

MASTER OF PUBLIC MANAGEMENT (MPM)

Programme Overview

The Master of Public Management is for those wanting to progress to senior management and leadership positions in the public sector. This qualification aims to enhance strategic knowledge required to improve service delivery.

The purpose of the Master of Public Management is to:

- Reflect critically and apply public and development management theory to improve service delivery in the public and development sectors
- Deal creatively and systematically with complex issues affecting the public and development sectors
- Design and critically appraise research in an attempt to apply data and information to make sound judgments on challenges which face the public and development sector
- Be able to communicate clearly at a strategic level to various audiences concerned with public and development sector issues

Core Modules

- Strategic Human Resource Management
- Organisational Development
- Public Policy Development and Implementation
- Research Methodology
- Strategic Public Project Management
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Public Finance
- Sustainable Development
- Governance and Intergovernmental Relations
- Public Ethics and Corporate Governance
- Economics
- Strategic Management in the Public Sector

Compulsory Dissertation

- Mini-dissertation

Electives

(Choice of two, based on student numbers)

- Comparative Management Trends
- Labour Relations
- Mentoring and Coaching
- Quality and Customer Service Management
- Negotiation and Conflict Management
- Information and Communication Technology

Exit Level Outcomes

- Find solutions to a situation or context that is characterised by chaos
- Identify and solve problems in which responses demonstrate independent meta-analytical, critical and creative thinking
- Work effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organisation, or community
- Organise and manage her/himself and her/his activities independently to meet defined outcomes

- Independently assess and apply the different approaches to lead, manage, motivate and improve effective performance of individuals and teams
- Demonstrate an understanding of the world as a set of inter-related systems by recognising that problem-solving and affirmative enquiry contexts do not exist in isolation
- Respond in an ethically acceptable manner in interpersonal and research situations
- Display a meta- and critical understanding of the challenges facing public and development sector organisations in their transformation to becoming more responsive, flexible, cost-effective, transparent and accountable institutions.
- Think strategically and critically about work related problems and find solutions in a participative manner
- Conduct comparative studies of local and international management, governance and sustainable development experiences to proactively find solutions to public and development sector organisational problems
- Familiar with key macroeconomic and development issues and debates
- Conduct applied research and develop organisational development intervention strategies that contribute to original knowledge to the field of study

The emphasis of the module assessment is on practical application. Students may be required to work as individuals or in teams/syndicates, and will be required to address work-based challenges or relevant case study-based questions.

Organisation-specific projects and presentations may also be used to assess the module outcomes in an integrated manner.

Entry Requirements

- Honours degree or postgraduate diploma
- Three years of relevant work experience

Programme Structure

The Master of Public Management is an NQF Level 9 qualification, with 260 credits. This qualification is offered over a minimum period of 2 years and a maximum of 5 years.

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