



Handbook for the Honours Programme in Applied Development Economics

**With an accompanying document containing Research
Report Guidelines**

**Division of Economics
School of Economics and Finance (SEF)**

**Faculty of Commerce, Law and
Management University of the
Witwatersrand Johannesburg**

2026

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Wits' School of Economics and Finance recognises its place at the heart of the economy of South Africa and has defined its role as providing intellectual sustenance and human capital to the formidable challenges facing developing countries. Its location and the orientation of many of its staff members give students a unique opportunity to be in tune with the challenges facing our society. Wits' defined role demands a dynamic and responsive approach to research and teaching. It is this philosophy that underpins the postgraduate programmes and drives it in meeting the needs of students and key stakeholders in the economy.

The post-graduate courses at Wits cover a variety of core and optional courses in the fields of economic theory, quantitative economics, applied economics, institutional economics, political economy and economic policy. The Honours programme puts emphasis on a balance between theory and application. The faculty consists of academics both in the school as well as an external pool of experts. Wits is uniquely placed to draw on a number of economists in greater Johannesburg who have both academic credibility and experience in government and the private sector.

The Division of Economics within the School of Economics and Finance prides itself on the diversity of interests and fields of its faculty. The faculty is actively involved in research and publication activities, and is active in international and national professional societies.

The research interests of the Division of Economics are both applied and theoretical, spanning from gender, industrial policy, firm and industry dynamics, political economy, social and technological institutions through to welfare. Within these broad interests, the Economics Division is especially keen in supervising topics that mainly fall within these categories:

- Applied Microeconomics
- Business Cycles
- Choice Under Uncertainty
- Comparative Institutional Analysis
- Competition Policy
- Economic Development

- Economic Growth
- Economic History
- Economics of Technological Change
- Environmental Economics
- Financial Economics
- Foreign Direct Investment
- Gender and Household Economics
- Health Economics
- History of Economic Thought
- Industrial Policy
- International Finance
- Labour Economics
- Law and Economics
- Macro Theory and Policy
- Microeconomic Effects of Trade
- International Trade
- Political Economy of Development
- Poverty and Inequality
- Public Economics
- Savings Behaviour
- Theory of the Firm
- Trade Policy
- Transition and Developing Economies

1. Curriculum

The programme is structured around a strong core of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, one Development course (either Development Economics or Development Theory and Policy) and Research Methods for Development. These courses are pluralist¹ and emphasise both rigorous understanding of economic concepts and the ability to apply them to research and development

¹ Pluralism comprises of 3 dimensions: theoretical pluralism; methodological pluralism; and dialogue between economics and other social sciences.

policy questions. Students are also required to do the Advanced Econometrics course, or the Econometrics for Development (cross-offered with 3rd Year, if they have no prior Econometrics at the 3rd year level). The Advanced Econometrics Course or Econometrics for Development Course must be taken in the same year with the compulsory Data Analysis for Research in Economics course which will teach students how to analyse data using the programme “R”.

In addition to the core courses, Applied Development Economics students are required to select two options from a list of electives that reflect the demands for pluralist economic analysis in today’s world and South Africa in particular. An important component of the degree is the Research Paper. This is completed by the mid September and involves individual study under supervision on a topic of the student’s choice. The Research Methods for Development course prepares students for the research paper and is compulsory.

Summary of Curriculum

APPLIED DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS HONOURS

- Microeconomics for Development
- Macroeconomics for Development
- Research Methods for Development
- Data Analysis for Research in Economics (*co-requisite for the Advanced Econometrics course or the Econometrics for Development course. It therefore needs to be taken simultaneously with the Advanced Econometrics course/Econometrics for Development course to be able to get through the Advanced Econometrics/Econometrics for Development Course.*)
- Advanced Econometrics (**for students with 3rd year level econometrics**)
OR Econometrics for Development (cross-listed with 3rd year Econometrics, and only for students who haven’t completed a 3rd year level econometrics course)
- Development Economics (**prerequisite is Advanced Econometrics**) *OR*

Development Theory and Policy (if the student did not take Advanced Econometrics in the first semester or if the student took Advanced Econometrics in the first semester but did not pass it)

- Two Electives
- Research Paper, maximum length 10 000 words

2. Calculation of Overall Average

The overall average for the Honours year is calculated as follows. In order to obtain the honours degree, students are required to complete courses for a total of 150 points. Macroeconomics for Development and Microeconomics for Development each count 25 points. Data Analysis for Research in Economics counts 10 points. Research Methods for Development and all other electives each count 15 points. The research paper counts 30 points.

3. Minimum Requirements

A student is required to pass (50% or above) all components of their degree, however the School of Economics and Finance does have a subminimum requirement of 40% for ALL courses undertaken in partial fulfilment of the degree of Bachelor of Commerce with Honours in Applied Development Economics. This implies that if a candidate fails any of the course with a final mark of less than 40%, then such candidate will have his or her university registration towards the postgraduate degree CANCELLED, namely, the candidate will *not* be permitted to pursue his or her studies further.

If a candidate attains between 40% and 49% for a course, the candidate will be granted the opportunity to repeat the course in the following academic year. Note that a candidate will be granted the opportunity to repeat a *maximum of two courses*. If a candidate fails more than two courses, then such candidate will have his or her university registration towards the postgraduate degree cancelled.

4. Research Paper in Applied Development Economics -

ECON4060A

The due date for the research paper is the **18th of September 2026 WITH NO EXCEPTIONS**. The Research Methods for Development course and Data Analysis for Research in Economics course are there to help prepare you for this milestone. Students will be required to complete the viva voce or oral defence of the research. Students taking **ECON4065A Econometrics for Development** need to achieve a 60% pass-mark in the first assessment as a prerequisite to employing econometric methods in their research reports. Otherwise, they would need to choose other methodological approaches, such as a qualitative study or an extensive literature review. Refer to the Honours ADE Research Report guidelines document for further information.

5. Outline of Main Courses

Please note that all courses are semester-long courses. We reserve the right to cancel elective courses which have too few students in attendance.

ECON4072A Microeconomics for Development (One semester course)

The aim of this course is to critically review the main tenets of neoclassical microeconomics starting with its fundamental theories, underlying assumptions and through to its methodology. The course will also provide students with a critical awareness of other diverse, pluralistic views that have developed alongside or as a challenge to neoclassical microeconomics. This is accomplished by teaching microeconomic theory as a critical historical discourse, or more precisely a historical story, focusing on its evolution and its theoretical and empirical shortcomings. At the end of the course students should be able to display knowledge of the relevant theoretical arguments and debates, connect these to a range of methodological approaches, and draw on the empirical literature/examples/case studies to support their views. Students should also be able to understand the role of microeconomics in policy-making.

ECON4071A Macroeconomics for Development (*One semester course*) The South African unemployment rate of around 25 per cent is taken as the phenomenon to be explained, with the aid of macroeconomic theory. Two broad explanations are identified, one concentrating on the labour market, and the other on effective demand. The IS-LM-BP model is revisited. An extension of the effective demand side approach, namely Thirlwall's model, is examined to see to what extent the unemployment problem can be considered as a manifestation of a balance of payments constraint. The concept of uncertainty is examined, together with the role played by expectations. The course also consists of an introduction to certain key macroeconomic data and how such data can be downloaded, examined and manipulated with the aid of Excel and the free software programme called R.

ECON4063A Research Methods for Development (*One semester course*)

This research methods course is a compulsory module for students enrolled in Honours in Applied Development Economics and aims to provide students with skills relevant for research in the field of development. It will provide a description of the general research process and it will involve training in both quantitative and qualitative methods. Students will be exposed to the benefits and limitations of both methods through practical application. By the end of the course students should (1) be familiar with the key elements of the research process, (2) be able to employ quantitative and qualitative techniques suitable to this level of study, (3) be able to assess critically the pros and cons of each research method and understand when a particular method is suitable, (4) be able to write a scholarly literature review, and (5) start to think about formulating their own research proposal/project.

ECON4069A Data Analysis for Research in Economics (*One semester course*)

This course introduces data handling techniques, statistical analysis and visualization methods using statistical software. Candidates will be trained in the skills required to manage basic and complex datasets, perform statistical analysis, and to effectively communicate data-driven findings to a diverse

audience. The course emphasizes hands-on experience and practical applications in various fields of economics. Students are required to take this course concurrently with (for part timers in the same year as) ECON4040A (Advanced Econometrics).

ECON4040A Advanced Econometrics (*One semester course*)

This course provides students with some advanced tools with which to explore data for economic analysis. Most of this course is concerned with the introduction of advanced statistical methods used by econometricians in estimating, testing, and analysing economic models. One interesting area to which students are introduced is the *Time Series Econometrics*, which includes the whole range of topics such as testing for unit roots and cointegration, ARIMA models and VAR models. The main topics covered are: maximum likelihood estimation, qualitative dependent-variable models, the matrix form of the linear regression model, simultaneous equation methods, non-linear regression models, dynamic econometric models, time series econometrics - some basic concepts, time series econometrics - forecasting.

Students are assumed to have studied basic econometrics at third year level. A book on introduction to basic econometrics (such as that written by Damodar Gujarati - *Introduction to Basic Econometrics*) is, therefore, a recommended starting point.

ECON4065A Econometrics for Development (*One semester course*)

Note:

- *This course is cross-listed with 3rd year Econometrics and is **only** for students who have not done 3rd year level econometrics in their undergraduate degree (at Wits or elsewhere)*

Econometrics is the quantitative analysis of actual economic data in order to lend support to economic theory. In this course we start with the Classical Linear Regression Model (CLRМ). We discuss the assumptions and applications thereof, first in the context of the two-variable model, and then extend the analysis to a multivariate analysis. We then analyse the implications of violating certain assumptions of the CLRМ, and discuss remedial measures

in such cases. This course has both a theoretical and practical component. All theory discussed in class is then applied practically in a weekly computer practical and tutorial. For Honours in Applied Development Economics students attending the course, an additional assessment will be set to reflect the higher level of study.

ECON4043A Development Economics (*One semester course*)

Note:

- *This course is for students who have completed Advanced Econometrics ECON4040A in semester 1*

The course will provide Honours students in Economics and Applied Development Economics with an introduction to the very broad field of Development Economics. The course consists of two parts. The first part (Term 3) consists of seven two-hour sessions; an introductory session on the meaning and measurement of economic development and six additional sessions on different schools of thought in Development Economics, drawing also on regional case studies to supplement the discussions. The second part consists of four three-hour sessions on contemporary topics in Development Economics, namely: Poverty and Inequality; the Labour Market; Education and Development; and Gender and Development. Each of these topics will be discussed in the both the global and South African contexts.

ECON4064A Development Theory and Policy (*One semester course*)

This course will provide Honours students in Applied Development Economics with an introduction to the very broad field of Development Economics. The course consists of two parts. The first part (Term 3) consists of seven two-hour sessions; an introductory session on the meaning and measurement of economic development and six additional sessions on different schools of thought in Development Economics, drawing also on regional case studies to supplement the discussions. The second part (Term 4) focuses on the different approaches to economic development and how different theoretical debates within economics and related disciplines have informed scholarship, policy and practice in the development sector. The approach is to provide an

overview of key theoretical and policy debates. In so doing, the course will explore the theoretical and historical elements in economic debates on how to achieve development, whilst also providing case studies for discussion. These case studies are largely drawn from the continent of Africa and other experiences in the Global South.

6. Lecture Attendance

All lectures are expected to be attended in person. It is compulsory to attend at least 80% of all lectures (obviously it is in a student's interest to attend all lectures). Attendance will be taken electronically using the "SEF attendance app". This app can be accessed by downloading Powerapps on your smartphone and then accessing the "SEF attendance app" and signing in with your student information. Smartphones must be brought to lectures in order to scan the QR code and log your attendance. Geo location is active so you will physically need to be in the venue to do this.

7. Missed Assessments

Class Tests/Essays/Assignments

Absence from a class test, or failure to submit an essay/assignment on the due date or absence from the final examination will result in an outcome of Failed Absent (FABS) on the statement of academic record unless granted a deferred assessment, course applicable – to be enquired with the lecturer.

A deferred test/essay/assignment application is to be must be **uploaded on the relevant ulwazi course site** within **3 days** of the assessment, **no later**, with supporting documents to be considered.

- The Lecturer will create an assignment "deferred test application" on their course site after a test which allows students to submit applications **within 3 working days of the assessment date no later**, with supporting documents to be considered.

- After closing date, the lecturer will make decision on the application and communicate the outcome and logistics for writing the deferred test to students (via Ulwazi).
- [Deferred Application Form](#)

Final Assessments (Examinations)

A deferred examination may be granted under special circumstances to students who are unable to write the final examination. Applications for **deferred assessments (exams)** must be **submitted through the student self-service portal** within **3 days** of the scheduled exam, no later, to the Faculty Office of CLM for consideration.

8. 2026 Coursework Programme

The programme can be completed in 1 year for full-time students and is split over 2 years for part-time students.

For part-time students, the administrator or coordinator can help advise how to structure the two years given timetabling issues.

APPLIED DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS HONOURS

<i>First semester</i>	<i>Second semester</i>
Microeconomics for Development ECON4072A (<i>first year of study</i>)	Macroeconomics for Development ECON4071A (<i>first year of study</i>) Development Economics ECON4043A (<i>second year of study</i>) (for students who have completed Advanced Econometrics ECON4040A in semester 1) Or Development Theory and Policy ECON4064A (<i>first year of study</i>)

<p>Advanced Econometrics ECON4040A (<i>second year of study</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For students who have completed 3rd year econometrics ▪ To be taken concurrently with the Data Analysis course 	<p>Research Report in Applied Development Economics ECON4060A (<i>second year of study</i>)</p>
<p>Research Methods for Development ECON4063A (<i>second year of study</i>)</p>	
<p>Data Analysis for Research in Economics ECON4069A (<i>second year of study</i>)</p>	
<p>Econometrics for Development ECON4065A (only for students without 3rd year econometrics)</p>	
<p>2 electives from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History of Economic Thought ECON4038A (<i>first year of study</i>) • Applied Economic Methods of Impact Evaluation ECON4070A (<i>first year of study</i>) • Economic Change and Comparative Development ECON4052A (<i>second year of study</i>) • Financial Economics ECON4044A (<i>second year of study</i>) • International Finance ECON4066A (<i>second year of study</i>) (only with the special permission of the Head of Division) 	

9. Teaching and assessments

In 2026, teaching and learning will primarily happen via contact lectures/seminars, but may be supplemented by other learning materials uploaded to the Wits Learning Management System Ulwazi/Canvas. Each course will have its own dedicated course tab/site on Ulwazi and further communication on each course will be provided to you by the lecturer concerned. Assessments will either be online or conducted in person in a specified venue to be communicated closer to the time and depending on the course. Note that students will not have the option to choose the form of assessment they prefer; all students will write the same assessments.

10. Computer facilities available to Honours students

Registered ADE Honours Students have access to the postgraduate computer lab located on the 2nd floor. Should you have problems regarding access to the lab, please contact Mr Lehlohonolo Mokoatle in NCB136 or on email: Lehlohonolo.mokoatle@wits.ac.za.

11. Opportunities at Wits for further Postgraduate study

The School of Economics and Finance offers a Master of Commerce in Applied Development Economics which consists of both coursework and research. The Masters programme takes 12 months on a full-time basis and 24 months on a part-time basis (although note that the research report examination process takes an additional few months after submission). The minimum entry requirement into the Masters programme is **65%** for Honours in Applied Development Economics or in Economics.

Students who have completed their Masters programme at Wits have moved on successfully to build careers in all spheres of society, both in South Africa and abroad; from working for the government or going into the private sector to pursuing further degrees at local and foreign universities.

12. Communication

There are two main forms of communication, email and Ulwazi (Canvas). Students are advised to check both these channels regularly. Whenever it is possible, we will notify students about changes or events via email &/Ulwazi (Canvas). **Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that your student email address is activated and checked frequently for any information.**

Ulwazi can be found at <https://ulwazi.wits.ac.za>. During the first few weeks of the first semester a programme site tab will be added which will be used for important notices, writing and research tips, as well as to advertise jobs and bursaries available. Please ensure that you have access to this tab as well.

13. Procedures for the grievances of postgraduate students²

13.1. Guiding principles

- The University commits itself to providing an environment in which the rights and dignity of its postgraduate students are upheld. Students should not feel that their grievances will be ignored or trivialized.
- Staff of the University are required to take appropriate action in accordance with this policy when the grievances of postgraduate students are drawn to their attention.
- Grievances will be taken seriously, investigated promptly and rigorously, and treated in confidence.
- Every effort should be made to resolve grievances through frank, informal discussion between the student and the staff member(s) concerned, before invoking formal procedures.
- Wherever possible, grievances should initially be addressed at School level, and referred to Faculty-level only if they cannot be resolved. The escalation protocol is as follows: Lecturer>Course Coordinator>Head of Division>Head of School>Dean. Appeal to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) should be regarded as a last resort, when a student feels that resolution has not been achieved by all of the preceding processes.
- If it is found that a student has lodged an unwarranted grievance with malicious intent, the University reserves the right to invoke the appropriate disciplinary procedures.

13.2. Objectives

The objectives of this policy and these procedures are:

- to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of postgraduate students;
- to ensure that the grievances of postgraduate students are dealt with fairly and expeditiously;

² These procedures were extracted from the University Grievance Policy for Postgraduate Studies (SS2009/2163a). The entire document is attached in the appendix.

- to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of members of staff against whom such grievances may be laid;
- to articulate clearly those procedures which postgraduate students should follow in seeking to have a grievance addressed.

13.3. Types of grievances

The procedures described in this document aim to assist postgraduate students in resolving grievances relating to their registration, with specific reference to:

- working relations with members of staff;
- aspects of their academic performance;
- the outcome of examinations of coursework and research; □ administrative processes and the provision of student services.

13.4. Procedures for dealing with grievances against members of staff

- (a) If a student has a grievance concerning an academic or administrative decision, or the behaviour of a member of staff, this grievance should initially be discussed with the staff member concerned. Grievances against supervisors relate particularly (but not exclusively) to alleged failures to honour the terms set out in the 'Statement of Principles for Postgraduate Supervision', as well as any accompanying agreement.
- (b) If the grievance cannot be resolved, it should be referred to the appropriate Postgraduate Course Co-ordinator within the School. The student is entitled to be assisted by the School's Postgraduate Representative, if he/she so wishes. **Kindly note that if a student has an administrative query/complaint it should be firstly directed to the Postgraduate Administrator rather than the Postgraduate Course Coordinator.**
- (c) If the grievance still cannot be resolved, it should be submitted in writing to the Head of Economics Division who may escalate the grievance to the Head of School. The student is entitled to be assisted by a representative of the University's Postgraduate Association, if he/she so wishes.
- (d) If the grievance remains unresolved, it should be referred to the appropriate Assistant Dean in the Faculty (usually the Assistant Dean for Graduate

Studies), who has the discretion to seek advice from the Faculty's Graduate Studies Committee and/or the Dean.

- (e) As a last resort, an appeal may be made to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), whose decision on the matter will be final.
- (f) If the staff member against whom a grievance has been lodged is a Head of School, the grievance should be referred to the Dean. The student is entitled to be assisted by a member of the University's Postgraduate Association, as in (c).
- (g) If the staff member against whom a grievance has been lodged is a Dean, the grievance should be referred to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), whose decision will be final. The student is entitled to representation by a member of the University's Postgraduate Association, as in (f).

14. Student Code of Conduct ³

CONTEXT / BACKGROUND

The University of the Witwatersrand seeks to foster its reputation for excellence in teaching, learning and research and for service to the intellectual, professional and educational needs of its staff and students, and of society beyond the University. A university is a community where knowledge is sought and imparted. A university can consequently flourish only in an environment which fosters freedom of thought and expression, and respects the rights of all. It is the function of university discipline to protect this environment. The University's system of discipline, in line with these principles, will be administered fairly and reasonably.

This Code of Conduct reflects the core values of the University and should be read in conjunction with the rules and disciplinary codes of the University. The conduct of each student is important for sustaining an environment conducive to freedom of enquiry and the search for knowledge and truth. Hence, the

³ [Wits Policy Document - C2017/626A]

University community requires a commitment from every student to act ethically, respectfully, responsibly and diligently.

14.2. PRINCIPLES

14.2.1. Ethical Conduct 1.

Promoting:

- a. in letter and in spirit the rules of the University and laws of the country
- b. ethical treatment of people, animals and the environment
- c. ethical use of resources and property
- d. ethical practices including fulfilling obligations of teaching, learning, fair and accountable assessment, research and supervision

2. Preventing:

- a. plagiarism and all forms of intellectual dishonesty
- b. favouritism and nepotism
- c. violation of confidentiality

14.2.2. Respectful Conduct 1.

Promoting:

- a. human rights and social responsibility
- b. equity and equal opportunity
- c. academic freedom and freedom of expression
- d. trustworthiness
- e. integrity
- f. fairness
- g. courtesy

2. Preventing:

- a. discrimination on the basis of race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, HIV status or any category as defined in the Constitution
- b. the abuse of power
- c. sexual, racial or other forms of harassment
- d. disrespect for persons and property

14.2.3. Responsible Conduct

1. Promoting

- a. Transparency
- b. Inclusivity
- c. Accountability
- d. good practice
- e. mutual responsibility for maintenance of an ethos and environment conducive to safety, security, health and wellbeing

2. Preventing:

- a. misuse of personal and University information and property and the name of the University
- b. improper financial dealings and improper conflicts of interest
- c. practices threatening safety, security, health or wellbeing
- d. actions which impinge on the rights of others

14.3. GENERAL RULES FOR STUDENT CONDUCT

14.3.1. Every student is subject to the Rules.

14.3.2. Misconduct may result in disciplinary action. It is defined thus:

Misconduct comprises behaviour within or without the precincts of the University, or whilst on official business of or representing the university, without just excuse, which

- 1) constitutes a breach of any statute, regulation or rule of the University; or
- 2) constitutes a failure or refusal to comply with any punishment or order imposed or made under these rules; or
- 3) constitutes a failure or refusal to obey a lawful order; or
- 4) constitutes conduct that tends to bring the University or any part of it or a member of its staff or a student or any part of its student body into contempt or disrepute; or

- 5) interferes with the governance and proper administration of the University; or
- 6) interferes with the conditions necessary for teaching, learning or research.

14.3.3. Subject to limitations in the Constitution, protest does not constitute misconduct.

14.3.4. A student shall not perform or participate in the performance of, or attempt to perform, or incite, instigate, command, advocate, advise or encourage the performance by any other person of any of the following acts or conduct within the precincts of the University:

- a. Racist or sexist behaviour;
- b. Assaults on or threats to any person;
- c. Disruption of classes, meetings or any other activity of the University, unless such conduct is reasonably directed toward the exercise of the right to assemble, to demonstrate, to picket and to present petitions, peacefully and unarmed;
- d. Taking weapons or dangerous objects into meetings.

14.3.5 In any confidential information or matter that relates to the affairs or business (whether educational or otherwise) of the University, or any of its constituent parts, is conveyed, transmitted or otherwise disclosed to a student by any officer or employee of the University, or by any other student in the pursuance of any duty to convey, transmit or otherwise disclose such information or matter, that student shall not further convey, transmit or otherwise disclose that information or matter unless it is in the public interest or is otherwise permitted by law to do so.

14.3.6 Student must at all times when within the * precincts of the University carry his or her official University student card and produce it when

called upon to do so by a member of staff. The card is required to gain access to precincts of the University and is for the sole use of the student to whom it has been issued.

14.3.7 A student shall not:

- a. Bring any alcoholic beverage within the precincts of the University except with the written permission of the Registrar or, in the case of a hall of residence, the Residence Hall Coordinator.
- b. Damage, either intentionally or negligently, or attempt to damage University property.
- c. Smoke - In a place where smoking is prohibited by the University;
- d. Within the precincts of the University have in his or her possession, supply to any other person, consume or be under the influence of any illegal substance which alters behaviour, except for a substance prescribed for that student by a registered health professional.

14.3.8. No student shall bring within the precincts of the University, or have in his or her possession or control, or supply or dispose of to any person within the precincts of the University, any object which is capable of being used, and is intended by such student to be used, for the infliction of bodily harm.

15. A note on Plagiarism and use of Gen-AI

15.1 PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism refers to the copying or paraphrasing of sections, parts or passages from the electronic or written work of other people (e.g. authors of books or articles, other students, the internet) without acknowledgement. This includes copying text from ChatGPT or other AI programmes. Any written piece of work that contains substantially copied or paraphrased parts or sections from

one or more sources, with little or no original contribution from the student submitting it, is plagiarised and represents a dishonest effort.

Make sure that you understand what constitutes plagiarism and how to reference appropriately so that you can avoid plagiarism. Ulwazi generates an automatic Turnitin report whenever you submit written work or assignments, and you will need to provide a Turnitin plagiarism report when you submit your research report. Plagiarism is easily detected by the University's Turnitin software.

Wits has a zero-tolerance policy towards plagiarism, especially at the postgraduate level. Any work found to contain plagiarised sections will incur a 0 mark and will be reported to the School Plagiarism Committee. This may result in the student being referred for further disciplinary action, with the risk of dismissal from the University.

Please see the University Student Misconduct and Plagiarism Policy (available on the programme site on Ulwazi).

15.2 USE OF GENERATIVE AI

Students need to adhere to the SEF policy on the use of Gen AI. The policy is included in the programme pack for reference (available on the programme site on Ulwazi). If you are in any doubt as to what is acceptable, please discuss this with your lecturer. Below is a declaration form that needs to accompany every submission.

REMEMBER: THE ONUS IS ON YOU TO EDUCATE YOURSELF AND AVOID TRANSGRESSION

Student declaration to be submitted alongside research proposals/reports/dissertations/written assignments



Declaration of Original Work

I, (Name and surname) _____,

Student number: _____

Understand and agree that:

- 1) Plagiarism, i.e., to use another's work and to present it as one's own, is dishonest.
- 2) Copying the output from generative AI is akin to plagiarism and is therefore dishonest.
- 3) Using generative AI to analyse my data amounts to outsourcing my work, which is not permitted in SEF.

Please confirm the following (write YES in each of the boxes provided):

	I declare that the assignment/proposal/research report/dissertation entitled _____ and handed in on the date below is my own work.
	I have acknowledged and referenced all direct quotations and paraphrased ideas using the appropriate house style.
	I have provided a complete, alphabetised reference list, if required, with DOI/web links for each reference, and have checked that each reference is accurate.
	I have not shared my work with anyone, and I have not allowed and will not allow anyone to copy my work with the intention of passing it off as their own work.
	I have not directly copied or paraphrased the output from any generative AI programme and presented this as my own writing or argumentation.
	Where relevant, I have not used generative AI to analyse statistics, or to solve any mathematical problems.
	I understand that the University of the Witwatersrand will take disciplinary action against me if evidence suggests that this is not my own unaided work, or if I failed to acknowledge the source of the ideas or words in my writing.

Please complete the two sections below:

<p>I used generative AI to improve the readability and language of work that I have written.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, provide the name of AI tool/platform used:</p>
<p>I used generative AI to assist in the data code that I have written.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, provide the name of AI tool/platform used:</p>

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Course code: _____ Lecturer/Tutor/Supervisor: _____

16. Contact Details

FOR REGISTRATION QUERIES:

Postgraduate Faculty Officer

Ms Sibongile Dhladhla

Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management

Email: Sibongile.Dhladhla@wits.ac.za

Tel: (011) 717 8005

FOR ADMINISTRATIVE QUERIES:

Postgraduate Administrator

Mr Sbongiseni Zulu

Academic Administrator

ADM 4

Tel: (011) 717 8298

Email: Sbongiseni.Zulu@wits.ac.za

COURSE COORDINATOR:

Dr Sibulele Nkunzi

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