

4. Multidisciplinary postgraduate programmes

4.1 Programme in Sustainable Agriculture

4.1.1 MSc (Sustainable Agriculture)

Programme Code

5981001

Specific Admission Requirements

- You must have a suitable four-year bachelor's (Agric) degree (NQF level 8), or a three-year bachelor's degree (NQF level 7) and an applicable postgraduate qualification (e.g. BScHons or a postgraduate diploma) in any of the major subjects that are applicable to agriculture.
- You must have achieved an average final mark of 60% or higher.
- You must be proficient in English.
- You must submit a written motivation for admission to the programme.

Programme Content

The purpose of this programme is to train you as researcher in understanding and working within sustainable agriculture. To this end, we adopt a systems approach to agriculture. The programme comprises modules that actively seek to integrate scientific methods across disciplines to advance sustainability in spheres where agriculture interacts with natural, social and economic factors.

The programme starts with the module Introduction to Systems Thinking. Next, the programme teaches concepts in sectoral sustainable agriculture such as 'sustainable animal production', 'sustainable plant production' and 'livelihood perspectives'. Modules like Systems Analysis and Simulation, QUALUS (Quantitative Land Use Analysis) and Biometry will improve your quantitative and analytical skills, which you need to generate and integrate knowledge of sustainable agriculture. A work-integrated learning opportunity that links you to organisations in the industry will give you real-life perspective and ensure that you be ready for the job market.

Compulsory Modules

13341: Introduction to Systems Thinking	870(6): Introduction to systems thinking
13340: Sustainable Soil Management	871(8): Sustainable soil management
13342: Plant Production and Plant Protection	872(8): Plant production and plant protection
13343: Sustainable Animal Production	873(8): Sustainable animal production
11490: Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	874(6): Biodiversity and ecosystem services
13344: Sociology of Sustainable Agriculture	875(6): Sociology of sustainable agriculture
13345: Economics of Sustainable Agriculture	876(8): Economics of sustainable agriculture (including farm management)
13346: Systems Analysis and Simulation	880(6): Systems analysis and simulation
13347: Quantitative Analysis of Land Use Systems	881(8): Quantitative analysis of land use systems
13348: Work-integrated Learning	882(20): Work-integrated learning
13349: Research Thesis (Sustainable Agriculture)	883(90): Research thesis
11061: Biometry	821(8): Biometrical applications

Assessment and Examination

Modules are assessed by means of practical and written assignments, tests and written examinations in June and November.

After you have completed your research, you must submit a thesis that the examiners approve. Then you must present a seminar where you will have to defend your thesis.

Enquiries

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Disclaimer:

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