



# PhD Programmes at Strathmore University



**Strathmore**  
UNIVERSITY



## RATIONALE FOR DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

As the highest academic qualifications, doctoral programmes are designed to train and prepare researchers for employment in academia, as well as non-research industries, including government and the private sector. Our PhD programmes:

- i. Enhance knowledge at the most advanced frontier of the discipline or field of study;
- ii. Provide the learner with the most advanced and specialized skills and techniques required to:
  - Solve critical problems in research and/or innovation; and
  - Extend and redefine existing knowledge.
- iii. Entail demonstration of substantial authority, innovation, autonomy, scholarly and professional integrity and sustained commitment to the development of new ideas or processes at the forefront of a discipline or field of study.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS AT STRATHMORE UNIVERSITY

The programme provides opportunities for our students to do the following:

- i. Build up a network of peers, informal mentors and colleagues
- ii. Practice and develop presentation skills
- iii. Get opportunities to be known via conferences
- iv. Involve them in organising academic conferences and seminars
- v. Get involved with academic associations and journals
- vi. Co-teach in available programs.
- vii. Participate in writing research grant proposals

## TYPE OF DOCTORAL DEGREE

All doctoral level programmes offered at the university are classified as *Doctor of Philosophy* degrees programmes as opposed to a *Professional Doctoral* degree. The distinction is because the Doctor of Philosophy degree programme focuses on producing scientist practitioners who are mainly engaged in generating knowledge through research and teaching.

## GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- (a) The following shall be eligible for admission into Doctor of Philosophy degree programmes at Strathmore University:
  - (i) Holders of a Master's degree from Strathmore University.
  - (ii) Holders of a Master's degree or equivalent academic qualifications of another accredited institution recognized by the Academic Council of Strathmore University.
- (b) An applicant for PhD studies shall normally have a Bachelor's degree in the relevant field, in addition to a Master's degree.
- (c) In addition to meeting the above admission criteria, applicants shall be required to attend an oral interview consisting of a panel of about three interviewers. At the interview, the applicant will be required to make a presentation of his/her research portfolio on the chosen subject area of interest so as to show evidence to the satisfaction of the Academic Council of his/her capacity to carry out original research.
- (d) In addition, applicants shall meet specific School/Institute requirements for particular degree programmes.

## GENERAL STRUCTURE OF PHD PROGRAMMES

The PhD programmes are scheduled to take a minimum of three academic years and a maximum of six academic years delivered through either coursework, research and thesis or through research and thesis.

### 1. PhD by Research and Thesis

- (a) The structure of a doctoral degree programme constitutes research and thesis.
- (b) The student will be required to defend a research proposal. After successfully defending the proposal, the student is registered as a doctoral candidate.
- (c) Thesis in addition to three papers published/ accepted for publication in credible journals

### 2. PhD by Coursework, Research and Thesis

- (a) The structure of a doctoral degree programme constitutes coursework, research and thesis.
- (b) The student will be required to complete and pass the taught courses before proceeding to defend a research proposal. After successfully defending the proposal, the student is registered as a doctoral candidate.
- (c) The programme coursework is often delivered via face-to-face sessions, tutorials and assignments.
- (d) Three papers published/ accepted for publication in credible journals.

# Current PhD Programmes Offered at Strathmore University

## Strathmore University Business School (SBS)

### PhD in Business and Management

The programme curriculum comprises of six core courses and one specialization course over a period of one year followed by two years of a research thesis. The programme is designed to produce scholars and practitioners of management theory and practice who will anchor sustainable and ethical socio-economic development in the continent and beyond.

In addition to the core courses, each PhD student will be able to specialize in one of the seven areas of specialization. These courses are intended to focus the student on a particular research paradigm and as preparation for the doctoral thesis and subsequent professional career.

- Strategic Management Research
- Entrepreneurship Research
- Organizational Behaviour and Human Talent Research
- Finance Research
- Accounting Research
- Marketing Research
- Operations Management, Logistics and Supply Chain Research

More details on the programme can be accessed through this link:

<https://sbs.strathmore.edu/academic-programs/doctoral-programs/phdbm/>

### PhD in Healthcare Management (PhD-HCM)

The programme aims to equip health systems managers with skills for leading, managing and doing research and analyses on various facets and challenges that confront healthcare organizations. The program targets healthcare professionals and persons interested in the healthcare industry broadly, including hospital and clinic managers working for different types of organizations, and professionals in other sectors that include insurance, pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries.

The programme has a total course loading of six (6) compulsory course units undertaken in the first year of study. These may be complemented by elective courses based on individual candidate requirements and focus areas. The course is taught in a modular format, with students reporting for the face-to-face classes for two weeks every eight to ten weeks. Passing of the taught courses is compulsory for upgrading from PhD studentship to PhD candidature at the end of the first year. The degree is awarded based on the completion a PhD research process, which entails completion PhD thesis, oral defense, and publication of at least three articles in peer-reviewed journals.

More details on the programme can be accessed through this link:

<https://sbs.strathmore.edu/phd-in-health-care-management/>

## Strathmore School of Computing and Engineering Sciences (SCES)

### PhD in Computer Science

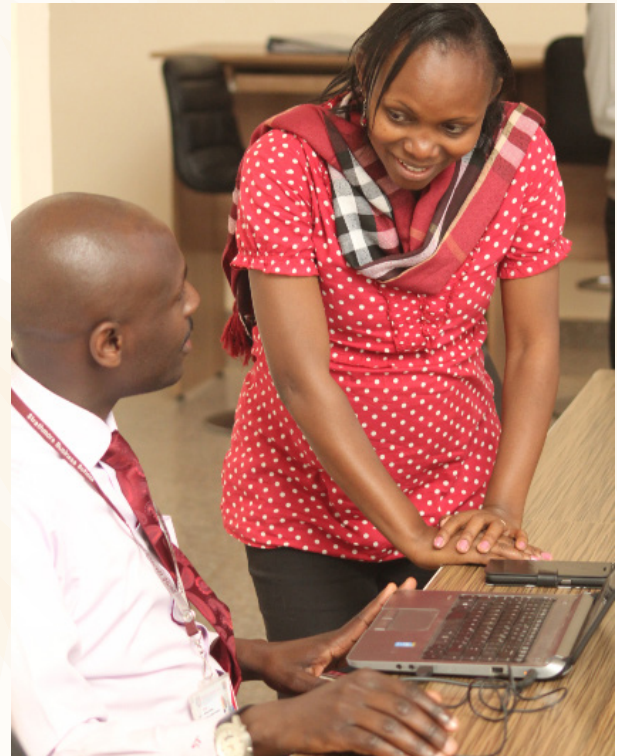
The Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science programme is designed to develop Computer Science leaders as vigorous professionals of a sustainable, ethical, social economic development of society. The PhD in Computer Science students will acquire research capability to advance theory, knowledge and skills required in the society in relation to Computer Science. The Students in this program will additionally be required to learn through interaction with the industry experts how to see the world from a real-life computing setup so as to achieve enterprise-level solutions that enable an organization's business processes to function

This PhD programme therefore targets the middle and senior level professionals in the field of computing who aim at sharpening their skills and knowledge towards becoming world-class professionals in research and managerial positions. It equips the individuals with skills and knowledge for purposes of addressing current societal challenges. By offering the course, the demand for experts in the growing field of computing can be adequately addressed.

A candidate for the PhD in Computer Science degree will be required to complete all the prescribed coursework, and practical assignments for each of the course Units. A student qualifies to submit a written thesis proposal only after successfully passing all the taught course units and if they the student has at most only once before submitted a thesis proposal. The award of the PhD degree in Computer Science will be based on the assessment of the candidate's passing a total of seven (7) taught courses, the Thesis and publications.

Specializations include:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Systems Security
- Software Engineering
- Mobile Computing and Networkin



## Strathmore Institute of Mathematical Sciences (SIMS)

### PhD in Mathematical Sciences

The PhD in Mathematical Sciences is by Research and Thesis. The student is able from the onset to specialize in the area of mathematics where the research interest is focusing.

Specializations include:

- Pure Mathematics
- Applied Mathematics
- Statistics
- Biomathematics
- Biostatistics
- Mathematical Finance
- Economics

<https://sims.strathmore.edu/academics/doctorate-programs/phd-in-mathematical-sciences/>

## School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS)

### PhD in Applied Ethics

Strathmore University Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Ethics is designed to produce 'thought leaders' of ethical theories and practices who view individuals and organizations as upright ethical agents who positively influence a sustainable, ethical, social-economic development of society. The graduates of the Programme will have the capability to advance theory, knowledge, and skills applicable to applied ethics in research, science, medicine, military, management, and other social sciences in general.

The programme is structured on modular, full-time, part-time or a combination thereof. The modular delivery mode has specific weeks where the students are full time on campus, the part-time mode requires attending regular evening classes each semester, and full-time mode requires attending classes during the morning and afternoon. Modular and part-time students' maximum duration of the course is 8 years, while full-time is 6 years.

The Programme content will be delivered via face-to-face sessions, video-conferencing sessions, tutorials, and research assignments. The course session will focus on discussion and presentations based on the pre-provided material.

The thesis supervision is done via face-to-face and video-conferencing meetings between the students and the appointed supervisors. Such meetings are supplemented, where appropriate, with attendance to specialized doctoral seminars, workshops, and conferences.

## Strathmore Law School (SLS)

### PhD in Law

The PhD in Law Programme constitutes both coursework and research thesis. The coursework will be delivered through face-to-face sessions, video-conferences, workshops, tutorials and assignments. Upon completion of the coursework, the students embark on their PhD thesis.

The following are the minimum university entrance requirements:

- An LLB degree and LLM degree from SU, or
- An LLB degree and LLM degree or equivalent academic qualifications from another institution recognised by the Academic Council of Strathmore University (Academic Council), or
- Other qualifications approved to be equivalent to (i) or (ii) above by the Academic Council.
- Proficiency in both oral and written English.

SLS has established research centres in thematic areas like intellectual property law, extractives, international criminal law, tax, and commercial law, which will benefit immensely from research outputs by PhD in Law students.





**Strathmore**  
UNIVERSITY

For further information & enquiries,

Please contact us:

P.O. Box 59857 - 00200

Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 703-034258/397

Email: [graduatestudies@strathmore.edu](mailto:graduatestudies@strathmore.edu)

Website: [www.strathmore.edu](http://www.strathmore.edu)