2 Mo	2 Mo 16 16	2 Th 2 Th	2 Sa Isalah Shembe Day	2 Tu	74 2 Th	2 Su	2 We 37 123	2 Fr 54	2 Mo 2nd Semester Exam	2 We
3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Tu 17 17	3 Fr Good Friday	3 Su	3 We	75 3 Fr	3 Mo 16 102	3 Th 38 124	3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Th
4 Su	4 We	4 We 18 18	4 Sa	4 Mo 53 53	4 Th	76 4 Sa	4 Tu 17 103	4 Fr 39 125	4 Su	4 We	4 Fr
5 Mo	5 Th	5 Th 19 19	5 Su	5 Tu 54 54	5 Fr	77 5 Su	5 We 18 104	5 Sa	5 Mo 55	5 Th	5 Sa
6 Tu	6 Fr	6 Fr 20 20	6 Mo Family Day	6 We 55 55	6 Sa	6 Mo	6 Th 19 105	6 Su	6 Tu 56	6 Fr	6 Su
7 We	7 Sa	7 Sa	7 Tu 36 36	7 Th 56 56	7 Su	7 Tu	7 Fr 20 106	7 Mo 40 126	7 We 57	7 Sa	7 Mo
8 Th	8 Su	8 Su	8 We 37 37	8 Fr 57 57	8 Mo	78 8 We	8 Sa	8 Tu 41 127	8 Th 58	8 Su Diwali	8 Tu
9 Fr	9 Mo	9 Mo 21 21	9 Th 38 38	9 Sa	9 Tu	79 9 Th	9 Su National Woman's Day	9 We 42 128	9 Fr 59	9 Mo	9 We
10 Sa	10 Tu	10 Tu 2 2	10 Th Isalah Shembe Day	10 Fr 39 39	10 Su	80 10 Fr	10 Mo Public Holiday	10 Th 43 129	10 Sa	10 Tu	10 Th
11 Su	11 We	11 We 3 3	11 Sa	11 Su	11 Th	81 11 Sa	11 Tu 21 107	11 Fr 44 130	11 Su	11 We	11 Fr
12 Mo	12 Th	12 Th 4 4	12 Su	12 Tu	12 Fr	82 12 Fr	12 We 22 108	12 Sa Rosh Hashana	12 Mo 60	12 Th	12 Sa
13 Tu	13 Fr	13 Fr 5 5	13 Mo 40 40	13 We	13 Sa	13 Mo 1 87	13 Th 23 109	13 Su	13 Tu 61	13 Fr	13 Su
14 We	14 Sa	14 Sa	14 Tu 41 41	14 Th Ascension Day	14 Su	14 Tu 2 88	14 Fr 24 110	14 Mo 45 131	14 We	14 Sa	14 Mo
15 Th	15 Su	15 Su	15 We 42 42	15 Fr 62 62	15 Mo	83 15 Mo	15 Sa 15 Sa	15 Tu 46 132	15 Th	15 Su	15 Tu
16 Fr	16 Mo	16 Mo 6 6	16 Th 43 43	16 Su	16 Tu	84 16 Tu	16 We 3 89	16 Fr 47 133	16 Th	16 Mo	16 We Day of Reconciliation
17 Sa	17 Th	17 Th 7 7	17 Fr 44 44	17 Su	17 We	85 17 We	17 Th 4 90	17 Fr 48 134	17 Sa	17 Tu	17 Th
18 Su	18 We	18 We 8 8	18 Sa	18 Mo	18 Th	86 18 Th	18 Tu 25 111	18 Fr 49 135	18 Sa	18 We	18 Fr
19 Mo	19 Th	19 Th 9 9	19 Su	19 Tu	19 Fr	87 19 Fr	19 Su	19 Tu	19 Th	19 Mo	19 Sa
20 Tu	20 Fr	20 Fr 10 10	20 Mo 45 45	20 We	20 Sa	88 20 Sa	20 Tu 6 92	20 Th	20 Fr	20 Tu	20 Su
21 We	21 Sa	21 Sa Human Rights Day	21 Tu	21 Th	21 Fr	89 21 Fr	21 Tu 7 93	21 Th	21 Sa	21 We	21 Mo
22 Th	22 Su	22 Su	22 We 46 46	22 Fr	22 Mo	90 22 Mo	22 Th 8 94	22 Fr	22 Su	22 Th	22 Tu
23 Fr	23 Mo	23 Mo 11 11	23 Th 47 47	23 Sa	23 Tu	91 23 Tu	23 Th 9 95	23 Fr	23 Mo	23 Fr	23 We
24 Sa	24 Tu	24 Tu 12 12	24 Fr 48 48	24 Su	24 We	92 24 We	24 Th 10 96	24 Sa	24 Tu	24 Sa	24 Th
25 Su	25 We	25 We 13 13	25 Sa	25 Mo	25 Th	93 25 Th	25 Tu 31 117	25 Fr	25 Su	25 We	25 Fr Christmas Day
26 Mo	26 Th	26 Th 14 14	26 Su	26 We	26 Sa	94 26 Sa	26 Tu 32 118	26 Fr	26 Mo	26 Th	26 Sa Day of Goodwill
27 Tu	27 Fr	27 Fr 15 15	27 Mo Freedom Day	27 Th	27 Su	95 27 Su	27 Tu 33 119	27 Fr	27 Mo	27 Th	27 Su
28 We	28 Sa	28 Sa	28 Tu 50 50	28 Th	28 Fr	96 28 Fr	28 Tu 34 120	28 Fr	28 Mo	28 Th	28 Mo
29 Th		29 Su	29 We 51 51	29 Sa	29 Tu	97 29 Tu	29 Th	29 Fr	29 Mo	29 Th	29 Tu
30 Fr		30 Mo Vacation	30 Th 52 52	30 Sa	30 Tu	98 30 Tu	30 Th	30 Fr	30 Mo	30 Th	30 We
31 Sa		31 Tu		31 Su		99 31 Su	31 Fr	31 Mo	31 Sa		31 Th

Weekends Public Holiday Religious Holiday DUT Holiday Registration Late Registration Graduation Exam Study Period Exam Period Supplementary Exams 1st Semester Lecture Days 2nd Semester Lecture Days Annual Lecture Days Vacation