



Department of Auditing

Postgraduate Diploma In Investigation And
Forensic Accounting

07220135

Admission requirements for 2026

Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

The Unit for Forensic Accounting In The Department of Auditing

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN INVESTIGATIVE AND FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

(Web-supported)

This programme was designed to not only be beneficial to those individuals interested in a new area of specialisation, but will also be of interest to accountants and legal practitioners who want to hone their professional skills.

The key objectives are to develop knowledge and expertise to prevent, detect and investigate fraud, to recover funds derived from criminal activities and recover financial awards resulting from civil disputes.

Investigative and forensic accounting is a field where the accounting and legal professions join forces in the litigation process. Bearing in mind the international growth in this area of specialization, this postgraduate diploma is designed to meet the needs of South African practitioners in this regard.

Who should register?

Almost all disciplines can benefit, but it is strongly recommended for:

- Internal Auditors
- Risk Managers
- Attorneys
- Legal Advisors
- Compliance Officers
- Prosecutors and Investigators
- Forensic Accountants and Auditors
- Fraud Investigators and examiners
- Auditors
- Accountants
- Financial Officers

Admission Requirements

Subject to the University's detailed admission requirements, applicants must be in possession of a BCom degree with Accounting or Auditing at 300-level or a Bachelor's degree in Law. Other relevant Bachelor's degrees may be considered subject to the applicant's work experience and the approval of the Head of the Department of Auditing.

Due to capacity constraints, only a limited number of students will be admitted.

Academic merit is the overriding premise during the selection process conducted by the admission committee. However, preference will be given to prospective students who completed short courses at Enterprises UP that bear credit for the corresponding modules in the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting.

Credits from short courses completed at Enterprises University of Pretoria (EUP)

The Unit for Forensic Accounting has developed a model in terms of which it is envisaged that a number of short courses offered at EUP may be deemed as equivalent modules on the postgraduate programmes offered by the said Unit.

A maximum of three modules in the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting (comprising a total of six core and elective modules) could be replaced outright by credits earned from credit-bearing short courses. The remainder of the programme, (in other words the other three modules to provide a total of six) must be enrolled for as formal modules in the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting.

Successful completion of these credit-bearing short courses, therefore entails that a student – who otherwise qualifies and is selected for this formal programme – will receive credits in respect of only three equivalent modules offered in the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting.

The model described above is geared towards assisting delegates who have a university degree and who completed the relevant credit-bearing short courses.

The following short courses presented at EUP, as set out in Column A of the schedule below, may bear credit in respect of the corresponding module as set out in Column B of the same schedule:

Column A	Column B
Short course (EUP)	Module (postgraduate diploma)
Course in Economic Crime Schemes	FRA 701 Economic Crime Schemes
Course in Fraud Risk Management	FRA 702 Fraud Risk Management
Course in Investigation of Financial Crime	FRA 703 Investigation of Financial Crime
Course in Law for Commercial Forensic Practitioners	FRA 704 Law for Commercial Forensic Practitioners
Course in Money Laundering Detection and Investigation	FRA 705 Money Laundering Detection and Investigation
Course in Investigation and Management of Cyber and Electronic Crime	FRA 707 Investigation and Management of Cyber and Electronic Crime
Course in Interviewing Skills for Fraud Examiners and Auditors	FRA 708 Interviewing Skills for Fraud Examiners and Auditors
Course in Prevention and Detection of Corruption and Procurement Fraud	FRA 709 Prevention and Detection of Corruption and Procurement Fraud
Course in Basic Financial Investigation	FRA 710 Basic Financial Investigation

Credits from short courses will only be granted where **both** the following requirements have been met:

- The student must have obtained a final mark of at least 60% in the corresponding credit-bearing short course.
- The student must have completed the corresponding credit-bearing short course within a maximum period of three years before the date of enrolment for the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting.

Compulsory and elective modules

A student must complete a total of six modules of which three are core/compulsory modules and three are elective modules.

FRA 701, FRA 702 and FRA 703 (see schedule above) are core/compulsory modules, whereas the student may then elect any three of the other modules (FRA 704, FRA 705, FRA 707, FRA 708, FRA 709 and FRA 710).

Presentation method

The duration of the programme is 12 months.

The programme is presented by means of a mix of virtual and face-to-face contact sessions. Currently we are presenting most modules both online (first session) or in face-to-face contact classes (second session) and students may choose which session they wish to attend, but cannot attend both.

The lectures for each of the respective modules will be delivered via a virtual/contact lecture block which will be conducted over five consecutive days. The classes will be attended by UP students as well as delegates attending the relevant EUP short course and students attending the MPhil specialising in Fraud Risk Management programme.

Students who do not attend the contact session as EUP delegates are responsible for their own refreshments and lunch for the duration of the contact session. Refreshments and lunch will be provided for only short course attendees.

Examination and pass requirements

- (i) A total of six assignments (one for each of the three compulsory modules and one for each of the three elective modules) are submitted during the duration of the course. The assignment will contribute 40% of the final mark for the module.
- (ii) Six examinations (one in each one of the compulsory modules and one in each one of the elective modules) are written and will contribute 60% of the final mark for the module. A subminimum of 40% must be obtained in each examination. A minimum final mark of at least 50% should be obtained in each of the six modules to pass.
- (iii) The postgraduate diploma is conferred with distinction if a GPA of at least 75% (not rounded up) for the six modules is obtained.
- (iv) Students must complete all modules within two years of the date of registration to be awarded the said postgraduate diploma.

Possible admission to the MPhil Fraud Risk Management degree

The minimum admission requirements for admission to the MPhil specialising in Fraud Risk Management is a

- 1. Relevant honours degree or equivalent SAICA accredited qualification
or
Bachelor of Laws [LLB] degree
or
PGDip in Investigative and Forensic Accounting
- 2. A weighted average of at least 60% for the relevant honours degree or equivalent SAICA accredited qualification or a weighted average of at least 60% for the Bachelor of Laws [LLB] degree or postgraduate diploma.

Students who want to pursue the MPhil specialising in Fraud Risk Management degree and who do not meet the admission requirements in respect of the relevant honours or equivalent SAICA accredited qualification or LLB degree or PGDip in Investigative and Forensic Accounting, may therefore complete the said Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting in order to be considered for admission to the MPhil specialising in Fraud Risk Management degree. Such applications must comply with all other requirements for the MPhil specialising in Fraud Risk Management and the regulations pertaining thereto.

Credit for modules completed successfully in the Postgraduate Diploma could be granted towards modules in the MPhil Fraud Risk Management.

ICFP Accreditation

The Board of the ICFP (Institute of Commercial Forensic Practitioners) accredited the University of Pretoria (UP) MPhil specialising in (Fraud Risk Management) and the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting after the assessment of the various programme outcomes. The accreditation of the programme means that the University of Pretoria has put in place the appropriate resources that should enable it to deliver the programme at the required standards and levels of quality.

Students who meet specific educational and practical experience criteria can apply to the ICFP and be awarded the professional designation, (FP)SA (Commercial Forensic Practitioner South Africa) (SAQA ID 848).

Kindly liaise directly with the ICFP to make use of this excellent opportunity (email: chrisdebeer@icfp.co.za or tel +27 12 663 1961)

Procedure for application

Step 1:

Apply online (at www.up.ac.za) for admission to the University of Pretoria and pay an application fee. The University's generic e-mail address is ssc@up.ac.za

This is the only way to apply for admission to the University. You must complete this application by **30 September** of the year preceding the year before commencing with studies.

International students must apply on or before **31 August** in the preceding year before commencing with studies.

You are required to upload your academic records and CV when applying online. If you omit this step, your application will be regarded as incomplete and will not be forwarded to our Department. If you have completed corresponding credit-bearing short courses via Enterprises University of Pretoria, please upload those final results as well.

Step 2:

Now apply to the Department of Auditing for selection to the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting programme via email and in response a departmental application form will be forwarded to you. The departmental application form must be requested from Ms Lynne van Tonder (e-mail: lynne.vantonder@up.ac.za) and returned to her before the closing date relevant closing date.

Important – applicants who have successfully completed credit-bearing short courses via Enterprises University of Pretoria, are required to provide full details

the short course they completed in the departmental application form (course name, date, result). We need this information to verify your results.

Step 3:

Some candidates **may** also be expected to attend an interview at the University. In such instances, you will receive a formal letter informing you of the outcome of your application.

FOREIGN STUDENTS - Please note:

All postgraduate students with international qualifications are required to submit an evaluation from the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), 1067 Arcadia Street, HATFIELD, 0083, Tel. nr. +27 12 431 5000 or 0860 010 3188. Website: www.saqa.org.za.

All postgraduate applicants must be proficient in English as it is the official language of tuition, communication and correspondence at the University of Pretoria. Candidates who cannot provide evidence that previous studies were completed in English, must submit TOEFL or IELTS or Pearson Test of English or Oxford Test of English test results with their application.

Without these results you will not be allowed to register for the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative and Forensic Accounting.

Please note that any queries regarding study fees/student finances, must be directed to the Client Services Centre at ssc@up.ac.za. We cannot assist with a quotation for study fees.

For general enquiries, please contact Ms Lynne van Tonder on +27 12 420 3407 or on email: lynne.vantonder@up.ac.za