

5.4 Doctoral degrees

5.4.1 Doctor of Philosophy

Specific admission requirements

- You can be admitted to the degree PhD in Medical Sciences provided that:
 - a minimum period of two years has passed since obtaining the degree MBChB or BChD; or
 - you have obtained a relevant honours degree in Medical Sciences directly following an MBChB or BChD degree; or
 - you have obtained a master's degree in Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Nutrition/Dietetics, Physiotherapy, Speech-Language Therapy or Health Related and Social Sciences; or
 - you have obtained a relevant MSc degree (Master of Science) of the University, or another university approved by Senate; or
 - you have obtained another qualification (and have allowed for the required period following the qualification) that is deemed sufficient by Senate.
- You must comply with all the other provisions for doctorates, as stipulated under Postgraduate Qualifications in Part 1 (General Rules) of the Yearbook, as well as in the Briefing Document on D degrees.
- You can be admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Health Professions Education (PhD in HPE) provided that:
 - you have obtained a relevant qualification in the Health Sciences and/or have relevant experience in the Health Sciences, and you have been awarded an M degree in Health Professions Education or Higher Education, or you have proven and relevant experience with educational research and/or relevant research in the social sciences; or
 - you have obtained another qualification (and have allowed for the required period following the qualification) that is deemed sufficient by Senate, and you have proven and relevant experience with educational research and/or relevant research in the social sciences.
- You can be admitted to the Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical and Research Ethics provided that:
 - you have obtained an MBChB degree or a basic degree in the Health Sciences, a master's degree in the field of Bioethics, the Health Sciences or a relevant field, and a postgraduate diploma in Applied Ethics or Health Research Ethics;
 - you have appropriate qualitative research experience in the field of Bioethics; and
 - you are working in a Health Sciences or Bioethics environment.

Please note:

Admission requirements are subject to amendment based on new requirements of the Department of Higher Education and Training.

Application procedure and closing date

You may apply online at www.maties.com, but you must also request guidelines and other specific application forms from the Tygerberg Doctoral Office. On application for registration and for the duration of your studies, you must provide the Tygerberg Doctoral Office with all necessary documents.

Duration of programme

The minimum duration is two years and the maximum duration is five years. Your supervisor may submit an acceptable motivation for the extension of the period to the Committee for Postgraduate Research of the Faculty, at least six months prior to the expiry of the five years.

Programme description

The Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD) can be obtained in the following disciplines of the Medical and Health Sciences:

Programme leader	Discipline	Email	Telephone
Prof S Chetty	Anaesthesiology	seanchetty@sun.ac.za	021 938 9226
Dr M Sanderson	Anatomical Pathology	msanders@sun.ac.za	021 938 5309
Dr N Rampf	Anatomy	nrampf@sun.ac.za	021 938 9418
Dr B Gerber	Audiology	berna@sun.ac.za	021 938 9494
Prof G Tromp	Bioinformatics and Computational Biology	gctromp@sun.ac.za	021 938 9947
Prof P Nyasulu	Biostatistics	pnyasulu@sun.ac.za	021 938 9973
Prof A Zemlin Prof MJ Kotze	Chemical Pathology (<i>Please note: This programme will not be offered in 2024.</i>)	azemlin@sun.ac.za maritha@sun.ac.za	021 938 4107 021 938 5328
Dr E Obasa	Clinical and Research Ethics	obasa@sun.ac.za	021 938 9600
Dr W Visser	Dermatology	wvisser@sun.ac.za	021 938 9322
Dr N van Hoving	Emergency Medicine	nvhoving@sun.ac.za	021 938 9804
Prof P Nyasulu	Epidemiology	pnyasulu@sun.ac.za	021 938 9973
Prof R Mash	Family Medicine	rm@sun.ac.za	021 938 9170/ 9620
Dr C Swanepoel	Haematological Pathology	carmens@sun.ac.za	021 938 4103/ 9089
Prof SC van Schalkwyk	Health Professions Education	scvs@sun.ac.za	021 938 9874
Prof G Mji	Health Sciences Rehabilitation	gumji@sun.ac.za	021 938 9528
Mr K Claasen	Human Genetics	mbhgapplcations@sun.ac.za	021 938 9400
Prof H Reuter	Internal Medicine	hr@sun.ac.za	021 938 9044
Dr M Newton-Foot	Medical Microbiology	maen@sun.ac.za	021 938 4009
Prof C Trauernicht	Medical Physics	cjt@sun.ac.za	021 938 6027
Prof H Strijdom	Medical Physiology	hgstr@sun.ac.za	021 938 9387
Prof C de Beer	Medical Virology	cdeb@sun.ac.za	021 938 9453
Mr K Claasen	Molecular Biology	mbhgapplcations@sun.ac.za	021 938 9400
Dr N Rampf	Morphological Sciences	nrampf@sun.ac.za	021 938 9418
Prof AJ Vlok	Neurosurgery	ianvlok@sun.ac.za	021 938 9265
Prof J Warwick	Nuclear Medicine	jw@sun.ac.za	021 938 4352
Prof P Jordan	Nursing	pjordan@sun.ac.za	021 938 9760
Prof XM Mbhenyane	Nutritional Sciences	xgm@sun.ac.za	021 938 9135
Prof MH Botha	Obstetrics and Gynaecology	mhbotha@sun.ac.za	021 938 9209
Dr L Jacobs-Nzuzi Khuabi	Occupational Therapy	leeann@sun.ac.za	021 938 9305

Programme leader	Discipline	Email	Telephone
Tygerberg Doctoral Office	Ophthalmology	tyg-phd@sun.ac.za	021 938 9813
Dr M Burger	Orthopaedic Surgery	mcburger@sun.ac.za	021 938 9268/ 9266
Tygerberg Doctoral Office	Otorhinolaryngology	tyg-phd@sun.ac.za	021 938 9813
Prof R van Toorn	Paediatrics	vtoorn@sun.ac.za	021 938 9506
Prof E Decloedt Dr T Kellermann	Pharmacology	ericdecloedt@sun.ac.za tkellermann@sun.ac.za	021 938 9045
Prof LG Cloete	Physiotherapy	lizahn@sun.ac.za	021 938 9308
Prof N Kairinos	Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery	kairinos@sun.ac.za	021 938 9585
Prof S Seedat	Psychiatry	sseedat@sun.ac.za	021 938 9227
Prof R English	Public Health	renglish@sun.ac.za	021 938 9566
Prof JM Akudugu	Radiobiology	jakudugu@sun.ac.za	021 938 9942
Prof RD Pitcher	Radiological Diagnosis	pitcher@sun.ac.za	021 938 5622
Tygerberg Doctoral Office	Radiotherapy and Radio Isotopes	tyg-phd@sun.ac.za	021 938 9813
Dr B Gerber	Speech-Language Therapy	berna@sun.ac.za	021 938 9494
Prof HW Grobbelaar	Sport Psychology	hgrobelaar@sun.ac.za	021 808 4771
Prof R Lamberts	Sport Science	roblam@sun.ac.za	021 808 9085
Dr J Lubbe	Surgery	jal@sun.ac.za	021 938 9271
Prof JT Janson	Thoracic Surgery	jjanson@sun.ac.za	021 938 9432
Prof A van der Merwe	Urology	arvdm@sun.ac.za	021 938 9094

Assessment and examination

- The PhD degree is awarded in recognition of high quality, original research and is conventionally assessed based on a dissertation.
- In addition, a PhD degree may be obtained in an alternative way, namely primarily based on published scientific articles. However, it is not possible to obtain a PhD degree exclusively on the basis of published articles. More details regarding the different formats can be obtained from the Tygerberg Doctoral Office.
- With regard to the date of submission of the dissertation, the number of copies to be submitted, as well as the further requirements with which you have to comply in order to graduate, the general provisions for doctorates will apply as stipulated under Postgraduate qualifications in Part 1 (General Rules) of the Yearbook, as well as in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences' guidelines document, General Information on Doctoral Studies, which is available at the Tygerberg Doctoral Office.
- The PhD degree is not regarded as basis for registration as a specialist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa or the South African Nursing Council but can be registered as an additional qualification (Medical Sciences only).
- The PhD degree may be awarded to you:
 - after you have been registered for the PhD degree at the University for at least two academic years;
 - on the condition that – with the supervisor's consent – you give written notice to the Tygerberg Doctoral Office of your intended submission date at least six months prior to the desired date of graduation;
 - based on a dissertation – under supervision by a supervisor – that covers a problem from an area in the Medical and Health Sciences or Health Professions Education (in the case of a PhD in HPE). The dissertation must provide proof to the satisfaction of the University of advanced, original work, which contributes to the enhancement of fundamental, theoretical and/or clinical knowledge in the particular field of research;
 - provided that the dissertation is accompanied by a statement confirming that it has not previously been submitted to another university or institution in order to obtain a degree or diploma, and that it is your own work; and
 - after you have passed an oral examination. An oral examination for the doctorate is a general requirement, apart from the advanced doctorates, but subject to the approval of Senate,

exemption from this examination may be granted in specific cases based on sufficient motivation.

Enquiries

Tygerberg Doctoral Office

Tel: 021 938 9813 Email: tyg-phd@sun.ac.za

Website: <http://www.sun.ac.za/fmhsdoctoraloffice>

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2024 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 *Postgraduate programmes*.