

# MPhil/PhD

## in HEALTH PROFESSIONS EDUCATION



Centre for Health Professions Education  
Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences  
Stellenbosch University

## MPhil in HPE

### This programme aims to:

- ☞ Promote excellence with respect to education, research and community interaction in the field of health professions education on the African continent;
- ☞ Facilitate research and academic reflection in order to make a scholarly contribution to the body of knowledge in the field of health professions education;
- ☞ Ensure a rich learning environment, fostered through multidisciplinary and international perspectives;
- ☞ Develop health professions education leaders who can contribute to the advancement of evidence-based practice in higher education in health sciences in Africa in the interest of enhancing the quality of health care.

## Admission requirements

### To be admitted to the MPhil in Health Professions Education you need to have the following qualifications:

- ☞ a four-year bachelor's degree in a field of study related to the health professions **and** currently employed in a health sciences environment;
- or
- ☞ an honours degree in education or social sciences **and** currently employed in a health sciences environment;
- or
- ☞ another degree on NQF level 7 or higher **and** relevant experience in tertiary education, including experience in research regarding education or the social sciences **and** currently employed in a health sciences environment;



or

- ☞ a relevant degree or diploma **and** a Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education **and** relevant experience in tertiary education, including research regarding education or the social sciences **and** currently employed in a health sciences environment;

or

- ☞ a relevant degree **and** a relevant Diploma in Higher Education **and** relevant experience in tertiary education, including research regarding education or the social sciences **and** currently employed in a health sciences environment;

or

- ☞ an equivalent qualification approved by Senate for this purpose, or otherwise having attained a standard of competence in this field deemed adequate for such purpose by Senate.

*In order to participate in the programme, you must be proficient in English*

## FURTHER ENQUIRIES:

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## MPhil in HPE (Structured programme)

All modules are subject to continuous assessment. You will be required to complete assignments in which you will apply theory to your own work setting and practice. In order to pass, a minimum mark of 50% has to be achieved in each module. The final mark is weighted according to the credit weighting. You are also required to submit a satisfactory research assignment demonstrating your ability to conduct an independent scientific investigation and to interpret the results thereof. The research assignment will be assessed according to Stellenbosch University guidelines. In order to pass the research assignment a minimum of 50% has to be achieved.

## Learning outcomes for the programme

**On completion of the MPhil in HPE you will be able to understand, critically evaluate and apply:**

- Contemporary and appropriate educational approaches in a health professions teaching and learning context;
- Principles of professional practice, with specific reference to ethics, reflection and social responsiveness, in a health professions teaching and learning context;
- Findings derived from international and, in particular, African research into health professions education within the context of diversity and varying levels of resources.

## Programme structure

### Modules Year 1

Leadership in HPE	(15)
Teaching and Learning in HPE	(25)
Curriculum Development and Analysis in HPE	(15)
Assessment in HPE	(15)
Research Methodology in HPE	(20)

### Modules Year 2

Staff Development in HPE	(15)
OR	
Clinical Skills Development	(15)
Integrated Portfolio for HPE	(15)
Assignment	(60)

A compulsory residential period of one week, usually in January/February, introduces each year of study. The remainder of the programme is facilitated online via the SU learning management system (SUNLearn), using structured study materials, written assignments and feedback.

*"It is a fantastic course - I have learnt so much and everything I have learnt is applicable in practice. With my new knowledge I have already improved the quality of my teaching related activities. The course is indispensable for anyone involved in teaching in the health sciences."*

*Former MPhil in HPE student*



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## MPhil in HPE (Thesis option)

The programme can also be completed by following a full thesis option. Admission is subject to approval of the envisaged study by the programme committee. You are required to submit proof of experience in an educational environment. If you are unable to supply proof of knowledge of and experience in educational or social sciences research, you will be required to complete the following module:

- Research Methodology in HPE (20 credits)

You are required to submit a research thesis demonstrating your ability to conduct an independent scientific investigation. This must be at a more comprehensive level than required for the research assignment in the structured programme. The research thesis will be assessed according to Stellenbosch University guidelines and a minimum of 50% has to be achieved in order to pass.

### Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

- In keeping with university guidelines, applications for RPL will be considered, for those who can demonstrate having considerable experience in health professions education.

## PhD (HPE)

The Doctorate in Philosophy (Health Professions Education) (PhD [HPE]) requires the submission of a full research dissertation that meets the requirements for doctoral studies as defined by SU guidelines.

Admission is subject to approval by the programme committee. You are required to submit proof of experience in an educational environment and proof of knowledge of and experience in educational or social sciences research.