



Master of Science (MSc) in Psychology

About the Degree

The Master of Science (MSc) in Psychology is a two-year postgraduate research degree offered by the Department of Psychology at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University.

This is an academic degree focused on developing advanced research skills and contributing to the scientific understanding of psychological processes and human behaviour. It is important to note that this is not a professional master's degree and therefore does not lead to registration with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as a psychologist or counsellor.

The MSc Psychology degree is by dissertation only, meaning that students work independently under academic supervision to produce an original research project that contributes to the field of psychology.

Duration of Study

The MSc Psychology is a two-year full-time programme. Progress is dependent on the successful development, approval, and completion of a research proposal and dissertation.

Career Opportunities

Graduates of the MSc Psychology degree are equipped with advanced research, analytical, and academic writing skills that open doors to a variety of career paths, including:

- Academic and research careers in universities or higher education institutions.
- Research positions in the public sector, including health, education, social development, and justice departments.
- Data analysis and policy research roles in government agencies and non-profit organisations.
- Research consultancy or evaluation work for NGOs, private research firms, and international development agencies.
- Entry into doctoral studies (PhD) for those pursuing an academic or research-focused career.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission into the MSc Psychology programme, applicants must meet the following minimum requirements:

- A minimum average of 60% for the Honours degree in Psychology (or equivalent, e.g., BPsych).
- A minimum of 60% for the Research Methods module during the Honours year.
- Submission of a research proposal demonstrating originality, sound scientific writing, and an understanding of research methodology.
- Proposals are evaluated through Turnitin (acceptable similarity index: 20% or below).
- The department's research committee reviews applications based on the quality of writing, logical reasoning, and relevance of the research topic.

Additional Notes

- Admission is also subject to supervisory capacity within the department.
- Applicants whose proposals are accepted by the departmental research committee during the first semester may register in the current year. Proposals approved during the second semester will be considered for registration in the following year.