

### 4.1.11 MCom (Mathematical Statistics)

*Please note:* An application has been submitted to externally amend the title of this programme to Master of Commerce in Statistics and Data Science – abbreviation "MCom (Statistics and Data Science)". This change will be implemented once the amended title has been approved by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) and the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the change has been registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

#### Admission requirements

- An honours degree with Mathematical Statistics as the major field of study.

#### Selection

The number of students selected can be influenced by, for example, staff capacity and the availability of resources within the Department, as well as academic merit and University transformation objectives. As staff capacity and resources can fluctuate from year to year, the number of students selected can also differ from year to year.

If the Mathematical Statistics background of the applicant is deemed insufficient after a case-by-case determination by the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, the Department may require an additional departmental assessment on Mathematical Statistics topics. Students may also be required to complete additional Stellenbosch University Mathematical Statistics modules along with their MCom studies.

#### Application procedure and closing date

Apply at [www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies](http://www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies). For South African applicants, the closing date is **31 October** of the year before your intended studies, and for international applicants, it is **30 September**.

#### Duration, offering type and starting date of programme

**Duration:** Two years, full-time. You must complete the programme within four years. If not, you will have to repeat your modules.

**Starting date:** One and a half weeks before the other classes at the University begin.

#### Programme's mode of delivery

Fully contact (face-to-face).

#### Enquiries

Programme leader: Prof Sugnet Lubbe  
 Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science  
 Tel: 021 808 3024  
 E-mail: [slubbe@sun.ac.za](mailto:slubbe@sun.ac.za)  
 Website: [www.sun.ac.za/statistics](http://www.sun.ac.za/statistics)

#### Programme structure

You can choose between two possible options:

- **A Coursework and Assignment option** (Mathematical Statistics 889), consisting of a compulsory research assignment of 60 credits and elective modules to add up to at least 180 credits;
- **A Coursework and Thesis option** (Mathematical Statistics 879), consisting of a compulsory thesis and elective modules to add up to at least 180 credits.

#### Programme content

##### Programme module

You must earn a total of at least 180 credits for one of the options in this programme.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
22853	889	180	Mathematical Statistics (Coursework and Assignment option)	Both
22853	879	180	Mathematical Statistics (Coursework and Thesis option)	Both

The modules for each option are listed below.

### Compulsory module for the Coursework and Assignment option (889) (60 credits)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11228	895	60	Research Assignment: Mathematical Statistics	Both

### Compulsory module for the Coursework and Thesis option (879) (90 credits)

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
11246	891	90	Thesis: Mathematical Statistics	Both

### Elective modules for both options

Select modules to add up to at least 180 credits when added to the assignment or thesis.

*Please note:*

Some of the modules listed below may not be offered in a specific year, depending on circumstances in the Department. Modules can also be offered in different semesters from what is listed below. Please contact the Department to find out which modules will be available.

Code	Module	Credits	Module Name	Semester
10524	819	15	Advanced Mathematical Statistics A	1
11173	849	15	Advanced Mathematical Statistics B	2
10512	815	15	Advanced Multivariate Statistical Analysis A	1
10513	845	15	Advanced Multivariate Statistical Analysis B	2
10523	818	15	Advanced Sampling Techniques	2
10694	811	15	Bootstrap and other Resampling Techniques A	1
10695	841	15	Bootstrap and other Resampling Techniques B	2
10441	813	15	Extreme Value Theory A	Both
10442	843	15	Extreme Value Theory B	Both
18130	822	15	Multi-dimensional Scaling A	1
11910	852	15	Multi-dimensional Scaling B	2
10703	812	15	Statistical Learning Theory A	Both
10704	842	15	Statistical Learning Theory B	Both

*Also take note of the following combinations and prerequisites:*

- Bootstrap and other Resampling Techniques A 811(15) is a prerequisite for Bootstrap and other Resampling Techniques B 841(15).
- Extreme Value Theory A 813(15) and Extreme Value Theory B 843(15) together form a year module.
- Multi-dimensional Scaling A 822(15) is a prerequisite for Multi-dimensional Scaling B 852(15).
- Statistical Learning Theory A 812(15) and Statistical Learning Theory B 842(15) together form a year module.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2023 Economic Management Sciences Calendar (Yearbook). Make sure to consult the full [Economic Management Sciences Calendar](#) to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the Calendar under section ***1. General Information for all Postgraduate Programmes.***