

ADMISSION GUIDELINES TO THE POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS OFFERED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Postgraduate Diploma in Animal Sciences OR Aquaculture

The postgraduate diploma in Animal Sciences or Aquaculture is designed to strengthen the student's knowledge in the disciplines of Animal Sciences or Aquaculture. A high level of theoretical engagement will be demanded from students in order to increase their competency level to that of a four-year BSc (Agric) degree (NQF level 8). In addition, students will be introduced to research methodology and writing, and their presentation skills will be developed.

Admission requirements

Candidates in possession of an appropriate three-year Bachelor's degree will be considered.

Master's Programme in Animal Production Systems OR Aquaculture

The master's programme in Animal Production Systems leads to the qualification MScAgric (in Animal Science OR Aquaculture).

Admission requirements

Interested students need to be in the possession of a 4-year BScAgric degree, as well as need to attain an average of at least 60% for the third and fourth year modules. The Department reserves the right to subject prospective students to an admission examination. The master's programme involves a research component of 100% (180 credits), but students in consultation with their supervisors will be requested to follow additional modules, including Biometry 711 (Postgraduate Biometry).

Students that successfully completed the Postgraduate Diploma in Animal Science or Aquaculture (with an average of at least 60%) may apply for enrolment to the master's programme, subject to final approval by the Department of Animal Sciences.

Master's program in Sustainable Agriculture

The purpose of the program is to train researchers in understanding and working within sustainable agriculture by adopting a systems approach to agriculture as a point of departure. The program comprises modules that actively seek to integrate scientific methods across disciplines to advance sustainability in spheres where agriculture interacts with natural, social and economic factors. The program is introduced with a module Introduction to Systems Thinking, which is then followed by teaching concepts in sectoral sustainable agriculture e.g. sustainable animal production, sustainable plant production and livelihood perspectives. To generate and integrate knowledge in sustainable agriculture, modules like Systems Analysis and Simulation, QUALUS (Quantitative Land Use Analysis) and Biometry will help improve the student's quantitative and analytical skills. A work-integrated learning opportunity where students are linked to organisations in industry will give the students real-life perspective and will make them more employable.

Admission requirements

Students need to be in the possession of an appropriate 4-year BscAgric or a three year BSC degree (NQF-level 7), and a relevant postgraduate qualification (e.g. BScHons or postgraduate diploma) in any of the major disciplines related to Agriculture. For both degrees the degree average needs to be 60% and higher. English proficiency is a requirement. Students will be asked to submit a written motivation for acceptance into the program.

Doctoral Program [PhD (Agric) in Animal Production Science]

This program in Animal Production Systems leads to the qualification PhD (Agric) (field: Animal Sciences). The program focuses strongly on research and aims to discover new insights and knowledge in the field of Animal Production Systems. This degree allows the student to carry out advanced research in a specific field of study that links up with other fields of study. Students thus become professionals who can, either as a member of a team or individually, play a meaningful role in national and international research, teaching and policy making in respect of animal production systems.

Admission requirements

An MScAgric in Animal Science OR Aquaculture.

Doctoral Program [DScAgric in Animal Production Systems]

The degree DScAgric is awarded to candidates who have held the PhD (Agric) degree of this University, or some other equivalent (in the opinion of the Senate) qualification for at least five years, or who have held the MScAgric degree of this University, or some other adequate qualification (in the opinion of the Senate) for at least seven years, and who have produced advanced original research and/or creative work in the agricultural sciences, have submitted original and previously published work(s) of a high standard which indicate(s) that the candidate has made a real and high-quality contribution to the enrichment of the knowledge in an agricultural sciences discipline and, if required by the examiners, has taken an oral examination to the satisfaction of the University.