

5.3.3.15 MPhil in Health Professions Education

Specific admission requirements

- a four-year (or longer) bachelor's degree in Health Sciences (NQF level 8) and currently actively involved in teaching at a Health Sciences higher education institution.
- or
- a three-year degree or diploma in Education or Social Sciences and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education, Higher Education or Health Sciences Education (NQF level 8) **or** an honours degree in Education or Social Sciences and currently actively involved in teaching at a Health Sciences higher education institution.

To be admitted to the thesis programme you must meet the above-mentioned requirements, submit a complete research protocol to the satisfaction of the Programme Committee and provide proof of sufficient research experience in education or social sciences. If you are unable to provide proof of research experience in education or social sciences, the successful completion of the following module of the structured programme is an additional requirement:

- Research Methodology in Health Professions Education

Application procedure and closing date

Apply in writing by **30 September** of the previous year. Your application has to be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae* and a written motivation. Only a limited number of students can be admitted annually to the first year of the programme. Admission to the programme therefore happens on the basis of the sequence in which qualifying applications are received before the closing date for applications.

Duration of programme

The programme extends over two years.

Programme description

The programme consists of two streams, namely the structured programme and the thesis programme.

The programme is presented by means of technology-mediated teaching and learning, with one contact session per year. If you are following the structured programme, you must attend the contact sessions. If, however, you have been admitted to the thesis programme, the contact sessions are optional, except if you are unable to submit proof of sufficient research experience as indicated above. In that instance, you must attend the contact sessions for the Research Methodology in Health Professions Education module and pass the module.

The programme is research based and aims to equip you to understand, critically evaluate and apply the following within teaching and learning contexts in health professions education:

- contemporary and appropriate educational approaches;
- principles of professional practice, with specific reference to ethics, reflection and social responsiveness; and
- findings derived from international and particularly African research in health professions education within the context of diversity and varying levels of resources.

Programme content

Structured programme

FIRST YEAR

Compulsory modules

Teaching and Learning in Health Professions Education	882(25)
Curriculum Development and Analysis in Health Professions Education	871(15)
Assessment in Health Professions Education	871(15)
Research Methodology in Health Professions Education	885(20)

SECOND YEAR

Compulsory modules

Integrated Portfolio for Health Professions Education	886(15)
Leadership in Health Professions Education	892(15)
Research Assignment	871(60)

Elective modules

Staff Development in Health Professions Education	893(15)
Clinical Skills Development	891(15)

Thesis programme

Thesis (HPE)	895(180)
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Assessment and examination

Structured programme

- Flexible assessment is applicable to all modules, and you must pass each module with a minimum mark of 50%.
- You must submit a satisfactory research assignment demonstrating your ability to conduct an independent scientific investigation, to interpret the results and to draw conclusions from the results.
- The research assignment is assessed according to the guidelines of Stellenbosch University and a mark of at least 50% must be achieved to pass.
- You and your supervisor must report on your progress annually. If you exceed the maximum registration period of three years, you must provide a motivation in writing to the Postgraduate Programme Committee to apply for an extension beyond this time. Lack of progress (i.e. failure to submit a protocol to the Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC) for approval or to meet deadlines) may prevent you from continuing with the programme.
- The final mark 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.
- Failing of modules:
 - If you fail a module, you will be granted the opportunity to once again hand in the assignment(s) which has contributed to the final mark for the module. Whether the topic and nature of the assignment(s) remain unchanged or whether a new assignment(s) is required is left to the discretion of the module chair.
 - The new assignment(s) must be submitted before the end of November of the year in which the module is taken. If you miss the due date, you will have to register for the module again in the following year.
 - If you fail a module more than once, you will not be allowed to continue with the programme.

Thesis programme

- You must submit a satisfactory research thesis demonstrating your ability to conduct an independent scientific investigation, to interpret the results and to draw conclusions from the results. This must be at a more advanced level than required for the research assignment of the

structured programme.

- You and your supervisor must report on your progress annually. If you exceed the maximum registration period of three years, you must provide a motivation in writing to the Postgraduate Programme Committee to apply for an extension beyond this time. Lack of progress (i.e. failure to submit a protocol to the Health Research Ethics Committee (HREC) for approval; failure to meet deadlines) may prevent you from continuing with the programme.
- The thesis is assessed according to the guidelines of Stellenbosch University and you must achieve a mark of at least 50% to pass.

Enquiries

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5.3.3 Master of Philosophy

The programme Master of Philosophy in the Faculty consists of subspecialty training and structured and thesis programmes.

Programmes for subspecialty training

These programmes offer specialists in Internal Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynaecology the opportunity to qualify as subspecialists in one of the various subspecialty fields within these disciplines.

General admission requirements for subspecialty programmes

You can apply for the subspecialty programmes in the respective disciplines if you meet the following requirements:

- The MMed degree in Internal Medicine or Obstetrics and Gynaecology; and
- Registration as specialist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

See each programme for the admission requirements that apply specifically to a particular programme.

Clinical experience

If you want to register for one of these programmes at the University, you must be appointed in one of the approved HPCSA training numbers as awarded to the Faculty and occupy a senior registrar post in service of the Western Cape Provincial Department of Health and Wellness for the full duration of your training.

Assessment and examination

The standard exit examination for these programmes is a certificate examination of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA).

Structured and thesis programmes

These programmes are advanced research-based programmes. In some programmes candidates must pass theoretical modules and successfully complete a research assignment, and in other programmes a research thesis that meet the requirements of the University must be submitted.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2024 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 *Postgraduate programmes*.