

5.3.2.24 MSc in Sport and Exercise Medicine

Specific admission requirements

- An MBChB or equivalent qualification, from this or any other university, approved by Senate for this purpose.
- Satisfactory evidence of an interest in sport and exercise.
- Registration as a medical practitioner with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (or an equivalent registering body outside South Africa).
- At least one year's experience as a medical practitioner after community service.

Selection

The MSc in Sport and Exercise Medicine is a selection programme.

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 extends over a minimum period of two years on a part-time basis.

Programme description

Sport and Exercise Medicine (SEM) is an emerging medical specialty currently in the process of gaining recognition by the Health Professions Council of South Africa. SEM has three major components:

- prevention, diagnosis, management and rehabilitation of exercise related injuries;
- medical conditions associated with participation in sport and exercise; and
- prevention and rehabilitation of chronic lifestyle related diseases.

This part-time programme consists of coursework, clinical work and a research assignment. Reading and study material are provided by means of email and suggested text books. You must attend three week-long practical sessions per year at Stellenbosch University. Practical instruction consists of lectures, tutorials, clinical case discussions and seminars.

Programme outcomes

On completion of this programme, you will:

- have a thorough understanding of the effects of physical activity on the human body and be able to emphasise how this knowledge can be applied to the management of common medical problems in physically active individuals;
- have the requisite knowledge to prevent, treat and rehabilitate injuries and other medical problems arising from exercise and sport;
- have the requisite knowledge to assist in the rehabilitation of those suffering from various chronic illnesses related to lifestyle factors;
- be able to promote the physical health, well-being and productivity of the community; and
- have the requisite knowledge of research methodology, including statistics and critical scientific thinking to enable you to complete a research assignment.

Programme content

The programme consists of structured modules with a total of 120 credits and a research assignment of 60 credits.

The research work for the Research Assignment module can be conducted during the first two years of study while you are following the other four modules. You must, however, complete the research assignment by the end of the third year of study. Only in exceptional cases will you be permitted to continue with work for the research assignment after the third year of study.

Basic Sciences in SEM	872(30)
Exercise-related Injuries in SEM	873(45)
General SEM	871(30)
Research Assignment	874(60)
SEM in Special Populations	875(15)

Assessment and examination

Basic Sciences in SEM module

- Class tests and assignments done in the course of the first year constitute 30% of the final mark for the module.
- A written examination comprising two papers is completed at the end of the first year and constitutes 70% of the final mark.
- You must obtain a final mark of 50% or more to gain access to the second year of study.

Exercise-related Injuries in SEM, General SEM and SEM in Special Populations modules

- Class tests, assignments and seminars over the course of the year comprise the year mark for each of the modules Exercise-related Injuries in SEM, General SEM and SEM in Special Populations.
- An examination is written in October/November.

- A clinical examination (clinical cases) and an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) are also conducted.
- The final mark for each module is calculated as follows:
 - Class tests, assignments and seminars (year mark) – 30%
 - Written examination – 30%
 - Clinical examination and OSCE – 40%
- You must obtain 50% or more for each component of the clinical examination (clinical cases) and OSCE.

Research assignment

- One internal and one external examiner assess the research assignment.
- You must pass the research assignment with 50% or more to successfully complete the Research Assignment module.

Enquiries

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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**.