

5.3.1.6 MMed Internal Medicine

MMed (Int)

Specific admission requirements

This programme does not have specific admission requirements. The general admission requirements for MMed programmes as mentioned in section 5.3.1 above are applicable.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over four years.

Programme content

Please note that modules run concurrently and not consecutively. All modules are compulsory.

FIRST TO SECOND YEAR

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| Basic Medical Sciences | 811(96) |
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This includes all the basic sciences relevant to the practice of Internal Medicine, e.g. physiology, pathology, pharmacology and principles of ethics.

FIRST TO FOURTH YEAR

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| Clinical Internal Medicine | 811(264) |
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FIRST TO THIRD YEAR

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| Research Assignment | 833(120) |
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Assessment and examination

- Basic Medical Sciences:
 - To successfully complete this module, your attendance must be satisfactory, and you must obtain a 50% test mark in the FCP (SA) Part I examination.
 - You must pass Part I of the examination within eighteen months, and preferably within one year, of registration.
 - If you do not meet this requirement, you must vacate the registrar post and you will be excluded from the rest of the MMed (Internal Medicine) programme.
 - Only in exceptional cases and on submission of an appropriate motivation will the Postgraduate Programme Committee of the Department of Internal Medicine consider continuation of your service in a registrar post and further attendance of the programme.
- Clinical Internal Medicine:
 - To successfully complete this module, your participation must be satisfactory whilst rotating as a registrar in General Internal Medicine and the subspecialties. You must also achieve a mark of at least 50% in the FCP (SA) Part II examination.
 - You will be assessed regularly as part of the flexible assessment strategy and you must keep a log-book as a record of your clinical exposure and experience with procedures.
 - You will not be allowed to continue with the programme if:
 - you have failed three or more clinical components of the module;
 - the departmental postgraduate committee has reviewed your overall performance at any stage and has made a recommendation to that effect to the Faculty Board; or
 - you are denied entry to the training platform by the chief executive officer of Tygerberg Hospital prior to completion of your four-year training (e.g. dismissal due to unprofessional conduct).
- Research Assignment:
 - You must have the research protocol registered within one year and complete the research assignment within three years of registration.
 - This should be submitted in the form of an article ready for publication.
 - You must complete this module before you can write the final Part II examination.
- The final mark for the degree is calculated as follows:
 - Basic Medical Sciences – 20%;
 - Clinical Internal Medicine – 55%; and
 - Research Assignment – 25%.

Enquiries

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5.3 Master's degrees

5.3.1 Master of Medicine

General admission and selection requirements for the MMed programmes

- The following apply to all MMed programmes:
 - For admission to the MMed degree programme, you must have held an MBChB degree from this University or another qualification considered as sufficient by this University for at least three years prior to application, and must be registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa as medical practitioner in the category independent practice.
 - If you specialise in Anaesthesiology, Neurosurgery, Emergency Medicine, Otorhinolaryngology, Orthopaedics, and Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, you must also have completed suitable courses such as ATLS (Advanced Trauma Life Support), ACLS (Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support), PALS (Paediatric Advanced Life Support) and APLS (Advanced Paediatric Life Support). Consult the specific requirements at each programme.
 - If you would like to register as an MMed student with the University, you must occupy a registrar post with the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health and Wellness or the National Health Laboratory Services. Exceptions to this rule will be considered in the following instances:
 - where you register as an occasional student with the University (refer also to the section on admission as an occasional student in Part 1 (General Rules) of the Yearbook) with the sole purpose of attempting the primary subjects prior to registering as an MMed student and to obtaining a position as registrar; and
 - where you have completed your training time and you are only registering to complete your research assignment.
- If you apply for a training post at the Tygerberg Hospital, the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health and Wellness or another institution considered as equivalent by this University, you must make sure of the programme-specific recommendations which apply to your MMed programme. Direct any enquiries in this regard to the programme leader of your specific programme.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply in writing. Senate, or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf, will decide whether you are to be admitted to the MMed programme.

There is no specific closing date for applications. When a registrar post becomes vacant at the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness, you apply for that position. If you are successful, you will then be admitted to the MMed programme.

Duration of programme

The training for the degree takes place over four or five years, depending on the requirements of the department/division under which your major subject falls. The term "major subject" refers to the recognised area of Medicine in which you choose to specialise.

You must successfully complete the full prescribed training period to register as a specialist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). The University will only then provide the HPCSA with signed Forms 19 and 57 confirming that an MMed degree qualification can be added to your credentials.

If you are appointed as registrar between 1 January and 31 March of the relevant year, you will graduate at the December graduation ceremony directly preceding the completion of the specific four- or five-year prescribed training period, provided that you comply with all the academic requirements of the degree at that stage.

Clinical experience

As a candidate for the MMed degree you must prove to the satisfaction of the University that:

- you have successfully held a full-time training position according to the requirements of the relevant department/division for a period of four or five years at Tygerberg Hospital, the Western Cape Department of Health and Wellness or another institution that the University deems equivalent.
- you have received theoretical, practical and clinical training as stipulated in the "Duration of programme" section above.
- you have successfully completed the single national exit examination of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA).

Exemption

- With regard to the work mentioned in the "Duration of programme" and "Clinical experience" paragraphs above, the University may grant possible partial or full exemption based on comparable training received and experience gained at another recognised institution.
- With regard to prescribed modules as mentioned in the section "Programme content" at the various MMed programmes below, the University may grant possible partial or full exemption based on modules passed at another recognised institution.

Continuation of study

- If you do not comply with the provisions relating to promotion of your specific MMed programme and you are denied the right to continue with your MMed studies, you must vacate your registrar post with the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health and Wellness or the National Health Laboratory Services. This ruling also applies to registrars in supernumerary posts.
- Only in exceptional cases, and with the submission of an appropriate motivation and approval of the departmental programme committee concerned, and the Committee for Postgraduate Teaching and the Faculty Board of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, will you be allowed to register for the MMed programme once again.

Single national exit examination

- To register as a specialist with the HPCSA you must successfully complete the single national exit examination in your specific field of study. This is an examination independent from that of the University and has an additional cost implication for you.
- It still remains the responsibility of the teaching department at the University to confirm the following:
 - successful completion of prescribed training time and flexible assessment;
 - completion of a research assignment according to the regulations of the University; and
 - submission of a completed case-book.

These assessment components may vary for the different MMed programmes.

Programme description

The purpose of the qualification is to equip you as a basically qualified medical practitioner (with an MBChB or equivalent qualification) with specialised knowledge, as well as with the skills and attitudes required as a specialist in your chosen speciality, that at least agree with the requirements of the Health Professions Council of South Africa. This will enable you to function as an independent practitioner in the relevant field within any service-rendering and academic environment, by acquiring the knowledge, skills and attitudes to:

- deliver comprehensive healthcare in a conscientious manner to the patient as an individual and as a member of the community;
- develop the attitudes and abilities needed to become an independent learner and to accept the responsibility for continuous lifelong professional development, including the ability to critically evaluate and interpret the relevant literature and to apply it in the profession;
- plan, execute, interpret and publish research relevant to your chosen speciality;
- be able to move, if you so aspire, to the highest level of academic work for doctoral study and to promote an approach based on academic integrity and ethics; and
- contribute to the pool of academics and professionals with the competence and critical intellectual abilities to ensure the future advancement of your chosen speciality, and to make provision for the country's need for a skilled workforce of the highest quality and to ensure that the country remains competitive in an era of growing global competition.

Postgraduate programmes

For more specific information on the Faculty's postgraduate programmes, consult the University's webpage on Postgraduate Studies (<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/pgstudies/>) or the various departmental websites.

1. Programme offering

The following postgraduate diploma and degree programmes are presented by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences:

| Postgraduate Diplomas | Abbreviation |
|---|--|
| Postgraduate Diploma in Addiction Care | PG Dip (Addiction Care) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Disability and Rehabilitation Studies | PG Dip (Disability and Rehabilitation Studies) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine | PG Dip (Family Medicine) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care Management | PG Dip (Health Care Management) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Health Research Ethics | PG Dip (Health Research Ethics) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases | PG Dip (Infectious Diseases) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Toxicology | PG Dip (Medical Toxicology) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Medicines Development | PG Dip (Medicines Development) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Occupational Medicine | PG Dip (Occupational Medicine) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Medicine | PG Dip (Rural Medicine) |
| Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Nursing/Midwifery | PG Dip (Specialist Nursing/Midwifery) |
| Honours Degrees | Abbreviation |
| Bachelor of Science Honours | BScHons |
| Master's Degrees | Abbreviation |
| Master of Addiction Care | MAddiction Care |
| Master of Audiology | MAud |
| Master of Global Surgery | MGlobalSurg |
| Master of Human Rehabilitation Studies | MHumRehab |
| Master of Medicine | MMed |
| Master of Nursing | MNurs |
| Master of Occupational Therapy | MOccTher |
| Master of Pathology | MPath |
| Master of Philosophy | MPhil |
| Master of Physiotherapy | MPhysio |
| Master of Public Health Nutrition | MNutr in Public Health |
| Master of Science | MSc |
| Master of Speech-Language Therapy | MSpeech |
| Master of Therapeutic Nutrition | MTherNutr |
| Doctoral Degrees | Abbreviation |
| Doctor of Philosophy | PhD |
| Doctor of Science | DSc |

2. Commencement of postgraduate studies

As postgraduate student you must register for your particular programme at the start of the academic year. The only programmes that still take on students at the start of the second semester are MMed programmes. If you are accepted for an MMed programme, you will be able to register at the start of the second semester. You can submit a request for exclusion from this rule to the Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching, with special motivation.

3. Recognition of prior learning and credit accumulation and transfer (RPL&CAT)

Consult the RPL&CAT guidelines of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences for more information on the procedures and guidelines regarding the recognition of prior learning and credit accumulation and transfer in the Faculty. These guidelines are available at www.sun.ac.za/tygststudentadmin under "Policies and Guidelines".

4. Class fees

From 2010 class fees for all structured M degree programmes will be levied per module. Until further notice the class fees for MMed programmes will be levied per annum, as in the past, with the exception of the class fees for the MMed (Fam Med) programme which will be levied per module.

The class fees for the research modules within the structured M degree programmes will be spread over two years (70% of the class fees in the first year of registration and 30% in the second year) to prevent you from having to pay the full amount for two consecutive years. If you complete your research module within one year of study, you will therefore pay only 70% of the class fees for the specific module. But if you fail to complete the research module within the prescribed two years, you will pay, as of the third year of study, the full amount for the module.

If you register for a research master's degree, you must pay the full amount in the first year of study with a continuation levy in the second and third year. However, in the fourth and following years of study the continuation levy will double.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2025 Medicine and Health Sciences Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Medicine and Health 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 **1. Programme offering**.