Logistics Management

Logistics Management is the process of planning, organising and executing the efficient, effective flow and storage of goods, services and related information, from the place of origin to the place of consumption, in a way that optimally satisfies consumer requirements and with the goal of maximising the wealth of all the stakeholders.

To enable you to practise logistics effectively in a business environment, this focus area equips you with knowledge and skills such as holistic, integrated thinking, understanding of operational challenges, communication, collaboration, ethics and proficiency in the application of information technology.

# Career opportunities

A wide variety of challenging logistics job opportunities exists worldwide in the public sector and private businesses. From the largest vehicle manufacturing company to the smallest producer and any business buying or selling products – all require people with logistics skills who can plan, organise and control logistics activities both locally and internationally. Service organisations (for example hospitals and restaurants) also utilise logistics to make sure that their clients are properly served.

# Undergraduate subjects offered

Logistics Management is presented at second- and third-year level and can be followed as a major subject in most BComm programmes. Logistics Management can also be taken as a major subject in the BSc programme in Textile and Polymer Sciences (in the Faculty of Natural Sciences) and the BSc (Agric) programme in the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry.

### 1st year:

**Supply Chain Management 114 (12 Credits)**

The scope of product supply chains; aspects of utility and value creation; aspects of materials management, including resource and inventory acquisition; aspects of production and operations management; aspects of physical distribution management; conforming to customer requirements with respect to product supply and delivery.

### 2nd year:

**Logistics Management 214 (16 Credits)**

Introduction to logistics management: the role of logistics in the firm, the elements of logistics, integrated logistics management, channels of distribution, client/customer service, strategic aspects of logistics management, organisation for effective logistics, international logistics, new trends.

**Logistics Management 244 (16 Credits)**

Business logistics: private (own) logistics, the outsourcing decision, professional logistics, transport management and operations, arrangement of the supply chain.

### 3rd year:

**Logistics Management 314 (12 Credits)**

Functional excellence: Major logistics activities related to transport, storage, packaging and handling covered in more detail than in Logistics Management 214 and 244. Topics to cover: sourcing strategies and plans, total cost analysis, supplier selection and development, supplier collaboration, relationship management, negotiation and contracting, warehousing and materials handling, materials management, master production scheduling, product conversion, production and inventory control, process control and quality management, delivery management, warehousing layout and flow optimisation, inventory control, international logistics, reverse logistics and its impact, waste management, maritime management, customer service, relationship management.

**Logistics Management 324 (12 Credits)**

Integrative excellence: Internal/functional integration as well as external integration with supply chain partners have become business imperatives. Business process integration is a critical enabler. Topics to cover: logistics planning and control, inventory planning and management, coordination of supply chains. Monitoring and control of logistics performance, measurement and standards, efficiency and effectiveness and financial performance indicators, client/customer requirements vs. achievable logistics performance, review of logistics goals and objectives, risk management, sustainable logistics, logistics and the environment, closed-loop supply chains.

**Logistics Management 344 (12 Credits)**

Logistics analysis: For both functional excellence and integrative excellence, a variety of analytical techniques and enabling technology can be employed to support decisions on the short, medium and longer timeframes. Analytical techniques (descriptive and normative) and enabling technology (transactional vs. analytical information technology) form an integral part of the support that decision makers require.

**Logistics Management 354 (12 Credits)**

Logistics research: Defining of the logistics problem; research design; exploratory research design for secondary data and qualitative research, surveys and observations as part of descriptive research, measurement of perceptions, questionnaire design, sampling, fieldwork and data preparation, formulation of hypotheses (if required) and basic statistical tests.

*Please consult the official Economic and Management Sciences Yearbook for more information regarding subject combinations and requirements.*