

5.3.2.11 MSc in Implementation Science

Specific admission requirements

For admission to the MSc (Implementation Science) programme the candidate shall hold:

- an MBChB or equivalent degree; or
- a four-year professional bachelor's degree in a health-related discipline; or
- a BScHons degree of this University or another recognised university; or
- an equivalent qualification approved by Senate.

Fluency in written and spoken English is a further requirement for admission to the programme. Previous experience in HIV and/or TB research is a recommendation. Candidates will be selected on academic merit.

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**.

Duration of programme

The programme is offered full-time over a minimum period of one year and on a part-time basis over a minimum period of two years.

Programme description

Implementation science research is an emerging discipline and especially important in the context of low- and middle-income countries with high disease burdens, such as tuberculosis (TB) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). The scope includes any research producing practically usable knowledge (evidence,

findings, information, etc.) which can improve programme implementation (e.g. effectiveness, efficiency, quality, access, scale-up, sustainability) regardless of the type of research (design, methodology, approach).

The purpose of the programme is to train the workforce required to conduct high-priority TB and HIV research to reduce the burden of HIV infection among TB patients and the burden of TB among people living with HIV (PLHIV) through a focus on implementation research (IR) training and capacity building. Priority areas of IR for (i) HIV, such as ways of identifying HIV-infected individuals who do not yet know their status, (ii) TB, such as improved case finding and (iii) HIV/TB, such as early initiation of antiretroviral treatment for all HIV-positive TB patients will be main areas of interest. The long-term objective is to develop capacity for in-depth training in the field of HIV/TB implementation research through the development of independent well-skilled researchers to the level of Master's in the areas of TB and HIV, installing in these researchers the ability to apply for national and international competitive grants and train other researchers in the TB and HIV fields.

Programme content

The programme consists of modules with a total of 90 credits and a research project (thesis) of 90 credits. Students must complete all three compulsory modules and the thesis.

Principles of Implementation Research	871(30)
Designing Health Interventions for Implementation Research	872(30)
Evaluating Health Interventions for Implementation Research	873(30)
Thesis	874(90)

Assessment and examination

Modules

Formative and summative assessment of modules (90 credits) is conducted through written examinations and written assignments. A pass mark of 50% is required for each module with a subminimum of 45% on formative as well as summative assessment. If you fail any module you may be denied the right to reregister for the programme. You have to participate successfully and integrate knowledge in projects, reports and assignments.

Research project

The completed research project (thesis) shall be submitted in the prescribed format and shall be assessed by both internal and external examiners.

Enquiries

Programme leader: Dr C Windvogel
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Website: www.sun.ac.za/tb

5.3.2 Master of Science

General admission and selection requirements for MSc programmes

- For admission to the MSc degree programmes, you must have an honours degree in Science of this University, or another honours degree approved for such purposes by Senate, or you must otherwise have attained a standard of competence deemed adequate for such purpose by Senate.
- The initial research proposal is approved by a departmental research committee, as well as by the Health Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. In instances where research is conducted on animals, the proposal is approved by the Committee for Experimental Animal Research of the Faculty.

Programme description

Thesis MSc programmes entail an independent research project, resulting in a thesis that constitutes 100% of the final mark of the programme. The subject of the research project is selected to support the Faculty's research focus areas.

The following overarching objectives are set for the MSc programmes:

- to equip you with more advanced knowledge and a deeper insight into your chosen subject within the field of study;
- to promote mastery of the chosen topic, with the aid of higher levels of analysis of new information, and to develop the ability to handle complexities and to find solutions to such problems;
- to enable you to do advanced and independent research by means of rigorous training in research methods and to familiarise you with the skills needed for academic communication;
- to prepare you, if you are aspiring to higher levels of academic research work, for doctoral study and to foster an approach marked by academic integrity and ethics;
- to contribute to the pool of academics and professionals through the development of capabilities and critical intellectual skills aimed at ensuring the healthy continuance of the relevant discipline or profession; and
- to prepare you to utilise your skills to help solve the problems and challenges of the country that fall within the scope of your particular field.

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**.