

Must-have gadgets for campusers

By Billy Rwothungeyo

Without a smart phone, Alexander Seruzi, an information and communications technology technician and agricultural consultant, says life at university would have been hard for him.

"I used my phone to do my research for assignments on the Internet. Some lecturers would send work online, which I accessed through my phone. I even used it to do coursework," he reminisces. As one prepares for university, Seruzi says one gadget one must have is a smart phone.

"Every university-going student is now on Facebook. Some also have classroom groups on WhatsApp. So you do not want to miss out on vital communication from your classmates," he says.

The beauty about smartphones is that they are affordable, thanks to the competition from manufacturers who keep churning out new ones.

You can get an entry level smart phone for as low as sh250,000. If you have money, you may as well pay above sh1m for a high-end smartphone. The price of a smart phone is determined by

SOCIAL MEDIA

Every university-going student is now on Facebook and WhatsApp. Some even have classroom groups on WhatsApp. So you do not really want to miss out on vital communication

its operating system, internal capacity and camera capacity, among other functions.

So what other gadgets do you need as you prepare for university?

LAPTOP

A university is not like a secondary school. At university, you will be doing coursework which most times, must be typed. This is why you need a laptop.

"Yes, there are computer laboratories at many universities, but the advantage with your own laptop is that you get to do assignments at your convenience, and even keep your notes," says Richard Kato, a software and custom hardware developer.

Beyond just typing out



are also a great gadget you may need at university.

Although tablets may not have the versatility of a laptop computer, they are certainly an upgrade on phones when it comes to the size of display screens.

"You can do more with a tablet than a phone. You can work on a document off your tablet much more easily than on a phone," explains Kato.

Tablets cost between sh250,000 and sh1m, depending on the capacity, software and manufacturer.

A FLASH DISC

One needs a flash disk to help them take their assignments off your laptop to a secretarial bureau for printing.

After doing your coursework on your laptop, some lecturers will ask you to email it to them. However, the majority will need the assignment printed so you need to pay visits to a secretarial bureau for that.

This is where the flash disk comes in handy. Also, a flash disk can come in handy when you need to have a selection of music and movies that you will watch

during your free time.

Besides being portable, the other beautiful thing about flash discs is they are affordable, costing as low as sh20,000, depending on its storage capacity.

TV AND RADIO

University is not always about books. You will need time off to relax your mind away from the books – and what better way to do so than watch your favourite television programmes or listening to music on radio?

Yes, we live in an era of expensive monster flat screen televisions that may not be affordable by many university students, but the good news is that there is a television set for everyone, as these gadgets vary in prices depending on brand, size and technology. You can get a good television set for as little as sh200,000.

LED TVs, which are trendy these days, cost between sh500,000 and sh1.5m, depending on the manufacturer and the screen size.

Radios, on the hand, are very affordable. You can get a small radio set for sh30,000. If you can afford, Seruzi says you may buy an entertainment system, which provides beyond just radio. You can play music with this gadget, with a much better output than on a basic radio set. If you have one, please mind your neighbours. Do not make your room a mini nightclub with loud music.

Note that without these gadgets, you can still get the best of university.



NSAMIZI TRAINING INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF THE INSTITUTE ACADEMIC REGISTRAR

Application for Certificate, Diploma and Bachelor Degree Programmes

Nsamizi Training Institute of Social Development is one of the oldest Government Training Institutions in Uganda under Ministry Of Education And Sports. It was founded in 1952 and is located in Mpigi. The vision of the Institute is to become a reputable Training Institute in Social Development Studies for social transformation in the region.

The Academic Registrar invites applications for admission to the following programmes for **March and August intake of the Academic Year 2017/18**. The programmes will start on, **30th March 2017 and 13th August 2017** respectively.

Postgraduate Diploma: 1 year

1. Post Graduate Diploma in Social Justice – Affiliated to Makerere University

Bachelor Programme: 3 years (only August intake)

2. Bachelors of Arts in Social Development - Affiliated to Makerere University
3. Bachelors of Arts in Public Administration and Management affiliated to Uganda Martyrs University Nkozi

Diploma Programmes: 2 years

4. Diploma in Social Work
5. Diploma in Entrepreneurship Development
6. Diploma in Public Administration and Management
7. Diploma in Child Youth and Development
8. Diploma in Guidance and Counselling
9. Diploma in Business Administration
10. Diploma in Secretarial Studies
11. Diploma in Human Resource Management
12. Diploma in Journalism, Communication and Media Studies
13. Diploma in Leadership and Good Governance
14. Diploma in Gender and Development
15. Diploma in Adult Education and Development
16. Diploma in Juvenile Justice

Distance Learning Programmes: 2 years (only August intake)

16. Diploma in Public Administration and Management
17. Diploma in Leadership and Good Governance
18. Diploma in Gender and Development
19. Diploma in Adult Education and Development
20. Diploma in Juvenile Justice

Fulltime Certificate Courses: 1 year

21. Certificate in Social Mobilization and Development
22. Certificate in Counseling and Guidance
23. Certificate in Public Administration and Management
24. Certificate in Child Protection
25. Certificate in Nursery Teaching and Child Protection

Certificate courses for 3 months

26. Management of Literacy and Adult Education
27. Social Gerontology
28. Project Planning and Management
29. Participatory Learning and Action
30. Solar Technology
31. Computer Studies
32. Certificate in Cosmetology

Minimum entry qualifications

- Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) with at least 5 passes and Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) with at least **ONE** principal pass and **TWO** subsidiary passes obtained at the same sitting **OR** its equivalent for Diploma programmes.
- Two principal passes at Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) obtained at the same sitting or its equivalent for a Bachelors Degree programmes.

Fees structure	1 st Semester	2 nd Semester
Postgraduate Diploma	1,000,000/=	1,000,000/=
Bachelor's Degree	700,000/=	700,000/=
Fulltime Diploma	444,000/=	400,000/=
Distance learning	424,000/=	400,000/=
Diploma courses		
1 Year Certificate course	424,000/=	355,000/=
3 Months certificate	519,000/=	

HOW TO APPLY:

- Obtain and fill application forms after payment of an application fee of **Shs. 22,750** for Diploma and Certificate programmes and **Shs. 52,750** for Bachelors degree programmes to **Stanbic Bank Account No. 9030005874369**. Bank slips are obtained from the Institute at Mpigi or regional study centers.
- Applications are made at **Nsamizi Training Institute**, main campus, Mpigi or at regional study centers.
- A copy of the birth certificate should be attached to the application form.
- Deadline for Applications is **Tuesday, 28th March 2017** for March intake and **Friday, 11th August 2017** for August intake.

For more information Contact: Academic Registrar

P.O. Box 149, Mpigi-Uganda.

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Website: www.nsamizi.org

coursework, you can use laptops to do your research. In your free time, you can even use them to watch a movie as you relax.

As opposed to the traditional desktop computer, laptops are portable, so that means one can take one to class.

Laptops cost between sh1m and sh3m, depending on its capacity and the software that they run on.

200,000

The average cost of a television set in the market depending on brand, size and technology

TABLET

Sometimes referred to as the hybrid between a smartphone and a laptop, tablet computers

Need for a camera

Going to university is always exciting. You will meet new friends, some of whom you will be close to for the rest of your life. A camera comes in handy if you love to keep memories close to your heart.

If you are going to study journalism, you need to buy a camera more than anyone else. In this era of multimedia journalism, you will need to be as good with writing

skills as you are with photography.

Cameras vary in price, depending on the manufacturer and complexity. Basic cameras go for between sh250,000 to sh700,000, while professional cameras start from sh1.5m above.

Other gadgets that you need are alarm clocks, power banks and headsets, among others.