

IIE Master of Philosophy in Integrated Water Management

Faculty of Science & Technology

School of Engineering, Science & Health

2 Years Distance Part-Time Master's | NQF Level 9
180 Credits | SAQA ID: 73709 | MPIW0901

→ **Online**

IMPORTANT: This qualification is presented via distance learning. However, students are required to attend one scheduled contact week in Johannesburg, Gauteng.

Qualification Description

Recurring droughts, water scarcity and declining freshwater availability are increasingly complex issues of global concern. In South Africa, these issues pose a danger to every sector of society. It is no longer possible to solve such complex water issues through one discipline alone and the integration of knowledge and expertise from different disciplines is required.

The programme is aimed at students from South and Southern Africa (developing countries context) with a strong interest in integrated water management, enhancing their research skills and leadership aspirations. It is targeted at professionals already working within the water field that want to advance their career in a significant way and become water leaders of the future.

The programme combines coursework and a research thesis and is intentionally designed to cater for a small group of students to ensure quality supervision and mentorship, through regular interaction with local and regional water experts.



Who Is This Qualification Aimed At?

The IIE Master of Philosophy in Integrated Water Management is designed for professionals, researchers, and aspiring leaders seeking to address the multifaceted challenges of water management in South and Southern Africa, as well as in broader international contexts. It is ideally suited to individuals from diverse backgrounds—including engineering, environmental sciences, social sciences, economics, and policy—who wish to deepen their expertise in the technical, social, economic, and governance dimensions of water systems.

The programme is aimed at those who aspire to develop strategic, analytical, and leadership capabilities to design innovative, sustainable, and equitable water management solutions, and who are committed to contributing to water security and sustainability through interdisciplinary research and practice.

Admission Requirements

Minimum Admission Requirements	An appropriate HEQSF Level 8 Honours degree; OR A relevant Postgraduate Diploma or appropriate equivalent; OR An appropriate Level 8 Bachelor's Degree (480 credits) may also be recognised as meeting the minimum entry requirements to a cognate Master's Degree programme.		
	Note: Applicants whose Level 8 qualification is not appropriate for the discipline may be admitted following successful completion of two postgraduate modules as specified by the Faculty.		
	International	A SAQA NQF L8 Evaluation Certificate in an appropriate field Please Note: All applicants who are eligible for admission to the Master of Philosophy in Integrated Water Management degree are required to successfully complete and present a research proposal and obtain ethics clearance for the research for their mini-dissertation.	

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Alternate Admission requirements for:
RPL| Mature Age Exemptions | USAf International Students | One module outstanding from a Higher Certificate *If applicable



Curriculum Structure

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
WAGP9113	Water governance and policy	9	15	REWT9113	Research Thesis	9	120
SCWA9113	Science of Water	9	15	Although the programme is presented via distance learning, students are required to attend one scheduled contact week in Johannesburg, Gauteng.			
WASD9113	Water sustainability and Development	9	15				
RMPM9113	Research Methodology and Project Management	9	15				
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
REWT9113	Research Thesis	9	120	REWT9113	Research Thesis	9	120

Further Study Pathways

Currently there are no further postgraduate study opportunities in Water Management at Emeris. However, because the MPhil is a research-oriented degree, it generally provides direct entry into NQF Level 10 qualifications (doctoral level) at other South African and international universities that offer postgraduate programmes, subject to meeting the admission requirements.

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Please note, details are correct at the time of publication.

Career Opportunities

The IIE Master of Philosophy in Water Management prepares graduates to tackle complex water challenges and drive sustainable solutions. Graduates are equipped for leadership and specialist roles in international agencies, government departments, NGOs, and private-sector organisations, applying critical thinking, research expertise, and an interdisciplinary perspective to water resource planning, catchment management, water supply and sanitation, and infrastructure development. The programme also provides a pathway to advanced research and innovation, enabling graduates to contribute meaningfully to policy, practice, and the global water sector.

System and Software Requirements

- Reliable internet connection (we recommend 5-10 GB of data per month and an internet speed of at least 0.15 Mbps)
- Desktop PC or laptop with at least an i3 processor and 4GB RAM memory
- Windows 11 or macOS 10.15 (Microsoft Office 365 is available as a free download for IIE students), and Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge Chromium or Firefox
- A working webcam and microphone
- An uninterrupted power supply is also highly recommended.

Graduation and Completion Requirements for This Qualification

In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for all 5 modules in the curriculum.

As a part-time student, this qualification is structured to be completed over 2 years. The maximum time for completing a qualification full-time is double the minimum time associated with the qualification.

What Are the Benefits of an IIE Distance (Online) Qualification?

The IIE's distance (online) delivery mode provides you with the agility of studying towards a tertiary qualification asynchronously, at different times from different locations. Distance students need to commit to approximately 20-25 hours a week for distance engagement (most of which is after hours) with material and assessments to succeed.

Here are some of the benefits you can expect:

- A sequenced online learning environment that allows you the ability to manage your learning experiences flexibly and autonomously.
- A learner guide designed to lead you through the module material and learning outcomes, empowering you to effectively pace your learning in preparation for assessments.
- Our Learning Management System is designed to break up your learning units into manageable sections which include various activities to support learning.
- Module expert online lecturers that facilitate module teaching and learning support through various technology enhanced mediums.
- Student Relations Specialists provide administrative and operational guidance and support throughout your academic journey.
- A professionally registered Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor available for short-term, primary counselling services. Additionally, the Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor hosts various webinars and virtual talks on topics that promote a balanced lifestyle as you pursue your academic goals.

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Apply Online

After your application is submitted, we will review your documentation and provide an outcome regarding your chosen study.



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