University of Pretoria Yearbook 2024

MPhil (Business Management) *Insolvency and Business Rescue* (Coursework) (07255350)

Department	Mercantile Law, Business Management
Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	190
NQF level	09

Programme information

Closing date for applications: SA applicants – 30 November; non-SA applicants – 31 August of the year preceding the year of first registration.

This programme is structured to allow for one year of study, therefore the programme may be completed within two semesters (1 year), subject to fulfilment of all the requirements for the degree and payment of the fees as prescribed for the MPhil degree.

The Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences should be contacted with regard to specific regulations pertaining to the MPhil degree programme.

Admission requirements

1. A BComHons degree in an academic discipline related to financial management or business management with a cumulative weighted average of at least 60%

   or

1. A four year law degree with a cumulative weighted average of at least 60%

   or

1. Any other NQF level 8 qualification with a minimum of 120 credits in an academic discipline relevant to this MPhil programme with a cumulative weighted average of at least 60% and as approved by the departmental selection committee of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Other programme-specific information

The mini-dissertation must comprise 13 000 to 15 000 words – including footnotes but excluding the list of contents and the bibliography. (The methodology and content of the mini-dissertation should reflect a multidisciplinary perspective on the insolvency and rescue industry’s policies, management and regulation.)

Any request for an extension of the submission of the mini-dissertation will only be granted by the Dean of Economic and Management Sciences, on recommendation of the Postgraduate Committee.

Examinations and pass requirements

Refer to General Academic Regulation G39.

The pass mark for both a dissertation and a mini-dissertation is 50%. The provisions regarding pass requirements for dissertations, contained in General Academic Regulation G39, apply mutatis mutandis to mini-dissertations. A pass mark of at least 50% is required in the examination of each module.

In the event of having failed all modules during a particular year of study, a student will only be allowed to continue with his/her studies with the consent of the Postgraduate Committee.

Research information

The relevant head of department must recommend a supervisor and title for the mini-dissertation, which must be approved by the Postgraduate Committee. The mini-dissertation must be assessed and finalised as set out in the Economic and Management Sciences or Law Faculty Boards approved MPhil Policy Document of the respective faculty, where required. The mini-dissertation must be submitted in the format as determined by the supervisor and approved by the Postgraduate Committee. The supervisor may likewise, subject to the approval of the Postgraduate Committee, also determine the research topic and scope of the proposed research.

Pass with distinction

In order to be awarded a postgraduate degree/diploma with distinction, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Obtain a Grade Point Average of at least 75% including at least 75% for the mini-dissertation in the case of a coursework Master's degree.
- Complete the degree within the minimum period prescribed.
- Only the final mark of the first attempt to pass the modules or dissertation will be considered.
- The GPA will be not be rounded up to a whole number.

Curriculum: Final year

Research methodology:

- **Law students** must select and pass all three modules NME 815 (10 credits), RHP 801 (5 credits) and RHP 803 (5 credits).
- **Commerce students** must select and pass the module NME 804 (20 credits).

Core modules

Comparative and international insolvency principles 821 (IBR 821)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	20 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mercantile Law
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

The aim of the module is to provide students with the required background regarding the principles and theory of the South African insolvency system within an international and comparative context. The outcome of this module is to equip students with an advanced knowledge of the issues related to this ever-evolving industry.

Corporate liquidation and business rescue regulation 822 (IBR 822)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	20 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mercantile Law
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The aim of the module is to provide students with advanced knowledge regarding the principles of corporate liquidation and rescue including the administration of an insolvent or financially distressed estate.

Research methodology 804 (NME 804)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.

Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Business Management
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Strong emphasis on market research, quantification of the market but also a basis for academic publications and a doctorate.

Research Methodology 815 (NME 815)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites
Contact time	3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Business Management
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Strong emphasis on market research, quantification of the market but also a basis for academic publications and a doctorate.

Distressed business assessment 821 (OBS 821)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	20 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Business Management
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

The aim of this module is to equip students to explore the concepts, theories, patterns and recent cases of the four stages of corporate sickness: decline, distress, insolvency and bankruptcy. It examines contemporary product, production, accounting, financial, marketing, alliance and joint venture-based turnaround strategies. The module provides students with a perspective on identifying and remedying turnaround business situations, that is, established businesses experiencing operational, financial and managerial difficulties. Students learn, from the viewpoint of a general manager, how to distinguish between "troubled" and "crisis" companies and how to use both qualitative and quantitative tools to effect solutions.

Financial distress assessment 822 (OBS 822)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	20 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Business Management
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

The aim of this module is to equip students to explore modern research in corporate financial distress. Topics covered include financial distress identification and prediction, the link between distress and macroeconomic conditions, and financial bubbles. It also incorporates various tools from business analytics. The module covers business valuation in distress situations.

Mini dissertation 892 (OBS 892)

Module credits	90.00
NQF Level	09
Service modules	Faculty of Law
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Business Management
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module equips the student to conduct independent research by executing a research project on a relevant topic, of which the findings are reported in an academic article.

Research methodology 801 (RHP 801)

Module credits	5.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	8 seminars or block sessions
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Law Deans Office
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

a. Planning and organising a research project
b. Drafting a research proposal: Hypotheses and research question
c. Theory in research and methodological approaches to legal research
d. Language
e. Citation and ethics of citation
f. Drafting of chapters and presentation

Research proposal 803 (RHP 803)

Module credits	5.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Law Deans Office
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Development and presentation of a research proposal. (A research proposal must be submitted to the supervisor and accepted in the first semester of the second year of study before the student will be allowed to register for the mini-dissertation.)

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The General Academic Regulations (G Regulations) and General Student Rules apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications

Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.