

5.3.3.15 MPhil in Health Professions Education

Specific admission requirements

- a four-year (or longer) bachelor's degree in Health Sciences (NQF level 8)
and
currently actively involved in teaching at a Health Sciences higher education institution.
or
- a three-year degree or diploma in Education or Social Sciences
and
a Postgraduate Diploma in Education, Higher Education or Health Sciences Education (NQF level 8)
or an honours degree in Education or Social Sciences
and
currently actively involved in teaching at a Health Sciences higher education institution.

To be admitted to the thesis programme you must meet the above-mentioned requirements, submit a complete research protocol to the satisfaction of the Programme Committee and provide proof of sufficient research experience in education or social sciences. If you are unable to provide proof of research experience in education or social sciences, the successful completion of the following module of the structured programme is an additional requirement:

- Research Methodology in Health Professions Education

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online by **30 September** of the previous year. Your application has to be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae* and a motivational letter. Only a limited number of students can be admitted annually to the first year of the programme. Admission to the programme therefore happens on the basis of the sequence in which qualifying applications are received before the closing date for applications.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over two years.

Programme description

The programme consists of two streams, namely the structured programme and the thesis programme.

The programme is presented by means of technology-mediated teaching and learning, with one contact session per year. The MPhil in Health Professions Education is a hybrid learning programme, and you are required to ensure that you have the relevant resources to participate. If you are following the structured programme, you must attend the contact sessions in person. If, however, you have been admitted to the thesis programme, the contact sessions are optional, except if you are unable to submit proof of sufficient research experience as indicated above. In that instance, you must attend the contact sessions for the Research Methodology in Health Professions Education module and pass the module.

The programme is research based and aims to equip you to understand, critically evaluate and apply the following within teaching and learning contexts in health professions education:

- contemporary and appropriate educational approaches;
- principles of professional practice, with specific reference to ethics, reflection and social responsiveness; and
- findings derived from international and particularly African research in health professions education within the context of diversity and varying levels of resources.

Programme content

Structured programme

FIRST YEAR

Compulsory modules

| | |
|---|---------|
| Teaching and Learning in Health Professions Education | 882(25) |
| Curriculum Development and Analysis in Health Professions Education | 871(15) |
| Assessment in Health Professions Education | 871(15) |
| Research Methodology in Health Professions Education | 885(20) |

SECOND YEAR

Compulsory modules

| | |
|---|---------|
| Integrated Portfolio for Health Professions Education | 886(15) |
| Leadership in Health Professions Education | 892(15) |
| Research Assignment | 871(60) |

Elective modules (Choose one of the following modules)

| | |
|---|---------|
| Staff Development in Health Professions Education | 893(15) |
| Clinical Skills Development | 891(15) |

Thesis programme

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Thesis (HPE) | 895(180) |
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Assessment and examination

Structured programme

- You must obtain a minimum mark of 50% in each module to pass.
- You must submit a satisfactory research assignment demonstrating your ability to conduct an independent scientific investigation, to interpret the results and to draw conclusions from the results.
- The research assignment is assessed according to the guidelines of Stellenbosch University and a mark of at least 50% must be achieved to pass.
- You and your supervisor must report on your progress annually. If you exceed the maximum registration period of three years, you must provide a motivation in writing to the Postgraduate Programme Committee to apply for an extension beyond this time. Lack of progress (i.e. failure to submit a protocol to the Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC) for approval or to meet deadlines) may prevent you from continuing with the programme. All FMHS students must adhere to the maximum periods for registration as per the guidelines in the Faculty's Yearbook part.
- The final mark is calculated according to the credit weights of the individual modules. You must

obtain a final mark of at least 50% to pass the programme.

- Failing of modules:
 - If you fail a module, you will be granted the opportunity to once again hand in the assignment(s) which has contributed to the final mark for the module. Whether the topic and nature of the assignment(s) remain unchanged or whether a new assignment(s) is required is left to the discretion of the module chair.
 - If you are in the first year of study in this programme, you must submit the assignment(s) that you were given the opportunity to once again hand in before the end of November. If you are in the second year of study in this programme, you must submit the assignment(s) that you were given the opportunity to once again hand in before the end of August of the given year. If you miss the due date, assignment(s) will count as an 'incomplete', which mean you fail the module, and you will be required to register for the module again in the following year.
 - If you fail a module more than once, you will not be allowed to continue with the programme.
- Re-entering the programme after discontinuation of studies:
 - If you have discontinued your studies and wish to apply to re-enter the programme, you must submit a formal application and motivation to the postgraduate programme committee (via email to the programme administrator) before the end of August for registration in the following year.

Thesis programme

- You must submit a satisfactory research thesis demonstrating your ability to conduct an independent scientific investigation, to interpret the results and to draw conclusions from the results. This must be at a more advanced level than required for the research assignment of the structured programme.
- The thesis is assessed according to the guidelines of Stellenbosch University and you must achieve a mark of at least 50% to pass. The assessment of the thesis includes an oral examination.

Enquiries

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Programme administrator: Mrs LH Louw
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5.3.3 Master of Philosophy

The programme Master of Philosophy in the Faculty consists of subspecialty training and structured and thesis programmes.

Programmes for subspecialty training

These programmes offer specialists in Internal Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology the opportunity to qualify as subspecialists in one of the various subspecialty fields within these disciplines.

General admission requirements for subspecialty programmes

You can apply for the subspecialty programmes in the respective disciplines if you meet the following requirements:

- The MMed degree in Internal Medicine or Obstetrics and Gynaecology; and
- Registration as specialist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

See each programme for the admission requirements that apply specifically to a particular programme.

Clinical experience

If you want to register for one of these programmes at the University, you must be appointed in one of the approved HPCSA training numbers as awarded to the Faculty and occupy a senior registrar post in service of

the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health and Wellness for the full duration of your training.

Assessment and examination

The standard exit examination for these programmes is a certificate examination of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA).

Structured and thesis programmes

These programmes are advanced research-based programmes. In some programmes candidates must pass theoretical modules and successfully complete a research assignment, and in other programmes a research thesis that meet the requirements of the University must be submitted.

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**.