

## MASTER'S APPLICATION PROCESS

### Basic application requirements

- Application through the [SUNStudent platform](#) to review all existing qualifications and additional documents.
- Honours-level degree in journalism, media, or communication studies. Please ensure that your most recent academic qualification is on the South African NQF level 8. Our Master's degree is on NQF level 9.

Please note: If you do not have an honours-level degree, you may contact the department about the option to be considered based on your professional learning or work experience. This Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) option has specific limitations and additional requirements.

#### Step 1

### Online application via the university administration portal

More information about the postgraduate application process can be found [HERE](#). Applicants need to have full academic records for their previous degrees available before starting an application.

- **Dates:** Applications open on 3 April for the following year. Applications close on **30 September** for the following year. Applicants need to keep an eye on the application portal to ensure that their application status is changed to REVIEWED.

#### Step 2

### Submit additional documents during the application phase

All applicants will be required to submit the following additional documents on the application portal before the deadline date of 30 September:

#### 1. Evidence of academic work

A sample of your best written work (e.g., abstract of a research component completed during your under-or postgraduate studies/published journal article).

#### 2. Letter of motivation

One-page document explaining what factors are motivating you to apply for the specific programme(s) and describing what makes you a suitable candidate.

### **3. Statement of research interest**

This is a brief summary of the master's research proposal (1-3 pages in length) which outlines your area of research, aims of the research project and the research methodology you plan to use.

Step 3

#### **Departmental review of application**

All applications will be reviewed by an internal departmental committee after the deadline date of 30 September. Applicants will thereafter be informed whether their application has provisionally accepted.

Please note: The department reserves the right to decline to supervise a study.

Step 4

#### **Finalisation of application and attendance of seminar week**

Should a candidate be provisionally accepted into the MA Journalism programme, they have the option to choose whether they want to do a full research thesis (180 credits) or coursework and a mini thesis (90 credits).

Regardless of what option the candidate chooses, they must attend a compulsory seminar week in January of the year of registration.

Any general enquiries can be directed to [journalism@sun.ac.za](mailto:journalism@sun.ac.za)