

## UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION

Applications for accommodation on the Wits University campus must reach the Office of Residence Life before 30 September each year.

Tel: +27 11 717 9170/4

Fax: +27 11 717 9179

E-mail: accommodation@residence.wits.ac.za.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Students from the SADC countries and abroad are a vital part of this University and are strongly encouraged to apply. Specific procedures apply to international students so apply well in advance. For more information contact the International Office.

Tel: +27 11 717 1054

Fax: +27 11 717 1059

E-mail: studysa.international@wits.ac.za

## For further information about the MSc in Epidemiology Programme

Contact Mrs Lindy Mataboge

Tel: +27 11 717 2596

Fax: +27 11 717 2084

E-mail: dinah.mataboge@wits.ac.za

## Postgraduate Application Forms are available from:

The Postgraduate Officer  
Faculty of Health Sciences

7 York Road

Parktown, 2193

Tel: +27 11 717 2076

Fax: +27 11 717 2119

E-mail: healthpg@health.wits.ac.za

## Applications must include:

- Wits University postgraduate application forms (electronic forms available on [www.wits.ac.za/health/publichealth](http://www.wits.ac.za/health/publichealth). Go to Postgraduate Studies and then Health Sciences Faculty).
- Written motivation by the applicant detailing motivation for applying for the course and how the programme fits with their overall career goals.
- Comprehensive curriculum vitae including a description of relevant research and work experience.
- Two confidential referee reports
- Certified copies of prior qualification(s).
- Original transcripts of qualifications.
- Evidence of familiarity with computer packages such as MS word, Excel, PowerPoint, MS access etc.
- Foreign qualifications evaluation for non South African applicants.
- English competency certificate or evidence of prior undergraduate training in English.

**Closing date for applications: 31 July of the year prior to that for which admission is sought.**

[www.wits.ac.za/health/publichealth](http://www.wits.ac.za/health/publichealth)

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EPIDEMIOLOGY

- \* Epidemiology and Biostatistics
- \* Population-based Field Epidemiology
- \* Infectious Disease Epidemiology



Faculty of Health Sciences



## INTRODUCTION

The School of Public Health at the University of the Witwatersrand offers a Master of Science degree in Epidemiology to provide training in the principles and practice underlying the discipline of epidemiology. Epidemiology is fundamental to clinical and community medicine and public health. In combination with basic medical science and clinical research, epidemiology provides the tools with which we can learn more about the aetiology and effects of disease, the opportunities for prevention, the cost and effectiveness of various diagnostic and therapeutic approaches, and the health status and risks of individuals and populations.

The teaching programmes of the Wits School of Public Health are well-evaluated and internationally recognised. They reflect the values of the School: to promote equity and human rights, and to meaningfully respond to the needs of the people on the African continent.

Graduates enter careers in medical research, public health and community medicine, field-based scientific research, government, NGO's or international agencies.



## OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should be able to: i) conceptualise epidemiologic approaches to understand the causes of ill health in population-based research; ii) critical synthesis of published literature in epidemiology; iii) design and conduct epidemiological studies; iv) conduct sample size estimation for basic epidemiologic study designs; v) choose appropriate statistical techniques and perform analysis of data from epidemiological studies and vi) conduct appropriate and effective dissemination of scientific findings.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The MSc in Epidemiology is offered as a full-time degree over eighteen months or as a part-time degree over three years and consists of course work and a research project. The fields of studies on offer are:

### Epidemiology and Biostatistics

- core course training in epidemiology, biostatistics, research ethics, protocol development, demography and surveillance
- selective modules in
  - \* public health
  - \* project management
  - \* chronic diseases epidemiology
  - \* infectious diseases epidemiology and additional topics according to students interest or intended area of specialization

### Population –based field Epidemiology

- core course training in epidemiology, biostatistics, demography, data management, leadership skills, research ethics and applied field epidemiology
- complemented by a research project conducted during a five month field placement in an INDEPTH-affiliated Health and Demographic Surveillance Site in South Africa, Ghana or Tanzania

### Infectious Diseases Epidemiology

- core course training in epidemiology, biostatistics, research ethics, surveillance, infectious disease epidemiology and statistical modeling in infectious diseases
- complemented by modules in
  - \* protocol development
  - \* clinical trials
  - \* statistical analysis of clinical trials and two selective modules according to students interest or intended area of specialization

## WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE MSc IN EPIDEMIOLOGY?

Applicants must have a four-year (honours) degree, an MBChB or other health related degree. Relevant work experience will be an advantage. This degree will appeal to students who want to become more involved in research in their fields. Students come from a range of disciplinary backgrounds including medical, microbiology, dentistry, statistics, veterinary science and demography.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Information about financial aid is available from the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office. Tel: +27 11 717 1072

E-mail: [nombini.nteyi@wits.ac.za](mailto:nombini.nteyi@wits.ac.za)