

3.1.6. MMil in Security and Africa Studies

The programme allows for one of two modes of study, both under the guidance of a supervisor.

- Option A:
 - a thesis with prescribed reading in preparation of a research proposal; and
 - an oral examination and submission of an article for publication in an accredited journal; or
 - a paper at a subject conference or a graduate seminar.
- Option B:
 - a structured self-study programme culminating in a thesis.

3.1.6.1. MMil in Security and Africa Studies (Option A)

Admission Requirements

Subject to consultation with the lecturers at the School for Security and Africa Studies, one of the following degrees is required:

- a BMilHons degree in Security and Africa Studies with a minimum final mark of 60% in each subject; or
- any other honours degree with Military History, Strategic Studies, Political Science or another appropriate subject as major, with a final mark of 60% in each subject.

Duration of Programme

You must complete the programme after one year of full-time or two years of part-time study.

Programme Structure

Depending on your academic background, you select a research theme in consultation with your supervisor, who consults with the subject group as well.

This research theme leads to a research proposal, which must have a definite focus on Security and Africa Studies and which in turn leads to the writing of a thesis.

Programme Content

A thesis (180 credits) in which you demonstrate the ability to undertake independent, scientifically responsible research.

The thesis must comply with the guidelines of the University.

An oral examination.

Your thesis must be preceded by a literature study leading to a research proposal, which you must present at a Faculty of Military Science graduate research colloquium.

Publish, or submit for publication, an article on the study theme in a DOE-accredited journal or present a paper at a subject conference or graduate seminar.

3.1.6.2. MMil in Security and Africa Studies (Option B)

Programme Code

56278 878 (180)

Admission Requirements

Subject to consultation with the lecturers at the School for Security and Africa Studies, one of the following degrees is required:

- a BMilHons degree in Security and Africa Studies with a final mark of at least 60% in each subject; or
- any other honours degree with Military History, Strategic Studies, Political Science or another appropriate subject as major, with a final mark of 60% in each subject.

Duration of Programme

You must complete the programme after one year of full-time or two years of part-time study.

Programme Structure

The programme consists of three compulsory coursework modules, as determined by the supervisor, as well as a thesis based on an approved research proposal. You select your research theme in consultation with your supervisor. The research theme for your thesis should be based on the compulsory coursework modules. The research proposal must have a definite focus on Security and Africa Studies. Your thesis should demonstrate your ability to undertake independent, scientifically responsible research

Programme Content

Compulsory coursework modules (90 credits)

Strategy in the Contemporary World	14582 872(30)	Dept of Strategic Studies
A Theme from South African Military History	14571 872(30)	Dept of Military History
International Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping	14585 872(30)	Dept of Political Science (Mil)

Compulsory Thesis (90 credits)

Thesis (Security and Africa Studies)	14581 871(90)	Dept of Political Science (Mil)
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Assessment and Examination

The three compulsory modules and the thesis will be assessed accordingly to the regulations of Stellenbosch University for the relevant NQF level.

3. Master's degrees

3.1. Master of Military Science (MMil)

To apply for this degree, you have to possess one of the following:

- a BMilHons degree at Stellenbosch University, or any other honours degree approved by Senate for this purpose;
- upon written request, you have been allowed by Senate (or the Executive Committee acting on Senate's behalf) to register for the MMil programme;
- an approved research curriculum and/or advanced study of at least one year (after having obtained the above-mentioned honours degree) at Stellenbosch University or any other institution approved by Senate; and
- submission of a satisfactory thesis.

General information

1. History and functions of the Faculty

1.1. History

The Military Academy was established on 1 April 1950 under the auspices of the University of Pretoria, as a branch of the SA Military College (now the SA Army College) at Voortrekkerhoogte (now Thaba Tshwane). In 1953, the Military Academy would move to Saldanha, under the trusteeship of Stellenbosch University, from which institution successful candidates would receive a BMil degree. In January 1961, the Academy became a faculty in its own right – the Faculty of Military Science of Stellenbosch University.

1.2. Functions

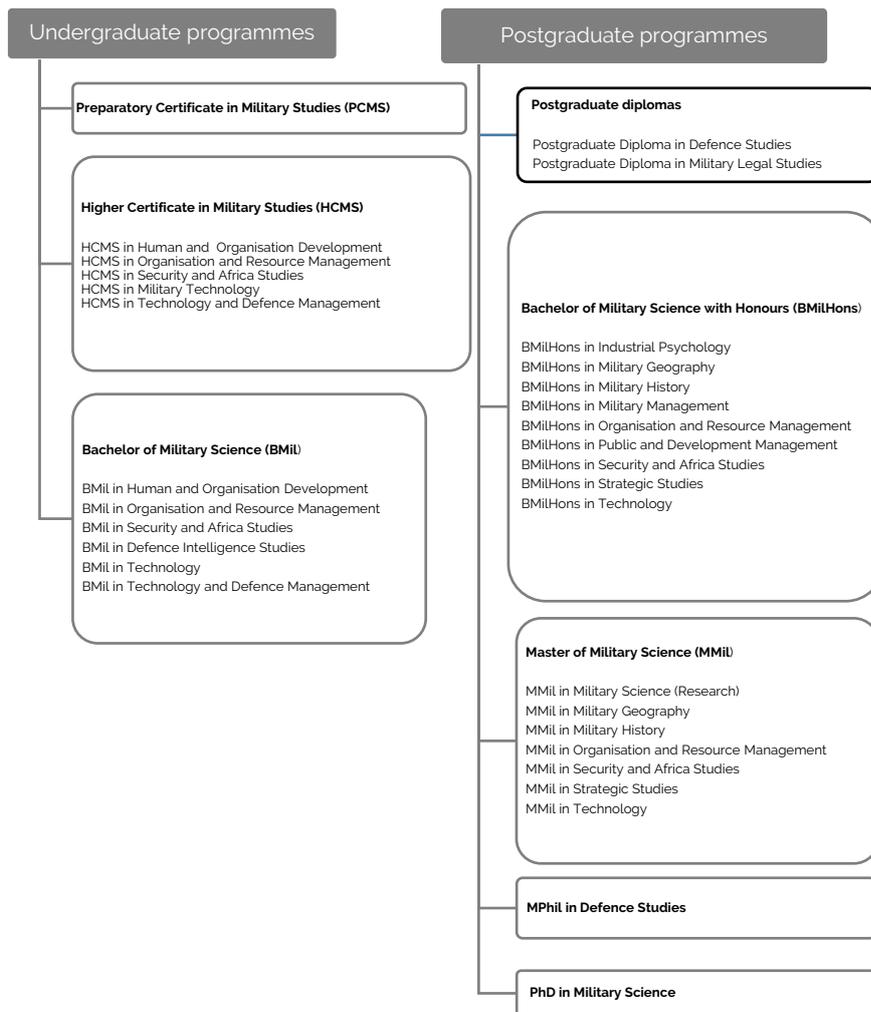
Stellenbosch University is the custodian of the Faculty of Military Science through a contractual agreement with the South African Department of Defence (DoD). The Faculty is located within the SA Military Academy in Saldanha Bay on the West Coast of South Africa. On our Campus, civilian and uniform members work together and learners are members of SA Army, SA Navy, SA Air Force, SA Military Health Services and members of the broader DoD. We develop the future military leaders of South Africa and our international partners such as Botswana, France, Mozambique and Namibia.

We are the only Faculty of Military Science in South Africa and our Faculty members have the opportunity to develop expert knowledge in their respective academic disciplines. Our academic programmes are fully accredited by the Council for Higher Education and we own an accredited research journal (*Scientia Militaria*). Our Faculty members are engaged in teaching, conducting security-related research and being involved in community interaction with the DoD, academic institutions and civil society.

The Faculty of Military Science has five academic schools:

- the School for Security and Africa Studies;
- the School for Defence Organisation and Resource Management;
- the School for Human Resource Development;
- the School of Science and Technology; and
- the School for Geo-spatial Studies and Information Systems.

2. Qualifications offered at the Faculty



3. Other services offered by Faculty

3.1. Academic development

- study and career guidance;
- life skills development;
- psychotherapeutic services; and
- academic support services.

3.2. Language service

Informal isiXhosa, isiZulu, SeSotho, French and German courses are available on request to staff and students.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2025 Military Science Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Military Science 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. Postgraduate diplomas.**