

**Division of Intellectual Disability  
Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health  
University of Cape Town**



**Call for Applications 2023  
Master of Philosophy in Intellectual Disability  
[MM006PRY06]**

The MPhil in Intellectual disability is an academic research degree which aims to contribute to knowledge generation and translation in the field of intellectual disability in South Africa and Africa. Areas of particular interest include, but are not limited to, advocacy and self-determination, community inclusion, development of evidence-based interventions, and evaluating and improving public service provision and promoting the health and mental health of people with Intellectual Disability and their supporters.

The degree does not lead to a professional qualification that can be registered with a professional body, but rather aims to enhance registered practitioners' knowledge and research skills in the field of Intellectual Disability. Prospective students must therefore (a) have an approved degree in medicine; or (b) an approved master's degree in psychology; or (c) an approved professional health degree/profession (e.g., occupational therapist, physiotherapist, speech-language therapist, nurse, social worker, registered counsellor); and (d) be registered with the appropriate professional body as a practitioner.

The degree is offered as either a two year fulltime or three-year part-time research degree comprised of coursework and a dissertation:

- **Part 1: Course work (90 credits)** is completed through experiential learning (on-site exposure in health and/or other service facilities providing physical and mental healthcare services and/or other services for persons with intellectual disability), seminars, assignments, and academic presentations.
- **Part 2: A dissertation of no more than 25000 words (90 credits)** is completed in the second year (full time) or over the second and third year (part-time). Research supervisors are jointly appointed mental health practitioners in the WC Department of Health and the Division of Intellectual Disability, Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health at UCT. Supervisors will offer supervision and support aimed at assisting students to master the research process (finalising their research proposals, gaining ethics approval for the research, gathering and analysing data for their research, writing up and submitting their dissertations). Students must have passed all the coursework requirements and a Part 1 examination before submitting their dissertations. The dissertation is examined according to the University's regulations by two external examiners, of which one is drawn from an international academic institution.

Further details of the course and course assessments can be obtained from the UCT Health Sciences (postgraduate) Student Handbook at

<http://www.students.uct.ac.za/students/study/handbooks/current>

Information on the fees for the degree is obtainable from the UCT fees page at

<http://www.students.uct.ac.za/students/fees-funding/fees/handbook>

## Application process

Applications must be made **online** at <http://applyonline.uct.ac.za>

Please complete and upload the research application form (MPHIL ID application form 2023) and submit 2 referees reports emailed to Nikita Titus by the application closing date of **30 September 2022**.

The postgraduate office can be contacted for further information about the application process. Ms Salega Tape ([salega.tape@uct.ac.za](mailto:salega.tape@uct.ac.za)) provides administrative support to applications.

Prof Sharon Kleintjes ([sr.kleintjes@uct.ac.za](mailto:sr.kleintjes@uct.ac.za)) can be contacted for queries related to the degree. Please copy Ms Nikita Titus ([nikita.titus@uct.ac.za](mailto:nikita.titus@uct.ac.za)) to your email.