



POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS 2026

MASTER'S: R175 000 p.a.
PHD: R200 000 p.a.

Requirements:

Master's:

Should have completed or be in the final year of a relevant undergraduate degree (e.g. BEng, BSc) and have a solid mathematical background.

PhD:

Should be in possession of, or have met the requirements for a Master's degree in a relevant field (e.g. Computer and Electronic Engineering, Computer Science).

Closing date:

15 August 2025

apply

What you will study

We are MUST Deep Learning, a machine learning research group at the Faculty of Engineering. We focus on deep learning, one of the key technologies driving current innovation in AI. We perform research to understand and improve deep learning tools and apply deep learning in selected domains with external partners. 2026 student projects will study the interpretability of deep time series models and their many applications, ranging from space weather prediction to assistive device control. A well-aligned candidate could also engage in our other core research topic: investigating the fundamental principles of generalization in deep neural networks



NITheCS
National Institute for
Theoretical and Computational Sciences

cair
CENTRE FOR ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH

MUST
DEEP LEARNING

sansa
SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL
SPACE AGENCY



A history of excellence

MUST hosts the SARChI Chair in Deep Learning and is the official deep learning node of the South African National Center for Artificial Intelligence Research (CAIR). MUST spearheads multiple machine learning work packages at the National Institute for Theoretical and Computational Sciences (NITheCS) and collaborates with other institutions on specific topics. MUST currently has a 100% M success rate and we have a history of producing student medal winners.

More than a degree

MUST students are often sponsored to attend conferences to present their work. Senior students may travel to international conferences. Research is conducted side-by-side with more senior researchers offering constructive mentorship. Students can opt to participate in system development projects providing hands-on experience. Students learn various skills essential to succeed in a professional work environment.



How we work

MUST is a distributed research group: we have student labs in Potchefstroom, a satellite research lab in Hermanus, and we collaborate with students and co-researchers spread across South Africa and abroad. The postgraduate programme is a full-time one. A limited number of part-time positions are available for outstanding candidates who are unable to participate in full-time studies.