

SWASA

Sheep and Wool Academy for Southern Africa

Supported by



The Trusted Home of Agriculture
Die Betroubare Tuiste van Landbou

National Diploma Animal Production

With a specialisation in:
Sheep and Wool Production

SAQA ID 49011

STUDY PROSPECTUS 2024/2025

COURSE OVERVIEW

National Diploma: Animal Production, NQF 5, 240 Credits

With a specialisation in Sheep and Wool production

QUALIFICATION RULES

The National Diploma in Animal Production with a specialisation in Sheep and Wool production is an academic on-line programme supported by practical hands-on modules, developed for the sub-Saharan Africa Sheep and Wool Industry.

The qualification focuses on the Management of Operational Mutton- and Wool Sheep production skills within the framework of the sciences of animal biology, nature conservation, regenerative production, agricultural economics and strategic and business management, supported by fundamental knowledge of the application of basic computer skills, communication, applied mathematics, agricultural engineering technology and chemistry & physics.

The two-year National Diploma in Animal Production with a specialisation in Sheep and Wool production will enable qualifying students to actively participate and gain knowledge in primary mutton- and wool production, whilst enhancing the overall agrarian process and gaining opportunities to access local, national and international agricultural markets.

Specific competency will be obtained in the specialised sub-fields of sheep production systems, breeding systems, handling practices, classes and life functions, production norms and measurement, record keeping and performance measurement, diseases and biosecurity, handling and management practices, the feedlot environment, sheep value chains and the slaughtering of sheep as well as the classing and sorting of wool, with an evenly strong focus on economic and financial management.

On completion, students will be well positioned to extend learning and practice into other sub-fields such as crop production, mixed farming, wildlife management and farm management.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum admission requirements will be required to enter for the National Diploma:

- National Senior Certificate (Grade 12), or National Certificate (Vocational) that allows entrance to Diploma or Higher Certificate studies
- Minimum Application Point of 20
- English tuition language with a minimum achievement level 3 (40%)
- Mathematical Literacy with a minimum achievement level 4 (50%), or
- Mathematics with a minimum achievement level 2 (30%)

WHAT YOU STUDY

First Year modules

Semester 1

1. Introductory Modules (INDU110 & NATU110)
2. Basic Computer Skills (COMP110)
3. Communication Skills I (COMM114)
4. Applied Mathematics & Statistics I (MATH114)
5. Agricultural Science (AGSC110)
6. Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA114)
7. Animal Science I (ANIM114)
8. Sheep Production I (SHEP114)

Semester 2

1. Communication Skills II (COMM124)
2. Agri Engineering Technology (ENGI124)
3. Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA124)
4. Animal Science I (ANIM124)
5. Grazing & Pasture Science I (GRAZ120)
6. Sheep Production I (SHEP114)

Second Year modules

Semester 1

1. Applied Mathematics & Statistics II (MATH215)
2. Grazing & Pasture Science II (GRAZ210)
3. Animal Science II (ANIM215)
4. Sheep Production II (SHEP215)

Semester 2

1. Agricultural Management & Economics II (AGMA225)
2. Grazing & Pasture Science II (GRAZ220)
3. Animal Science II (ANIM225)
4. Sheep Production II (SHEP225)

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CURRICULUM LAYOUT

First Year:

First Semester:

Introductory Modules

- Introduction to Agripedia (INDU110)
- Nature of Thought (NATU110)

Module 1: Basic Computer Skills (COMP110)

- Introduction to Computers
- Computer Components
- Operating Systems
- Electronic Communication
- Microsoft Office

Module 2: Communication Skills I (COMM114)

- Accommodate audience and context needs in oral/signed communication
- Interpret a variety of literary texts
- Interpret and use information from texts
- Write texts for a range of communicative contexts

Module 3: Applied Mathematics & Statistics I (MATH114)

- Conversions
- Quantities in Agriculture
- Circumference, Area, Volume & Distances
- 2 and 3 Dimensions
- Maps
- Data, Statistics & Probability in Agriculture
- Financial Mathematics

Module 4: Agricultural Sciences I (AGSC110)

- Animal & Plant Biology
- Basic Chemistry
- Ecological Principles

Module 5: Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA114)

- Farm Planning
- Introduction to Farm Management
- Human Resource Management
- Input Procurement, Purchasing & Stock Control

Module 6: Animal Sciences I (ANIM114)

- Classification & Nomenclature
- Genetics & Breeding
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Animal Diseases & Health (MSD)

Module 7: Sheep Production I (SHEP114)

- Introduction to Sheep production
- Overview of the Sheep Industry
- Breeding systems
- Sheep production systems
- Sheep handling facilities and management practices

First Year:

Second Semester:

Module 1: Communication Skills II (COMM124)

- Engage in sustained oral communication and evaluate spoken texts
- Read analyse and respond to a variety of texts
- Use language and communication in occupational learning programmes
- Write for a wide range of contexts

Module 2: Agri Engineering Technology (ENGI124)

- Energy
- Agricultural Safety
- Tools & Equipment
- Structural Materials & Construction Processes
- Irrigation & Water Supply
- Geographic Information Systems

Module 3: Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA124)

- Farm Business Planning
- Financial Management
- Natural & Sustainable Resources
- Marketing

Module 4: Animal Science I (ANIM124)

- Animal Nutrition
- Predation Management
- Animal Diseases & Health (MSD)
- Artificial Insemination

Module 5: Grazing & Pasture Science I (GRAZ120)

- Introduction to Veld Management
- Succession, Evolution and Veld Types
- Plant Identification
- Assessment of Veld Condition and Carrying Capacity

Module 6: Sheep production I (SHEP124)

- Feeding of sheep
- Safe transportation of sheep
- The feedlot environment
- Sheep shearing practices
- Classification and sorting of wool

Second Year:

First Semester:

Module 1: Applied Mathematics & Statistics II (MATH215)

- Patterns, Sequences & Series
- Functions
- Complex Numbers

Module 2: Grazing and Pasture Science II (GRAZ210)

- Growth Processes in Plants
- Production from Grasslands
- Herbage Quality
- Influence of Defoliation on Plants
- The Grazing Animal
- Removal of Excessive Grazing
- Objectives of Veld Management

Module 3: Animal Science II (ANIM215)

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Sheep Health and Biosecurity (MSD)
- Advanced ruminant feeding

Module 4: Sheep Production II (SHEP215)

- Management of a sheep farm/production unit
- The overall picture of sheep farming
- Classes and their life functions
- How does production take place
- How to measure production

Second Year:

Second Semester:

Module 1: Agricultural Management & Economics II (AGMA225)

- Business Ownership
- Operational Planning & Execution
- Production Management

Module 2: Grazing and Pasture Science II (GRAZ220)

- Characteristics of Veld Types
- Subdivision of Veld in Homogenous Ecological Units
- Principles of Management Systems
- Resting Practices
- Stocking Rates & Grazing Capacity
- Multi-camp Systems
- Grazing Management Records

Module 3: Animal Science II (ANIM225)

- Sheep Health and Biosecurity (MSD)
- Advanced feeding of ruminants
- Advanced pig production systems

Module 4: Sheep Production II (SHEP225)

- Intensive feeding of sheep
- Sustainable resources
- Sheep record keeping
- Sheep production performance
- Sheep slaughtering and processing of mutton
- Sheep value chains

SKILLS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

You will develop, over the tenure of your studies, a critical understanding of Sheep Production in Africa in the modern era and working in a global economy. You will gain practical and relevant skills that will enable you to work in the Sheep and other livestock production sectors in Sub-Saharan Africa.

All course content is based and supported by the latest industry developments, and these best practices will allow you to participate meaningfully in primary sheep production. Graduates will be able to enter the primary agricultural workplace and establish a thriving career through hard work and commitment.

METHODOLOGY

The National Diploma in Animal Production with a specialisation in Sheep and Wool production is presented as an exciting e-learning programme. This is done through own studies, reading and the online submission of assignments.

This is a participatory learning programme, where the student will also be able to communicate with fellow students across the country via, Agri-social, our social media platform. This platform allows for questions to be discussed, and the opportunity to upload and share interesting articles, images, and videos. Throughout the academic year, lecturers will be available on the Agri-social platform. They are also readily accessible via email, SMS, WhatsApp or direct telephonic contact.

Theoretical studies are completed through our online Agri-learn platform and the student is provided with a practical logbook to achieve practical competencies and experiences through the student's own workplace. Where needed, students will be assisted towards practical competence through our work placement programme.

ACADEMIC FEES

The following academic fees are applicable for 2024/2025.

Methods of payment:	Year 1 (2024): R 30 000	Year 2 (2025): R 30 000
At registration:	R 2 000.00	R 2 000.00
After registration: 50% deposit	R 14 000.00	R 14 000.00
At the start of the second term: (Outstanding balance)	R 14 000.00	R 14 000.00
10 Monthly Debit Order arrangement (R 2 000 registration still applicable) (R150/month debit order fee included)	R 2 950.00	R 2 950.00

Notes:

- **A 5% discount is applicable for students who pay the full annual fee upfront.**
- **The cost of travelling, meals and accommodation for practical contact sessions will be at an additional cost to the student.**

ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT

If you are not in a financial position to pay the full quarterly amount, you may apply in writing for the payment of modules on a monthly debit order basis. Please direct your application to: The Financial Director, admin@swasa.africa

WHY i3A / SWASA?

- Courses are SAQA accredited
- World class lectures and affiliated academics
- Custom designed online Agricultural Campus that includes e-learning modules and an online encyclopaedia for lifelong support

TO FIND OUT MORE:

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