University of Pretoria Yearbook 2020

MSc Environmental Ecology (Coursework) (02250404)

Minimum duration of study	2 years
Total credits	180
NQF level	09

Programme information

The Centre for Environmental Studies is a graduate school for multidisciplinary training and research focusing on the environment. Training aims to satisfy the need for environmental professionals for implementing current environmental legislation as well as industry-driven environmental management systems.

Coordinated by the Department of Zoology and Entomology.

The purpose of this focus area is to train environmental graduates who specialised in careers in the ecology of the environment, including conservation planning, environmental management and air quality management. On completion of the training, candidates should be conversant and be able to partake in, or render advice concerning, all aspects involved in the management of the ecological consequences of human existence. This includes a thorough grounding in ecosystem structure, composition and function, ecosystem services, notions of ecosystem health, the management of declining and small populations, captive propagation, control of invasive species, species and community restoration, conservation education, local communities and conservation, as well as aspects of biogeography and macro-ecology, conservation planning and monitoring, the structure, composition and function of biological communities, population and community variability.

The MSc degree is conferred on the grounds of a dissertation and such additional postgraduate coursework as may be prescribed.

Renewal of registration
As long as progress is satisfactory, renewal of the registration of a master's student will be accepted for the second year of the study. Registration for a third and subsequent years will only take place when the Student Administration of the Faculty receives a written motivation that is supported by the relevant head of department and Postgraduate Studies Committee.

General
Candidates are required to familiarise themselves with the General Regulations regarding the maximum period of registration and the requirements on the submission of a draft article for publication.

Admission requirements

- BScHons or four-year degree qualification or the equivalent degree status which includes appropriate subjects in ecology.

- At least a final grade point average of 65% for the preceding degree.
- SAQA evaluation compulsory. (NQF level 8 required).

Other programme-specific information

One of the listed specialisation modules may be substituted with an elective module subject to the approval of the Director of the Centre. Choice of an elective is based on the academic background and/or anticipated career of the student but is expected to be relevant to either conservation biology or sustainable forestry management.

Promotion to next study year

The progress of all master's candidates is monitored biannually by the supervisor and the postgraduate coordinator. A candidate's study may be terminated if the progress is unsatisfactory or if the candidate is unable to finish his/her studies during the prescribed period.

Subject to exceptions approved by the Dean, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, and where applicable, a student may not enter for the master's examination in the same module more than twice.

Pass with distinction

The MSc degree is conferred with distinction to candidates who obtain a final average mark of at least 75% and a mark of at least 75% for the dissertation/mini-dissertation from each of the members of the examination panel. Where a member of the examination panel awards a mark of less than 75% for the dissertation/mini-dissertation, that member of the examination panel must offer, in writing, support for his/her decision, or indicate in writing that he/she supports the examination committee's decision to confer the degree with distinction.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 180

Programme information:

Minimum credit: 180

Core credits: 120

Elective credits: 60

Core modules

Environmental paradigms 810 (ENV 810) - Credits: 15.00
Environmental law 816 (ENV 816) - Credits: 15.00
Trees in a multifunctional landscape 833 (ENV 833) - Credits: 15.00
Mini-dissertation 891 (ENV 891) - Credits: 90.00

Elective modules

Environment and development 811 (ENS 811) - Credits: 15.00
Strategic environmental management 822 (ENS 822) - Credits: 15.00
Environment and land reform 823 (ENS 823) - Credits: 15.00
Social modelling and assessment 824 (ENS 824) - Credits: 15.00
International environmental management systems 822 (ENV 822) - Credits: 15.00
Water quality management 810 (EWM 810) - Credits: 15.00
Water conservation and demand management 821 (EWM 821) - Credits: 15.00
Water supply and sanitation 822 (EWM 822) - Credits: 15.00
Forest ecology and management 835 (FOR 835) - Credits: 15.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 180

Core modules

Environmental paradigms 810 (ENV 810) - Credits: 15.00
Environmental law 816 (ENV 816) - Credits: 15.00
Trees in a multifunctional landscape 833 (ENV 833) - Credits: 15.00
Mini-dissertation 891 (ENV 891) - Credits: 90.00

Elective modules

Environment and development 811 (ENS 811) - Credits: 15.00
Strategic environmental management 822 (ENS 822) - Credits: 15.00
Environment and land reform 823 (ENS 823) - Credits: 15.00
Social modelling and assessment 824 (ENS 824) - Credits: 15.00
International environmental management systems 822 (ENV 822) - Credits: 15.00
Water quality management 810 (EWM 810) - Credits: 15.00
Water conservation and demand management 821 (EWM 821) - Credits: 15.00
Water supply and sanitation 822 (EWM 822) - Credits: 15.00
Forest ecology and management 835 (FOR 835) - Credits: 15.00

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.