

Postgraduate Diploma in Health Research Ethics

Please note: This programme will not be offered until further notice.

Specific admission requirements

- A background indicating a significant interest in bioethics or research ethics.
- A degree in health sciences, law, social sciences or the humanities (e.g. philosophy and theology).
- You must further submit a letter of support from your home institution demonstrating institutional support and explaining why your research ethics capacity-building is important to the home institution.
- You must be computer literate, have internet access and be fluent in spoken and written English.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online at www.maties.com by **30 September** of the previous year. Applications for prospective international students close on **31 August**.

Senate, or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf, will decide on your admission to the Diploma in Health Research Ethics.

If you have foreign qualifications and you did not use English as medium of instruction for your undergraduate studies, you may be required to provide evidence of your oral and academic writing proficiency in English.

Please note:

- You will be given preference if you are a mature midcareer professional and already have research ethics experience.
- You will also be given preference if you are a member of a research ethics committee (national, institutional or private) or a regulatory agency.

In keeping with South African guidelines for diversity in a research ethics committee membership, gender and race will be considered in selecting trainees.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over one year.

If you do not complete the programme within two years, you will not be afforded further opportunity to continue with the programme.

Programme description

The Postgraduate Diploma in Health Research Ethics is a comprehensive programme that includes a structured array of practical experiences and career development activities relevant to the ethical analysis and review of research involving human participants in resource-constrained settings. The programme aims to build capacity and enhance expertise in health research ethics in Southern Africa.

Please note: You must read the calendar entry for this programme in conjunction with the more comprehensive outline of the programme regulations provided to you upon admission to the programme.

Programme outcomes

As a graduate of the Postgraduate Diploma in Health Research Ethics, you will have:

- acquired a thorough and systematic knowledge of the history of health research ethics;
- developed an understanding of the philosophical basis of research ethics;
- developed the ability to debate and discuss topical and contentious issues in health research ethics;
- developed skills to conduct a competent review of health protocols based on scientific and ethics perspectives;
- developed the ability to assume or resume leadership roles on your return to your institution/home country and to provide training for research ethics committee members and other interested faculties; and
- developed the ability to establish a research ethics committee (REC) in your institution if one does not exist.

Presentation

The programme is offered in a modular manner by means of three two-week contact sessions.

Programme content

During the programme, you will have an opportunity to work with a clinical research site and with a health REC.

Introduction to Bioethics, Health Law and Human Rights	775(30)
Dual Review of Research as Ethical Imperative	775(30)
Research and Vulnerability	775(30)
Research Assignment (Health Research Ethics)	775(30)

Assessment and examination

- You must obtain a final mark of at least 50% to complete the programme successfully. The final mark is calculated as the weighted average of the marks obtained for the following (no subminima apply):
 - Module 1 test 20%;
 - Module 2 test 20%;
 - Module 3 test 20%;
 - Group assignment 15%; and
 - Research assignment 25%.
- To be awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Health Research Ethics with distinction, you must obtain a final mark of at least 75%.

Enquiries

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Programme administrator: Ms Meagan van Ster

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