



School of Modern Languages & Cultures
University of Durham
Elvet Riverside
Durham DH1 3JT
UK

December 2011

For the attention of the Head of the department responsible for informing students and alumni of the availability of opportunities and financial aid for postgraduate study overseas.

Studentship for postgraduate studies in England: the Ruth First Scholarship

Please find enclosed a poster advertising the studentship offered by this Trust to enable a graduate from southern Africa to take a one-year taught Master's course at Durham University in our 2012-2013 academic year.

We would be grateful if copies of this announcement could be displayed as widely as possible in your University where they will come to the attention of potential applicants. Please photocopy it as necessary.

We also enclose further information for applicants, together with an application form. We would be grateful if the application form and further particulars could be photocopied and distributed to potential applicants. Details of the courses available at Durham are available online on the University's website:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught/>

The application form and further details are also available online at:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/ruthfirst.trust>

Please include a link to this web address in any online directory of postgraduate opportunities maintained by your University, and circulate it to students and alumni.

Many thanks for your help.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'M.P. Thompson'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Dr Michael Thompson
Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Ruth First Educational Trust

Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies

The Trust invites applications for one scholarship covering tuition fees, return air fare, accommodation and living costs for 12 months (October 2012 to September 2013) to enable a graduate from southern Africa to study for a

Taught Master's Degree at Durham University, England

An application form and further details have been sent to your University. These may be photocopied for use by candidates. The application form and further information can also be downloaded from the Trust's website:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/ruthfirst.trust>

Completed forms and references should be returned by

1 March 2012 to:

Dr Michael Thompson School of Modern Languages & Cultures University of Durham Durham DH1 3JT UK	e-mail: ruthfirst.trust@durham.ac.uk Tel: +44 191 334 3436 Fax: +44 191 334 3421
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The Ruth First Educational Trust was established to enable members of historically disadvantaged communities in South Africa to study at the University of Durham. A fund for this purpose has existed since the 1960s, and in 1982 it was renamed in memory of Ruth First, who taught at the University during her exile from South Africa until she was assassinated in Mozambique. The fund is financed by donations from students, staff, other supporters in Durham, trade unions and Durham County Council. After 1994, the focus shifted to the funding of postgraduate study, and since 2007 the geographical scope has been extended to accept applications from other countries in southern Africa as well as the Republic of South Africa (Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola, Zambia and Malawi).



Chairman: Dr Mike Thompson, School of Modern Languages & Cultures, University of Durham,
Durham DH1 3JT, UK.

Fax: +44 191 334 3421

E-mail (for enquiries): m.p.thompson@durham.ac.uk

E-mail address *for applications*: ruthfirst.trust@durham.ac.uk

Ruth First Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies at Durham Information for Applicants

The Trust plans to offer, in the academic year **2012-13**, a scholarship to support a student from southern Africa taking a one-year taught course leading to the award of a Master's degree at the University of Durham.

Eligibility

You should:

- (a) hold a relevant honours degree of sufficient standard to be admitted to your chosen Master's course (further conditions apply to the MBA programme), and
- (b) not hold a Master's degree, nor have previously studied at a university outside southern Africa, and
- (c) show evidence of active involvement in and commitment to voluntary work for the benefit of causes such as rural or urban community development; young people or educational projects; charitable organizations; health or AIDS awareness projects; student welfare or guidance. If you have a paid job that involves working in such areas, you should show evidence of leadership and commitment beyond the requirements of the job.

English language requirements for international students coming to study in the UK were tightened in 2011. The person selected for the Ruth First Scholarship will need to provide evidence of possessing a qualification in English language that meets the minimum requirement for the programme applied for. The general minimum set by the UK Government is Level B2 in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. Requirements for particular programmes at Durham are listed online at: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/1.3.2/1.3.2.2/>. If you already have a suitable qualification (such as Cambridge English, IELTS, TOEFL or Pearson Test of Academic English), send a scan of the certificate with your application. If you haven't, don't do anything about it now: we'll sort this out with the successful applicant.

If you are employed, or receiving a grant or sponsorship, you must be able to provide written evidence that an agreement has been made with your employer or sponsor approving your absence for the period of the Scholarship and confirming any arrangements for continued payment of salary or sponsorship.

The Trust aims to award the Scholarship to individuals who not only have the academic and personal qualities to enable them to complete and benefit from a postgraduate course, but who will also act as positive ambassadors for their home countries in Durham and put their enhanced knowledge and skills to good use for the benefit of the societies to which they return.

Value

The University, with the agreement of the Department concerned, will award a tuition fee scholarship covering the full fees for the programme chosen. Through a Gift Agreement between the Trust and the University, the Scholar will receive a monthly allowance to cover living and incidental expenses for 12 months, as well as free accommodation and meals at St Chad's College (the cost of which is shared between the Trust and the College). In 2011-12 the allowance is £500 per month and the value of the full-board accommodation is approximately £430 per month.

The Scholar will also receive a settling-in allowance on arrival and a contribution to the cost of sending belongings home before departure if necessary. The Trust will pay for one return air ticket from the home country to the UK and the cost of return travel between the UK airport and Durham City. The Trust cannot provide additional support for dependants, nor for travel during the period of the Scholarship.

The Scholar is required to attend all taught components of the chosen course and complete all assignments prescribed, including a dissertation. The normal starting date for most Masters programmes is the beginning of October.

How to apply

Application forms (5 pages plus 2 reference forms) have been sent to universities in southern Africa, and may be photocopied as required. We prefer to receive applications in word-processed form: please download the application form (as a Word document) from the Trust's website:

www.dur.ac.uk/ruthfirst.trust/apply.htm

The application and references may be submitted by fax or as e-mail attachments. Originals of academic results transcripts should be sent by post or scanned and sent as e-mail attachments. Completed applications should be sent to Dr Mike Thompson at the address at the top of this page by **1 March 2012**.

Available courses are listed on the University's website:

www.dur.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught

NB Do not submit a formal application to Durham University in the hope of winning the Ruth First Scholarship. There are likely to be at least 60 applicants for the Scholarship and there is only one award. The successful candidate will complete the University application process once the Trust has made its selection and consulted the Department concerned.

Enquiries about applications may be sent to m.p.thompson@durham.ac.uk. The outcome of the selection process will not be known before the end of May.

Further details of particular programmes and general information about postgraduate study at Durham can be found on the University's website: www.dur.ac.uk/study/postgraduate. There are also pages providing information for prospective international students: www.dur.ac.uk/international/prospectivestudents. Official visa information is available on the UK Border Agency's website: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/studying/adult-students.

Further information for applicants

Further information about the Ruth First Educational Trust, the University and the City of Durham can be found on the Trust's website:

www.dur.ac.uk/ruthfirst.trust/apply.htm

The Ruth First Educational Trust is a Registered UK Charity, Number 1019975
Trustees: Mrs Barbara Ewin, Dr Cheryl McEwan, Mrs Lotte Shankland, Dr Mike Thompson, Mr John Tierney.

Ruth First Educational Trust

— Studentship Application Form for 2012-13 —

Applications should be returned to Dr Mike Thompson, Ruth First Educational Trust, School of Modern Languages & Cultures, University of Durham, Durham DH1 3JT, UK (fax +44 191 334 3421) (e-mail: ruthfirst.trust@durham.ac.uk) by 1 March 2012.

If you have downloaded this form online, please type into the boxes. If filling in the form by hand, please write clearly in black, using capitals for the details on the first page. Do not send additional CVs or statements: all relevant information about your qualifications and experience should be included on this form.

Family name		First name(s)	
Date of birth		Place of birth	
Nationality		Country of residence	

Address	
Telephone	
E-mail	

Course you wish to take at Durham University (see the list of taught Master's courses at <http://www.dur.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/programmes>; please specify the exact title of the course)

1 st choice	
2 nd choice	

Secondary school education

Name and location of School	Dates	Summary of examination results

University education (please send **official transcripts** showing courses taken and marks obtained; if you have not yet completed your studies, please give the planned completion date)

Name and location of University	Dates	Degree obtained

Please give brief details of how your university education was financed (scholarships, employment, parental support, etc.).

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Potential financial support

Please give details of any other sources of funding to which you might have access to support your studies at Durham (parental support, savings, employment, other scholarships/bursaries etc.).

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English language qualifications

List any English language qualifications held or expected, and specify the extent to which your secondary and university education has been carried out in English. Please note that regulations introduced by the UK Government in 2011 mean that the University is required to ensure that international applicants accepted for study in the UK are competent in English language at a minimum level of B2 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) for speaking, listening, reading and writing. Even if you are from a country in which education is carried out in English, you will need to provide evidence of a specific qualification that meets this requirement. If you already have a suitable qualification (such as Cambridge English, IELTS, TOEFL or Pearson Test of Academic English), send a scan of the certificate with your application. If you haven't, don't do anything about it now: we'll sort this out with the successful applicant.

Name of test and date taken		Scores (for speaking, listening, reading and writing)	
Extent to which secondary and university education carried out in English			

Employment experience (including significant periods of vacation work)

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Type of work, the nature of your role</i>

Contributions to student life at university (including active participation in university or student committees, representative posts held, involvement in community action programmes, leadership of sports teams, etc.)

Contributions to the community outside university (especially voluntary work for community groups, charities, health or educational projects, campaigning organizations, etc.) Please specify the nature of each activity, its impact, and the degree of responsibility and leadership that you have undertaken. If you have (or have had) a paid job that involves working in such areas, explain how you have shown initiative, leadership and commitment beyond the requirements of the job.

Reasons for applying to take this Master's course at Durham (How will it build on your previous study/experience and develop your leadership capacity? How do you envisage putting enhanced skills and knowledge to good use on your return to your home country?) Try to be as specific and realistic as possible in describing your aims and plans for employment, voluntary work or further study.

Other information in support of your application (especially your suitability for graduate study and for the role of ambassador abroad for your country). If you did not have sufficient space on page 3, say more here about the relevance of the course you wish to take at Durham to your ambition for developing your capacities and making a difference in your society. If you wish to apply for the **MBA** programme, you should give further details here of your professional experience: type of business/organization, your specific job role(s), level of managerial responsibility, extent to which you have worked as part of a team and as a team leader, experience with budgets (planning & managing).

Signature (if sent in hard copy)	Date
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Referees

Give details of two persons able to supply confidential references about your suitability for this scholarship. Please give one of the reference forms to each referee. Your application cannot be considered until both references have been received.

	Academic referee (should have a good knowledge of your <u>academic</u> performance and potential)	Non-academic referee (should be familiar with your <u>community work or employment</u>)
Name		
Address		
Telephone		
E-mail		

Please make sure that we receive all of the following before the closing date:

- the completed application form (may be submitted by post, fax or e-mail)
- two references (by post, fax or e-mail)
- original transcripts of university examination results (by post or fax, or scans by e-mail)

If you have not completed your course at the time of application, please submit a transcript of results achieved so far. If further results are confirmed before the end of April, these should also be sent and may be taken into account.

The selection process will not be completed before the end of May.

Enquiries should be e-mailed to: m.p.thompson@durham.ac.uk

Ruth First Educational Trust

**Please return this reference to Dr Mike Thompson, Ruth First Educational Trust,
School of Modern Languages & Cultures, University of Durham, Durham DH1 3JT, UK
(fax +44 191 334 3421) (e-mail m.p.thompson@durham.ac.uk)**

Applicant's name	
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Academic Reference

The applicant is a candidate for a Ruth First Scholarship to enable him/her to pursue a one-year taught Master's Degree course at the University of Durham in the academic year 2012-13. The Trustees would be grateful if you could evaluate his/her **academic ability to pursue such a course**.

Please return this form, in confidence, by mail, fax or e-mail before the deadline of 1 March. If possible, type in the box below, print the form and sign it; then scan the signed form and send the scanned image by e-mail attachment. If you have difficulty using this form, a reference in the body of an e-mail (with your name, job title and institutional address at the bottom) will be acceptable. The application cannot be considered until your reference has been received.

This image shows a completely blank white page. It is surrounded by a thick black border, which appears to be the edge of a scanner or a frame. There are no markings, text, or illustrations on the page itself. A few very small, faint dark specks are visible upon close inspection, likely due to dust or scanning artifacts.

Name

Position

University

Signature if
sent in hard
copy

Date _____

Thank you for your help

Ruth First Educational Trust

**Please return this reference to Dr Mike Thompson, Ruth First Educational Trust,
School of Modern Languages & Cultures, University of Durham, Durham DH1 3JT, UK
(fax +44 191 334 3421) (e-mail m.p.thompson@durham.ac.uk)**

Applicant's name	
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Non-Academic Reference

The applicant is a candidate for a Ruth First Scholarship to enable him/her to pursue a one-year taught Master's Degree course at the University of Durham in the academic year 2012-13. The Trustees would be grateful if you could evaluate his/her suitability to hold this scholarship. We would particularly like you to comment on the applicant's record in **community/voluntary work or employment**.

Please return this form, in confidence, by mail, fax or e-mail before the deadline of 1 March. If possible, type in the box below, print the form and sign it; then scan the signed form and send the scanned image by e-mail attachment. If you have difficulty using this form, a reference in the body of an e-mail (with your name, job title and institutional address at the bottom) will be acceptable. The application cannot be considered until your reference has been received.

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Name

Position

University

Signature if
sent in hard
copy

Date _____

Thank you for your help.