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| **Department** | | | Department of Applied Management | |
| **Discipline** | | | Procurement and Supply Chain Management | |
| **Research Focus Area** | | | Procurement and Supply Chain Management | |
| **Capacity for 2025** | | | 5 Master’s and 5 PhD | |
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| **Supervision Team details:** | **Academic Profile** | | | **Capacity** |
| **Dr E C Jonathan**  **[[1]](#footnote-1)(Contact person for this focus area)**  Email: jonatec@unisa.ac.za  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4555-3293> | Ellsworth Jonathan is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Applied Management He joined the department in 2021 as a Postdoctoral Fellow focusing on public procurement research. He published in various national and international journals and co-supervised to completion whilst he was in the industry. He brings with him industry experience of over 25 years. He is part of the organising committee for the IPSERSA conference and has written the proposal, which was approved. He currently supervises ten master’s and four doctoral students. | | | 2 Master's and 2 Doctoral students |
| **Prof JO Cilliers**  Office:  Email: cillijo@unisa.ac.za  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2253-1473> | Orpha Cilliers is an associate professor in the Department of Applied Management and joined Unisa in 2013, where she currently specialises in Purchasing and Supply Chain Management. She obtained a PhD in Marketing Management from the North-West University. She has also contributed to textbooks and has successfully co-supervised a PhD and master’s students. She currently supervises five master’s and three doctoral students. | | | 1 Master and 1 Doctoral student |
| **Dr Alicia Weber**  Email: [snymaan@unisa.ac.za](mailto:snymaan@unisa.ac.za)  <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5388-7280> | Alicia Weber is a Senior lecturer in the Department of Applied Management at UNISA, having joined the university in 2011. Alicia holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Pretoria and a Master's degree (cum laude) from UNISA, where she received The UNISA Council's Excellence Award for top performance in a research-based dissertation. In 2022, she completed her PhD from UNISA. Alicia specialises in researching ways to optimise various aspects of the online supply chain. She has authored several articles and chapters in accredited local and international textbooks. She is currently supervising both Master’s and Doctoral students. | | | 1 Master and 1 Doctoral student |
| **Ms Elize Trollip**  Email: trolleg@unisa.ac.za  <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4018-1670> | Elize Trollip is a lecturer in Purchasing and supply chain management. Her master’s degree (cum laude) was in supply chain management, focusing on sustainability-environmental management. She is currently busy with a PhD in sustainability, focusing on adaptation management. Elize has been published in an accredited journal.  Before joining UNISA, Elize worked in the private sector for sixteen years in the FMCG industry and was involved with various supply chain processes. | | | Co-supervising 2 Master student |
| **Ms Winnie Dlamini**  Email: dlamiw@unisa.ac.za | Winnie Dlamini is a lecturer in Purchasing and supply chain management. She has over 15 years of teaching experience at UNISA. She holds a master’s degree specialising in supply chain management. She is currently busy with a PhD in Supply Chain Management. Winnie authored and co-authored articles published in accredited journals. | | | Co-supervising 2 Master student |  |
| **Mrs Letitia Marcantuono**  Email: marcal@unisa.ac.za | Letitia Marcantuono is a lecturer in the supply chain management section specialising in Supplier Management Relationships. She obtained her master's degree at UNISA and started and is now 16 years at the university. Before she worked at UNISA, she was a lecturer at the University of Pretoria. Letitia is currently co-supervising two master's students | | | Co-supervising 2 Master student |
| **Selection criteria: Master’s/Doctorate** | Refer to the qualification website for selection criteria. | | | |
| **Selection Procedure** | Refer to the qualification website for the selection procedure. | | | |
| **Research scope** | Topics in the following broad areas will be considered:  1. Strategic sourcing in government or private sector procurement, including:   * In/Outsourcing * Strategic sourcing strategy and process * Category strategy development * Buyer-supplier relationships * Strategic alliances in the supply chain * Supplier management and development * Contract management * Services sourcing   2. Innovation and Sustainability in Procurement and Supply chain management in government or private sector, Including:   * Governance * Ethics * Preferential procurement * Social responsibility * Environment * Innovation * Climate change * Mitigation and adaptation * Tripple bottom line pillars * Green supply chain * E-commerce supply chain management   3. Supply chain management strategies, including:   * 4IR technologies * Lean strategies * Agile strategies * Push vs Pull | | | |
| **Reading:**  **Subject Field** | Academic articles, popular articles, textbooks, research reports, and government regulations on the specific topic. (Candidates are not allowed to use sources older than 5 to 7 years. Older references be allowed on rare occasions where the work is a novel contribution or where the history of a phenomenon is discussed). Refer to scholarly textbooks indicated below. | | | |
| **Reading:**  **Research Methodology** | **Below is a selection of books on research methodology. Further reading over and above these is essential:**   * Barua, M. K. and Sinha, S. 2015. *Research methodology and communication*. 1st ed. Nashik: Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra (YCM) Open University. * Bhwama, M & Gobind, S. 2015. ‘Research methodology and approaches’, *Journal of Research and Method in Education,* 5(3): 48-49. * Brigham, F. J. 2010. Quantitative education research: Impact on evidence-based instruction, *Advances in Special Education*, (20): 3-6. * Borbasi, S. & Jackson, D. 2012. *Navigating the maze of research*. 3rd ed. Chatswood, Sydney: Mosby Elsevier. * Castellan, C. M. 2010. ‘Quantitative and qualitative research: A view for clarity’, *International Journal of Education,* 2(2): 7. * Choy, L. T. 2014. ‘The strengths and the weaknesses of research methodology: Comparison and complementary between qualitative and quantitative approaches’, *Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences,* 19(4): 99. * Creswell, J.W. 2013. *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods approaches***.** Sage. 4th ed. * Fassinger, R. & Morrow, S. L. 2013. ‘Towards best practices in quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-research method: A social justice perspective’, *Journal for Social Action in Counselling and Psychology,* 5(2): 75. * Ingham-Broomfield, R. 2014. ‘A nurses’ guide to quantitative research’, *Australian Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 32(2): 33- 36. * Jonker, J. & Pennink, B. 2010. *The essence of research methodology. A concise guide for Master and PHD students in management science*. Berlin: Springer. * Kumar, R. 2013. *Research methodology: A step by step guide for beginners.* 3rd ed. India: Sage. * Long, H. 2014. ‘An empirical review of research methodologies and methods in creativity studies (2013-2012)’, *Creativity Research Journal,* 26(4): 428. * Makinde, H. O. 2013. ‘The importance of research methodology to research study in the field of management science, a case study of Kogi State University, Anyigba’, American Based Research Journal, 2(9): 12-14. * O’ Leary, Z. 2013. The essential guide to doing your research project. 2nd ed. London: Sage. * Mouton, J. 2001. How to succeed in your master’s and doctoral studies: A South African guide and resource book. Pretoria: Van Schaik. (useful but outdated). * Pavan, G. K. & Nagarekha. K. 2014. ‘Research methodology: Review article’, International Journal of Innovative Research and development, 3(7): 168-170. * Rowley, J. 2014. ‘Designing and using research questionnaires’, Management Research Review, 37(3): 308. Vital, R. & Jansen, J. 2010. Designing your first research proposal: A manual for researchers in education and the social sciences. Rev edition. Lansdowne: Juta. * Saunders, Lewis, and Thornhill. 2012. Research methods for Business Students. 6th Edition. Pearson. * Sauro, J. 2015. How to measure the reliability of your methods and metrics. [online]. Denver: Measuring U. Available from: http://www.measuringu.com/blog/measure-reliability.php * Yilmaz, K. 2013. ‘Comparison of quantitative and qualitative research traditions: epistemological, theoretical, and methodological differences’, European Journal of Education, 48(2): 311-313. * Zikmund, W. G., Babin, B. J., Carr, J. C. & Griffin, M. 2010. *Business research methods.* Ohio: South-Western Cengage Learning. | | | |
| **Resources: Scholar community** | **Conduct a Google search for scholarly articles on your topic and related topics**  **A list of some of the most recent books in Procurement and Supply Chain Management is provided below:**   * Badenhorst-Weiss, JA, Van Biljon, EBW & Ambe IM. 2017. Supply chain management: A balanced approach. Pretoria, Van Schaik. * Bowersox, DJ, Closs, DJ & Cooper, MB. 2010. Supply chain logistics management. 3rd edition. Singapore: McGraw-Hill. * Chopra, S & Meindl, P. 2013. Supply chain management: strategy, planning and operation. 5th edition. Boston: Pearson. * Chase, RB & Jacobs, FR. 2011 Operations and supply chain management. 13th eds. New York, McGraw-Hill. * Coyle, JJ., Langley, CJ., Novack, RA & Gibson, BJ. 2017.10th ed. Supply chain management: A logistics perspective. Boston, Ma. Cencage¸ * Hugo, W.M.J. & Badenhorst-Weiss, J.A. 2011. Purchasing and supply management. 6th edition. Pretoria: Van Schaik. * Johnson, P.F., Leenders, M.R. & Flynn, A.E. 2011. 14th ed. Purchasing and supply management. New York, NY.: McGraw-Hill. * Monczka, R.M., Handfield, R.B., Giunipero, L.C. & Patterson, J.L. 2016. *Sourcing and supply management*, 6th ed. Boston, MA: Cengage learning. * Van Weele, A.J. 2014. *Purchasing and supply chain management*, 6th ed. Hampshire, UK: Cengage Learning. | | | |
| **Potential M&D research focus areas or research projects** | | | | |
| Prospective students can use the topics listed below or propose their own topic within Procurement and Supply Chain Management. Students’ research outlines will be reviewed in terms of the topic, the identified problem, feasibility to conduct the research, the context of the study and the scholarliness of presented outline (i.e. academic writing skills, referencing, argumentative skills, golden thread and resources consulted). Consulting and referencing additional resources other than those presented in this document are essential. | | | | |
| **Unit of Analysis** | | **Research Focus** | | |
|  | | Government, mining, services sector, manufacturing, retail, logistics, automotive | | |

1. Please note that consulting the research focus area leader is no assurance that your application will be approved. If, however, your application is approved, it is also not a guarantee that he/she will be allocated as your supervisor. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)