

## 4.4.6 MPhil (Sustainable Development)

*Please note:* An application has been submitted to change the title of this programme to Master of Philosophy in Sustainability Transitions, abbreviated as MPhil (Sustainability Transitions). This change will be implemented once the amended title has been approved by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) and the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the change has been registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

### Admission requirements

- A Postgraduate Diploma (NQF level 8) in Sustainable Development from Stellenbosch University, *or*
- An appropriate qualification equivalent to an honours degree (NQF level 8).

### Selection

Matters like staff capacity and the availability of resources within the Centre, as well as academic merit and University transformation objectives, can influence how many students are selected each year. Since staff capacity and resources can fluctuate, the number of students who are selected can also differ from year to year.

If there are more applicants who meet the admission requirements than the Centre has capacity for, 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.

Preference will be given to applicants who have earned an average of 65% or higher in the Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainable Development (NQF level 8) or an equivalent previous qualification at the level of an honours degree (NQF level 8).

### Application procedure and closing date

Application procedures and dates are advertised by the Centre in April of every year. For more information, contact the Centre at the details under "Enquiries" below.

### Duration of programme and starting date

**Duration:** Two years, part-time

**Starting date:** As a new student, you will be registered only by 31 March of your first year of study. However, in February, you must attend the compulsory orientation programme and first foundational module.

### Provisions relating to the continuation and termination of studies

If you do not successfully complete 60 credits of coursework in your first year of study, you will not be permitted to register for the second year of study.

### Programme's mode of delivery

Hybrid. It is compulsory to attend the scheduled contact sessions on campus.

# Enquiries and programme leader

## Enquiries

*Please direct your queries to:*

Ms Amanda October  
Programme administrator  
Centre for Sustainability Transitions  
Tel: 021 808 9607  
E-mail: [cstenquiries@sun.ac.za](mailto:cstenquiries@sun.ac.za)  
Website: [www0.sun.ac.za/cst](http://www0.sun.ac.za/cst)

## Programme leader

Prof Rika Preiser  
Centre for Sustainability Transitions

## Programme structure

This programme is presented by the Centre for Sustainability Transitions at teaching venues on Stellenbosch University's Stellenbosch campus. It is a transdisciplinary programme comprising a thesis of 90 credits and coursework, also of 90 credits, all of which focus on sustainability transitions across diverse contexts.

## Programme content

You must earn a total of at least 180 credits for this programme.

Your credits accumulate as follows: A thesis component of 90 credits, plus compulsory modules of 60 credits, plus elective modules of 30 credits altogether.

### Thesis component (90 credits)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
14947	878	90	Thesis: Sustainability Transitions	Both

### Compulsory modules (60 credits)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
14944	872	30	Research Design and Methods	Both
14946	873	30	Sustainability Transitions Foundation Concepts	Both

### Elective modules (at least 30 credits)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
14945	873	30	Research Outreach and Reflection	Both
13704	871	15	Capita Selecta: Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development	Both
13703	871	15	Capita Selecta: Transdisciplinary Research in Sustainability Transitions	Both

*Please note:*

Not all elective modules are necessarily offered every year. Please contact the Centre for Sustainability Transitions to find out which elective modules will be available. You may select a master's level elective from another programme in consultation with the programme administrator and your supervisor, which must be approved by the programme leader. Contact the programme administrator for further information.

# 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.***