



postgraduate diploma in sustainability learning

2023 - 2024

course overview:

The inaugural Postgraduate Diploma in Sustainability Learning (PGDip [SL]) is the first of its kind in Southern Africa. It is a 120-credit qualification at Level 8 on the South African National Qualifications Framework.

This exciting inter-disciplinary programme is designed for professionals who work in any area of social-ecological sustainability. The aim is to support these professionals to understand, critique, plan and implement socially-engaged learning processes that may help society transition to sustainability.

In this programme, 'sustainability learning' refers broadly to all formal and informal learning processes in settings such as: biodiversity conservation education, community-based environmental learning, school-community partnerships, youth training programmes, social learning and natural resources management, sustainable agriculture extension programmes, urban sustainability transitions, climate change education, public environmental education programmes, arts-based teaching methodologies, Green Skills development and more!

The PGDip (SL) is jointly coordinated at Rhodes University by the Environmental Learning Research Centre within the Department of Secondary & Post-School Education and by the Department of Environmental Science. The two-year, part-time programme will be taught collaboratively in 2023 and 2024 by lecturers from a range of disciplines.

admission requirements:

The minimum requirement for admission is a Bachelor's Degree or an Advanced Diploma or equivalent in any discipline relevant to this broad field of study. Besides this minimum requirement, applicants' academic track record and evidence of past experience or current placement in a relevant work context will be taken into consideration. The latter is important due to the applied nature of the course assignments.

Candidates with substantial work experience who do not have a qualification at NQF level 7 may apply for access to the PGDip (SL) via a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route. Note that this requires the submission of a comprehensive portfolio of evidence that will be assessed. This can be a lengthy process and applicants should start the process early.

Successful completion of the PGDip (SL) gives access to a Master's degree in a similar area of specialisation.

course structure:

The programme is offered part-time over two years (2023 – 2024). Each year, students are required to attend 4 teaching blocks (Mon-Fri) and complete individual and group assignments in between.

proposed compulsory contact sessions for 2023:

06-10 February

17-21 April

10-14 July

11-15 September

exam: 01 November (provisional)

Note: this is not a distance learning / online programme; students are required to attend face-to-face teaching blocks at Rhodes University in Makhanda.

the programme consists of 6 courses:

Year 1:

- Foundations of Sustainability Learning (50 credits)
- Introduction to Inter-disciplinary Social Science Research (10 credits)

Year 2:

- Action Research Change Project (30 credits)
- Evaluation as Learning (10 credits)
- Elective course 1 (10 credits)
- Elective course 2 (10 credits)

this diploma could be right for you if:

- you work (or aspire to work) in a sector that addresses sustainability, social justice and / or development
- you are looking for ways to engage people in collaborative, creative and quality learning processes to address sustainability concerns
- you want to draw on a wide range of knowledge traditions, disciplines, learning approaches and perspectives on people and planet.
- you are curious about developing a more reflexive approach to your work in sustainability.

fees:

Fees for the 2023 academic year are not yet confirmed but are expected to be approximately R22 500. A modest departmental levy is also charged for internal operating costs (e.g. printing of course handouts; teas; local excursions). Students not based in Makhanda should make provision for the cost of travel and accommodation for four teaching blocks per year.

how to apply:

To apply, please visit the Rhodes University website on: <https://ross.ru.ac.za>

For further information visit the websites of the hosting departments: www.ru.ac.za/elrc or

www.ru.ac.za/environmentalscience or contact Assoc. Prof. Lausanne Olvitt:

L.Olvitt@ru.ac.za

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: MONDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2022



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