

## **MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (NQF LEVEL 9)**

### **PURPOSE OF THE QUALIFICATION**

The Master in Public Policy and Management is a degree for professionals with significant practical experience who have a desire to acquire essential management and analytic skills that would allow them to meet policy management challenges. The Master in Public Policy and Management hones and integrates the professionals' talents to enhance their effectiveness in the world of policy.

The Master in Public Policy and Management is useful to the public service practitioners and other practitioners who are involved in policy design, implementation and evaluation as well as governance. It is also useful to those who are interested in developing their leadership capacities, knowledge, skills and talent. This qualification can be used to secure leadership positions in management in the public sector, in non-governmental organisations, and in a variety of other professional settings such as hospitals, parastatal, private and community organisations.

The Master in Public Policy and Management programme aims at strengthening the public policy and managerial skills of future leaders, senior managers and professionals from both the public and private sectors. This programme provides committed policy professionals with the theoretical foundation and practical tools they need to make a difference.

The qualification is aimed at enabling participants to synthesise and critique theories and practices of public policy and management in the light of current research and professional experience.

The qualification targets the professionals working in the public and private sectors who have a Bachelor in Public Policy and Management Honours or relevant qualifications at NQF Level 8 with relevant working experience in the field of Public Policy and Management. This qualification grants admission to a Doctor of Philosophy, Public Policy and Management programme or any other related PhD qualifications or any qualification at NQF Level 10.

### **OUTCOMES FOR THE WHOLE QUALIFICATION**

Holders of this qualification are able to:

- Produce evidence of advanced knowledge about a specialist field of enquiry or professional practice;
- Demonstrate mastery of sophisticated theoretical subject matter;
- Evaluate critically the findings and discussions in the literature;
- Research, analyse and argue from evidence;
- Work independently and apply knowledge to new situations; and
- Engage in rigorous intellectual analysis, criticism and problem-solving;
- Analyse subject matter and communicate the outcomes effectively;
- Critique the concepts, theories and techniques relating to subject matter;
- Evaluate and critically reflect upon current research, relevant scholarship and professional practice related to the subject matter;
- Demonstrate initiative and personal responsibility self-direction, autonomy and originality in problem solving;

- Originate the necessary skills required for life- long independent and reflective learning (self-evaluation and problem solving);
- Devise a comprehensive range of learning resources to demonstrate independence, reflective learning and effective Continuing Professional Development; and
- Combine complex data from a variety of sources, and use IT effectively in the analysis of the data to inform managerial and professional decisions.

## **QUALIFICATION DURATION**

The Master in Public Policy & Management programme is a two-year full time post graduate study qualification leading to NQF Level 9 qualification.

The study period for the qualification is:

Fulltime mode - Minimum: 2 Years; Maximum: 4 Years

Contact hours will only be given over weekends and some of the public holidays

## **ADMISSION /ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

To be registered for the Master in Public Policy & Management programme, a candidate must have.

- Bachelor in Public Policy and Management degree at level 8 or equivalent qualifications.
- Relevant working experience in the field of Public Policy and Management maybe required

## **Courses**

Course Title

Year 1

- Good Governance and Compliance
- Systems Thinking and Strategic Development
- Innovations in Public Management
- Technology and Economic Growth
- Systems Synthesis and Policy Analysis
- Fiscal Planning and Management Control Systems
- Policy, Strategy and Resources
- Ethics, Legal and Institutional Dynamics

Year 2

- Research Methodology
- Electives (choose two)
- The State, Public Policy and Management
- Global Labour & Employment Law
- Corporate Governance & Social Responsibility
- Business Risk & Intelligence for Management
- Dissertation

## **CREDIT TRANSFER**

Credit is the value assigned for the recognition of equivalence in content acquired learning outcomes between different types of learning and/or qualifications. Credit reduces the amount of learning required to achieve a qualification and may be through credit transfer, articulation, recognition of prior learning or advanced standing. To be awarded these credits, IUM will need to assess the courses or combination of courses as equivalent to IUM courses

Courses awarded as credits need to have been studied within the past 5 years.

Generally, credit will be given if the courses were taken at an accredited institution of higher learning, the course was equivalent to courses offered at IUM, or compatible with Namibian Qualification Authority requirements.

Courses will be evaluated for its current relevance and may not transfer if the material is outdated more than 5 years since the course was attended and examination sat and passed and/or the course was not passed at the first examination sitting.

Credits earned at an unaccredited college may not transfer unless the credit earned is equivalent to courses offered in degree qualification.

Credits earned at IUM are also transferable to other institutions of higher learning.

Acceptance of credits earned at other institutions is limited to 50% of the total credits required for an IUM qualification. No more than half the major area course requirements can be earned through transfer and/or exemption credit.

The IUM reserves the right to reject any or all credits from other institutions, regardless of their accreditation status, when it determines through investigation or otherwise that the quality of instruction at such institutions is for any reason deficient or unsatisfactory. The judgment of the IUM on this question shall be final.

The IUM reserves the right to disallow transfer credit for courses if the student's subsequent grades in required courses in the same subject fall below average.

## **ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION**

Continuous Assessment (CA) attracts 40% of the final grade. This will come from the examinable activities such as written and/or oral tests and assignments (group and/or individual), and evaluations undertaken by the student during the study period.

Students must score at least 50% in each course/coursework to qualify to sit for the final examinations. This means a student whose continuous assessment mark is below 50%, fails the course.

### **(a) Final Examinations**

The final examination counts for 60% of the overall final mark. The final examination comes at the end of the course. Unless prescribed otherwise, the standard examinations will be of three hours duration. Examiners may, in addition to written examination, test any candidate orally.

## (b) Supplementary Examinations

A student who fails a course with an overall mark of 40-49% is eligible to sit for a supplementary examination.

A student who fails the project with a mark of less than 50% will be allowed one opportunity to re-submit the project three months after the publication of results. A student who fails a course with an overall mark of 39% and below will be required to repeat the same course until the course is passed. A student may not proceed from one level to the next higher level carrying more than 50% of the courses or credits

## (c) Dissertation Writing

Taken in the last year of study, dissertation writing is meant to engage students in research with a faculty member designated by student and approved by the Post Graduate School in order to generate the research necessary to complete their Master Degree

Each student must complete a 20 000 – 25 000 words dissertation. This project should involve original research on a topic related to the studied field. The dissertation will have a clearly defined problem statement, a review of the existing literature on the chosen topic, original evidence offered to support the dissertation, consideration of alternative rival hypothesis, and a conclusion with recommendations.

Upon completion of the research, the results are to be presented for oral defence before an examination panel. The students shall score a minimum of 50% in order to pass the dissertation.

## **TEACHING METHODS/STRATEGIES**

The teaching and learning processes will be by means of lectures, tutorial activities and discussion, collaborative group tasks, practical projects and written assignments

Students must have access to a computer and the Internet and other modern technology especially appreciated in the secondary school instruction. The teaching and learning methods adapted for this qualification are student-centred learning methods. Emphasis will be placed upon the need for a student to read and research extensively in each of the courses. Each student will be mentored to appreciate that one will be expected to be responsible for one's own learning. The role of the lecturer, therefore, is to stimulate learning and to support and guide that process. Guided reading materials and research will support these endeavours.

The delivery methods for this qualification comprise of the fulltime, part time and block release learning mode. Contact hours for block release mode are face-to- face encounters on monthly basis and block periods during IUM academic breaks and other public holidays such as Easter break.

The degree will be offered in collaboration with the other faculties within the university.

## **ARTICULATION**

The Master in Public Policy and Management qualification grants admission to a Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Management programme or any other related PhD qualifications or any qualification at NQF level 10.