

5.3.8 Master of Nursing

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online at www.maties.com by **30 September** of the previous year.

The Master of Nursing programme is a selection programme.

Programme description

The primary purpose of the master's programme is to equip the student to conduct independent research in the field of Nursing.

As a master's degree student, you must demonstrate self-direction and originality in identifying and solving problems, act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks with a theoretical underpinning, and continue to advance your knowledge, understanding and skills.

You can follow one of two streams within the Master of Nursing programme, namely:

- Master of Nursing (structured option); and
- Master of Nursing (thesis option).

The two options are discussed separately in more detail below.

Programme outcomes

On completion of the programme, you will be able to master the following skills:

- Effective application of the science of healthcare regarding disease and technology, and of advanced and sophisticated theoretical and clinical subject data in the chosen specialist field of nursing science.
- Responsible and accountable participation in the promotion of the quality of life in the South African community as well as in the promotion of healthcare delivery in South Africa with acknowledgement of cultural differences.
- Demonstration of nursing leadership through:
 - identification and solving of healthcare issues and problems through research and the use of creative and critical thinking;
 - effective organisation and management of comprehensive healthcare services; and
 - effective leadership of healthcare teams in the academic and clinical fields.
- Independent research and effective communication of findings to improve training programmes and healthcare services.
- Comprehensive knowledge in the chosen specialist or research field.
- Advanced theoretical knowledge in nursing science and applying it in practice.
- Knowledge of recent literature and research with respect to the specialist field.
- Demonstration that you have the ability to:
 - briefly evaluate relevant literature;
 - identify, define and research complex problems;
 - perform independent research including all steps of the research process;
 - extrapolate data implications and impact, and bring this in relation to broader issues; and
 - question orthodox theory and practices, present and implement new ideas and methods.
- Understanding and application of appropriate academic and professional values.
- Self-reflection and adaptability to a higher degree of academic milieu and argumentation.

The objectives of the programme are to:

- equip you with sophisticated knowledge and understanding of phenomena specific to the field of nursing science;
- empower you to perform independent and advanced research; and
- develop a pool of specialised nurses with the necessary clinical, management, research and educational knowledge, skills and attitude to be leaders and specialist consultants in healthcare services.

Enquiries

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5.3.8.1 Master of Nursing (structured option)

Specific admission requirements

One of the following qualifications:

- a four-year undergraduate professional bachelor's degree in Nursing (NQF level 8);
- an international equivalent of the four-year professional bachelor's degree in Nursing, e.g. R174;
- a four-year basic Diploma in Nursing for students who graduated before the implementation of the HEQSF, with proof of successful completion of appropriate prior learning on NQF 8 or 9 levels that focus especially on preparation of appropriate research skills. Regarding this qualification, your application will be considered by the Committee for Postgraduate Teaching of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences according to the Policy on Assessment and Recognition of Prior Learning of the University, and final approval lies with Senate. You must also have at least a one-year postgraduate tertiary qualification in Nursing;
- another qualification deemed adequate by Senate.

Selection criteria

The Master of Nursing is a selection programme. The following selection criteria apply:

- an average mark of at least 65% for the last qualification obtained; and
- at least two years' experience as a professional nurse.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over two years.

Programme content

FIRST YEAR

Research Methodology	872(60)
Contemporary Health and Nursing Practices	871(35)

SECOND YEAR

Research Assignment	875(85)
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Assessment and examination

- Flexible assessment takes place during the first year.
- You must achieve a class mark of at least 40% in each module to qualify for the examination in each module.
- You must achieve a final mark of 50% in each module.
- The class and examination marks contribute 50% each towards the final mark for each module.
- The final mark for the first year of study is calculated as the weighted average of the marks for the two first-year modules.
- Flexible assessment takes place during the research process in the second year, with assessment by an internal and an external examiner on completion of the research assignment. A minimum mark of 50% is required for the research assignment.
- The final mark for the programme 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.
- You will only be permitted to register for theoretical modules twice. If you still fail a theoretical module after two registrations, you will not be allowed to register for the programme again.
- If you fail to complete the programme by the third year of study, you must submit a motivation to continue in the fourth year. This motivation will be considered by the Postgraduate Programme Committee of the Department of Nursing and Midwifery.

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**.