

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

MCom specialising in Human Resource Management (Coursework) (07250147)

Department Human Resource Management

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 180

NQF level 09

Programme information

The MCom (Human Resource Management) course is a programme accredited by the South African Board of People Practice (SABPP). The master's programme entails eight modules of coursework presented over at least four block weeks during the first year of study and a mini-dissertation.

Admission requirements

1. Relevant Bachelor of Commerce Honours degree
2. A weighted average of at least 65% for the Bachelor of Commerce Honours degree
3. An average of at least 65% for the research component at honours level

Additional requirements

A candidate may be refused admission to a master's degree by the Department of Human Resource Management Postgraduate Selection Committee if the student does not comply with the standard of competence in the module as determined by the Department of Human Resource Management - with the proviso that a candidate who does not comply may be admitted, provided that the student completes additional study assignments and/or examinations.

The number of applicants admitted to the programme is limited by supervisory capacity and the availability of research projects in the field of specialisation in the Department of Human Resource Management.

The number of students admitted in the programme will be determined by the growth strategy of the University of Pretoria as approved by the Executive.

Allowance will be made for the diversity profile of students.

Other programme-specific information

Preparation and submission of dissertation

Refer to General Academic Regulation G39.

The pass mark for the mini-dissertation is 50%. The provisions regarding pass requirements for dissertations, contained in General Academic Regulation G39.12, apply mutatis mutandis to mini-dissertations. A pass mark of at least 50% is required in the examination of each module.

Pass with distinction

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

- obtain an overall weighted average of at least 75% according to module credits
- obtain at least 75% in the mini-dissertation
- complete the degree/diploma within the minimum prescribed period.

Notes

1. Only the final mark of the first attempt to pass the modules or dissertation will be considered;
2. The overall weighted average (according to course credits) will be not be rounded up to a whole number.

Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Strategic human resource management 801 (HRC 801)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	16 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Human Resource Management
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will develop an in-depth knowledge of the context and content of strategic human resource management. They will integrate them to develop and implement strategic human resource management plans and communicate them to a variety of audiences in different contexts. Students will be able to critically appraise the state of strategic human resource management in South African organisations.

Talent management 802 (HRC 802)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	16 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Human Resource Management
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will design, conduct and evaluate research in talent management in the management of human resources; they will design, facilitate and monitor the implementation of talent management practices; as an internal or external consultant they will appreciate the complexity of behaviour in the workplace; they will combine theoretical knowledge with practical examples and provide guidelines on talent management as a decision science.

Leadership 803 (HRC 803)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	16 contact hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Human Resource Management

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will be knowledgeable about the history of leadership theory and critically apply contemporary approaches to design, deliver and evaluate leadership development programmes. They will be able to communicate their rationale for leadership development programmes to a variety of audiences.

Human resource metrics 804 (HRC 804)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 16 contact hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Human Resource Management

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will know the principles of data management, data mining, assuring data integrity and its utilisation as the source of human capital measurement in personnel management. Students will be able to critically apply metrics to analyse the effectiveness and value of typical human resource management initiatives and be able to communicate them to a variety of audiences.

Diversity dynamics 805 (HRC 805)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 16 contact hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Human Resource Management

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will develop an in-depth understanding of diversity approaches and practices and be able to apply them in a critical manner to manage diversity related issues in South African organisations. Students will have an understanding of issues that are detrimental in a diverse work context (i.e. stereotyping, ethnocentrism, bias) and will demonstrate reflexive self and social awareness in managing diversity.

Research in practice 806 (HRC 806)

Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	32 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Human Resource Management
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Part 1: Research design and proposal development

Students will design a suitable research project by developing a research proposal commencing with the background, the problem statement and the purpose of the proposed study. An integrated and in-depth literature review follows, demonstrating academic scholarship in the field of study and the student's ability to reflect critically on their own and others' research. They will develop research questions or hypotheses and justify an appropriate methodology for the study. The proposal will include ethical considerations and the criteria for ethical conduct in doing research, adhering to UP's Code of ethics for scholarly activities (S4755/12). Students will present their proposals to a panel of members of D-HRM. Students will follow the APA guidelines in their academic writing.

Part 2: Qualitative research

Students will be proficient in advanced qualitative research methods, and knowledgeable of the relevant paradigms, designs, sampling procedures, data collection and analysis methods as well as the criteria for quality and rigour. Students will demonstrate reflexivity in applying these by conducting a qualitative research project of limited scope in which they justify their methodological choices.

Part 3: Quantitative research

Students will be proficient in quantitative research methods and the relevant paradigms, research designs, sampling procedures and data collection methods. They will be able to select and apply appropriate statistical models for different types of designs and justify their choices in line with the specific purpose of the study and data requirements. They will develop a practical ability to analyse data using SPSS and AMOS.

Mini-Dissertation: Human Resource Management 807 (HRC 807)

Module credits	60.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	HRC 806 or IPS 806
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Human Resource Management
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The research component (Human Resource Management mini-dissertation) can be completed after the successful completion of HRC 806 (or IPS 806). It needs to be submitted for examination by 30 September in Year 2.

In line with the proposal developed as part of HRC 806, students will conduct their research study by collecting, analysing and interpreting their findings in a scholarly manner, demonstrating a critical engagement with related academic work. They should also discuss the limitations of their study, its practical implications and its contribution. The findings will be communicated in the form of a mini- dissertation, following APA guidelines.

Change dynamics 804 (IPS 804)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 16 contact hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Human Resource Management

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will be knowledgeable about psychological theories of change in individuals and groups. They will build and communicate their own mental models of a changing post-modern society and of the organization as change territory. They will integrate this knowledge to develop suitable frameworks to facilitate change interventions and manage the dynamics of change in contemporary organisations. Students will be able to critically appraise and articulate the intended benefits and possible unintended consequences of a change intervention to different audiences.

Labour relations management practices 801 (LAM 801)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 24 Hours

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Human Resource Management

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Students will acquire an in-depth knowledge of labour relations management principles and understand employment contracting in the context of South African Labour legislation. Students will develop an understanding of different approaches for managing grievances and understand different strategies and policies used in labour relations management. Students will integrate and apply these critically in solving South African based labour issues.

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.