

## Simbarashe MW Mawere

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### Work Experience

#### **Assistant Lecturer** | University of Cape Town, February 2025 - June 2025

Taught and administered content for the CSC2001F course's Unix section.

#### **Research Assistant** | University of Cape Town, November 2024

I worked on data gathering, model creation and training, and evaluation of a South African large language model under the supervision of Dr. Jan Buys.

#### **Full-Stack Web Development/Software Engineering Intern** | Guud Drivers, November 2023 - January 2024

I designed and made a prototype web system/interface for drivers' healthcare provision with a team of six interns functioning as a Django framework expert.

#### **Software Engineering Intern** | SprintHive, June 2022 - August 2022

I was a secondary backend engineer in creating an application for tagging bank transactions.

#### **Academic Tutor and Invigilator** | University of Cape Town, February 2022 - November 2024

I have been tutoring UCT students in computer science and statistics. I have taken on a variety of duties, such as scheduling tutorials, preparing course work, and liaising between students and lecturers. Responsibilities over the years have increased and now include invigilating and schedule management.

#### **Academic Tutor** | TeachMe2, February 2022 - Present

I tutor students from primary school to university level in different subjects, mainly english, mathematics, computer science, and statistics. Tutoring improved my confidence in my people and time management skills. It also serves to share my knowledge with others.

#### **Newspaper Section Editor** | UCT Varsity Newspaper

February 2021 - November 2021

Coordinated the entirety of the Arts and Culture section of the newspaper, which included talking to the writers and managing release deadlines. Also met with other section editors weekly to discuss the production of the newspaper.

### Education, Leadership, and Extracurriculars

#### **Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Computer Engineering (B.Sc. Hons.)**

University of Cape Town (UCT), Cape Town, South Africa (March 2021 - November 2024)

Graduated: March 2024 (with distinction) currently pursuing an Honours degree

- Golden Key Member since 2021
- Hike Leader in the Mountain and Ski Club

#### **International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IB DP)**

Harare International School (HIS), Harare, Zimbabwe (April 2018 - June 2020)

- Valedictorian and Top in Zimbabwe IB DP with 41/45 points
- US President's Award for Educational Excellence recipient in Grades 10 to 12
- Volleyball Captain, Theatre Lead Actor, 2nd trumpet in orchestra, and peer tutor

#### **ZIMSEC Ordinary Level**

St. Ignatius College (SIC), Chishawasha, Zimbabwe (January 2014 - March 2018)

- Top Student with 13 As and 1B
- Lead Sacristan and Altar Server for the school chapel
- 1st Team Debate Speaker, 1st Team Swimmer, 1st Team Hockey Player, French Club Captain, Digital Exchange Program Chair, and AutoCAD Team Captain

## Skills

1. Programming: Strong understanding of software development, advanced algorithms and natural language processing in multiple languages like Java, Python, and C++.
2. Interpersonal Communication and Leadership: Worked in a variety of teams with different types of people serving as the main communicator and project lead.
3. Instruction and Teaching: Worked as a tutor for 4 years (and counting).
4. Languages: Native Shona and English, and communicable French.

## Research, Prizes, and Scholarships

1. **Honours Research Project on Using Deep Learning to Morphologically Parse Nguni Languages** (supervised by Francois Meyer, UCT, 2024).
2. **Rhodes Scholarship Finalist** (2024)
3. **Undergraduate Research on [Using Hard Attention for the Canonical Segmentation of Nguni Languages](#)** (supervised by Dr. Jan Buys, UCT, 2022).
4. Recipient of **Science Faculty Scholarship** and **Twamley December Scholarship** (UCT, 2022).
5. Recipient of the **Physics Department Class Medal** (UCT, 2022)
6. **UCT Plus Gold Award for Leadership** (UCT, 2022)
7. **Computer Science Department (Top 5%) Excellence Award** (UCT, 2022 - 2023).
8. **Dean's Merit List** (UCT, 2021-2023)
9. Recipient of **Academic Merit Scholarship** (HIS, 2018)
10. Finalist (interview level) for **UWC Merit Scholarship** (2018)
11. Recipient of the **President's Award for Educational Excellence** (HIS, 2018-2020)
12. Receipt of the **Gwede Arts Prize** (SIC, 2017)
13. Recipient of **the National Institute of Allied Arts Form 3 Poetry Award** (Zim, 2016)

## Volunteering and Leadership

1. Liturgical Officer for 2 years at the Kolbe House University Chaplaincy (2021 - 2023)
2. Fire Marshall at Kolbe House Residence (2024)
3. Student Peer Mentor at Kolbe House Residence and Chaplaincy (2021 - 2023)
4. Science Faculty Mentor at UCT (2022)
5. Class Representative for 8 courses at UCT (2021 - 2024)
6. Student Peer Tutor at HIS (2019 - 2020)
7. Weekly Volunteer at Richartz House Retirement Home (2017)
8. Hike Leader for UCT MSC (2023 - 2024)

## Passions and Activities

1. Hiking (UCT Mountain and Ski Club)
2. Ultimate Frisbee (weekly social player)
3. Music (exploring music statistics and listening to it) and playing the trumpet.
4. Learning (I audit courses from various faculties at UCT and on EdX)
5. Poetry writing and photography ([@simbaswords\\_Instagram](#))
6. Fantasy fandoms like Star Wars and Game of Thrones

7. Amateur blogger and reviewer ([blog](#))