

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN POVERTY, LAND AND AGRARIAN STUDIES APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR 2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL) PROCEDURES

Dear Prospective Student

Thank you for your interest in studying at the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) at the University of the Western Cape as your choice for pursuing your further studies.

PLAAS offers the Postgraduate Diploma in Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies programme which is designed for passionate and committed working professionals in government, NGOs, the private sector in land and agrarian reform, rural development, natural resources and gender, who seek to progress in their careers and to improve their knowledge and skills in these sectors.

PLAAS considers applicants who do not hold a first degree, but has extensive working experience in land reform, rural development, natural resources management and/or gender issues. Applicants are to apply through the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) procedure outlined below.

The Course Structure

Teaching and learning takes place at PLAAS, Cape Town, over two block sessions. The duration of each block sessions is three weeks from 09h00 – 16h00 daily. Students are to be in full attendance as this is the only contact time they have with coordinators. If a student does not attend the block session, he/she will forfeit the module. Various means of assessment, such as written tests, group debates, pre-contact assignments and post-contact assignments, together with structured teaching, ensure that the teaching and learning outcomes of the programme are achieved.

Application Procedures

Please read the following guidelines carefully to assist you in the application process. We will consider applications on a monthly-basis.

1. Apply online to the University of the Western Cape.
2. Complete the PLAAS Recognition of Prior Learning Form and submit all required supporting documentation.
3. Submit SAQA certificate for foreign qualifications

1. UWC Online Application

Please follow these instructions to apply online to the University of the Western Cape:

- a) Visit the University of the Western Cape website:
<https://www.uwc.ac.za/Students/Admin/Pages/Online-Applications.aspx>
- b) Follow the instructions provided.
- c) You are also required to upload your supporting documentation as indicated on the website.

Frequently Asked Questions:

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| Q1: What is the application type? | Postgraduate |
| Q2: What study type? | Full-time studies |
| Q3: What semester does it fall under? | Whole Year |
| Q4: What faculty do I select? | Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences |
| Q5: What programme do I select? | PG Diploma in Land and Agrarian Studies |
| Q6: What department do I select? | PLAAS |

2. RPL Form and Supporting Documentation

Prospective RPL applicants must provide a portfolio, as listed below for consideration.

- a) Completed recognition of prior learning form.
- b) An updated, detailed curriculum vitae.
- c) A motivation letter stating why you want to pursue postgraduate studies.
- d) Certified copies of academic qualifications and transcripts.
- e) Certified copies of identity document/passport.
- f) A sample of your writing on the topic "The importance of land reform in your province".
- g) Two reference reports from academics or individuals who know you in the professional context.

3. Certificate of Evaluation of Foreign Qualifications

Prospective students who obtained qualifications from non-South African universities are required to submit a Certificate of Foreign Qualifications Evaluation from the South African Qualifications Assessment (SAQA) offices. The purpose of the evaluation is to compare foreign qualifications with South African qualifications and to advise on the recognition of the foreign qualification in South Africa in terms of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF). Please note that this is the candidate's responsibility, including all costs related to this. The process can take up to three months to finalise, and could delay the selection process. Kindly visit the SAQA website on <http://www.saqa.org.za> or contact the call centre on +27 12 431 5070 for more information.

Tuition Fees

The estimated cost of tuition fees is approximately R 32 000. Applicants may approach Student Accounts on studaccounts@uwc.ac.za or +27 21 959 2154/3110/3108 for official quotations.

Applications Closing Date

Applications will be considered on a monthly-basis. Applicants are encouraged to submit at their earliest convenience. You will be notified by email whether your application has been successful or not. Information regarding the registration procedures will be provided to successful candidates.

Wishing you everything of the best with your application.

Ms Carla Henry, Postgraduate Senior Administrator
Institute of Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS)
University of the Western Cape (UWC), Private Bag X 17, Bellville, 7535
Cape Town, South Africa
Tel: +27 21 959 3727 / 3733
Email: chenry@uwc.ac.za
Website: <http://www.plaas.org.za> or <http://www.uwc.ac.za>