



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS



2024



COLLEGE OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES (CEMS): RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS FOR MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

This document outlines the selection criteria, selection process and research focus areas for applying for a Master's or Doctorate qualification in CEMS.

Selection criteria:

Students' applications will be reviewed in accordance with the Procedures for Master's and Doctorate Degrees (sections 3.1 to 3.3). Note that the selection panel is not obliged to accept prospective students who meet the minimum criteria, as there are other factors (see below) that are considered (section 3.1):

- Meeting the minimum requirements as set out online
- Academic record
- Academic background
- Language competency
- The topic the student wishes to research
- The topic's alignment with the preferred research focus area
- Capacity and expertise to supervise student
- Limitations imposed by enrolment planning

Selection process:

Eligible students' applications will be forwarded to the relevant Academic Department's selection panel for consideration. Only after the application period has closed and applications have been processed (roughly mid-December), will the Academic Department's selection panel consider the pool of applications per research focus areas and not on a "first come first serve basis". This will roughly take place in January. The selection panel evaluates each student's application in terms of the criteria set out above. Thereafter all applicants are ranked according to strength and supervisors assigned according to their expertise and capacity. The number of M and D registrations are informed by the availability of suitable supervisors to ensure that available supervisory capacity is not exceeded. This will maintain supervisor/student ratios that would be conducive to high-quality results. The Academic Department notifies the College of Graduate Studies: M&D Qualification Support of the outcome of the application (roughly February) who in turn will inform the applicant.

For example:

A candidate holds a BCom Honours in Economics (average 61%) and as per admission requirements, applied for a Master's in Economics. This candidate is specifically interested in the Research Focus Area "*Development Economics*", and has aligned his research outline accordingly. Twenty (20) eligible Master's candidates, however, have applied for this specific research focus with averages ranging from 60% to 80%. The eligible supervisors for this specific research focus area, on the other hand, can only supervise ten (10) Master's candidates. The selection panel will review each candidate against the criteria as set out above, rank the students from 1 to 20, select only the strongest ten (10) Master's students and assign eligible supervisors. Competition for a space in the programme is therefore fierce and is it the responsibility of the student to convince the selection panel that his/her research outline is worthy of research.

Department name	Focus Area	Lead Researcher (Contact Person)	Capacity per Focus Area/Research Team
Department of Operations Management Total capacity for 2024: 38 Masters: 22 PhD: 16	Production and Operations Management  Production and Operations Management	Prof A Tolmay E-mail: etolmass@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 2
	Work Study  Work study.docx	Dr B Mboniyane E-mail: mbonybl@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorate: none
	Production & Operations Management & Work Study  Production and Operations Management	Prof Barnes Sookdeo E-mail: bsookdeo@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 2
	Wellbeing or Competitive Advantage  Wellbeing and competitive advantage	Mr J Mashala E-mail: mashajj@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorate: none
	Sustainability in the context of OHS in Africa  Sustainability in the context of OHS in Africa	Ms Leonie Louw E-mail: louwlb@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 3 Doctorate: None
	Skills Development for OHS in Africa  Skills Development for OHS in Africa.docx	Ms Leonie Louw E-mail: louwlb@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: None
	Process/Improvement/Supply chain/Industry 4.0  Process-Improvement-Supply chain-Industry	Dr Anthea Amadi-Echendu E-mail: amadiap@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorate: 1

Department name	Focus Area	Lead Researcher (Contact Person)	Capacity per Focus Area/Research Team
	Intellectual Capital  Intellectual Capital.docx	Prof Sumei Van Antwerpen E-mail: vanans@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorates: 2
Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Management	OHS Legal and Regulatory Compliance  OHS Legal and Regulatory Complianc	Dr Elriza Esterhuyzen E-mail: Estere@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 1
	Ethics and leadership  Ethics and leadership in OHS.docx	Dr Elriza Esterhuyzen E-mail: Estere@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorate:2
	Strategic safety & safety risk management  Strategic safety & safety risk manageme	Dr Cheryl Rielander E-mail: rielacl@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 1
	SMEs and entrepreneurial safety  OHS in SMEs and entrepreneurial safety	Ms Leonie Louw E-mail: louwlb@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 1
	Toxicology  Occupational Risk Exposure (Toxicology)	Mrs Cheryl Rielander E-mail: rielacl@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 2
	Incident and accident analysis  Incident & Accident Analysis.docx	Dr Cheryl Rielander E-mail: rielacl@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorate: 2
	Department of Applied Management	Business & Leisure Tourism and Events  Business & Leisure Tourism and Events.d	Prof C van Zyl E-mail: vzylc@unisa.ac.za

Department name	Focus Area	Lead Researcher (Contact Person)	Capacity per Focus Area/Research Team
Total capacity for 2024: 42 Masters: 25 PhD: 17	Entrepreneurship  Entrepreneurship.doc	Dr RM Khosa E-mail: khosarm@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 11 Doctorate: 6
	Integrated Logistics  Integrated logistics.docx	Prof IM Ambe E-mail: ambeim@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 3 Doctorate: 1
	Hospitality and Attractions Management  Hospitality and Attraction Mangemen	Prof Nellie Swart E-mail: swartmp@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: No intake
	Transport and Travel & Tourism  Transport and Travel & Tourism.docx	Prof C van Zyl E-mail: vzylc@unisa.ac.za	Masters: None Doctorate: 2
	Procurement and Supply Chain Management  Procurement Supply Chain Management.d	Prof IM Ambe E-mail: ambeim@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 4 Doctorate: 3
	Marketing of Tourism Destinations and Tourism Business  Marketing of Tourism Destinations and Tour	Prof C van Zyl E-mail: vzylc@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 3 Doctorate: 2
	Sustainable Tourism  Sustainable tourism.docx	Dr D Queiros E-mail: queirdr@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 1 Doctorate: 2
	Department of Public Administration	Local Government Management	Prof P Khumalo E-mail: khumap1@unisa.ac.za

Department name	Focus Area	Lead Researcher (Contact Person)	Capacity per Focus Area/Research Team
and Management Total capacity for 2024: 69 Masters: 44 PhD: 25	 LocalGovernmentManagement.docx		
	Environmental Governance  Environmental Governance.docx	Prof BS Ngcamu E-mail: ngcams@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 7 Doctorate: 7
	Public Administration Education  Public Administration Education.docx	Prof LC Van Jaarsveldt E-mail: vjaarlc@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 4 Doctorate: 3
	Public Finance  Public Finance.docx	Dr V Sambo E-mail: esambovt@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 2 Doctorate: 1
	Public Human Resource and Organisational Studies  Public Human Resource and Organi:	Prof EJ Van der Westhuizen E-mail: vdwesej@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 14 Doctorate: 3
	Public Policy  Public Policy.docx	Prof WN Webb E-mail: webbwn@unisa.ac.za	Masters: 8 Doctorate: 7