
University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

MSc Tropical Animal Health (Coursework) (08251020)

Duration of study 1 year

Total credits 180

Programme information

This degree primarily aims to address an international audience involved in tropical livestock and wildlife health, management and production in support of rural development, also wishing to integrate the impact of the diseases and control activities on the local ecosystems in order to increase knowledge and effectiveness of control strategies. The degree is more geared towards veterinarians and professionals with a background in Animal Health and Zoology, but it may also be of interest to medical professionals who want to broaden their scope. The modular programme is structured in such a way that a learner can, by selecting the appropriate elective and skills modules, achieve a qualification that will support various career paths, including microbiology or parasitology, veterinary field services, or general veterinary practice, to name a few.

This degree is offered as a combination of e-learning, face-to-face teaching and a compulsory collaborative induction/field-workshop. It has the following components:

- A two week compulsory induction/field-workshop
- Compulsory core modules
- Elective modules (Theory-based and Skills-based)
- Mini-dissertation

For the MSc Tropical Animal Health the mini-dissertation will include an oral examination conducted face to face or via video conference. The oral examining panel will include an examiner from each institute (not the supervisor). A mark will be given which will constitute 10% of the final mini-dissertation mark. The dissertation will also be examined by one internal and one external examiner as stipulated by the UP regulations; a mark will be given which will constitute 90% of the final mini-dissertation mark.

Admission requirements

Subject to the stipulations of General Regulations of UP, a BVSc, a four-year BSc in Animal Science, Biological Science, or an equivalent degree is required. According to the Bologna Bachelor-Master structure, a Masters degree is required to register at ITM. (Note: A four-year BSc degree in the South African context is equivalent to a Masters degree in the Bologna system). Two years of professional experience might be required in certain cases. It remains the prerogative of the head of department (UP) or course director (ITM) to require, in addition to the entrance requirements already mentioned, the successful completion of an admissions test before registration. A student may also be required to pass a proficiency test in English (TOEFL) at an acceptable level. The web-based/online nature of the modules requires basic computer skills in order to successfully participate in the degree programme.

Additional requirements

Also consult the General Regulations. Students are required to confirm whether a module will be presented in any particular year.

Examinations and pass requirements

The MSc degree is conferred by virtue of the successful completion of coursework and a mini-dissertation within the prescribed time period. The final mark will be calculated as follows:

Coursework: 50%; Mini-dissertation: 50%. The latter will include an oral examination conducted face to face or via video conference. The oral examining panel will include an examiner from each institute (not the supervisor); a mark will be given which will constitute 10% of the final Dissertation mark. The dissertation will also be examined by one external examiner as stipulated by the UP regulations; a mark will be given which will constitute 90% of the final mini-dissertation mark.

If a student fails a module, he/she will have to repeat the module the following year. In the case of the skills-based modules, if a student fails either the online (theory) or the practical component of a module, he/she will have to repeat the module (online and practical component) the following year. Any module can only be repeated twice; if such a module is failed in both instances, the degree will not be conferred.

Research information

On an appropriate topic depending on the field of interest of the student, a research project of limited scope must be undertaken and written in the format of a dissertation to fulfill the requirements of the MSc. The research topic is determined in consultation with the supervisor and head of department and the research project must be approved according to Faculty/Institute guidelines. (Consult UP General Regulations)

Before or together with the dissertation, a student must submit at least one draft article in the correct format for publication in an acknowledged journal to the Faculty Administration, failing which the degree will not be conferred. The draft article must be based on the research for the dissertation and must be acceptable to the supervisor and meet subsidy requirements. (Also consult UP General Regulations)

A dissertation may not be conditionally accepted: it is either accepted (> 50%) or rejected (< 50%). In the event of a dissertation being rejected, a candidate may submit an amended version or another dissertation within two years and will bear the full cost of the examination.

Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred with distinction when a student has obtained at least 75% for the dissertation and an average of at least 75% for the modules chosen.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 180

Core modules

One health: basic concepts 801 (OHB 801) - Credits: 12.00

Basic epidemiology 802 (EPL 802) - Credits: 12.00

Mini-dissertation 895 (AHE 895) - Credits: 90.00

Research methodology 812 (VRM 812) - Credits: 9.00

Elective modules

Applied veterinary helminthology 811 (AVH 811) - Credits: 9.00

Applied veterinary virology 811 (AVV 811) - Credits: 9.00

Ticks and tick-borne diseases 814 (TBD 814) - Credits: 9.00

Selected tick identification 811 (TCK 811) - Credits: 9.00

Applied molecular biology 816 (VMB 816) - Credits: 9.00

Applied serology 811 (ASR 811) - Credits: 9.00

Applied veterinary bacteriology 817 (AVB 817) - Credits: 9.00

Advanced one health 812 (AHE 812) - Credits: 12.00

Advanced one health: public health 813 (AHE 813) - Credits: 12.00

Animal health management: high impact and emerging diseases 814 (AHE 814) - Credits: 12.00

Advanced one health: policy 815 (AHE 815) - Credits: 12.00

Advanced epidemiology 803 (EPL 803) - Credits: 12.00

Surveillance and survey methodology 816 (AHE 816) - Credits: 12.00

General vector-borne diseases 811 (GVD 811) - Credits: 9.00

Applied epidemiology 804 (EPL 804) - Credits: 9.00



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 180

Core modules

- One health: basic concepts 801 (OHB 801) - Credits: 12.00
- Basic epidemiology 802 (EPL 802) - Credits: 12.00
- Mini-dissertation 895 (AHE 895) - Credits: 90.00
- Research methodology 812 (VRM 812) - Credits: 9.00

Elective modules

- Applied veterinary helminthology 811 (AVH 811) - Credits: 9.00
- Applied veterinary virology 811 (AVV 811) - Credits: 9.00
- Ticks and tick-borne diseases 814 (TBD 814) - Credits: 9.00
- Selected tick identification 811 (TCK 811) - Credits: 9.00
- Applied molecular biology 816 (VMB 816) - Credits: 9.00
- Applied serology 811 (ASR 811) - Credits: 9.00
- Applied veterinary bacteriology 817 (AVB 817) - Credits: 9.00
- Advanced one health 812 (AHE 812) - Credits: 12.00
- Advanced one health: public health 813 (AHE 813) - Credits: 12.00
- Animal health management: high impact and emerging diseases 814 (AHE 814) - Credits: 12.00
- Advanced one health: policy 815 (AHE 815) - Credits: 12.00
- Advanced epidemiology 803 (EPL 803) - Credits: 12.00
- Surveillance and survey methodology 816 (AHE 816) - Credits: 12.00
- General vector-borne diseases 811 (GVD 811) - Credits: 9.00
- Applied epidemiology 804 (EPL 804) - Credits: 9.00

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.