**CATEGORY B PROGRAMMES SUBMISSION TO CHE FOR IMPROVEMENTS - NOVEMBER 2015**

Institution **University of KwaZulu-Natal (H08)**

Qualification reference **Postgraduate Diploma in Management (FMS28)**

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| **Postgraduate Diploma in Management (FMS28)** | |
| **Comment type** | **Comment** |
| Deferral Comments | The institution has not responded to the review comments. |
| Review comments | 1)The stated purpose of the programme which focuses on leadership and research is not aligned with the name of the programme and the modules offered. The purpose of the programme should be aligned with the name of the programme and its modules, which focus on management.  2)18.28% contact time is not sufficient for a postgraduate programme offered through a contact mode of delivery. The Gazetted distance education policy states that the minimum contact time for postgraduate programmes offered through contact should be 25%. |

**ACTION 1**

**The programme design has been amended in the Programme Template to focus on the programme “Post Graduate Diploma in Management” and its modules. The purpose of the programme has been adjusted to focus on management.**

1. **Explain the purpose of the programme.**

The purpose of the programme is to enable students to become effective managers by providing them with a broad knowledge base and skills set covering business strategy and management, marketing management, human resource management, supply chain management, and management principles applied to finance, accounting and business law. This knowledge base will contribute to the undertaking of research initiatives and professional development by students in the general and sub-fields of management. Students are taught in a manner which assists them to engage with and integrate theory and practice, and which ultimately impacts positively on all spheres in the students’ work performance and lives. An opportunity is provided for students to obtain detailed knowledge into managing in turbulent and complex environments, and to constructively respond to various challenges, for example around continuous change and systemic effects.

Relevant and practical methodologies are emphasized, particularly for use in the African context, thus enabling students to enter the work context to effect positive change. Students are further equipped with analytical and reflective skills, and are placed in a position to develop competencies and skills that facilitate life-long learning.

A distinctive feature of this programme is its emphasis on process knowledge and integrated disciplines, rather than propositional knowledge.

**Process knowledge:**

* To work constructively in a complex and uncertain environment
* To shape and manage teams effectively and decisively
* To develop and apply management tools for systemic change
* To understand global challenges and respond effectively
* To demonstrate personal mastery
* To think and act strategically.

**General skills:**

• Conceptual skills - the ability to comprehend complex situations

• Interpersonal skills - the ability to work with, understand and motivate other people

• Networking skills - the ability to network as well as gain allies and gather organisational power

• Technical skills - the ability to understand and apply specialized knowledge or expertise

• Research skills - demonstrate advanced scholarship and research and use a range of advanced and specialised skills and marketing discourses to communicate to a range of audiences

• Communication skills - use resources of academic and professional discourse to communicate and defend ideas and products of research in an area of specialisation.

**Section 3 - Questions**

**Describe how the curriculum of this programme has been redesigned so that it aligns with the HEQSF, specifically in relation to the programme title (including the use of designators and / or qualifiers), intended purpose, exit level outcomes and assessment criteria for this programme (Criterion 1 iii, iv, 6 i, 13 i).**

**The overall objectives of the Post Graduate Diploma in Management**

A learner who attains the **Post Graduate Diploma in Management** will be able to:

* Understand the nature of the business environment and management techniques
* Apply management principles to fundamental accounting and financial decision-making
* Identify and apply management principles involved in developing marketing strategies and programmes to achieve competitive advantage
* Display in-depth knowledge of management
* Apply management theory and analytical skills in the design and control of systems for the productive use of human resources, raw materials, equipment and facilities in the development of a product or service
* Understand and apply basic principles of business law

**ACTION 2:**

**The contact time has been amended in accordance with the gazetted distance education policy for postgraduate programmes to 25 % contact time as indicated in the table below.**

**Section 3**

**In the table below, indicate the types of learning activities of the amended programme design, and number of hours a student is expected to devote to each type. (This should refer to the table above relating to Programme details) (Criterion 1 vi)**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of learning activity** | **Hours** | **% of learning time** |
| Direct contact time (Lectures, face to face, limited interaction or technology assisted, tutorials, Syndicate groups) | **320** | **25%** |
| WIL (Practical experiential learning, simulated learning, laboratory work, practicals etc. excluding workplace-based learning) | **0** | **0** |
| WIL (Workplace-based learning only) \* | **0** | **0** |
| Independent self-study of standard texts and references and specially prepared materials (study guides, books, journal articles, case studies, multi-media) | **936** | **73%** |
| Assessment | **24** | **2%** |
| Other (specify) | **0** | **0** |
| **Total** | **1280** | 100% |