



**MA PROGRAMME
IN GIS**

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**MSC PROGRAMME
IN GEO-
INFORMATICS**

MA PROGRAMME IN GIS

MSC PROGRAMME IN GEO-INFORMATICS

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Programme Coordinator: Prof A. Van Niekerk
(021) 808 3101 | avn@sun.ac.za

GENERAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Everything you need online at www.sun.ac.za/english/students/

ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY

How to obtain an application form or APPLY ONLINE: www0.sun.ac.za/pgstudies/

For enquiries send an email to info@sun.ac.za or phone +27 21 808 9111

Address: The Registrar, Stellenbosch University, Private Bag X1, MATIELAND 7602

Closing dates for application: 30 October

BURSARIES AND LOANS

Stellenbosch University offers various merit bursaries, sports bursaries, bursaries for studies in specific faculties or departments, general bursaries and bursary loans for needy students (see Calendar Part 2).

Website: www0.sun.ac.za/international/postgraduate-student-funding

Tel: 021 808 4208

E-mail: postgradfunding@sun.ac.za

Address: The Registrar (Head: Postgraduate Bursaries and Loans), Stellenbosch University, Private Bag X1, MATIELAND 7602

TUITION FEES

Website: www0.sun.ac.za/pgstudies/fees.html

Tel: +27 21 808-9111

E-mail: info@sun.ac.za



ACCOMMODATION

The same prescribed application form is used for applications for admission to a programme and to accommodation in a University Residence.

Website: www0.sun.ac.za/pgstudies/living-in-stellenbosch/accommodaton.html

University accommodation: Apply online or contact 021 808 9111 for an application form.

Private accommodation: Student Housing Office, Tel 021 808 2848

Closing date for applications: **30 June of the year before accommodation is needed.**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International (Non-South African) students must apply through the Stellenbosch University International Office, accessed at www0.sun.ac.za/international/

Address: International Office, Stellenbosch University, Private Bag X1, 7602 Matieland, South Africa

Tel: +2721 808 2565

E-mail: nrrhoda@sun.ac.za

Closing dates for international applications: **15 September for January semester**

The University accepts no liability in regard to inaccuracies of content in this brochure, if any. Every reasonable care has been taken, however, to ensure that the relevant information is presented accurately.

GENERAL AIMS AND STRUCTURE OF THE MASTERS PROGRAMME

MA in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) [59722 – 878 (120 credits) (NQF8a: 100% thesis)(AH)]

MSc in GeoInformatics [12279 – 878 (120 credits) (NQF8a: 100% thesis)(AH)]

NATURE OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme focuses on the development and application of spatial geographical information technologies (e.g. GIS and remote sensing) and techniques. Students are mentored to become independent researchers by encouraging enquiry into the spatial dimensions of human-environment relationships and problems through research on a mutually agreed topic for each candidate. Directed and independent literature review leads to the development and drafting of a research proposal. Research follows accepted scientific procedures: empirical investigation and technology application, spatial and statistical data gathering and analyses, graphical and cartographical display, and finally interpretation and communication in a scientific thesis report.



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A BA / BSc Honours degree in Geography and Environmental Studies or a related discipline
- An average of 60% is required for the Honours degree
- At least two years of Geographic Information Systems instruction
- Acceptance of a research proposal. Following initial admission, candidates are invited to submit a research proposal.

PARTICULARS

The candidate and the supervisor agree on an approved research topic that culminates in a thesis of 30 000 - 40 000 words demonstrating the candidate's ability to do independent research. Masters candidates are expected to report back at prescribed dates regarding their progress (similar to the honours research project). Candidates are expected to complete the first draft of the full thesis within one year, to attend all organised seminar sessions during the year and to remain actively engaged with their research task during the year. Candidates are expected to publish their findings in an accredited academic journal with the supervisor as co-author.

A research topic may be formulated from within the following list of themes in which our research staff specialises:

- Development of autonomous mapping techniques using remote sensing
- Spatial decision support and expert system development
- Environmental, landscape, tourism or urban modelling

In addition, and depending on the selected topic and formal qualifications already obtained, candidates may enroll (at no additional cost) for a number of the taught course modules offered in the department.

MILESTONE DATES

Early December Year -1	Candidates submit tentative research proposal
Middle December Year -1	Department dispatches final acceptance letter to accepted candidates
End January Year 1	First orientation meeting at the Department (compulsory attendance)
1 September Year 1	Candidates submit first thesis draft
March Year 2	Graduation

