

HUMANITIES@UFS.AC.ZA

Dear Alumni of the Humanities,

From the Dean's office in the Humanities, a warm welcome as part of our extended family! We hope that you are going to enjoy reading our first newsletter for Alumni. During times of unprecedented global uncertainty as a result of COVID-19, we need something positive to focus on. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep you informed of some of the highlights and activities within our diverse Faculty. This snapshot should give you a sense of how the Higher Education environment has changed, while many aspects of our core academic business have remained important. In future newsletters you will also read about initiatives where departments have introduced Academic Advisory Boards. Through such structures you will get an opportunity to share your experiences and wisdom about the world of work with our students, thereby making them more employable. So – if you receive an invitation to join – please, the answer is yes!

Any feedback and comments on the newsletter would be welcomed, as ultimately we want to stay connected. Happy reading!

Prof Heidi Hudson



The Faculty of the Humanities boasts **24 Departments and Divisions** and **283 permanent staff** members across the **three** campuses.

2020 student numbers:

9 155



Undergraduate students:

8 447

Honours students: 224



1 year

Master's students: 246



2 years

PhD students: 153



5 years

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HOSTED

During February, the Department Political Studies and Governance hosted a conference on how active citizenship and accountability can save South Africa from the precipice. The conference brought together political scientists, academics, politicians and journalists who robustly discussed matters relating to local and international politics, economics and governance. Some of the key speakers included Dr Sithembile Mbete, Dr Gladys Mkhawana and Ms Helen Zille.



Books published by top academics



DR SUSAN BROKENSHA

(Department of English): Reinventing the social scientist and humanist in the era of Big Data: A perspective from South African scholars.

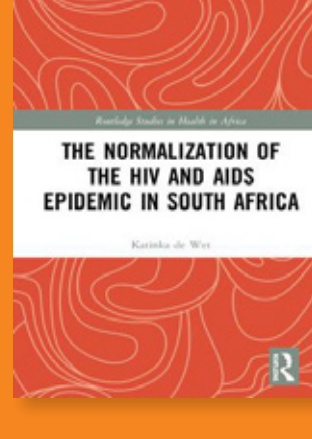
Link: <https://store.it.si/za/book/reinventing-the-social-scientist-and-humanist-in-the-era-of-big-data/984686>



DR ROELF REYNEKE

(Department of Social Work): Restorative school discipline: The law and practice.

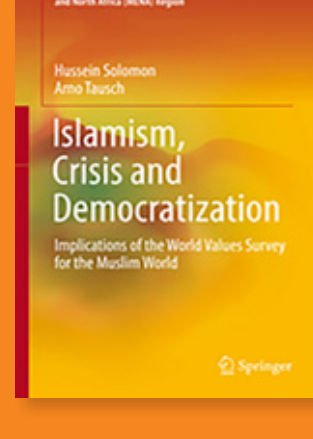
Link: https://juta.co.za/catalogue/restorative-school-discipline_25910/



DR KATINKA DE WET

(Department of Sociology): The normalization of the HIV and AIDS epidemic in South Africa.

Link: <https://routledge.com/The-Normalization-of-the-HIV-and-AIDS-Epidemic-in-South-Africa/Wet/p/book/9780367193553>



PROF HUSSEIN SOLOMON

(Department of Political Studies and Governance): Islamism, crisis and democratization: Implications of the World Values Survey for the Muslim World.

Link: <https://springer.com/gp/book/9783030228484>

WYNAND MOUTON REVAMP

The Wynand Mouton Theatre at the UFS is delivering some of the best performers and technicians South Africa has to offer. Currently the theatre is in the process of being upgraded with a new lighting system, new seating and the installation of new curtains. The floor of the stage will also be sanded and painted. The Wynand Mouton is the main theatre of the Department Drama and Theatre Arts, and is also annually used by the Free State Arts Festival. This is a facility the Faculty of the Humanities takes huge pride in.



SAFTA AND FIESTA NOMINATIONS



Television series *Die Spreeus* nominated for several SAFTAs. This series features Film and Visual Media lecturer, Chris Vorster in the leading role. *Die Spreeus* was nominated for various awards by the South African Film and Television Awards, including Best Drama.

Vorster was also recently nominated for a Fiësta Award in the category Best Actor in a Solo production for his portrayal in *Die Hart Verklap*, winner of the award for the Best Debut Production as well as Best Free State Artist at the 2019 Free State Arts Festival.

DATES TO DIARISE



In this section, you will in future read more about seminars, inaugural addresses, concerts, plays and exhibitions being hosted by the Faculty. Presently we have put all these events on hold until further notice. **Watch this space!**

CENTRE FOR GENDER AND AFRICA STUDIES (CGAS)

SERIOUS ABOUT
AFRICA'S INTELLECTUAL FUTURE
We aim to deepen the interdisciplinary and intersectional understanding of the burning issues related to Africa, its people, its gender(ed) dynamics and identity politics.



WHERE GREAT MINDS MEET

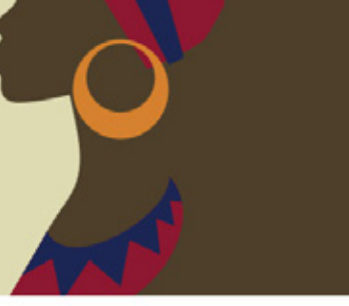
We bring notable African scholars/activists to the UFS to foster vibrant intellectual debate:

ACHILLE MBEMBE (2009) Is Africa ready for Democracy?		ZANELE MUHOLI (2014) Exploring Born Frees through Visual Activism.	
MAHMOUD MAMDANI (2010) Lessons of Nuremberg and CODESA: Where do we go from here?		ALCINDA HONWANA (2015) Youth Protests and Political Change in Africa.	
ALI MAZRUI (2011) Pro-democracy Uprisings in Africa's Experience: From Sharpeville to Benghazi.		LILIAN LEM ATANGA (2017) Gender, Discourse and Cognition, and Implications on Political Participation.	
NGUGI WA THIONG'O (2012) The Blackness of Black: Africa in the World today.		PAUL TIYAMBE ZEZEZA (2017) The Decolonization of Knowledge in the African Academy.	
TAKYIWA MANUH (2014) Gendered Violence and Women's Citizenship in Africa.		FRANCIS NYAMNJOH (2019) Ubuntu-ism and Africa: Reconciling Opportunity and Opportunism.	



SHAPING AFRICA'S NEW INTELLECTUALS

Our dynamic programmes inhabit interdisciplinary knowledge spaces where students critically engage with diverse themes.



PROGRAMME FOR GENDER STUDIES

- BAHons (Gender Studies)
- Structured MA (Gender Studies)
- MA (Gender Studies) by dissertation

Programme Director:
Dr Nadine Lake
lakenc@ufs.ac.za
+27(0)51 401 3813

Focus Areas:

- Feminist theories
- Key interfaces: Tradition, Citizenship, Culture, Decolonisation, Jurisprudence, Religion, Development, Security, Environment, Sexuality, History

PROGRAMME FOR AFRICA STUDIES

- BAHons (Africa Studies)
- MPhil (Africa Studies) by dissertation
- Structured MPhil (Africa Studies)
- PhD (Africa Studies)

Programme Director:
Dr Munyaradzi Mushongam
mushongam@ufs.ac.za
+27(0)51 401 2327

- Peace and conflict
- Historical perspectives
- Heritage and IKS
- Resources and environment
- Development dynamics
- Decoloniality and postcolonial theory
- Political dynamics

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 1 DECEMBER 2020

CGAS ACADEMIC ENQUIRIES:
Director: Dr Stephanie Cawood (cawoods@ufs.ac.za)
Academic Programme Coordinator: Ms Ankie Bradfield
E-mail: bradfelda@ufs.ac.za / cgas@ufs.ac.za
Tel: +27(0)51 401 9609
Web: <https://www.ufs.ac.za/humanities/departments-and-divisions/centre-for-gender-and-africa-studies-home>