

5.1.11.7 Postgraduate Diploma in Health Service Management

Specific admission requirements

- One of the following qualifications:
 - A bachelor's degree in Nursing (Regulation 174) and/or the Diploma in Nursing: General Nurses (Regulation 171) with the Advanced Diploma in Midwifery (Regulation 1497); or
 - A two-year diploma (bridging course) leading to registration as General or Psychiatric Nurse offered under Regulation 683 of 14 April 1989, as amended, followed by a one-year Diploma in Midwifery offered under Regulation 254 of 14 February 1975, as amended; or
 - A four-year Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery offered under Regulation 425 of 22 February 1985, as amended; or
 - A four-year bachelor's degree offered under Regulation 425 of 22 February 1985, as amended.
- Current registration with the South African Nursing Council (SANC) as a Professional Nurse and Midwife, or a General Nurse with a Midwifery qualification.
- Two years' experience as a Registered/Professional Nurse and Midwife, which includes experience in the field of the speciality within the last two years, is recommended.
- Computer literacy is highly recommended.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online at www.maties.com by **31 October** of the previous year.

Duration of programme

The programme extends full-time over one academic year or part-time over two years.

Programme description

The programme studies the role of the nursing manager in ensuring efficient management at the various levels of healthcare services. This includes applying managerial and leadership principles in an ethical way, managing human capital, evaluating and drawing up of policies, managing public health and finances and risks and disasters, and utilising research and technological skills to improve healthcare outcomes and quality of work life for nursing staff.

The teaching method is based on the following principles:

- You will be required to learn and study independently while the educator provides guidance and facilitates learning.
- Your analytical, critical, reflective and creative thinking skills will be developed through problem-solving, assignments, e-learning assessments on SUNLearn (<http://learn.sun.ac.za>), case studies, etc.
- You will be exposed to clinical practice so that you can relate theory to practice for yourself. In the health services management field, this occurs through experiential learning.
- Approved/accredited healthcare facilities will offer you the opportunity to apply your skills and knowledge in your own practice to become a more proficient health services manager.
- The theoretical component directly relates to the practical objectives of the programme to broaden your knowledge of health services management.

Presentation

Theory is presented using a blended-learning approach in block periods as per the academic calendar on the Tygerberg Campus. Work-integrated learning comprises of 500 hours (as stipulated by SANC) dedicated to simulation learning, clinical practice for experiential learning, and role-taking at clinical facilities that SANC has specifically accredited for Stellenbosch University.

Programme content

You must achieve at least 50% in the required nursing management practicums for a specific module to qualify for admission to the final summative assessment in that module.

Evidence-based Practice	721(8)
Health Services Management Practices	775(26)
Human Resource Management	776(20)
Leadership and Development in Specialist Practice	743(8)
Leadership and Management	773(30)
Praxis of Specialist Practice	746(8)
Risk and Financial Management	775(20)

Assessment and examination

- A variety of formative and summative assessment methods are used. You will be assessed based on:
 - assignments;
 - the application of research principles and methods;
 - skills in respective specialist areas;
 - case studies;
 - discussions with hospital management on the policy, protocols and managerial functions addressed in each specific module;
 - portfolios of evidence; and
 - written tests and examinations.
- Each module is assessed separately, and you must achieve at least 50% in a module to pass.
- If you fail a first-semester module, you will be allowed a second assessment opportunity in June of the same year. If you fail the second opportunity, you will not be permitted to continue with your studies in the programme.
- If you fail a year module, you will be allowed a second assessment opportunity in January of the following year. If you fail the second opportunity, you will not be permitted to continue with your studies in the programme.

Enquiries

Programme leader: Dr C Young
Tel: 021 938 9622/9036 Email: cornelle@sun.ac.za

5.1.11 Postgraduate Diplomas in Specialist Nursing/Midwifery

Programme description

Specialist nurses/midwives are registered nurses/midwives with specialised skills in their fields of speciality. These skills include the ability to make decisions in complex circumstances and to provide an expanded range of services. To this end, the nurse/midwife specialist needs to be competent in:

- professional, ethical and legal practice;
- clinical practice;
- personal development;
- management and leadership; and
- evidence-based practice and research.

The postgraduate diploma programmes in Specialist Nursing/Midwifery equip graduates to be leaders in their specialist areas and to deliver specialist nursing/midwifery care that is person-centred, autonomous, innovative, comprehensive, ethical and evidence-based, and complies with all appropriate legislation. By teaching students both theoretical and applied skills, the various postgraduate diploma programmes promote critical thinking, evidence-based practice and socially relevant research. The programmes are designed to meet the outcomes and competencies required by the South African Nursing Council (SANC).

Programme outcomes

Once you have completed a postgraduate diploma programme in Specialist Nursing/Midwifery, you should:

- Be able to demonstrate the skills as outlined in the South African Nursing Council's postgraduate qualification framework and be able to apply the skills meaningfully and effectively in your area of specialisation.
- Be able to demonstrate critical thinking and the use of evidence-based practice to improve current practices and meet the needs of society.
- Be able to provide holistic person-centred care to patients of any age, in any state of health or illness, and in any service or care setting within your specialisation.
- Take the lead in caring for those in your care, paying special attention to patients' needs, lifespan, stage of development and quality of life.
- Know how to organise and manage the nursing/midwifery environment in which you operate, by among other things, applying cost-effective strategies and improving collaboration between nursing/midwifery and other disciplines and professions.

- Demonstrate the use of effective communication skills to meaningfully communicate with patients, colleagues and learners in diverse environments.
- Know what is expected of you to comply with professional codes of conduct, scopes of practice, and ethical values and frameworks, including the reasoning behind moral and specialist care.
- Be able to use innovative strategies, including technology, to improve the quality of care, teaching and learning, management and leadership.
- Know how to carry out effective learning and teaching strategies, create positive learning environments, and encourage others to self-reflect, adapt and develop academically.
- Serve as a role model and advocate for those in your care, the broader community and the profession.

Assessment and examination

- All programmes are subject to the provisions regarding examinations, promotion and reassessment in a single module as outlined in Part 1 (General Rules) of the Yearbook.
- A variety of formative and summative assessment methods are used, and the results indicate whether you have achieved the intended outcomes. Therefore, your assessment as a nursing/ midwifery specialist will indicate whether you have achieved the required academic growth and focus and have managed to integrate theory and practice appropriately.
- Each module is assessed separately, and you must achieve at least 50% in a module to pass.
- If you fail a module for the second time, you will not be allowed to continue with the programme.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2024 Medicine and Health Sciences Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Medicine and Health Sciences Yearbook** to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the yearbook under section *Postgraduate programmes*.