Postgraduate Diploma in Management in the field of Governance and Public Leadership

Introduction:
There is a growing recognition that current efforts in leadership development in South Africa are not producing the political or public service leadership needed to address South Africa’s developmental challenges. While public political leadership is important at all levels of our society, political parties are failing to renew a dynamic political leadership able to animate society and address critical economic, social and ecological challenges.

The PDM in Governance and Public Leadership uses the core courses of the proposed PDM in Public and Development Management, but with a specific focus on political and public leadership. Wits PDM has a history of offering short course certificates in public leadership to political parties, local government councils, provincial legislatures and parliament. There has been discussion over the years of establishing a formal programme of learning leading to a qualification which has since become concrete as a consequence of a partnership with the Public Administration and Leadership Academy (PALAMA).

PALAMA work the South African Legislative Sector under the leadership of the Speakers’ Forum to rollout the Legislatures’ Capacity Building Programme, a professional training and development programme sponsored by the European Union. P&DM has been approached by the PALAMA to roll out the postgraduate component of the Programme, hence the request to establish a Postgraduate Diploma in Governance and Public Leadership.

Objectives:
The objectives are to:
- Enhance the strategic and ethical role of public leaders in representing the people and ensuring that government and state institutions meet their developmental mandates
- Advance the professional capabilities of public leaders

Modules offered on the PDM in the field of PDM:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decision Making Methods</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance, Leadership &amp; Public Value</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Economy of Development</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Finance</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations and Diplomany</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Policy</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Area Elective</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Governance, Leadership and Public Value (15 credits)
This course, through a study of contemporary understandings of state and society, aims to develop a deep understanding of how legislatures, government institutions and agencies function, their relation to civil society and their location in local, national and regional social, economic and political contexts. It will examine the characteristics of the public service sector, the complex challenges facing it, and the meaning and implications of governance, leadership and public value for the functioning of states and public institutions. Different models of governance and leadership are explored in relation to how states and societies structure authority, distribute economic, political and social resources and create public value.

2. **Political Economy of Development (30 credits)**
This course introduces participants to fundamental economic concepts with a view to enhancing their understanding of how modern real-world economies function. It explores notions of development, the state and markets and their role and implications to policy and socio-economic development prospects. The role of local communities, global actors, private and non-governmental sectors and the effects of processes of marketization and deregulation to developing contexts.

The module highlights particular development management challenges and their impact on prospects for long term socio-economic development to emerging economies like South Africa. The focus here is mainly but not exclusively on macro-economic policy environment, social exclusion and capital, poverty, and gender relations. Overall, the course considers the complexities of the above and policy implications.

3. **Decision Making Methods (15 credits)**
This module provides the essential decision making tools which will enable greater engagement in policy making and oversight. The course provides the methodologies and analytical tools for the interpretation of data on a variety of topics in the public sector. Students make decisions and communicate their arguments based on decision making, statistical and analytical methodology and appropriate graphics in MS Office and statistical software.

4. **Public Policy (15 credits)**
This course will interrogate conceptual and theoretical frameworks of public policy, examine models of public policy making; offer a framework of public policy analysis and explore policy contexts in South Africa, Africa and globally. The course provides students with an understanding of the special challenges facing policy development and implementation and how to overcome them. This will include technical and skills requirements for evaluating policy, managing vested interests, consultation and public relations, monitoring and evaluation, and the management of inter-departmental coordination and relations.
5. Public Finance (15 credits)
This course introduces participants to key theoretical concepts in public finance and public sector economics broadly, as well as providing an opportunity to analyse applied public finance issues in the South African context. Key topics include the public sector and the role of the state in the economy, the public sector in South Africa, public expenditure and growth, taxation – equity; efficiency; types of taxes, fiscal policy in South Africa, key social policy issues: education; health; social security; poverty and inequality, and intergovernmental fiscal relations: fiscal decentralization. In addition, the course will explore aspects of performance budgeting.

6. International and Regional Relations and Cooperation (15 credits)
This module is designed to equip learners with skills and knowledge to understand the role of South Africa in the region, on the continent and globally, as well as their diplomatic role in the sector. This course explores several interlinked themes: theoretical approaches to the study of international relations and diplomacy, globalisation, international development cooperation, Africa’s international relations, the Southern African Development Community, South African foreign policy and diplomatic practice for legislatures.

7. Cluster Focus Area (15 credits)
This course requires participants to engage in-depth with an area relevant to their cluster work area in the broad field of governance, public or development management, and allows them to develop an in-depth knowledge of the policy and development challenges of the sector. This will enable the participant to engage more effectively in debates and exercise oversight in the area.

Academic Champion
Professor Anne Mc Lennan
anne.mclennan@wits.ac.za | 011 717 3519