

Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainable Development

Interdepartmental and interfaculty collaboration

This is a structured transdisciplinary postgraduate diploma which is presented by the Centre for Sustainability Transitions (CST) in partnership with the Sustainability Institute, the School for Public Leadership (SPL) and the Centre for Renewable and Sustainable Energy Studies (CRSES).

Admission requirements

- Any bachelor's or BTech degree or a relevant four-year diploma with a 60% pass mark in one of the following major subjects. Relevant work experience will also be considered for admission.
 - o Town and Regional Planning,
 - o Housing,
 - o Geography and Environmental Studies,
 - o Sociology,
 - o Social Sciences,
 - o Psychology,
 - o Economics,
 - o Public and Development Management,
 - o Geology,
 - o Botany,
 - o Zoology,
 - o Forestry,
 - o Ecology/Nature, Conservation,
 - o Mathematics,
 - o Agricultural Economics,
 - o Transport Economics,
 - o Forestry,
 - o Civil/Structural/Mechanical/Electrical Engineering,
 - o Architecture,
 - o Land Surveying,
 - o Any other major discipline approved by the Programme Committee

or

- Any tertiary three-year programme of formal studies and five years' working experience. Your qualifications and experience must comply with the recognition of prior learning (RPL) regulations of the University, the Faculty and the Centre for Sustainability Transitions, respectively (for more on RPL and links to the regulations, see the chapter "General Information" at the beginning of this book).

Selection

The number of students selected will be influenced by, among other things, staff capacity, availability of the Centre's 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. Should the number of applicants that meet the admission requirements exceed the available capacity of the Centre for Sustainability Transitions, the applicants are evaluated according to the following criteria to finalise the election list:

- Academic excellence: consistent academic performance over and above 60%.
- Work and/or social development experience: relevant and related work and/or social development experience evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- A well-written motivation letter that demonstrates clarity of thinking and logical expression in the written form, as well as proficiency in terms of language, grammar, presentation, and formatting.
- A motivation letter and curriculum vitae that demonstrates a commitment to professional development within the broad field of sustainable development.

Each applicant is scored a mark out of five for each of these criteria, and the total out of twenty is then used to rank the applications to meet the capacity of the class. The overall composition of the cohort is then considered to reflect a mix of disciplines and work/social development experience.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply by 30 September of the year before your intended studies, except if the programme administrator allows you to apply later.

Duration, offering type and starting date of programme

Duration: One year, full-time, or two years, part-time.

Starting date: January.

Programme's mode of delivery

Full-contact learning (face-to-face).

Enquiries

Programme administrator: Ms Beatrix Steenkamp

Centre for Sustainability Transitions

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Programme structure

All modules are presented at the Sustainability Institute at Lynedoch, unless specified otherwise by the programme administrator from time to time. The programme is composed of coursework consisting of one compulsory and seven elective modules. It is presented in a full-contact format, consisting of one six-day contact session per module spread over the year (the course outline of a given module may specify a longer duration for the contact session). Contact sessions are supplemented with blended-learning activities. The rest of the study period comprises independent and structured self-study.

Programme content

Programme module

You must earn a total of at least 120 credits for this programme.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
58122	788	120	Sustainable Development Planning and Management	Both

Compulsory foundation module (15 credits)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
58718	771	15	Sustainable Development	Both

Elective modules (105 credits)

Choose altogether seven modules from the three lists below to make up at least 120 credits.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11490	772	15	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	Both
13703	771	15	Capita Selecta: Comparative Studies in Sustainable and Regenerative Social-Ecological Systems	Both
11190	772	15	Complexity Theory and Systems Thinking	Both
13700	774	15	Corporate Governance and Sustainable Enterprise	Both
12232	774	15	Food Security and Globalised Agriculture	Both
13359	771	15	Food System Transitions	Both
13701	771	15	Globalisation, Governance and Development	Both
14378	774	15	Leading Transitions and Socio-Ecological Ethics	Both
12531	774	15	Renewable Energy Finance	Both
11651	771	15	Renewable Energy Policy	Both
14381	774	15	Sustainable Economic Policy Options	Both
11199	775	15	Sustainable Cities	Both
12530	771	15	System Dynamics Modelling	Both
13698	776	15	Transdisciplinary Design for Transformation	Both

Please note: Not all modules are necessarily offered every year. Please contact the Centre for Sustainability Transitions to find out which modules will be available.

Modules offered by the Engineering Faculty

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
64904	744	15	Bio-energy	2
64890	714	15	Renewable Energy Systems	1

Module offered by the School of Public Leadership (as part of the PGDip in Environmental Management)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
55492	771	15	Development Planning and Environmental Analysis	Both