Programme Aims/Purpose:

The Master of Geoinformation Science and Earth Observation is a postgraduate degree designed for registration at NQF level 9, as an interdisciplinary programme for students with diverse natural science and social science backgrounds who desire specialised training in the use of remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS). The programme builds on the outcomes of the level 8 qualifications in this cognate area and aims at providing practice-oriented education for high level scientists/specialists that are able to provide practical solutions to real-world in Geoinformation and Earth Observation related problems in Namibia and beyond.

This programme will, furthermore, enable students to evaluate and design complex and innovative systems in the above-mentioned areas of specialisation using advanced analytical, design, as well as management tools and techniques in order to address natural sciences and societal needs. Students will also be capacitated to work and study independently, synthesis knowledge at the forefront of Geoinformation and Earth Observation, and conduct research using the scientific method. The programme will be a combination of coursework and a thesis.

Graduates of this programme will be able to contribute significantly to national economic development in management positions such as urban and land use planning, hydrologic resources, environmental analysis and management, transportation review and planning, etc.

The programme has been endorsed by members of the Programme Advisory Committee, while academic peers in Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT), the University of Botswana (UB) and the University of Zambia (UNZA) have been consulted for purposes of benchmarking (attached, please find evidence of consultation, benchmarking and support).

Criteria for Admission:

Applicants who hold a Bachelor of Geoinformation Technology Honours or a four-year pre-NQF qualification with a research component or an equivalent qualification at NQF Level 8, from a recognised institution will be admitted into the programme.

Applicants may be required to make up specific deficiencies and attend a pre-selection interview and/or test at the discretion of the Postgraduate Studies Committee.

Applicants from other institutions are required to submit detailed information on all courses in their previous qualifications, as well as contact details of three referees. The latter also applies to applicants who have been working in the field subsequent to obtaining their previous qualifications. Exceptions may be approved by the Postgraduate Studies Committee, and all admissions are at the discretion of the Postgraduate Studies Committee.
Mode of Delivery:

This programme will be offered on the full-time modes of study through block-release sessions in accordance with Polytechnic rules.

Requirements for Qualification Award:

The Master of Geoinformation Science and Earth Observation will be awarded to candidates credited with a minimum of 240 NQF credits (all at level 9). Students are required to complete three compulsory courses worth 60 credits, three elective courses worth 60 credits, and a master thesis worth 120 credits. In addition, students must meet the administrative and financial requirements of the Polytechnic as set out in the Yearbook (Part 1).

The department will offer the programme in a flexible mode. The courses are, nonetheless, listed per semester in order to fit the normal curriculum structure.