

5.3.12 Master of Public Health Nutrition

Specific admission requirements

- An NQF level 8 qualification (or international equivalent) in Health Science, Science or Agricultural Science, and proof that you have completed nutrition modules at an undergraduate level.
- Experience and practice in public health nutrition will serve as an additional advantage.
- For admission to the research stream, you must have knowledge of research methodology and experience in the planning and implementation of a research project (at undergraduate level and professionally), or you must have otherwise attained a standard of competence deemed adequate

for such purpose by Senate.

Programme description

You can follow one of two streams for the Master of Public Health Nutrition programme, namely:

- Master of Public Health Nutrition (structured option); and
- Master of Public Health Nutrition (thesis option).

The structured stream is presented by means of technology-mediated teaching and learning.

The two streams are set out separately in more detail below.

Enquiries

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5.3.12.1 Master of Public Health Nutrition (structured option)

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**.

Only a limited number of students are selected annually.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over a minimum period of two years.

Programme description

This is a structured programme which comprises various theoretical modules and a research project (50% of the total credits). If the academic year extends over 45 weeks, the expectation is that you will use 20 hours per week over a two-year period to complete the programme.

Programme content

FIRST YEAR

Compulsory modules

Nutritional Epidemiology	811(30)*
Public Health Nutrition Policies and Programming	812(15)

* Nutritional Epidemiology 811 is a prerequisite pass module for Research Thesis 875.

Elective modules

Choose any three of the following modules. A particular elective module is only presented if there are at least four students who would like to take that module.

Advanced Nutrition Analysis	812(15)
Food Security	812(15)
Food, Nutrition and Livelihood in Humanitarian Emergencies	812(15)
Nutrition and Economic, Human and Social Development	812(15)
Nutrition in Health and Disease Prevention	812(15)
Nutrition, Health and the Environment	812(15)

SECOND YEAR

Research Thesis	875(90)
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Assessment and examination

- A system of flexible assessment applies to the theory modules. A combination of written assignments, online forum discussions, portfolios, projects, presentations, reflections, tests and more can be used to determine your final mark. Assessment details for each module/study unit are available in the relevant study guide.
- An overall pass mark of 50% is required for each module.

- You will only be permitted two attempts at completing each theoretical module. If you fail to pass a module after two attempts, you will not be readmitted to the programme.
- The final mark for the research project is calculated as follows:
 - class mark (protocol) – 15%;
 - project execution – 10%;
 - average of the internal and external examiners' marks for the thesis – 65%; and
 - oral examination – 10%.
- The final degree mark is calculated by adding the average of the final marks for the theoretical modules (50%) and the final mark for the research project (50%).
- An oral examination by the examiners is compulsory.
- You will be allowed to register for the research project for a maximum of three years. If you fail to complete the research project within this time, your performance will be officially reviewed by the Postgraduate Programme Committee of the Division of Human Nutrition, and you may be denied the right to reregister for the programme.

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**.