

20 September 2017

Phase-out of the National Diploma Mechanical Engineering and Phase-in of the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

The Department of Mechanical Engineering will be replacing the existing National Diploma: Mechanical Engineering course with a Diploma: Mechanical Engineering course in 2018.

The purpose of introducing this new qualification is to align with the new Higher Education qualification sub-Framework (HEQSF) as Gazetted by the South African Department of Education on 2 August 2013. This is a requirement placed on all Higher Education institutions.

Pipeline students will be allowed a certain period to complete the National Diploma Mechanical Engineering, after which they will be articulated onto the Diploma. Students who are returning to complete their qualification will be admitted on the National Diploma (ND) qualification if it still offered at the time of their return. If the qualification has been phased out, they will be articulated into the Diploma (Dip) qualification.

The Diploma in Mechanical Engineering will commence in January 2018.

Phase-out plan of the National Diploma Mechanical Engineering:

Year	Remarks
2017	<p>Mainstream students</p> <p>Last intake for first year students</p> <p>Year 1 (S1 students): Students who failed S1 Subjects in the first semester have opportunity to repeat in semester 2. Students who failed any of the four S1 subjects (MAT109S, MEM101S, MIT101S & ELC101S) at the end of 2017 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2017. Students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S1 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p> <p>ECP students</p> <p>Year 0 (ECP S1 students): Students who failed any of the four S1 subjects (WIS113X, MEM110X, MIT110X & ELC101S) at the end of 2017 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2017. Students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S1 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p> <p>Year 0 (ECP S2 students): Students who fail to complete S2 subjects at the end of 2017 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2017, this will depend on a viable number of students per subject. If a viable number cannot be obtained those students will be excluded. If the viable number can be obtained, students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S2 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p>

2018	<p>Mainstream students</p> <p>Year 1 (S2 students): Students who failed S2 Subjects in the first semester have an opportunity to repeat in semester 2. Students who fail to complete S2 subjects at the end of 2018 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2018, this will depend on a viable number of students per subject. If a viable number cannot be obtained those student will be excluded. If the viable number can be obtained students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S2 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p> <p>ECP students</p> <p>Year 2 (ECPS2 students): Students who fail to complete S2 subjects at the end of 2018 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2018, this will depend on a viable number of students per subject. If a viable number cannot be obtained those student will be excluded. If the viable number can be obtained students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S2 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p>
2019	<p>Mainstream students</p> <p>Year 3 (S3 students): Students who failed S3 Subjects in the first semester have opportunity to repeat in semester 2. Students who fail to complete S3 subjects at the end of 2019 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2019, this will depend on a viable number of students per subject. If a viable number cannot be obtained those student will be excluded. If the viable number can be obtained students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S3 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p>
	<p>ECP students</p> <p>ECP students will be integrated in the mainstream and therefore they will follow the same route as the mainstream student.</p>
2020	<p>Mainstream students</p> <p>Year 3 (S4 students): Students who failed S4 Subjects in the first semester have an opportunity to repeat in semester 2. Students who fail to complete S4 subjects at the end of 2020 will be given a last chance in a Summer school in Dec 2020, this will depend on a viable number of students per subject. If a viable number cannot be obtained those student will be excluded. If the viable number can be obtained students who fail the third attempt will be excluded. Any S4 students who appealed and are considered will be transferred to the Diploma and they can apply for internal recognition where applicable.</p>
	<p>ECP students</p> <p>ECP students will be integrated in the mainstream and therefore they will follow the same route as the mainstream student.</p>
2021	No academic subjects will be offered on the ND.
	In-service training will continue as required for those who qualify.

The extended period to phase out these subjects will be subject to:

- 1) Sufficient students registering for the subject during the semester to make the offering viable. Where sufficient students do not register the students will have to take the subject the next time it is offered which includes the following semester as part of the normal offering.
- 2) The department identifying and finding sufficient and suitably qualified staff to lecture these subjects during these period as this is not part of the normal offering.

Equivalent subjects: National Diploma Mechanical Engineering and Diploma in Mechanical Engineering

Diploma in Mechanical Engineering	National Diploma in Mechanical Engineering
Engineering Mathematics	Mathematics 1
Engineering Mechanics	Mechanics 1
Engineering Drawing	Engineering Drawings 1
Mechanical Engineering Manufacturing	Manufacturing Engineering 1
Physical Science	No comparable subject
Professional Communication	Communication Studies 1
Computer Skills and Applications	Engineering Communications 2
Thermodynamics	Computer and Programming Skills 1
Fluid Mechanics	Thermodynamics 2
Mechanics of Machines	Thermodynamics 3
Strength of Materials	Fluid Mechanics 2
Electrotechnology 2	Fluid Mechanics 3
Computer Aided Design (CAD)	Mechanics of Machines 2
Applied Mathematics	Mechanics of Machines 3
Mechanical Engineering Design 2	Strength of Materials 2
Steam Plant	Strength of Materials 3
Mechanical Engineering Design 3	Electrotechnology 1
Hydraulic Machines	Electrotechnology 2
Applied Strength of Materials	Computer Aided Draughting
Global Environmental Studies (GES)	Engineering Mathematics 2
Production Engineering	Engineering Mathematics 3
Maintenance Engineering	Mechanical Engineering Design
Advanced Mechanical Engineering Manufacturing	No comparable subject
Control Systems Engineering	Mechanical Engineering Design 3
Electrotechnology 3	Hydraulic Machines 3
Mechanical Engineering Project	Applied Strength of Materials 3
	Global Environmental Studies (GES)
	Production Engineering 1
	Maintenance Engineering 1
	Mechanical Manufacturing Engineering 3
	No comparable subject
	Electrotechnology 3
	Mechanical Engineering Practice 1
	Mechanical Engineering Practice 2

NB: Students will be expected to perform relevant practicals to the subjects that will be recognised. This is because laboratory practicals are not embed in the subjects in the Diploma programme.

Students are requested to sign the attached acknowledgement sheet that they were informed of the Phase-out of the National Diploma in Mechanical Engineering and Phase-in of the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering.

Acknowledgement forms to be submitted to the Departmental secretary by no later than 29 September 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Kaunda', written in a cursive style.

Yours sincerely

Prof. M Kaunda, PrEng PhD
Head of Department

20 September 2017

**Acknowledgement of information regarding the Phase-out of the National Diploma
Mechanical Engineering and Phase-in of the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering**

I hereby acknowledge receipt of information regarding the Phase-out of the National Diploma Mechanical Engineering and Phase-in of the Diploma in Mechanical Engineering.

I understand that if I have not progressed to year two of the National Diploma: Mechanical Engineering by the end of 2018, I will be transferred to the Diploma: Mechanical Engineering qualification and will repeat year one.

I am aware that there will be financial implications if I am transferred to the Diploma based on my academic performance.

I accept to comply with any appropriate actions to overcome any unforeseen WIL implications that may occur due to the phase-out of the National Diploma.

Name:

Student Number:

Signature:

Date:

Signed at: