Stellenbosch

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forward together
sonke siya phambili
saam vorentoe

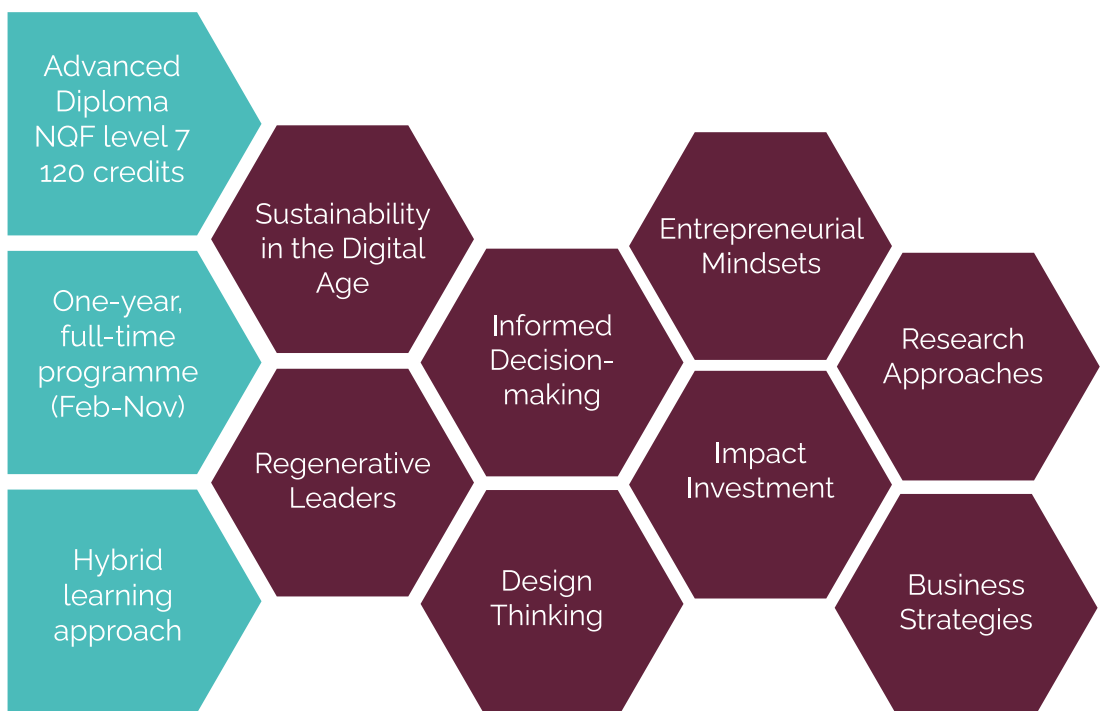# ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

PROSPECTUS

Grounding students in sustainability and entrepreneurship for impact investment and ethical innovation

Faculty of Economic & Management Sciences
School of Public Leadership | Stellenbosch University

The deepening interconnected global crises we face require creative and bold solutions that are guided by ethical decision-making and regenerative leadership. In these times of great upheaval, tension, and change (both positive and negative), there is a growing need for entrepreneurial minds that can imagine and create just, sustainable futures.

The Advanced Diploma in Sustainable Development has been designed in response to the Code for Responsible Investing in South Africa (CRISA), the emergence of Impact Investment and South Africa's commitment to transition to a green economy.

Develop your ability to think critically, collaborate meaningfully and innovate with sustainability in mind. Whether you want to start your own enterprise, add value as an employee or act as a consultant for businesses, this programme will help you gain the necessary skills to align business ideas with CRISA principles and to meet the requirements of impact investors.

Advanced Diploma NQF level 7 120 credits

One-year, full-time programme (Feb-Nov)

Hybrid learning approach

Sustainability in the Digital Age

Informed Decision-making

Entrepreneurial Mindsets

Research Approaches

Regenerative Leaders

Impact Investment

Design Thinking

Business Strategies

MODULES

TERMS 1 & 2

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE DIGITAL AGE (30 credits, Term 1 and Term 2)

How can digital technology help us achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?

Become a conscious tech-consumer and creator of future sustainable tech! This module explores relevant technologies that drive the 4th Industrial Revolution and interrogates which trends and developments are truly sustainable. You will discuss values, ethics, and leadership in the digital space with a focus on responsible investment and impact investment. This knowledge will provide a conceptual basis from which you will imagine, ideate, and innovate in the Entrepreneurship Incubator module.

RESEARCH APPROACHES (15 credits, Term 1)

How might we do research in transformative and collaborative ways?

Discover ways to collaborate with participants to deeply understand social issues and user needs. This module explores methods that will help you to identify problems worth solving and to test the impact of your solutions. You will practice your critical thinking and writing skills to formulate persuasive arguments for social change. This module prepares you to move beyond discipline-specific methods towards integration and collaboration for innovation.

BUSINESS PLANS AND STRATEGIES (15 credits, Term 2)

How can Business be a vehicle for positive change?

Explore the value of doing business differently through for-profit enterprises, social enterprises, 'knowledge commons' enterprises, and social campaigns underpinned by social enterprises. Whether you want to start your own enterprise or guide others on their business journey, this module will equip you with the theoretical knowledge to formulate business plans aimed at responsible and impact investment. You will apply this knowledge to set your ideas in motion in the Entrepreneurship Incubator module.

TERMS 3 & 4

ENTREPRENEURSHIP INCUBATOR (60 credits, Term 3 and 4)

Ask courageous questions. Create meaningful answers.

In this module you will use the theoretical content and practical skills from Terms 1 and 2 to design your own innovative project. You will flex your entrepreneurial muscles through play, experimentation, simulations, debates, scenario-planning and more. Through self-directed learning, and facilitator-supported processes you will explore innovation for sustainable technology and practice turning ideas into a cause that people want to join. This module will take you through cycles of divergent and convergent thinking to deepen your understanding of resilient ideas for a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) context.

PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Advanced Diploma (NQF level 7, 120 credits)

One-year, full-time programme (February – November)

Hybrid learning approach:

- Self-directed online learning at your own pace, **with**
- Synchronous online sessions throughout the programme, **and**
  Approximately 120 hours per month (30% for synchronous engagement, 70% self-directed learning).
- One compulsory in-person learning journey per term (5 days each).
  Provisional dates for 2023: 6 – 10 March, 22 – 26 May, 14 – 18 August & 16 – 20 October. Subject to change.

Programme cost: approximately R40 000.00 per annum
Fee estimate for 2023. Subject to change.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A Diploma (NQF level 6) or Bachelor's degree (NQF level 7) from a recognised tertiary institution in subjects/fields aligned with the focus of the Advanced Diploma, e.g. sustainable development, entrepreneurship, business studies, economics, innovation.
- Access to a computer and reliable internet.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Apply by 30 August of the year before your intended studies. You must complete two applications:

1. The official University application, available at www.maties.com:

   Programme Selection
   Faculty: Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences - Stellenbosch.
   Programme Type: Undergraduate
   Programme: AdvDip (Sust Development)

2. The Departmental application, which will be sent to you via email within ten days of your University application status changing to 'Reviewed'.

Approximately 40 students are selected for this programme every year. The number of students selected will be influenced by, inter alia, staff capacity, availability of School resources as well as academic merit and University transformation objectives. As staff capacity and resources may fluctuate from year to year, the number of students selected can also differ from year to year.

A committee selects applicants based on a combined score. The combined score is derived from academic merit, and the interest and experience you demonstrate in key areas (indicated in the Departmental application form). Key areas include sustainable development, social and environmental justice, entrepreneurial mindset, creativity, and leadership.

Contact **diploma@sun.ac.za** for questions.