



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

MAgric Rural Development (02256003)

Department Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development

Minimum duration of study 2 years

Total credits 180

NQF level 09

Programme information

Residence

On the recommendation of the relevant head of department, the Dean may set specific residential requirements for the MScAgric degree.

Renewal of registration

As long as progress is satisfactory, renewal of the registration of a master's student will be accepted for the second year of the study. Registration for a third and subsequent years will only take place when the Student Administration of the Faculty receives a written motivation which is supported by the relevant head of department and Postgraduate Studies Committee.

Curriculum

Subject to programme-specific requirements, the curriculum for the MScAgric degree consists of the following:

- A dissertation; and
- Further study in the major subject/s, augmented by ancillary modules prescribed by the Postgraduate Studies Committee, on the recommendation of the head of department. Such ancillary modules may be taken simultaneously with the major subject/s. Candidates in possession of the BScAgricHons degree may be exempted from additional ancillary modules.
- Please note that not all modules will be offered in any one year.

General

Candidates are required to familiarise themselves with the General Regulations regarding the maximum period of registration and the requirements on the submission of a draft article for publication.

Admission requirements

- BAgricHons degree (or equivalent) **or** BInstAgrarHons degree (or equivalent) **or** relevant honours degree

Note: Additional modules may be required in order to reach the desired level of competency



Examinations and pass requirements

- i. The examinations in the ancillary modules should be successfully completed prior to, or simultaneously with, the examinations in the major subject/s, unless the Faculty Board decides otherwise.
- ii. General Regulation G.12.2 applies to the calculation of marks.
- iii. In order to obtain the MScAgric degree, the candidate must pass all prescribed modules, including the examination in the major subject/s, as well as the dissertation.

Pass with distinction

The MScAgric degree is conferred with distinction on candidates who obtain a final average mark of at least 75% and a mark of at least 75% for the dissertation/mini-dissertation from each of the members of the examination panel. Where a member of the examination panel awards a mark of less than 75% for the dissertation/mini-dissertation, that member of the examination panel must offer, in writing, support for his/her decision, or indicate in writing that he/she supports the examination committee's decision to confer the degree with distinction.



Curriculum: Year 1

Core credits: 90

Core modules

Food policy 833 (LEK 833)

Module credits 15.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites Registration for at least a master's degree

Contact time 1 lecture per week for 12 wks

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

The concept and interrelated causes of food insecurity (production, markets and socio-economic climate) and the global food economy. Household coping strategies and response to risk and shocks. Household dynamics (including livelihoods, purchasing behaviour and nutrition). Practical tools for programme and policy analysis and targeting. Evaluation of possible programme and policy options and their effectiveness in terms of achieving comprehensive and pro-poor growth. Sustainable Development Goal two that seeks to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Measuring and monitoring food security 834 (LEK 834)

Module credits 15.00

NQF Level 09

Prerequisites Registration for at least a master's degree. Simultaneous registration for LEK 833.

Contact time 1 lecture per week for 4 weeks, 1 practical per week (2 weeks), 3 hours of online learning per week (6 weeks)

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

The international and African context for monitoring and evaluation of Sustainable Development Goals related to food security. Indicators, scores, indexes, measurement approaches, systems and analysis methods for multisectoral food security monitoring and evaluation. Best practice related to the identification, selection, presentation and analytical approaches to managing and analysing large datasets across multiple sectors to generate clear, concise findings for policymakers. Communicating food security information for decision makers.

Institutional economics 882 (LEK 882)



Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	09
Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Institutional and behavioural economics. This module will expose students to the principles of the New Institutional Economics paradigm and how it can be utilized to improve the analysis of agricultural economic and agricultural development problems and issues. Major themes covered are: The agricultural development challenge: stylised features; new institutional economics: distinctive features and concepts; institutions and development: A historical and macro-perspective techno-economic characteristics and agricultural systems and products in poor countries; NIE analysis of markets and markets structures; the State: Political and institutional determinants of agricultural policy; collective action; transactions costs in smallholder agriculture; case studies.

Advanced rural finance 884 (LEK 884)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Overview of rural finance: conceptual issues. Role of financial services in economic development. Relationship between financial development and economic growth. Economic theory underlying rural financial markets: market and government failure, imperfect information, transaction costs, agency theory, and pecking order theory. Supply of and demand for financial services in rural areas: theory and measurement issues. Estimating credit demand, supply and constraints. Institutions involved in the provision of rural financial services and innovations in rural finance. Assessing performance of institutions providing rural financial services.

Agricultural and rural development 885 (LEK 885)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English



Department	Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo
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Period of presentation	Semester 2
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Module content

Review of theories and principles of growth and development. The role of agriculture in rural and economic development. The economic nature of smallholder agriculture. Problems and policies in agricultural and rural development: issues, options and challenges. Strategies for modernising agriculture (lessons from experience). Poverty dynamics, food and the environmental nexus. Land tenure reforms and policy.

Research methodology 888 (LEK 888)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	09
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Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
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Contact time	1 lecture per week
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Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
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Department	Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo
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Period of presentation	Semester 1
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Module content

Research methodology and dissertation design. Research in perspective. The research process. Formulating research problems, hypotheses and objectives. Developing a conceptual framework. Review of literature. Methods and procedures. Data collection, processing and analysis. Developing a good research proposal.



Curriculum: Final year

Core credits: 90

Core modules

Mini-dissertation: Rural development 894 (LEK 894)

Module credits	90.00
NQF Level	09
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Agricultural Economics Extension and Rural Develo
Period of presentation	Year

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.