

UK-SA Bilateral Chair in the Digital Humanities: Honours, Masters and Doctoral Fellowships

Deadline: 26 February 2025

The Centre for Humanities Research (CHR) at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) invites applications for Masters and Doctoral awards in 2025 convened under the auspices of the UK-SA Bilateral Chair in the Digital Humanities. Honours awardees must be already registered at UWC. Masters and Doctoral awardees must either be registered or eligible to register in 2025 at UWC. Students from designated groups are encouraged to apply.

In this round, the CHR will award up to six Honours, six Masters, and six Doctoral fellowships. Successful applicants will work alongside a team of leading researchers at the CHR and its partner institutions in understanding how a new phase in the co-evolution of the human and technology rewrites the meaning of aesthetics, race, ecology, and labour as traditional concerns of humanistic study.

The position provides for residential fellowships at the CHR's Iyatsiba Lab, a dedicated humanities facility of the University of the Western Cape in Woodstock, Cape Town. The lab offers a supportive environment for focused study and collaborative research with sound, film, and kinaesthetic arts, and humanistic and social science researchers in the CHR. It hosts an expansive network of local and international researchers working on topics related to the social, political, aesthetic, and subjective consequences of the expansion in technological objects. The awards are conceived to enable postgraduate students to enter the space of digital humanities with a view of developing expertise in the field while shaping an inquiry across the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences.

Awardees will become fellows of the CHR linked to the Chair in Digital Humanities. Fellows are required to participate in an advanced studies seminar and an annual workshop with leading scholars from around the world. They are also required to participate in the CHR's annual Winter School, the Humanities in Session research seminar, reading groups and publication workshops.

About the CHR

Since its establishment in 2006, the Centre for Humanities Research (CHR) at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) has provided a new impetus to the role of the humanities in the formulation of ideas and experiments for building a post-apartheid society, in order to offer a new concept of freedom for the world.

A humanities inquiry informed by its location and history, the CHR lends itself to asking pertinent questions that have a significant impact on locating intellectual traditions in Africa in a global discourse on the contemporary human condition. With graduate fellowship and artist-in-residence programmes, the Centre has nurtured a humanities discourse that is responsive to the rapidly shifting terrains of the human in our global moment. The CHR has been shaping a discourse on post-apartheid freedom that explores the relationship between the human, the arts and technology in our contemporary world, especially as these relate to rapidly transforming notions of society and politics. With partnerships across and between institutions, particularly universities, schools, public arts projects, museums, archives and art galleries, the CHR nurtures future generations of humanities graduates, educators and arts and cultural practitioners energized by transhemispheric collaborations that extend the reach of local and international humanities scholarship, as well as opportunities for arts education and cultural production beyond the institutional site of the university.

How to apply

The application letter must include the following components:

- 1) Letter of motivation
- 2) CV
- 3) Three letters of reference (one from the main supervisor or last academic employer)
- 4) A writing sample (Masters and Doctoral)
- 5) A statement of interest in the debates on the human and technology.

Applications should reach us no later than **26 February 2025**. All documents to be emailed to centreforhumanitiesresearch@uwc.ac.za for the attention of Ms Miceala Felix.