

## 4.1.4 MCom (Economics)

### Admission requirements

- An honours degree with Economics as major and an average mark of at least 60%.
- A Mathematics mark in the National Senior Certificate (Grade 12) of at least 60% or you must have passed a university-accredited mathematics module approved by the Department of Economics.
- All applicants for the Full Thesis option must undergo selection. To be considered for selection, you must have obtained at least 70% for your honours research assignment.

### Further requirement for the Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option:

In addition to the requirement above, you must also obtain at least 60% as your final mark in the intensive Statistics course that precedes the formal programme.

### Selection

The number of students selected can be influenced by, for example, staff capacity and the availability of resources within the Department, as well as academic merit and University transformation objectives. As staff capacity and resources can 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 Department, the criteria in the admission requirements will be used to rank the applicants in order of suitability, and to finalise the list of selected applicants.

### Application procedure and closing date

Apply at [www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies](http://www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies). For South African applicants, the closing date is **31 October** of the year before your intended studies, and for international applicants, it is **30 September**.

## Duration and starting date of programme

### Duration:

- **Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option:**
  - One year.
  - You must complete the programme within three years. If not, you will have to repeat the compulsory modules.
- **Full Thesis option:** At least one year and a maximum of three years.

### Starting date:

- **Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option:**

You must complete a three-week intensive Statistics course before the formal programme begins. This intensive course starts early January.
- **Full Thesis option:** You may start in either the first or the second semester. Please contact the programme administrator (details below).

## Enquiries and programme leader

### Enquiries

*Please direct your queries to:*

Ms Carina Smit  
Programme administrator  
Tel: 021 808 2998  
E-mail: carina@sun.ac.za  
Website: www.ekon.sun.ac.za

### Programme leader

Prof Dieter von Fintel  
Department of Economics

## Programme structure

This programme allows you to choose between two main options:

- **Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option:**
  - This option requires full-time class attendance.
  - You can choose between a research assignment of 60 credits or a thesis of 90 credits. The balance of credits (120 or 90) must come from modules as determined by the Department of Economics (see the tables below, under "Programme content").
  - You may obtain a maximum of 20 credits from a related field of study that has been approved by the Department.
- **Full Thesis option:**
  - You must complete a full thesis of 180 credits.

## Programme content

You must earn a total of at least 180 credits for one of the options in this programme.

A list of compulsory and elective modules follows.

### Compulsory modules for the Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option

*Please note:*

Mathematical Methods for Economics 771 is only compulsory if you did not pass a similar module as part of an honours programme. This will extend the programme with six months.

The reason for the extension is that you must first do an intensive three-week Mathematics course before you start Mathematical Methods for Economics 771. This intensive Mathematics course runs concurrently with the intensive three-week Statistics course that feeds into Econometrics 871. In other words, you will only be able to do the Statistics course and Econometrics 871 in the following year.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
10430	871	20	Econometrics	1
10595	871	20	Macroeconomics	1
10760	771	14	Mathematical Methods for Economics	1
10605	871	20	Microeconomics	2
11216	871	60	Research Assignment: Economics <i>or</i>	Both
11235	872	90	Thesis: Economics	Both

### Elective modules for the Coursework and Assignment or Thesis option

- If you are doing the Assignment option:
  - *without* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 60 credits.
  - *with* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 50 credits.
- If you are doing the Thesis option:
  - *without* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 30 credits.
  - *with* Mathematical Methods for Economics 771, choose at least 20 credits.

**Please note:** Not all of the following modules are necessarily offered every year. Please contact the Department of Economics to find out which modules will be presented in a specific year.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11267	872	20	Advanced Cross-section Econometrics**	2
10515	871	10	Advanced Development Economics	1
13989	871	20	Advanced Macroeconomic Policy	2
12528	872	20	Advanced Time Series Econometrics**	2
11146	871	10	Applied Macroeconomics III	1 or 2
10747	871	10	Applied Microeconomics III	1 or 2
14377	874	10	Behavioural Economics	2
14380	871	10	Data Science for Economics and Finance	1
10635	872	10	Development Economics	1
10436	871	10	Economic History	1
10432	871	10	Economics of Education I	2
10433	871	10	Economics of Education II	2
14933	812	10	Economics of Exclusion***	1
14025	871	10	Economics of Technological Change***	2
59617	871	10	Environmental Economics***	1
12949	871	10	Financial Econometrics*	2
13469	871	10	Health Economics***	2
11263	871	10	Industrial Organisation	2
64041	871	10	Institutional Economics***	2
10554	871	10	International Finance	2
14930	841	10	International Trade Theory and Policy	2
51861	871	10	Labour Economics***	2
64033	871	10	Monetary Economics	2
11143	871	10	Public Economics	1

\* You need 60% for the Time Series component of Econometrics 871(20) to be admitted to this module. Financial Economics 771(10) or any second-year module in Finance or Investment Management is strongly recommended.

\*\* You need 60% for Econometrics 871(20) to be admitted to this module.

\*\*\* As a rule, these modules are only presented every second year. You must contact the Department of Economics to find out which modules will be presented in a specific year.

**Please note:**

If you failed the module Economics of Discrimination 871 in 2024 or before, you must register for Economics of Exclusion 812. Either Economics of Discrimination 871 or Economics of Exclusion 812 will count for graduation purposes.

### Compulsory modules for the Full Thesis option

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11235	828	180	Thesis: Economics	Both

# Postgraduate Programmes

## 1. General information for all postgraduate programmes

The information in this section applies to most of the postgraduate programmes and is not repeated for each programme, so please read it through carefully. Exceptions and deviations are, however, indicated at the individual programmes.

### 1.1 Postgraduate programmes in the Faculty

The table below lists the postgraduate programmes up to master's level by the department, school or centre where they are offered. The campus or facility is indicated in italics where necessary. All departments, schools and centres also offer a PhD programme. For more on the PhD, see the doctoral section at the end of this chapter.

<b>Africa Centre for Inclusive Health Management</b>
PGDip (HIV/Aids Management)
MPhil (HIV/Aids Management)
<b>Centre for Sustainability Transitions (CST)</b>
PGDip (Sustainable Development)
MPhil (Sustainable Development)
<b>Department of Business Management</b>
PGDip (Marketing)
BComHons (Business Management)
MCom (Business Management)
<b>Department of Economics</b>
BComHons (Economics)
BComHons (Economics and Mathematical Statistics) [with the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science]
MCom (Economics)
<b>Department of Industrial Psychology</b>
PGDip (Strategic Human Resource Management)
BComHons (Human Resource Management)
BComHons (Industrial Psychology)
MCom (Human Resource Management)
MCom (Industrial Psychology)
<b>Department of Logistics</b>
PGDip (Transport and Logistics)
BComHons (Logistics Management)
BComHons (Operations Research)
BComHons (Transport Economics)
MCom (Logistics Management)
MCom (Operations Research)
MCom (Transport Economics)
<b>Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science</b>
PGDip (Actuarial Science)
BComHons (Actuarial Science)
BComHons (Economics and Mathematical Statistics) [with the Department of Economics]
BComHons (Financial Risk Management)
BComHons (Mathematical Statistics)
BComHons (Statistics)
MCom (Actuarial Science)
MCom (Financial Risk Management)
MCom (Mathematical Statistics)
MCom (Statistics)

<b>School of Accountancy</b>
PGDip (Accounting)
BComHons (Management Accounting)
BAccHons
MCom (Computer Auditing)
MCom (Financial Accounting)
MCom (Management Accounting)
MCom (Taxation)
MAcc (Auditing)
MAcc (Financial Accounting)
MAcc (Taxation)
<b>School of Public Leadership (SPL), <i>Bellville Park</i></b>
PGDip (Environmental Management) <i>Stellenbosch</i>
PGDip (Public Finance Management)
BComHons (Public and Development Management)
BPubAdminHons
MCom (Public and Development Management)
M (Public Administration)
MPhil (Environmental Management) <i>Stellenbosch</i>
<b>Stellenbosch Business School, <i>Bellville Park</i></b>
PGDip (Business Management and Administration)
PGDip (Development Finance)
PGDip (Financial Planning)
PGDip (Futures Studies)
PGDip (Leadership Development)
PGDip (Project Management)
MPhil (Development Finance)
MPhil (Futures Studies)
MPhil (Management Coaching)
MBA

## 1.2 Undergraduate module requirements for postgraduate programmes

In Appendix D to this Yearbook part, you will find a table showing the minimum module requirements for admission to certain postgraduate programmes. Review this table to determine whether you meet the requirements for the postgraduate programme you wish to follow.

## 1.3 Selection

Every postgraduate programme in the Faculty is potentially a selection programme since the capacity of the relevant department determines the number of students that can be accommodated in each programme. This means that selection happens when more candidates apply than the department can accommodate in a specific programme. There are, however, also programmes where selection always happens, regardless of how many candidates apply. Departments may choose to list specific requirements and criteria at the relevant programme entries below or on their website or in the programme brochure.

## 1.4 Postgraduate assessment and examination

- Assessment is determined at modular level; therefore, consult the relevant module framework for more information.
- For the Faculty postgraduate assessment rules, you can consult the Faculty website at [www.sun.ac.za/ems](http://www.sun.ac.za/ems) and look under "Current students" and then "General information" to find the link "EMS Postgraduate Assessment Rules".
- For more information and the general rules on assessment, see Part 1 (General Rules) of the Yearbook, under "Assessments and Promotions".

- For the general specifications for assignments, theses, and dissertations, consult the section "Postgraduate Qualifications" in Part 1 (General Rules) of the Yearbook.
- For specific information relating to the assignment, thesis or dissertation for an individual programme, consult the programme administrator or leader or relevant programme documentation.

## **1.5 Pass requirements for postgraduate programmes**

The pass mark for postgraduate programmes is 50% and to pass with distinction you need 75%. More detailed information on pass requirements for individual programmes is available from the relevant programme administrator or leader.

## **1.6 Different campuses and facilities**

Some postgraduate programmes are presented by the Stellenbosch Business School or the School for Public Leadership, both of which are on the Bellville Park campus of the University. The School of Public Leadership also presents classes at the Sustainability Institute at Lynedoch. The place where a particular diploma programme will be presented, if not Stellenbosch campus, is indicated below for each individual Programme under "Programme structure".

### Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2025 Economic and Management Sciences Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Economic and Management Sciences Yearbook** to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the yearbook under section ***2. General provisions for postgraduate programmes.***