



# SWASA

Sheep and Wool Academy for Southern Africa



**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE  
ANIMAL PRODUCTION**

**SPECIALISATION IN SHEEP AND WOOL PRODUCTION**

### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

#### **National Certificate: Animal Production, NQF 4, 142 Credits**

*With a specialisation in Sheep and Wool production*

### **QUALIFICATION RULES**

The National Certificate 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 one-year National Certificate 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, diseases and biosecurity, handling and management practices, sheep shearing practices 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 through upskilling to a National Diploma on NQF level 5.

### **WHAT YOU STUDY**

#### **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)

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

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

- Communication at NQF Level 2
- Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 2
- Agricultural activities at NQF 3

### **CURRICULUM LAYOUT**

#### **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
- Artificial Insemination

### **Second Semester:**

#### **Module 1: Communication Skills (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 (AGMA124)**

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

### **Module 4: Animal Science (ANIM124)**

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

### **Module 5: Grazing & Pasture Science (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 beef sheep
- Safe transportation of sheep
- The feedlot environment
- Sheep shearing practices
- Classification and sorting of wool

## **SKILLS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

You will develop, over the tenure of your studies, a critical understanding of Sheep Production in Africa 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 2023

<b>Methods of payment:</b>	<b>Year 1 (2025): R 33 000</b>
<b>At registration:</b>	R 3 000.00
<b>Yearly Study Fees</b>	R 30 000.00
<b>Extra Qualification</b>	R 9 500.00

***Note: 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 basis. Please direct your application to: The Financial Director, admin@swasa.africa

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*With a specialisation in Sheep and Wool production*

### 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:

[www.swasa.africa](http://www.swasa.africa)

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