

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

MAgric Rural Development (03252014)

Duration of study 1 year

Total credits 180

Programme information

A dissertation must be submitted, prepared under the guidance of a member of the academic staff.

Residence

On the recommendation of the head of department, the Dean may set specific residential requirements for the MScAgric degree.

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 which is supported by the head of department and Postgraduate Studies Committee.

Curriculum

Subject to programme-specific requirements, the curriculum for the MScAgric degree consists of the following:

- A dissertation; and
- Further study in the major subject/s, augmented by ancillary modules prescribed by the Postgraduate Studies Committee, on the recommendation of the head of department. Such ancillary modules may be taken simultaneously with the major subject/s. Candidates in possession of the BScAgricHons degree may be exempted from additional ancillary modules.

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

Admission to the master's degree is dependent upon the candidate being in possession of the BInstAgrarHons/BAgricHons degree of the University of Pretoria or another appropriate degree equivalent to or higher than the status thereof as evaluated by the Director of the School and the head(s) of the particular department(s).

Examinations and pass requirements

- The examinations in the ancillary modules should be successfully completed prior to, or simultaneously with,

the examinations in the major subject/s, unless the Faculty Board decides otherwise.

- ii. General Regulation G.12.2 applies to the calculation of marks.
- iii. In order to obtain the MScAgric degree, the candidate must pass all prescribed modules, including the examination in the major subject/s, as well as the dissertation.

Pass with distinction

The MScAgric degree is conferred with distinction on 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

Core modules

Mini-dissertation: Rural development 891 (ARD 891)

Module credits	115.00
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Year

Elective modules

Institutional economics 882 (LEK 882)

Module credits	15.00
Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Institutional and behavioural economics. This module will expose students to the principles of the New Institutional Economics paradigm and how it can be utilized to improve the analysis of agricultural economic and agricultural development problems and issues. Major themes covered are: The agricultural development challenge: stylised features; new institutional economics: distinctive features and concepts; institutions and development: A historical and macro-perspective techno-economic characteristics and agricultural systems and products in poor countries; NIE analysis of markets and markets structures; the State: Political and institutional determinants of agricultural policy; collective action; transactions costs in smallholder agriculture; case studies.

Rural developmental management 800 (LOB 800)

Module credits	20.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 contact week per year
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	School of Public Man + Admin
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Food policy 833 (LEK 833)

Module credits	15.00
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Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	Registration for at least a master's degree
Contact time	1 seminar per week, 1 practical per week, 1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

The concept and interrelated causes of food insecurity (production, markets and socio-economic climate) and the global food economy. Household coping strategies and response to risk and shocks. Household dynamics (including livelihoods, purchasing behaviour and nutrition). Practical tools for programme and policy analysis and targeting. Evaluation of possible programme and policy options and their effectiveness in terms of achieving comprehensive and pro-poor growth.

Measuring and monitoring food security 834 (LEK 834)

Module credits	15.00
Prerequisites	Registration for at least a master's degree
Contact time	1 discussion class per week, 1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Indicators, scores, indexes, measurement approaches, systems and analysis methods, for food security monitoring and evaluation. Best practice for surveys and qualitative methodologies. Communicating research results and food security information for decision makers. The data included in the module will cover agricultural crop and livestock, food stocks, nutrition, health, agrometeorological, behavioural and sanitation related information.

Advanced rural finance 884 (LEK 884)

Module credits	15.00
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Overview of rural finance: conceptual issues. Role of financial services in economic development. Relationship between financial development and economic growth. Economic theory underlying rural financial markets: market and government failure, imperfect information, transaction costs, agency theory, and pecking order theory. Supply of and demand for financial services in rural areas: theory and measurement issues. Estimating credit demand, supply and constraints. Institutions involved in the provision of rural financial services and innovations in rural finance. Assessing performance of institutions providing rural financial services.

Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Mini-dissertation: Rural development 891 (ARD 891)

Module credits	115.00
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Year

Elective modules

Institutional economics 882 (LEK 882)

Module credits	15.00
Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Agric Econ, Ext + Rural Dev
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Institutional and behavioural economics. This module will expose students to the principles of the New Institutional Economics paradigm and how it can be utilized to improve the analysis of agricultural economic and agricultural development problems and issues. Major themes covered are: The agricultural development challenge: stylised features; new institutional economics: distinctive features and concepts; institutions and development: A historical and macro-perspective techno-economic characteristics and agricultural systems and products in poor countries; NIE analysis of markets and markets structures; the State: Political and institutional determinants of agricultural policy; collective action; transactions costs in smallholder agriculture; case studies.

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Contact time	1 contact week per year
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Period of presentation	Semester 1

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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.