

5.1.1 Postgraduate Diploma in Addiction Care

Specific admission requirements

- A bachelor's degree and appropriate professional registration in a field relevant to health or social welfare, e.g. social work, medicine, nursing, psychology (a four-year bachelor's degree, such as a BPsych, or alternatively a three-year bachelor's degree and a one-year honours degree, such as a BA in Psychology followed up by a BAHons) or occupational therapy.
- A nursing diploma with an Advanced Diploma in Psychiatric Nursing Science will also be deemed equivalent to a four-year nursing degree and thus meet the admission criteria.
- At least two years' professional experience will be an advantage.
- You will be considered for admission if have a three-year diploma in nursing or social work, or any other relevant qualification will be considered in accordance with the assessment and recognition of prior learning policy regarding the diploma. The policy is available from the programme leader.
- You must be fluent in both written and spoken English.
- You must be computer literate and have access to the internet. You may be required to use mobile and/or recording devices for participation in certain programme activities.

Application procedure and closing date

Apply online at www.maties.com by **30 September** of the previous year. Applications for prospective international students close on **31 August**.

Duration of programme

The programme is presented part-time over two years.

Programme description

The Postgraduate Diploma in Addiction Care aims to enrich, broaden and consolidate your knowledge and expertise as a professional working within the field of addiction care, by providing you with a review of the current evidence-based literature relevant to this field. The purpose of the diploma programme is to improve your care for patients with substance use disorders, rather than to provide basic knowledge or research capacity.

The curriculum covers the most important areas within the field of addiction care and will help mould well-rounded addiction-care practitioners.

This qualification, however, does not entitle you to provide professional counselling unless your registration with a professional body or the scope of practice of your previous qualification(s) permit you to do so.

Programme outcomes

After completion of the programme you should have:

- A comprehensive knowledge of the theory relevant to the field of addiction;
- Holistic skills to provide effective, evidence-based interventions to patients with substance use disorders; and
- Suitable skills to study professional and ethical practices.

Presentation

The programme is offered in a modular manner.

The programme is offered by means of blended learning and will include e-learning, guided self-study, assignments, homework tasks and experiential learning, as well as formal lecture weeks. You must log compulsory practical hours.

Programme content

You must complete all four modules. If you do not pass all your first-year modules, you can register for the modules of the second year while repeating the outstanding modules of the first year, should you choose to do so.

FIRST YEAR

Evidence-based Treatment	775(36)
Introduction to Addiction	775(24)

SECOND YEAR

Addiction and Special Groups	775(36)
Addiction Services	775(24)

Assessment and examination

- You must show satisfactory attendance of classes and participation in e-learning activities and obtain a class mark of at least 40% for each module to be eligible to write the examination in that module.
- The class mark consists of the marks for flexible assessment and assessment of assignments. Successful completion of a module is subject to satisfactory participation.
- If you do not show adequate clinical and/or professional progress (as outlined in the module/programme guide), you will be afforded an opportunity to remediate your inadequate clinical and/or professional conduct or performance. If you fail to remediate, you may only repeat the module or continue with the programme on recommendation of the departmental programme committee and the approval of the Faculty Board.
- You must obtain a final mark of at least 50% to pass a module. The final mark consists of the class mark and the examination mark for each module according to the rules in Part 1 (General Rules) of the University Yearbook.
- Re-examinations can either be written or oral examinations.
- You must pass all modules with a final mark of at least 50% to qualify for the diploma, and you will be allowed to graduate only if you have submitted a logbook to confirm satisfactory participation of the prescribed hours of practical work. The final mark for the programme is calculated as the average of the marks for the completed modules.

Enquiries

Programme leader: Dr EM Weich

Tel: 021 940 4400 Email: lizew@sun.ac.za or addictions@sun.ac.za

Postgraduate programmes

For more specific information on the Faculty's postgraduate programmes, consult the University's webpage on Postgraduate Studies (<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/pgstudies/>) or the various departmental websites.

1. Programme offering

The following postgraduate diploma and degree programmes are presented by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences:

Postgraduate Diplomas	Abbreviation
Postgraduate Diploma in Addiction Care	PG Dip (Addiction Care)
Postgraduate Diploma in Disability and Rehabilitation Studies	PG Dip (Disability and Rehabilitation Studies)
Postgraduate Diploma in Family Medicine	PG Dip (Family Medicine)
Postgraduate Diploma in Health Care Management	PG Dip (Health Care Management)
Postgraduate Diploma in Health Research Ethics	PG Dip (Health Research Ethics)
Postgraduate Diploma in Infectious Diseases	PG Dip (Infectious Diseases)
Postgraduate Diploma in Medical Toxicology	PG Dip (Medical Toxicology)
Postgraduate Diploma in Medicines Development	PG Dip (Medicines Development)
Postgraduate Diploma in Occupational Medicine	PG Dip (Occupational Medicine)
Postgraduate Diploma in Rural Medicine	PG Dip (Rural Medicine)
Postgraduate Diploma in Specialist Nursing/Midwifery	PG Dip (Specialist Nursing/Midwifery)
Honours Degrees	Abbreviation
Bachelor of Science Honours	BScHons
Master's Degrees	Abbreviation
Master of Addiction Care	MAddiction Care
Master of Audiology	MAud
Master of Global Surgery	MGlobalSurg
Master of Human Rehabilitation Studies	MHumRehab
Master of Medicine	MMed
Master of Nursing	MNurs
Master of Occupational Therapy	MOccTher
Master of Pathology	MPath
Master of Philosophy	MPhil
Master of Physiotherapy	MPhysio
Master of Public Health Nutrition	MNutr in Public Health
Master of Science	MSc
Master of Speech-Language Therapy	MSpeech
Master of Therapeutic Nutrition	MTherNutr
Doctoral Degrees	Abbreviation
Doctor of Philosophy	PhD
Doctor of Science	DSc

2. Commencement of postgraduate studies

As postgraduate student you must register for your particular programme at the start of the academic year. The only programmes that still take on students at the start of the second semester are MMed programmes. If you are accepted for an MMed programme, you will be able to register at the start of the second semester. You can submit a request for exclusion from this rule to the Vice-Dean: Learning and Teaching, with special motivation.

3. Recognition of prior learning and credit accumulation and transfer (RPL&CAT)

Consult the RPL&CAT guidelines of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences for more information on the procedures and guidelines regarding the recognition of prior learning and credit accumulation and transfer in the Faculty. These guidelines are available at www.sun.ac.za/tygststudentadmin under "Policies and Guidelines".

4. Class fees

From 2010 class fees for all structured M degree programmes will be levied per module. Until further notice the class fees for MMed programmes will be levied per annum, as in the past, with the exception of the class fees for the MMed (Fam Med) programme which will be levied per module.

The class fees for the research modules within the structured M degree programmes will be spread over two years (70% of the class fees in the first year of registration and 30% in the second year) to prevent you from having to pay the full amount for two consecutive years. If you complete your research module within one year of study, you will therefore pay only 70% of the class fees for the specific module. But if you fail to complete the research module within the prescribed two years, you will pay, as of the third year of study, the full amount for the module.

If you register for a research master's degree, you must pay the full amount in the first year of study with a continuation levy in the second and third year. However, in the fourth and following years of study the continuation levy will double.

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2025 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 **1. Programme offering**.