

Scaling Career Heights



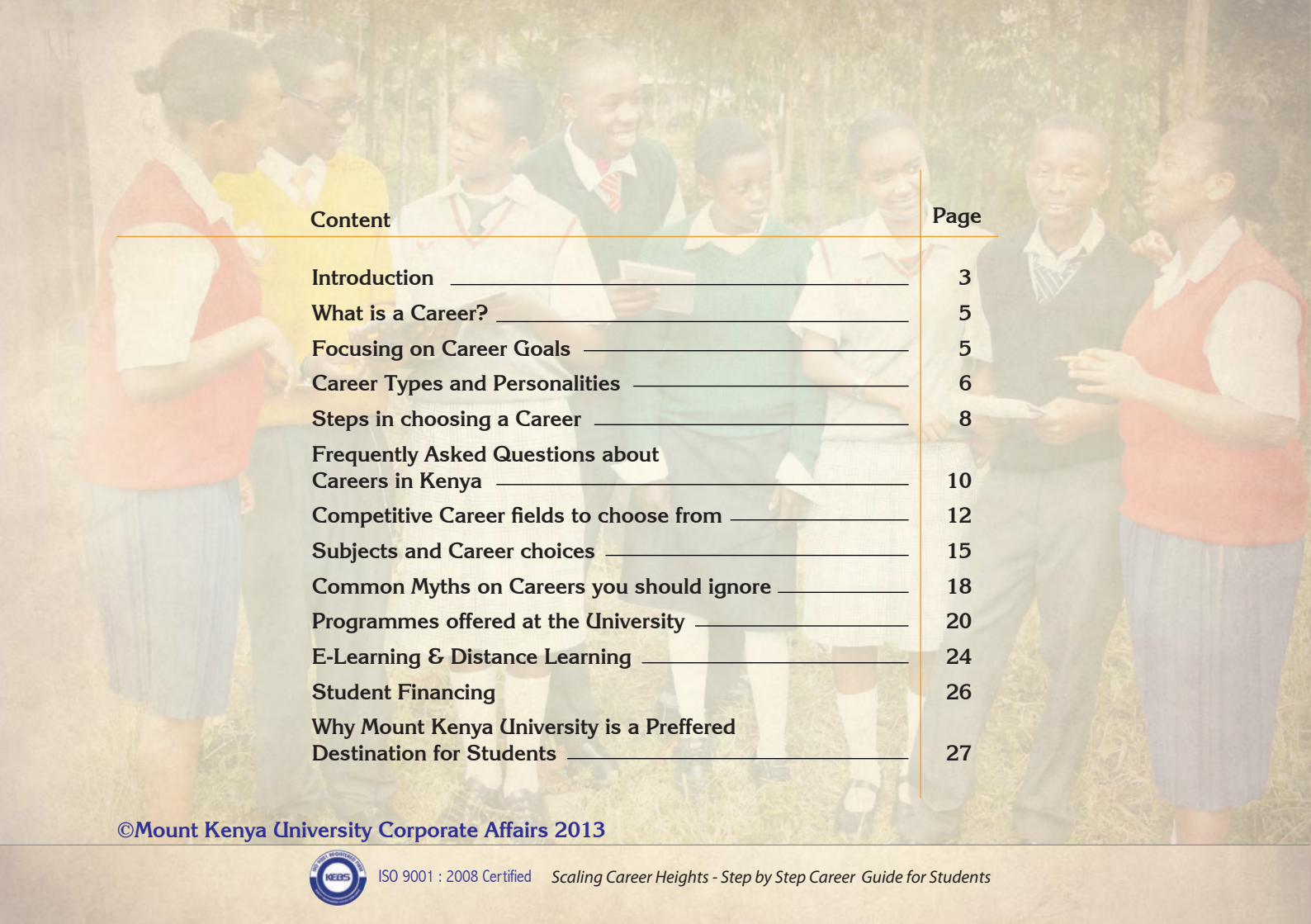
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Step By Step Career Guide For Students

A publication of Mount Kenya University Corporate Affairs Department



Content

Page

Introduction	3
What is a Career?	5
Focusing on Career Goals	5
Career Types and Personalities	6
Steps in choosing a Career	8
Frequently Asked Questions about Careers in Kenya	10
Competitive Career fields to choose from	12
Subjects and Career choices	15
Common Myths on Careers you should ignore	18
Programmes offered at the University	20
E-Learning & Distance Learning	24
Student Financing	26
Why Mount Kenya University is a Preferred Destination for Students	27

Introduction

Every year, we receive thousands of enquiries from school leavers on the various programmes they can undertake at University and tertiary institutions. Whereas a few of them seem to have reasonable knowledge on post-secondary training, there are numerous students who lack basic but critical information on the foundations of career planning and choice.

We often come across students who insist on studying for a course where they clearly lack basic foundation in academic and attitude preparation. Indeed, there are cases where students have enrolled in certain programmes but later on discover they lack interest in the particular field. The challenges and career opportunities discussed in this Guide are not only confined within Kenya and the East African universities and tertiary institutions but are also global in nature.

This easy-to-read, do-it-yourself Career Information Guide is intended to answer key questions in career planning and eventual choice. The guide will, therefore, address such crucial questions as what is a career, career types, factors that influence career choice and the various career fields to choose from. It will also sensitize the students on the subject requirements for specific career fields. From the enquiries we receive, it has also emerged that over time, some misconceptions have come to surround certain issues related to careers. It is therefore, necessary to burst these myths and give you the correct position.



On behalf of the University Council, I would like to thank the MKU Staff, the Ministry of Higher Education , Science and Technology, Ministry of Basic Education and Consultants who contributed immensely to make this career guide booklet a reality.

In conclusion, i would like to take this opportunity to wish the reader a most informed career choice and every success in all your endeavors.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stanley Waudu'.

Professor Stanley Waudu, PhD, MSc
Vice-Chancellor
Mount Kenya University

Mount Kenya



University

Mount Kenya University is a Chartered University in East Africa. The University has its main campus located in Thika Town. It has also established campuses in Mombasa, Nairobi, Nakuru, Eldoret, Nkubu (Meru), Kakamega, Kitale, Kisii, Lodwar and Kigali (Rwanda). The University has also established a Virtual Campus and ICT centres in Garissa, Malindi and Kisumu. The University is a full member of Inter University Council of East Africa (IUCEA).

Currently the University has nine (9) schools offering Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D), Masters, Bachelors, Diploma and Professional Certificate Courses.

Mount Kenya University provides a stimulating learning environment through an innovative student-based and quality driven approach to teaching and learning. We ensure that our students enjoy a rich, highly interactive and personalized learning environment which is essential in the realization of one's potential and preparation for the future.

Those who choose Mount Kenya University get access to a wide-range of courses that form a springboard to a sea of opportunities. We seek to promote a record of achievement and success in academic excellence and job prospects. To help you realize your life-time agenda, we have invested heavily in facilities and staff.

Mount Kenya University is in the forefront of using information and communication technology (ICT) to support learning and teaching. We have thus blended the use of e-learning with strong traditional learning and teaching values to give you a flexible and dynamic learning experience.

Our aim is to become a leading centre of academic excellence and a preferred destination for all those who aspire for an academically fulfilling experience. As a student of talent and ability, you will be exposed to programmes that present a sound theoretical foundation and a strong practical background.

1

What is a Career ?

A career is a job or profession that gives one an opportunity to progress in some ways that are important to a person.

In summary a career:

- Is very important to you.
- Constitutes your purpose.
- Is a process of your self-discovery, self expression and self assertion.
- Defines your lifestyle.

Your career should answer the following questions about yourself:

- Who am I?
- What am I capable of doing?
- What do I want to become?

A career involves transforming your dreams and wishes into achievements and believing in yourself and your unique talents and characteristics. It also means turning your aspirations into achievements and believing that you can become anything you aspire to be.

Why do you need a career ?

You need a career to:

- Earn a living
- Fulfill a demand for skilled labour
- Enhance your skills
- Propagate your knowledge and skills
- Create wealth

- Keep fit and healthy
- Make personal contribution to society
- Fulfill your purpose in life

2

Focusing on Career Goals

Unlike the hyena, the lion is a super predator. It often selects its prey from a herd. It does not necessarily choose the weakest animal. Once it has locked its vision on one animal, it gives a chase to the very end. It does not change its mind even if it by-passes a slower animal. This is how focused people chase their dream careers by shutting out all distractions. So, how do you chase your dream?

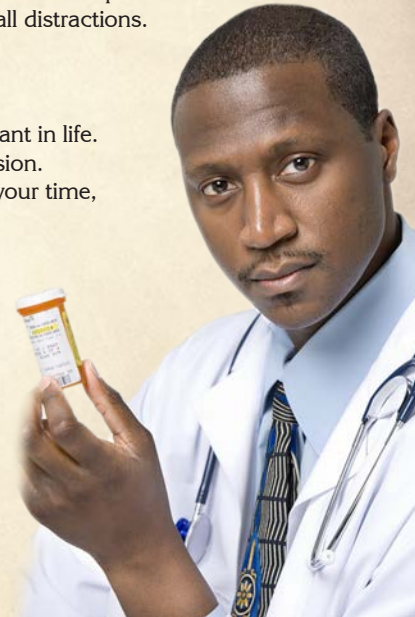
Have a specific goal

People who succeed know exactly what they want in life. They do not entertain any distraction or confusion. A specific goal ensures that you do not waste your time, efforts and resources.

Visualize your goals

Create a mental picture of what you want to be. That which can be easily visualized, can be easily actualized. In your vision, address the following questions:

- Whom will I be 10 years from now?
- Where will I be?
- Who will be with me?
- Where will I be living?
- Where will I be going for holidays?
- What type of a car will I be driving?
- How much will I be earning?



When you talk about your goals, they begin to take a vivid shape. Be cautious of pessimists who will always reduce the size of your goals and show you problems in every situation. Seek guidance from your parents, teachers, sponsors, mentors and professionals. There is no short cut to hard work. It is not enough to dream and do nothing. You must wake up and work out your dreams.

Be Determined

Determination is the source of momentum in your studies. You can only overcome challenges and obstacles in your career path with determination.

Nobody ever became a champion without

obstacles. Some people give up easily when faced with obstacles. Success is judged by how you finish and not how you start.

Value yourself

This is your sense of personal worth. Be convinced of your ability to achieve your career goals. People with low self esteem don't set high goals. Your self esteem is the source of motivation and confidence that are necessary for you to achieve your career dreams. God created you for a purpose. Build certain values around yourself such as diligence and hard work.

Have a good mentor

Mentors are people who have succeeded in the field you want to pursue. If you admire good mentors, they will influence you positively towards your goals. Mentors are a source of inspiration. By sharing with your mentors, it becomes easy to know the challenges and opportunities in your chosen career.

Think positively

If you think positively about your career path you will attract positive results. Think big. Avoid prophets of doom who thrive in discouraging others.

3

Career Types and Personalities

You may have realized that certain people never fit in certain jobs no matter how qualified or hard they work. For example, some people find it difficult to sit down in offices the whole day. They are at their best and happiest working outdoors with their hands. This is because we all have different



High school students during a career visit at MKU

traits which determine whom we actually are. There are six broad career types in which different people fit. These are the realistic, investigative, artistic, social careers, enterprising and conventional careers.

Realistic careers

These are the skills and technical-oriented jobs. Work here involves tangible and practical skills where people work with tools, machines, plants and animals. The people in these jobs are highly practical and physically strong. They often enjoy dealing with things rather than people. They are good in technical subjects such as:

Agriculture, Metalwork, Woodwork, Homescience, Technical Drawing, Drawing and Design among others.

They excel in:

- All kinds of engineering such as electrical mechanical and Agricultural engineering
- Wildlife management
- Wood science and technology
- Armed forces and related careers

Investigative careers

The professionals here are scientific and laboratory-oriented. They have a high curiosity, intellectual input and empirical approach to issues. Their work involves analyzing facts, solving puzzles, dealing with charts, numbers, formulae, graphs and data processing. These people enjoy observing, studying, analyzing, interpreting and solving complex challenges. They do well in leadership positions, social gatherings and activities.

They are good in:

- Mathematics and the sciences
- Business studies

They excel in:

- Medicine
- Architecture
- Microbiology and related courses
- Criminal investigations
- Accounting, statistical analysis, money, financial and related fields
- Veterinary, zoology and related fields
- Computer science and information communication technology

Artistic careers

Those who excel in these careers are arts-oriented, creative, expressive and aesthetically conscious. Their jobs

involve a lot of imagination. Consequently, those who excel here are highly original, emotional, nonconforming, unconventional, independent, idealist and introspective. They take risks and like producing distinct products.

They are good in:

- Languages
- Literature
- Drawing and design
- Music

They excel in:

- Drama and theatre arts
- Graphic designing
- Literary studies
- Writing, painting and poetry
- Acting
- Home decorating, fabric designing
- Photography, singing, drawing cartoons

Social careers

These involve working with people. Those who excel here have an inner urge for helping others. They like training, informing, enlightening, arbitrating and organizing other people. They are sociable, friendly, understanding, empathetic, generous, helpful, cooperative, responsible and

hard Working. Often, they are sober, welfare - minded and articulate.

They are good in:

- Languages
- Literature
- Humanities

They can also be good in the sciences if they put more interest and effort in them.

They excel in:

- Administration
- Education
- Law
- Theology
- Journalism and mass communication
- Human and public relations
- Political science and related fields
- Counseling

Enterprising careers

These careers involve influencing and persuading other people. There is a lot of goal and profit orientation in these jobs. Those who excel are enterprising, ambitious, talkative, argumentative and domineering people. They are also energetic, self confident, optimistic, sociable, competitive, impulsive and persuasive. They enjoy chairing meet-

ings and committees. Often they run for elected offices, head important functions and motivate others.

They are good in:

- Mathematics
- Business studies
- Science

They excel in:

- Business management
- Sales and marketing
- Hotel management
- Politics
- Industrial consultancy and related fields

Conventional careers

The careers here involve highly orderly, routine and practical jobs. Often, there are some inflexible activities. Those who excel have a common denominator of being obedient, practical, calm and orderly. They are also efficient and conforming.

They are good in:

- Business studies
- Computer and office practice
- Home science
- Sciences

They excel in:

- Accounting
- Bookkeeping
- Auditing
- Statistics
- Inventory control
- Store keeping
- Secretarial
- Office management and
- Computer operations

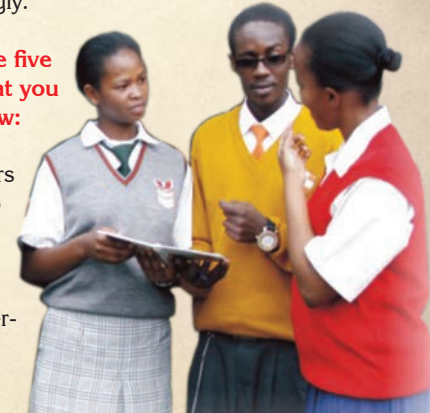
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Steps in Choosing a Career...

To make a good career choice, start with yourself. You need to consider your interests, abilities, preferences and then plan your career choices accordingly.

There are five steps that you can follow:

Identify careers related to your interests, abilities and preferences
Planning



your career depends on the quality of career information available to you. As you begin to explore your career options, consider the following resources and strategies:

- Ask the librarian or the school career office about books and pamphlets on careers.
- Join a club that undertakes activities in the line of what you want to be. For example, wildlife club can be a good entry into agricultural and environmental sciences.
- Visit a place where people do the kind of work you are interested in.
- Use the Internet to research for fields of your interest.
- Try out a hobby or volunteer to work in areas related to the kind of careers you are interested in.
- Contact professional groups such as the Law Society of Kenya, Association of Kenyan Insurers, Architectural Association of Kenya etc for more career information.

Narrow down your choices to a few careers for further exploration

As you narrow down your list of potential careers, think of the following questions:

- What careers are likely to provide me with short-term and long-term satisfaction?

- Are there careers that seem to reflect my interests, abilities and preferences better than others?
- What is the future of the careers that I am considering?
- Am I willing to get the education background and training to get into the careers I am interested in?
- What are the positive and negative factors associated with each career that I am considering?

Get the right preparation for your career

Consider now how to get the right preparation to your dream career. Preparation includes choosing the right subjects at form three that institutions of higher education require to train you in a particular career. Some jobs require apprenticeship, vocational technical training, two-year college training or four years at university. These are in addition to the KCSE level of education.

Increasing demand for specialization

It is important to realize that some jobs are on the decline as you make your career choices. For example, clerical and other secretarial jobs are fading away fast as a result of computerization. From the traditional "specialized professions" like doctors,

and accountants, information technology and engineering, business management and consultancy are the professions in demand now.

Universal skills

Irrespective of the career you choose, there are universal skills and qualities that you need. And the earlier you develop them the better. These are:

- Computer literacy
- Presentation skills (written & oral)
- English language skills
- Basic mathematics and numeracy skills
- Intelligence
- Self confidence
- Willingness to accept responsibility
- Innovation- can you bring new ideas and suggestions?
- Inter-personal skills- can you get along with other people?
- Ability to handle conflict.
- Honesty
- Organisation
- Career ambition
- Persuasiveness

From the foregoing, your career choice is a process, not an event. It takes time and many amendments and reconsideration.

Your Career choice is an Individual choice

It is you alone who will live with your desired career and not other people. But other people can be of great help to you.

They include:

- Your teachers who can guide you and give you information.
- Your parents who can help you make up your mind and introduce you to career.
- People in the fields you desire to join.
- At times you can be wrong and your teachers and parents right.

5

Frequently Asked Questions about careers in Kenya

Question: What is the cut-off point in admission to university?

The cut-off point refers to the least points required for one to be admitted to public universities under government scholarships. The points are fixed by the public universities' Joint Admissions Board. In the last two years, the cut-off points have been 67 for boys and 65 for girls. The points, however, vary depending on the government-sponsored slots available in the specific year and the

performance in the KCSE examination for the year.

Question: Can I get university education if I don't meet the Joint Admissions Board cut-off points?

Anybody who scores grade C Plus and above qualifies to join either private or public universities under the self-sponsored programme.

Question: What is bridging?

A bridging course is a short preuniversity programme in which students uplift their cluster subjects that they did not do well in KCSE prior to joining the self-sponsored degree course. For example, the four cluster subjects for enrolling in any degree course. The minimum score in each of these four cluster subjects is C Plus. Bridging will be recommended in a subject where the score is less than C Plus.

Question: Can I ever get into university if I score less than C Plus in KCSE?

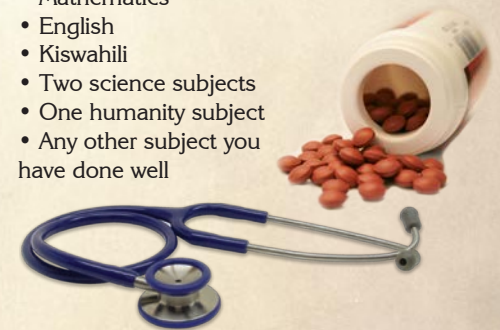
Yes, you can but you will follow a different route from those who score the minimum university entry grade. Some professionals with the highest level of university education today

started with certificate courses. They then upgraded their skills by going through diploma and degree courses. If you may have to follow this route, the only limitation in getting into a university is you.

Question: I want to be a doctor. I am good in science subjects but very poor in mathematics. Can I qualify?

You have a big task ahead of you. The cluster subjects for doing medicine are Maths / Physics, Biology and Chemistry. Other subjects are English or Kiswahili or any other that you will have performed well, but to get admitted to university in the first place you need some minimum aggregate points from the seven subjects that will be counted in your KCSE. And the counting takes into consideration the following seven subjects:

- Mathematics
- English
- Kiswahili
- Two science subjects
- One humanity subject
- Any other subject you have done well



(a second humanity or a third science or business studies or a technical subject or a foreign language).

Note that the score in Mathematics, English, Kiswahili, two science subjects and at least one humanity subject must be counted even if you score grade E in them. These are the core subjects. This is how a low score in Mathematics can harm you and deny you the raw cluster points for pursuing Medicine. Dedicate yourself whole heartedly to Mathematics and score at least a C Plus grade in it and in the other three subjects of the cluster.

Question: Which subjects are known as boosters?

These are the non-core subjects in your KCSE grading. Actually a booster is the seventh subject that is counted while the Kenya National Examinations Council is computing your mean grade. So, work hard in that booster subject for it to improve your overall mean grade.

Question: When choosing a career, am I supposed to base it on my interests or on the subjects that I do well?

You need to consider both your interests

and the subjects that you do well in your career decision. But at times your interests may be at variance with the subjects required to pursue certain courses. In such cases, you have to change your mind and go where your academic abilities lead you.

Question: I am fairly good in all subjects but the problem is that I have never been able to pinpoint what I can do. What career should I follow?

At this level of secondary school, you can think of a few careers. Make an honest soul search and write down at least four careers you think you can do. Examine each in turn by speaking with people in it, visiting the actual workplace and reading all information about the job. This way, you can narrow down your choices to one or two.

Question; Can I study Medicine with Physics and Chemistry only without Biology?

No! All careers dealing with living things, such as Medicine, forestry and fisheries require one to have studied Biology at secondary school level. In the same way, all kinds of engineering

require Physics.

Question: Can I pursue two careers at the same time in university?

Why would you need to do so? To study two careers, for example, Law and Bachelor of Commerce would be a hard and an unnecessary task.

Question: I have realised that to study history or a foreign language in university a good grade in Mathematics is always a requirement. Why is this so?

The law of demand and supply is in operation here. Scores of students qualify to join institutions of higher learning every year yet the vacancies are always few. So, the institutions have



The Chancellor Prof Victoria Wulsin chats with students in Kuria District where MKU is partnering with Soteni international in supporting girl-child education

devised methods of elimination so that they can only enroll the very best every year. It is a requirement to score highly in core KCSE subjects, which include Mathematics.

6

Competitive career fields to choose from...

There are numerous career opportunities in the various social-economic fields. Students are advised to choose a career from the field they are interested in. They should also ensure they are good in the subjects relevant to the field. To cover a wide range of careers, we have classified them into broad categories as follows;

1. Agriculture and Related Careers

These include careers related to plant and animal science. It also includes careers in crop and animal production, pest and disease control and animal science. Careers in horticulture and floriculture are also included. Examples are agribusiness management, agricultural and bio-systems engineering, agricultural business management, agricultural economics, agricultural economics and resource management and agricultural education and extension.

2. Architecture, Building and Related Careers.

These include careers in the field of building and construction. Other areas include land economics, landscaping, urban and regional planning, civil and structural engineering, construction management, landscape and architecture.

3. Beauty, Fashion and Related Careers

They include careers in fashion, textile, interior and exterior designs. It also includes careers in beauty, hairdressing and modeling. Other jobs are fashion design and marketing, clothing, textile and interior design and apparel and fashion technology. Interior designers need a combination of both science and art related skills, which include the ability to work with technical details as well as keenness on fashion, style and trends.

4. Business Related Careers

These include careers in commerce and industry such as marketing, insurance, finance, investment, banking and entrepreneurship. Other related jobs include accounting, actuarial science, banking and finance, business management, business administration,

cooperative management, micro-finance and marketing.

5. Community Development Related Careers

These include careers in sociology, social work and community development, cutting across a variety of settings that include schools, hospitals and the general community. The jobs here include social studies, gender studies, social work, population studies, justice and peace, participatory project planning, disaster management and community development.

6. Creative Arts and Entertainment Related Careers

These include careers in fine art and related areas, cartoon industry, photography, music and theatre. Other jobs include sports technology, recreation and management, physical education, fine art, creative arts, theatre arts, cultural studies, drama and theatre studies. The work environment includes advertising, publishing (books, newspapers, magazines) and electronic media (television, radio) industries.

7. Diplomacy and Public Relations Related Careers

These include careers in public relations as well as in diplomatic assignment, international relations, justice and peace and political sciences. One needs to have the ability to work with people of diverse backgrounds, good communication skills and patience.

8. Education Related Careers

These include careers in teaching at all levels. The careers also include education administrators such as education officers and teachers in special education programmes.

9. Engineering Related Careers

These include careers in the different areas of engineering cutting across diverse fields such as electrical, mechanical, civil, agricultural, chemical and environmental and computer engineering.

10. Environmental management and conservation related careers

These include careers in air, water, land management and conservation, forestry, wildlife and fisheries. Other jobs are land economics, urban and regional planning, science and technology, wildlife management, environmental health, environmental science and wetlands management and conservation.

11. Entrepreneurship and Related Careers

Entrepreneurship cuts across all fields where there is need to look at organizations and institutions as business enterprises. They also include careers in entrepreneurial development, commerce and business administration.

12. Geography and Related Careers

These include careers in geology, survey and mapping, cartography, meteorology, oceanography, remote sensing and astronomy. Others are natural resources, eco-tourism, mining, geography, and environmental science.

13. Guidance, Counseling and Related careers

These include careers in guidance, counseling, psychology in religious, industrial and community related fields. The work includes guidance and counseling, counseling psychology, education and counseling, pastoral counseling and social work.

14. Health Related Careers

These include medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, medical technology, radiography and physiotherapy. Careers in this field require students with good

mental ability and aptitude to think logically, keen, alert and quick in interpretation, warm personality, patient and commitment to serve mankind.

15. Home Science, Food Technology and Related Careers

These include careers in nutrition, dietetics technology and fashion design and textile technology.

16. Hospitality and Related Careers

These include careers in the various departments in the hotel industry, travel and tourism related areas. The jobs include hotel and restaurant management tourism management, home economics and food science and nutrition. Others are foreign languages, hotel and institutional management, hotel and hospitality management and travel and tours operation management.

17. History and Related Careers

These include careers related to archaeology, anthropology and political science, among others. Those with interest in this area need to have interest in getting information, are curious and have deep interest in the past.

18. Information, Communication Technology (ICT) and Related Careers

These include careers in computer industry including computer hardware and software. The category also includes careers in library and information science, computer technology and computer science. Others are information sciences, information systems technology, computer applications, web design, networking and communication systems.

19. Journalism Related Careers

These include careers in print journalism and electronic journalism such as information sciences, communications media technology, journalism and media studies and communication technology.

20. Law Related Careers

Careers in these area deal with governance and justice which ensure people's stability and confidence in their country. This category includes careers relating to matters of law in the mainstream as well as those in the para-legal field such as court clerks.

21. Management and Administration Related Careers

These include careers in different

specializations of management in such areas as sales and marketing, finance, human resource management, production among others. The jobs here include business administration and management, international operations management, purchasing and supplies management, human resource management, tourism management and marketing management.

22. Manufacturing and Processing Related Careers

These include careers in manufacturing and processing industries in both food and non-food related areas. The jobs here include industrial and production planning and management, manufacturing engineering technology, industrial chemistry, food science and technology, chemical processing engineering, production engineering and analytical chemistry.

23. Research and Statistics Related Careers

These include careers in research and statistics related areas which cut across different and dynamic fields such as education, health, business, marketing, information communication technology (ICT) among others.

24. Security Related Careers

These include careers in defence, (army, navy, air force) paramilitary, police and intel-



ligence services. It also includes jobs in private security firms as well as careers related to provincial administration.

25. Sports and Physical Education Related Careers

Career in sports is still in its early stages of development in Kenya. There is a lot of potential and opportunities sports can offer. Currently, there are many Kenyans earning a living from athletics, football and other sports. All you require is energy, drive, passion, enthusiasm, agility and perseverance.

26. Transport and Communication Services Related Careers

These include careers in the shipping, aviation, railway and road transport sectors. One requires alertness, courage, determination and physical fitness. The person should be self-confident, reliable, calm and able to take charge in an emergency.

7

Subjects and Career Choices

The subjects that you take in school form an important basis for your career choices. Training for particular careers

requires specific subject combinations. Below are several categories of careers grouped according to their subject requirements. Some careers appear in more than one category because they require different subjects. See how your career ambitions relate with the subjects you are studying in school.

Mathematics

A vast range of careers need Mathematics and a good grade in the subject will open doors for you.

These include:

- Architecture
- Building and land economics
- Construction management
- Design
- Economics
- High school Mathematics teaching
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Dentistry
- Database administration
- Geology
- Catering
- Horticulture
- Information technology
- Agriculture
- Accounting and auditing
- Biomedical sciences
- Biotechnology

- Insurance
- Business management
- Engineering
- Information sciences
- Statistics
- Actuarial science
- Agribusiness management
- Computer science
- Entrepreneurship

Physics

You need a good grade in physics to pursue the following:

- Electrical & electronics engineering
- Aeronautical engineering
- Mechanical engineering
- Civil and structural engineering
- Computer science
- Medical engineering
- Building economics
- High school physics teaching
- Physics
- Telecommunications
- Surveying
- Geology
- Physiotherapy
- Aviation/pilot
- Radiography
- Systems engineering
- Information technology

English Language

English is a core subject in our

education system. It is a prerequisite subject in understanding all the other subjects except for Kiswahili and foreign languages. The following careers need good qualifications in English:

- Drama and theatre arts
- Advertising
- Air hostess/cabin crew
- Banking
- Beauty therapy
- Broadcasting
- Business management
- Computing and information sciences
- Correctional services
- Medicine
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Estate management
- Design
- Hotel and hospitality
- Insurance
- Journalism
- Library and information sciences
- Law
- Management consultancy
- Music
- Human resource management
- Pharmacy
- Aviation/piloting
- Policing and law enforcement

- Psychology
- Public relations
- Publishing
- Sales and marketing
- Secretarial
- Social work
- Teaching
- Tour operations

Business Studies

Though business studies is not strictly specified as a qualification to pursue many courses in college and university, it is an added advantage for those who have studied it. You get a big boost when you have done business studies and are pursuing the following:

- Accounting
- Actuarial science
- Advertising
- Banking
- Management
- Database administration
- Building and land economics
- Planning
- Design
- Entrepreneurship
- Hotel and hospitality
- Human resource management
- Information technology
- Computing
- Insurance

- Journalism
- Leisure management
- Logistics
- Library and information science
- Sales and marketing
- Public relations
- Surveying
- Retail management
- Social work
- Teaching
- Economics

Humanities

Humanities include Geography, History and Religious education (Islamic, Hindu and Christian). The following careers require a good grade in humanities:

- Advertising
- Architecture
- Law
- Building economics
- Food science and technology
- Horticulture
- Hotel and hospitality
- Journalism
- Aviation/piloting
- Surveying
- Social work
- Teaching
- Tour guide and operations
- Soil science and conservation

- Planning
- Child welfare
- Business administration and management
- Publishing
- Counseling
- Correctional services
- Sales and marketing
- Administration
- Consultancy
- International relations
- Diplomacy and community affairs.

Biology

There are many careers that require a good grade in Biology.

They include:

- Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Nursing
- Dentistry
- Botany and zoology
- Food science and technology
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical science and technology
- Biotechnology
- Environmental and public health
- Forestry
- Wildlife and range management
- Horticulture
- Veterinary medicine
- Dairy science and technology

- Agriculture
- Environmental sciences
- High school Biology teaching
- Sports science
- Health education
- Physiotherapy
- Beauty therapy
- Chemical engineering
- Dietetics
- Occupational therapy
- Psychology
- Radiography

Chemistry

The following careers need a good grade in chemistry:

- Systems analysis
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical sciences
- Biotechnology
- Chemical engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil engineering
- Dentistry
- Dietetics
- Medicine
- Food science and technology
- Geology
- Health service management
- Mechanical engineering
- Metallurgy
- Pharmacy
- High school chemistry teaching

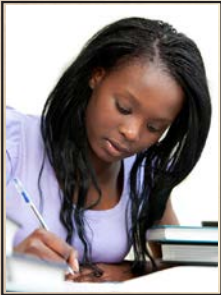


- Veterinary medicine
- Forensic chemistry
- Agricultural sciences
- Soil science
- Laboratory technology
- Medical technology
- Environmental health

8

Some common myths on careers you should ignore

Otieno, a young man had just completed Form Four. His heart was in journalism but his father, a successful professional would hear none of it. He used his contacts and secured a place for his son in a Medical Training College to pursue pharmaceutical technology. Reluctantly, this young man joined. Armed with a pharmacist certificate Otieno confronted his father with a resolve that had been building up over the two wasted years. "This certificate is all you wanted and you can have it. I am going out now to pursue my career!" He found his dream career as a journalist and today he boasts to be the only pharmaceutical technologist who has never dispensed medicine to anybody!. Otieno's father believed that a career in pharmacy was better paying than one in journalism. If you are not careful, career myths can be misleading on what one perceives to be a good career from an adviser's point of view. There are many incompetent career advisers who have easily misled students on their career understanding based on myths.



Myth 1: Some jobs make people rich and others make them poor.

Don't listen to the many ignorant people who see life in terms of profit and loss. A career helps you to develop your skills, talents and self-fulfillment in a special way that benefits society. It is only incidental that you make money in the process. Often, a job well done attracts good rewards but you cannot start with rewards before doing a job.

Myth 2: There are "men's jobs" and "women's jobs".

Ignore such outdated thoughts and simply follow your interests when choosing your career. There is no scientific evidence to show that men and women are not equal to all careers. In fact, some women excel in law, medicine, architecture and other jobs alongside men. Equally, some men do well as nurses and receptionists where some of these jobs were traditionally considered to be men's or women's careers.

Myth 3: Some careers run in families and there is nothing you can do about it.

Perhaps nobody seeks career guidance or vetures out in such families. But you don't have to be held back by the family career if your interests are elsewhere. Indeed, if you train in a different career you may bring in some skills that the family needs to prosper.

Myth 4: My parents know the career that is best for me.

This is not always so. Sometimes your parents can be dead wrong. Expect some opposition to your career choice and learn to show everybody your point of view. You are the one who will live with the career choke, anyway!

Myth 5: You can make more money as a lawyer, doctor, architect or a tour guide than in any other Job.

Remember the definition of a career is a job that makes you grow in an important way !. Just pursue your dream and riches are merely incidental. Strictly speaking, you get paid for the value that you add to people's lives through your career. In any case, a career is about self-fulfillment first and money later.

Myth 6: Teaching and nursing are not as good as other careers.

Well, some people get into jobs which are the envy of everybody but they don't do much there. Others get into careers that may not be so socially visible and they redefine these jobs by setting new standards. Florence Nightingale and Geoffrey Griffins were a nurse and a teacher respectively who made their way into history by excelling in their careers. Whether you join nursing or teaching or whichever career, what matters is the zeal that you take to such jobs and the new heights you will scale in personal development.

Myth 7: Going into the entertainment industry is a waste of time.

Don't take such comments seriously. The new generation of Kenyan rappers, some of whom boast university degrees, are among the highest paid people around! The advent of many FM radio and television stations in Kenya has greatly opened up the field for those who want to join the entertainment careers.

Myth 8: Higher education and career training are useless nowadays.

The fact that there is a high rate of unemployment should not discourage you. First arm yourself with some training and explore the opportunities even beyond our borders. You can never benefit from an opportunity without the right papers.

Myth 9: Some courses are merely for filing up vacancies and are not marketable at all.

All institutions of higher learning regularly review their training programmes to keep them in line with the job market. It would defeat the purpose of a college or university to train people who have no prospects of getting jobs. There is no useless course if you have the passion for it.

Myth 10: Getting into business is better than pursuing a career.

You can pursue business even better after getting a career than engaging in it straight from school. Besides, when you have trained for a job you can make better decisions and have a bigger network of contacts to do business with. You can also acquire skills and attitudes that enhance your business.

Programmes offered at Mount Kenya University:

Academic programmes (Post graduate, Degree, Diploma & Certificate) are offered on full time, part time, distance learning and school based modes at Mount Kenya University.

1. School of Business and Public Management

(i) Department of Management

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration and Management; *Human Resources and Organizational Management, Entrepreneurship & Small Business Management, Marketing Strategic & Organizational Leadership and Management*

Master of Public Administration

Master of Science in Procurement

Bachelor of Business Management

Options: *Marketing Management, Human Resource Management, banking and finance, entrepreneurship, risk and insurance management, international business management, supplies and procurement management*

Post-Graduate Diploma in project planning and Management

Post-Graduate Diploma in entrepreneurship development

Post-Graduate Diploma in human resource management

Diploma / Certificate in human resource management

Diploma / Certificate in business management

Diploma/Certificate in public relations and diplomacy

Diploma / Certificate in business and office management

Diploma / Certificate in supplies and procurement management

Diploma / Certificate in project management

(ii) Department of Accounting & Finance

Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration and Management:

- *Accounting*
- *Banking and Finance*

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Accounting & Finance, Human Resource Management, Marketing Management, Strategic Management, Production & Operations Management.

Bachelor of Commerce

Marketing Management, Human Resource Management, Accounting & Finance

Bachelor of Science Actuarial Science

Post-Graduate Diploma in Financial Management

Diploma / Certificate in Banking and Finance

Diploma / Advanced Certificate in Micro-Finance

Diploma/Certificate in Risk management and insurance

(iii) Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management

Master of Science in Hospitality Management

Bachelor of Science in Travel and Tourism Management

Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management

Diploma in Travel and Tourism Management

Diploma in Hospitality Management

Certificate in Travel and Tourism Management

Certificate in Hospitality Management

3. School of Social Sciences

(i) Department of Economics and Development Studies

Master of Development Studies

Master of Arts in Monitoring and Evaluation

Post graduate Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation

Bachelor of Development Studies

Diploma / Certificate in Community Development and Social Work

(ii) Department of Languages

M.A. English Language and Linguistics

M.A. Kiswahili

M.A. Literature

Certificate in Bridging Kiswahili

Certificate in Bridging English

(iii) Department of Journalism and Mass Communication

Master of Arts (M.A) in Journalism and Media Studies;

With three options;

- *Journalism*
- *Corporate Communication*
- *Media Management*

Master of Arts (M.A) in Film Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Film Studies and Animation BA(FAS)

Bachelor of Arts in Mass Media and Communication

with four specializations;

- *Electronic Media*
- *Print Media*
- *Public Relations*
- *Advertising*

Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication

Diploma in Film Production

Diploma in Animation and Motion Studies

Diploma in Public Relations

Certificate in Journalism and Mass Communication

(iv) Department of Humanities

Master of Arts in Religious studies, Christian option

Master of Arts in Religious studies, Islamic option

Master of Arts in Cultural Heritage studies

Master of Arts in Gender studies

Master of Arts in Sociology

Master of Arts in History

Master of Arts in Geography

Bachelors of Arts in Economics and Sociology

Bachelors of Arts in Sociology and History

Bachelors of Arts in History and Economics

Bachelors of Arts in History and Arabic

Bachelors of Arts in History and Geography

Diploma in Cultural Heritage studies

Diploma in Gender studies

Certificate in Environmental Impact Assessment

Certificate in Geographical Information Systems

Certificate in Remote Sensing

(v) Department of Counselling Psychology

Master of Counseling Psychology

Bachelor of Counseling Psychology

Diploma in Counseling Psychology

4. School of Law

Bachelor of Law (LLB)

Diploma in Law

Pre-Bar Certificate in Laws

5. School of Health Sciences

(i) Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences

Master of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences:

Options;

- *Immunology*
- *Hematology*
- *Microbiology*
- *Virology*
- *Molecular Biology*
- *Histology and Cytology*

Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences (BMLS)

(Approved by Kenya Medical Laboratory Technicians and Technologists Board)

Diploma in Medical Laboratory Sciences (DBMLS)
(Approved by Kenya Medical Laboratory Technicians and Technologists Board)
Diploma in Bio-Medical Technology
Certificate in Medical Laboratory Sciences

(ii) Department of Clinical Medicine

Bachelor of Science - Clinical Medicine
(Approved by Clinical Officers Council of Kenya)
Diploma in Clinical Medicine
(Approved by Clinical Officers Council of Kenya)
Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics
Bachelor of Science in Health Records and Information Management
Diploma in Health Records and Information Management
Certificate in Health Records and Information Management

(iii) Department of Nutrition and Dietetics

Bachelor of Science Nutrition and Dietetics (Accredited by The Kenya Nutritionists and Dietitians' Institute)
Diploma in Clinical and Community Nutrition (Accredited by The Kenya Nutritionists and Dietitians' Institute)
Certificate in Clinical and Community Nutrition (Accredited by The Kenya Nutritionists and Dietitians' Institute)

(iv) Department of Dental Sciences

Bachelor of Science in Dental Technology
Diploma in Dental Technology
Diploma in Community Oral Health (Dental Therapy)

(v) Department of Public Health

Master of Public Health
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health
Diploma in Community Health and HIV/AIDS Management
Certificate in Community Health and HIV/AIDS Management

6. School of Pharmacy

Bachelor of Pharmacy
Diploma in Pharmaceutical Technology
Postgraduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Sales and Marketing

7. School of Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing
Options:
• Midwifery
• Medical-Surgical Nursing
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Direct entry)
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Upgrading: Part-time)
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Upgrading - Distance learning)

8. School of Pure and Applied Sciences

(i) Department of Natural Sciences

Master in Applied Entomology:
Options; Agricultural Entomology, Medical and Veterinary Entomology, Parasitology and Epidemiology
Master of Science Ecology and Conservation Biology
Master of science Mathematics; Options;
Applied mathematics & Pure Mathematics
Bachelor of science (Laboratory sciences)
Bachelor of Science (Biotechnology)
Bachelor of Science (Industrial Chemistry)
Bachelor of science (Biology)
Diploma in Science Laboratory Technology
Diploma in Food Science & processing Technology
Pre-University
Bridging Certificate in:
Biology /Physics /Chemistry/Mathematics

(ii) Department of Animal Health and Production

Bachelor of Science in Animal Health Management and Production Technology
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Rural Development
Diploma in Animal Health and Production
Certificate in Animal Health and Production
Certificate in Artificial Insemination

(iii) Department of Information Technology

Master of Science in Information Technology
Master of Science in Information Science
Bachelor of Science in Information Science
Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Bachelor of Business Information Technology
Diploma in Information Systems
Diploma in Information Science
Diploma in Business information Technology
Diploma in Information Technology
Certificate in Information Technology
Certificate in Business information Technology

(iv) Department of Engineering

Bachelor of Science Energy & Environmental Technology
Bachelor of Science Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Bachelor of Science Medical Engineering
Bachelor of Science Petroleum Management
Bachelor of Science Petroleum Exploration and production
Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Diploma in Medical Engineering
Diploma in Computer Engineering
Certificate in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Certificate in Medical Engineering
Certificate in Computer Engineering

9. School of Education

(i) Department of Curriculum and Instructions

PhD by Course work Examination and Thesis

- *Administration Management and Leadership*
- *Curriculum Studies*
- *Educational Psychology*
- *Instructional technology*
- *Educational Psychology*
- *Educational planning*

Masters of Education: (Options)

- *Administration Management and Leadership*
- *Curriculum Studies*
- *Educational Psychology*
- *Instructional Technology*
- *Educational Planning*
- *Comparative Education*
- *History of Education*
- *Philosophy of Education*
- *Sociology of Education*
- *Life long Education*
- *Economics of Education*
- *Guidance & Counseling*

Postgraduate Diploma in Education

Bachelor of Education (Science)

Bachelor of Education (Arts)

Bachelor of Educational Psychology

Bachelor of Education-Guidance and Counseling

Bachelor of Education Science and Guidance

Bachelor of Education Arts and Guidance

Diploma in Education (Science)

Diploma in Education (Arts)

Diploma in School Management (Primary/Secondary Option)

(ii) Department of Special Needs

Masters in Education:

Special Needs Education;

- *EBD (Autism spectrum disorder)*
- *VID*
- *HID*
- *PID*

B.Ed. in Special Needs Education (*Primary Option*)

B.Ed. in Special Needs Education, Secondary Option

Diploma in Special Needs Education

(iii) Department of Early Childhood Studies

Master of Education in Early Childhood Development

Bachelor of Education Early Childhood studies (*Primary option or Community Development*)

Diploma in Early Childhood Studies

10. School of Medicine

11. Institute of Security Studies, Governance and Ethics

Master of Arts in Justice and Security Studies

Master in Governance and Ethics

Master of Law Enforcement and Justice Administration

Bachelor of Arts in Justice and Security Studies

Bachelor of Security Studies and Criminology

Bachelor of peace Studies and Conflict Resolution

Diploma in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution

Diploma in Security Studies and Criminology

Diploma in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution

Certificate in Security Studies and Criminology

Certificate in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution

E-Learning and Distance Learning

MKU Virtual Campus

Mount Kenya university Virtual Campus is a technology hub in providing online and e-learning university education. It coordinates virtual classes to both on-campus and off-campus students. It connects the university and its campuses therefore helping in achieving the university vision and mission by offering online courses powered by Modular E-Learning

Portal

We are your best choice in achieving your academic goals and building your career since we involve interactive modern E-Learning and Video Conferencing technologies. The hub facilitates interactive online learning and access to course information and resources. Students interact with their tutors and fellow students and submit their assignment and CATs online. The tutors mark and deliver results to the students using the same system. Students undertake courses at their own pace and hence can always read ahead or go back to some topics at any time.

Vision

To become the leading information and communication technology, customer based online and electronic education provider both in Africa and the entire world

Mission

To maximise on the most reliable information and communication technology (ICTs) in providing innovative, flexible, affordable and quality education through online and electronic learning in Africa and the entire world.

Why we always remain your best choice?

- Adoption of new technologies in our E-Learning Portal,
- A new and simple course arrangement framework has been adopted .
- Flexibility ,online and physical registration
- Affordable costs compared to other universities
- Courses and their relevant resources as well as materials are arranged in a hierachical manner which will make it simple for students to locate materials.

Strong physical and online students support (*virtual campus website, dedicated office hours support and information/help desk, Online and physical orientation, Tutorials, video user manual, online reference sources and study area and dedicated SMS Gateway for easier notifications to the students. The University has elaborate campuses, centres and qualified academics as part of enhancing control.*)

E-Learning Programmes

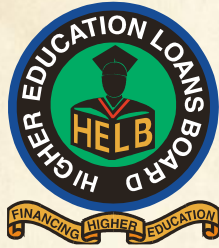
1. Master of Business Administration
2. Master of Education
3. Masters of Arts in Public Administration & Management
4. Master of Arts in Governance & Ethics
5. Bachelor of Business Management
6. Bachelor of Counselling Psychology
7. Bachelor of Development Studies
8. Bachelor of Education (Arts) (English & Literature)
9. Bachelor of Commerce
10. Bachelor of Early Childhood studies (Primary option or
11. Community Development)
12. Bachelor of Information Science

13. Bachelor of Business Information Technology
14. Bachelor of Arts in mass media and communication
15. Bachelor of Arts in Security Studies and Criminology
16. Bachelor of Science in Health records and Information Management
17. Diploma / certificate in Business Management, Supplies and Procurement Management, Human Resource Management, Public Relations and Diplomacy, Banking and Finance



Students Financing

For information on student loans, bursaries and scholarships, contact;



The Higher Education Loans Board
University Way, Anniversary Towers, 18th Floor,
P.O. Box 69489 - 00400, NAIROBI, Kenya.
Cellphone: 254 733 205292, 254 722 205292
Fax: 252330
<http://www.helb.co.ke>

OR

The relevant students financing organization in your Country.

For specific career opportunities offered by institutions of higher learning in Kenya and beyond, contact;

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology

Jogoo House "B", Harambee Avenue
P.O. Box 30040, Nairobi
Tel: 318581
Telegrams: "EDUCATION"
Website: www.education.go.ke

OR

Commission for University Education

The Commission Secretary / Chief Executive Officer.
Physical address: Red Hill Rd, off Limuru Rd, Gigiri.
Postal address:
P.O Box 54999 -00200, Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: +254-020-7205000, 020-2021150, 020-2021154/56
Fax: +254-020-2021172
Email: che@kenyeweb.com
Website: www.che.or.ke

For those outside Kenya, you may contact the Ministry in charge of education or the relevant regulatory agency.

' Education is a human right with immense power to transform, on it's foundation rests the cornerstone of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development.'

Kofi Annan - Former UN Secretary General

WHY MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY IS A PREFERRED DESTINATION FOR STUDENTS

Mount Kenya University is accredited by the **Commission for University Education, Kenya**.

- Affordable and flexible fees payment
- Students have a choice to choose where to study from its campuses in Kenya and other countries.
- Wi-Fi internet access across all the campuses.
- Qualified and committed teaching and non-teaching staff.
- Well equipped science and IT laboratories.

Flexible modes of learning which include: Fulltime, Open/distance and E-learning, School based, Part-time (evening and weekends) and students are able to complete their course within the stipulated time

Student welfare support: For the convenience of the students, the University has in place accommodation facilities and a students Centre which houses a restaurant serving international cuisine, gym and salon / barber shop. There are also shops for the basic needs of students, a laundry and dry cleaning services. The integrated sick bay health unit offers basic health services and ensures a healthy environment for the University community. The sporting activities at the university vary and range from football, tennis, volley ball, swimming and other activities such as drama and counseling.

Academic/Social trips: The University has in place a fleet of buses and transport is always available for academic and social trips. Students are also picked up at the airport on their first arrival.

Student academic exchange with foreign and local Institutions of higher learning.

Career placement: The university produces highly skilled graduates who are employable by potential employers and others gain self-employment opportunities.

Multicultural diversity: The University recognizes the diversity of its student population and develops talents through organizing of cultural events.

International Recognition: The University is ISO 9001 : 2008 certified and committed on compliance with international standards on quality.

Community Service/Engagements: Mount Kenya University is committed to carry out corporate social responsibility based activities which add value to the community we live in.

Use of ICT and other technologies such as Kindles.

Research and Development: We create innovators and support them to commercialise innovations and inventions.



Mount Kenya University

Scaling the Heights of Education



ISO 9001:2008 *Certified*

MAIN CAMPUS

P.O. Box 342-01000 THIKA,

Tel: +254 020-2088310, 020-2338146/8

Cell: +254 720-790796, +254 789126571

Fax: +254 0202050315.

Email: info@mku.ac.ke Website: www.mku.ac.ke

NAIROBI CAMPUS, MKU TOWERS,

P.O. Box 13495-00100 GPO NAIROBI,

Tel/Fax: +254 020 2528803

Cell: +254 729 256 979, +254 734667731

Email: nairobicenter@mku.ac.ke

VIRTUAL CAMPUS, UNION TOWERS,

P.O. Box 13495-00100 GPO NAIROBI,

Tel: +254 020 2102963

Cell: +254 700-912353, +254 702 041 042

Email: distance.learning@mku.ac.ke

MOMBASA CAMPUS, MKU Plaza, Nkurumah Road,

P.O. Box 42702-80100, Mombasa.

Tel: +254 020 8002096/7/8

Email: coastcampus@mku.ac.ke

NAKURU CAMPUS, MKU ANNEX,

Next to Resma Motors-opp. Police Hqs,

Oginga Odinga road, P.O. Box 17273-00200, Nakuru.

Tel: +254 020 2338144

Cell: +254 705669811, +254 789729561

Email: nkrampus@mku.ac.ke

ELDORET CAMPUS,

Mount Kenya University Plaza, Ronald Ngala Street,

P.O Box 2591-30100 Eldoret,

Tel: +254 020-2641361

Cell: +254 724426327, +254 733 361 061

Email: eldoretcentre@mku.ac.ke

KITALE CAMPUS

Teachers Plaza - Next to Kitale Police Station,

P.O. Box 1869-30200 Kitale,

Tel: +254 202330682 Cell: +254 717 815 755

Email: kitalecampus@mku.ac.ke

KAKAMEGA CAMPUS, Mega Mall Building,

P.O. Box 553-50100, Kakamega

Tel: +254 05631772 Cell: +254 706 135 160

Email: kakcampus@mku.ac.ke

MARKETING / Virtual Learning CENTRES

GARISSA : Corner Plaza / Commercial Bank Building

P.O Box 465 Garissa. Contact; Tel: 724 299 449

MALINDI : Noor Plaza 2nd floor, Malindi.

Contact tel: 0724 883173 or 0721 123 695

KISUMU ICT Centre: Central Square

Building, Oginga Odinga road Kisumu

• BUNGOMA • SOMALILAND

KISII EXTRAMURAL CENTRE,

Umoja Complex, opposite KCB Ogembo Street,

P.O. Box 4441 Kisii.

Cell: +254 707891899

LODWAR CAMPUS, Cathedral Street,

P.O. Box 69 Lodwar.

Cell: +254 706 278 852, +254 789 399 751

KIGALI CAMPUS, RWANDA

P.O. Box 5826 Kigali,

Avenue-De-la-paix Opp. Belgium School

Tel: +250 785 709 824 / 0728 551 199

Email: rwanda@mku.ac.ke

SOUTH SUDAN MARKETING OFFICE

Hotel Intra Africa, Juba

Tel: +256 477103682

NKUBU CENTRE (MERU)

Majani Sacco Plaza, Nkubu, P.O. Box 511, Nkubu, Meru,

Tel: +254 020 2629462 Fax: +254 06451437

Email: nkubucampus@mku.ac.ke