

PRESS RELEASE

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES JANUARY 2027 INTAKE

The University of Malawi is inviting applications for various Postgraduate Programmes which will commence in **January 2027**.

I. GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR MASTER'S DEGREES

The following are the **minimum application requirements** for all Master's degree programmes:

- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited university/programme with at least a credit. Candidates with a strong pass may be considered;
- A detailed CV;
- Certified or notarised copies of academic transcripts and certificates;
- Two letters of reference from traceable referees (one of which shall be an academician and the other one may be a professional referee) and to be submitted in sealed envelopes or as a PDF attachment;
- Evidence of sponsorship: Preference will be given to applicants who will present credible evidence of funding for their studies;

NOTE: Specific programmes may have additional requirements that must be complied with. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

II. GENERAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR PHD PROGRAMMES

In addition to the general requirements above, applications for doctoral degree programmes should meet the following **minimum conditions**:

- A good Master's degree from an accredited university/programme. Candidates with work experience will have an added advantage;
- A concept note detailing the proposed research topic in terms of objectives, approach and research questions;
- Sample of the applicant's written academic work.

Conditions for admission

- a. Unless specifically indicated, all Master's programmes are full-time and will run for 24 months. The first year is for coursework, while the second year is for research and thesis writing. PhD programmes run for 3 years (full-time) and up to 5 years (part-time);
- b. The tuition fees cover costs of registration, examinations, supervision and institutional overheads. Students are expected to meet costs of research, accommodation, meals, medical cover, books, stationery and learning materials;
- c. The University does not provide accommodation, and the students will be required to look for their accommodation outside the campus;
- d. All programmes operate on a no-fees, no-classes basis. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate how they will support their studies either through a letter of commitment from their sponsors or a bank statement.

III. SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRAMMES

The following are specific entry requirements of the advertised programmes:

1. SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

(a) DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

(i) Master of Education in Curriculum and Teaching Studies (Mathematics and Science Education)

Fee Structure: Malawian students: MK4,000,000 per year; SADC region students: US\$3,000 per year; International students: US\$3,500 per year.

Additional Entry Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Education (or its equivalent) with credit and majoring in Science subjects, Mathematics, or Computer Science. Those with a non-education Mathematics or Science Bachelor's degree with credit and a University Certificate in Education (UCE) or its equivalent will be considered. Those with a strong pass may also be considered. Work experience in education or an education-related area will be an added advantage.

Duration: 2 years

Preliminary Enquiries: email: soeadministrator@unima.ac.mw with heading M.Ed Science and Mathematics Education

(ii) PhD in Curriculum Studies (Science and Mathematics Education)

Fee Structure: Malawian students: MK5,000,000 per year; SADC region students: US\$4,000 per year; International students: US\$5,000 per year.

Additional Entry Requirements: Master's degree with Mathematics Education or Science Education as main area of study. Those with a non-education Mathematics or Science Master's degree and a Bachelor's degree in Education or a University Certificate in Education (UCE) or its equivalent will be considered. Applicants should also have experience of working in education or education related area. Applications should be accompanied by a 2-3 page concept note detailing the proposed research topic.

Duration: 3-4 years

Preliminary Enquiries: email: soeadministrator@unima.ac.mw with heading PhD Science and Mathematics Education

(b) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOUNDATIONS

The Education Foundations Department is offering the following programmes at its **Lilongwe Satellite Centre** and **Zomba (UNIMA) campus**:

- i. **M.Ed. in Policy, Planning and Leadership**
- ii. **M.Ed. in Testing, Measurement, and Evaluation**
- iii. **M.Ed. in Educational Psychology**
- iv. **M.Ed. in Sociology of Education**
- v. **M.Ed. in Curriculum Development and Instructional Design**
- vi. **M.Ed. in Inclusive Education**

All Masters' programs are two-year programs. However, the programs will be offered on weekends using a blended mode. Lectures will be conducted on Saturdays and Sundays. For the **first two weeks of each semester**, face-to-face classes will be conducted at **the Lilongwe Satellite Centre (KUHES/old KCN campus)** and **the Zomba (UNIMA) campus**. Thereafter, classes will be conducted online.

Prospective students are, therefore, required to indicate whether they are applying for **the Lilongwe Satellite Centre** or **the Zomba (UNIMA) campus**.

Fee Structure: MK3,500,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals; US\$3,000 per academic year for SADC region students; and US\$3,500 per academic year for international students.

Entry Requirements: Possession of a Bachelor's degree in Education (or its equivalent) with credit from an accredited university. Those with a strong pass may be considered. Work experience in teaching or an education-related area will be an added advantage.

vii. **Postgraduate Diploma in Open Distance and e-Learning (ODEL)**

Background

In response to the increasing demand for professional expertise in Open, Distance, and e-Learning (ODEL), the University of Malawi and the Malawi College of Distance Education (MCDE) have jointly developed a specialised postgraduate programme of study. The programme aims to strengthen the delivery of ODeL across Malawi's education system and beyond by equipping educators, administrators, and education managers with the knowledge, skills, and tools required to implement high-quality, technology-enhanced teaching and learning models.

Programme Structure

This is a **one-year, fully ODeL programme** delivered through MOODLE. Participants are also required to complete a practical ODeL project or practicum as part of the graduation requirements.

Fee Structure: MK2,500,000.00 per academic year for Malawian nationals; US\$2,500 per academic year for SADC region students; and US\$3,000 per academic year for international students.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must be holders of a Bachelor's degree in Education or another relevant field from an accredited institution, or have at least 2 years of hands-on experience in ODeL. Applicants must submit all the required documentation outlined in the General Entry Requirements (for Master's Degree) above.

Contacts for further details: The Postgraduate Coordinator, Mr. Y. Chakasika on **0980032350 or 0888061055**, or via email at med@unima.ac.mw

2. SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES

(i) Master of Science in Environmental Science (MES)

Duration of Programme: 24 months (full-time)

Fee Structure: MK3,600,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals or US\$3,000 per academic year for international students.

Description of Programme: The MES programme consists of coursework, research, and a thesis.

Additional Entry Requirements: Candidates should have a good Bachelor's degree (at least an upper pass) in natural sciences or related fields. Preference will be given to candidates with relevant experience.

Contacts for further details: The MES Coordinator at: mesadmin@unima.ac.mw.

(ii) Master of Science in Water Science and Management (WSM)

Description of Programme: The WSM programme consists of course work, research and a thesis.

Duration of Programme: 2 years (full-time)

Fee Structure: MK3,600,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals and US\$3,000 per academic year for international students.

Additional Entry Requirements: Potential candidates should have at least a high pass in natural/applied sciences or related fields from recognised and accredited universities.

Contact for further details: The Programme Coordinator, Dr. Evance Mwathunga, at wrmg@unima.ac.mw.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(i) Master of Science in Geography and Earth Sciences (by Research)

Duration: 2 years (full-time) and 3 years (part-time) programme.

Fee Structure: MK2,587,500 per academic year for Malawian nationals or US\$3,450 per academic year for international students.

Description of Programme: Supervised research and thesis.

Additional Entry Requirements: A strong first degree (credit or high pass) majoring in Geography and/or Earth Sciences or any other related discipline. Candidates must also submit a research topic of their choice.

Contacts for further details: The Head of Department on: geo@unima.ac.mw; or dmoses@unima.ac.mw.

(ii) Doctor of Philosophy in Geography by Research

Duration: 3 years (full time); 5 years (part-time)

Fee structure: MK3,000,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals or US\$5,000 per academic year for international students.

Description of Programme: Full-time students will dedicate their time to the programme of study, either at the University of Malawi or at a collaborating institution depending on agreed-upon arrangements and availability of resources. Those on a part-time basis will have to spend a minimum amount of time on campus that is equivalent to the full-time students during the 5 years. Students will be required to attend and participate in regular seminars, reading exercises and presentations, offer tutorials to MSc and BSc students, and participate in other scholarly activities as may be arranged by the department from time to time.

Additional Entry Requirements

Applicants must hold a Master's degree in Geographical Sciences or related disciplines from accredited institutions of higher learning.

Contacts for further details: The Head of Department on: geo@unima.ac.mw; or dmoses@unima.ac.mw.

(iii) Doctor of Philosophy in Earth Sciences by Research

Duration: 3 years (full-time); 5 years (part-time)

Fee Structure: MK3,000,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals or US\$5,000 per academic year for international students.

Description of Programme: Full-time students will dedicate their time to the programme of study, either at the University of Malawi campus or at a collaborating institution depending on agreed-upon arrangements and availability of resources. Those on part-time basis will have to spend a minimum amount of time on campus that is equivalent to the full-time students during the 5 years. Students will be required to attend and participate in regular seminars, reading exercises and presentations, offer tutorials to MSc and BSc students, and participate in other scholarly activities as may be arranged by the department from time to time.

Additional Entry Requirements: Students applying to be admitted into this programme must hold a Master's degree in Earth Sciences or related disciplines obtained from accredited institutions of higher learning.

Contacts for further details: The Head of Department at: geo@unima.ac.mw; or dmoses@unima.ac.mw.

(b) DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

(i) Master of Science in Biostatistics

Description of Programme: A 2-year programme offered through block releases and involves coursework and a thesis.

Additional Entry Requirements: Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree, majoring in Statistics or Mathematics, and any other related disciplines such as Actuarial Science/ Economics/ Demographic Statistics, with at least a strong pass from a recognized university. Selected candidates with deficiencies in some Mathematics/Statistics modules will be asked to attend bridging courses before enrolment. Further details about the programme can be accessed on the programme website through the link [https://biostatistics.unima.ac.mw/programmes/Master of Science in Biostatistics](https://biostatistics.unima.ac.mw/programmes/Master_of_Science_in_Biostatistics).

Fee Structure: MK4,000,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals and US\$3,000 per academic year for international students. Those invited to attend bridging courses will be required to pay US \$300 per module.

Contacts for further details: The Postgraduate Coordinator, Dr. Tsirizani M. Kaombe on +265999603074, biostat-unima@unima.ac.mw, copy to sec.maths@cc.ac.mw.

(ii) Master of Science in Mathematical Sciences

Master of Science in Mathematical Sciences (Financial Modelling, Coding Theory and Cryptography, Mathematical Biology, Mathematical Statistics)

Description of Programme: A 2-year full-time programme involving course work and thesis.

Entry Requirements: Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Mathematical Sciences with at least a credit or a strong pass obtained from any accredited institution of higher learning.

Fee Structure: MK 2,750,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals and US\$1,750 per academic year for international students.

Contact for further details: The Postgraduate coordinator, Dr. Elias Peter Mwakilama at: emwakilama@unima.ac.mw /mathsciences_unima@cc.ac.mw, and copy to sec.maths@cc.ac.mw

(iii) Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematical Sciences (Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics) by Research

Description of Programme: This is a 3 - 5 years full-time PhD programme by research, including supervisor guided reading. Students on this programme will dedicate full time to the programme of study, spending their time on campus at University of Malawi or at a collaborating institution depending on agreements and availability of resources. During the entire period of study, students should be prepared to devote at least 90 hours of tutoring undergraduate or MSc students in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at University of Malawi. In addition, students will be required to attend and participate in departmental or faculty seminars and/or presentations, and attend to other scholarly activities which the department may arrange from time to time.

Additional Entry Requirements: A Master's degree in Mathematics or related disciplines obtained from any accredited institution of higher learning. Those with first class BSc honours degrees in Mathematics may also be admitted. It is highly recommended for PhD applicants to pre-identify academic supervisors who are specialists in the proposed research areas.

Fee Structure: MK3,000,000 for Malawian nationals or US\$3,500.00 for international students per academic year.

Contact for further details: The Programme coordinator, Dr. Elias Peter Mwakilama at: emwakilama@unima.ac.mw/mathsciences_unima@cc.ac.mw, and copy to sec.maths@cc.ac.mw

(iv) Doctor of Philosophy in Biostatistics

Description of the programme: This is a 3 - 5 year full-time PhD programme by research. Students on this programme will dedicate full-time to the programme of study. The students will be required to attend and participate in regular seminars, reading exercises and presentations, and attend to other scholarly activities as may be arranged by the Programme, Department, School or Postgraduate Office from time to time. All students shall be required to participate in regular meetings with supervisors and must submit regular student progress reports to the programme.

Students will be assigned at least two supervisors to work with, one of whom shall be the main supervisor who shall be at Associate Professor or Professor Level. Students will, in the first place, with guidance from the supervisors, write and defend a proposal before an assessment team composed of the supervisors, Programme Coordinator, School PG and one Senate representative, at a seminar attended by school members. This shall need to be completed within the first 18 months.

During the first semester of study, students will be required to conduct a guided reading exercise in their field of specialisation. The area of study will be at the discretion of the supervisors, but must be such area(s) that give the candidate sufficient background to bridge any gaps to carry out research in the proposed area. Students will be required to finalise their PhD proposals in the second semester of their first year of study. Students' doctoral research proposal will be presented to the

assessment team (in the presence of School members), who will assess the candidate's potential to proceed to the next phase, in addition to confirming, in consultation with the main supervisor, that the proposal is academically sound.

After acceptance of the proposal, the student will then write the thesis for a minimum of 24 months (4 academic semesters) and a maximum of three years (six academic semesters).

Additional Entry Requirements: Students will normally be admitted into the programme if they hold a Master's degree in (bio)statistics, mathematical sciences (which embed some core modules in Statistics), a First class or Second class upper BSc (Hon) degree in Statistics or related disciplines obtained from accredited institutions of higher learning. Experience will not be a substitute for these requirements.

It is also highly advised that applicants should pre-identify or suggest an academic supervisor who is a specialist in the research area they are proposing. The University requires that the main PhD supervisor should be at the level of at least an Associate Professor. The academic supervisor does not necessarily have to be from the University of Malawi. The University encourages collaborative supervision. Applications with pre-identified supervisors may have an added advantage. Further details about the programme can be accessed on the programme website through the link

https://biostatistics.unima.ac.mw/programmes/Doctor_of_Philosophy_in_Biostatistics.

Fee structure: Tuition fee is USD 3,000.00 per academic year, payable in Malawi Kwacha equivalent at the time of registration.

Contacts for further details: The Postgraduate Coordinator, Dr. Tsirizani M. Kaombe on +265999603074, biostat-unima@unima.ac.mw, copy to sec.maths@cc.ac.mw.

(c) DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ECOLOGY AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Master of Science in Food Science

Duration of programme: 2 years (24 months) full-time

Fees structure: K3, 500,000 per academic year for Malawian nationals or US\$5,250 per academic year for international students.

Description of the programme: This is a full-time Master's programme comprising coursework in the first year and research leading to a thesis in the second year. The programme aims to produce a highly trained Food Scientist who will contribute to knowledge generation, inform food policy and produce a range of nutritious food products.

Additional entry requirements: Candidates must have a Bachelor's degree in Food Science, Food and Nutrition, Food Technology, Biology, Food Microbiology, Food

Chemistry, or a related field, with at least a strong pass or its equivalent from any recognised institution of higher learning.

Contacts for further details: The Head of Department, Human Ecology Department at: humanecology@unima.ac.mw

(d) DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

(i) Name of Programme: Master of Science in Conservation Biology

Description of Programme: This is a 2 years programme comprising taught and research components. In the first year, students take courses that they must pass before proceeding to the second year. For sustainability, the programme will only be offered if there are a minimum of five registered students.

Additional Entry Requirements: Potential candidates should have a good Bachelor's degree (at least 55% and above) in Biological Sciences or related fields from recognized universities. Those with relevant experience will have an added advantage.

Fee structure: MK3,000,000.00 per year for Malawian nationals or USD6,000 for international students.

Contact for further details: Biology secretary on 01524222 or email the PG Coordinator pgbiology@unima.ac.mw.

(i) Name of Programme: Master of Science (Biological Sciences) by Research

Description of Programme: The programme is mainly research oriented, with production and examination of the thesis at the end of the study. This programme allows students to undertake studies on various topics that require the application of biological principles. These topics are identified in close collaboration with potential supervisors and students are encouraged to secure funding for both tuition and research.

Additional Entry Requirements: potential candidates should have a good Bachelor's degree (at least 55% and above) in Biological Sciences or related fields from recognized universities. Those with relevant experience will have an added advantage.

Fee structure: MK3,000,000 per year for Malawian nationals or USD6,000 for international students.

Contact for further details: Biology secretary on 01524222 or email the PG coordinator at pgbiology@unima.ac.mw

(ii) Name of Programme: Doctor of Philosophy (Biological Sciences)

Description of Programme: This is a 3 years full time or 5 years part time programme by research. Students undertake studies on various topics that require application of biological principles. These topics are identified in close collaboration with potential supervisors and students are encouraged to secure funding for both tuition and research. In addition, prospective students will be expected to participate and present in departmental as well as faculty seminars from time to time.

Additional Entry Requirements: Potential candidates should have a Master's degree in Biological sciences or related fields from recognized universities. Those with relevant experience will have an added advantage.

Fee structure: MK2,500,000.00 per year for Malawian nationals or USD4,000 for international students.

Contact for further details: Biology secretary on 01524222 or email the PG Coordinator at pgbiology@unima.ac.mw

3. SCHOOL OF LAW, ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENT

(a) DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Master of Arts in Economics (Non-Residential Programme)

Description of Programme: The Programme consists of two components: a one-year taught course work in the first year followed by research and thesis writing in the second year. Modules are delivered in a block-release form in a specified period of not more than three working weeks and will be sequenced over one year.

Entry Requirements: A Bachelor's degree from an accredited university majoring in Economics or closely related fields of study. The applicant should have at a minimum covered the following modules: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Quantitative methods or econometrics. The applicant must have a degree with a minimum grade of a high pass in their first degree. Applicants with a bare pass in their first degree with relevant work experience will be considered.

Fee Structure: MK5,000,000.00 per student per year for Malawian nationals and US\$5,000.00 per year for international students.

Contacts for further details: The MA (NR) Coordinator, Economics Department, Email: at sec.economics@unima.ac.mw or +265111951135.

(b) DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

Master of Arts in Political Science

Description of Programme: The programme consists of taught coursework in the first year, followed by independent research and preparation of an examinable thesis in the second year.

Duration: 2 years (Full-time)

Additional Entry Requirements: Applicants should have a strong Bachelor's degree with a credit or strong pass in Political Science or Public Administration. Applicants with a degree in Humanities and Social Sciences from an accredited institution will be considered if they had some Political Science subjects in their undergraduate programmes. Applicants should also submit a two-page typed brief of proposed research interests in the chosen discipline of study.

Fee Structure: MK2,750,000.00 per academic year for Malawian nationals or US\$ 3,250 per academic year for international students.

Contacts for further details: The Coordinator or Head of the Department of Political and Administrative Studies at: pastudies@unima.ac.mw, or call 0882436251/0993007186.

(c) DEPARTMENT OF PRIVATE LAW

Master of Laws in Commercial Law [LLM (Commercial Law)]

Duration of Programme: 18 Months

Fee Structure: The tuition fee for the entire programme is 9,630,500.00 for Malawian nationals or US\$10,500.00 for international students.

Description of Programme: The LLM (Commercial Law) programme consists of coursework, supervised research and a thesis. The course modules are delivered at the purpose-built Faculty of Law complex situated at the University of Malawi in Zomba, where they have access to the National Bank of Malawi Postgraduate Computer Lab, which includes free access to the University of Malawi internet resources, and the Macknight Machika Resource Centre, which stocks a wide variety of up-to-date Library resources relevant to the postgraduate study of Commercial Law.

Additional Entry Requirements: Admission into the programme is open to graduates who have either: (a) Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Upper Second Class degree (or its equivalent); or (b) A Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Lower Second Class degree (or its equivalent) and two years' experience working on matters directly related to the application of commercial law.

Contacts for further details: The Dean, Faculty of Law, Phone: +265 1 951 096, deanlaw@unima.ac.mw or the Programme Coordinator or postgradlaw@unima.ac.mw.

(d) DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LAW AND CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

(i) Master of Laws in Democratic and Economic Governance [LLM (Democratic and Economic Governance)]

Duration of Programme: 18 Months

Fee Structure: The tuition fee for a student for the entire programme is set at MK 10,112,025.00 for Malawian nationals or US\$5830 for international students.

Description of Programme: The LLM (Democratic and Economic Governance) Programme is an 18-month programme designed to produce graduates who can model and implement legally sound, ethically grounded decision-making in the generation, allocation, and management of public resources. It seeks to cultivate a culture of accountability, efficiency, and equity in governance, with regional relevance

for sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. By integrating law, ethics, and development economics, the programme empowers professionals to optimise resource use, minimise waste, and uphold democratic and economic justice.

Additional Entry Requirements: Admission into the programme is open to graduates who hold one of the following qualifications with a credit or upper second class; and in case of a degree with higher pass or lower second class, at least two years' work experience will be required in addition: (a) Bachelor's degree (LLB, BSoC, BA, BCom or equivalent) from the University of Malawi or any accredited University in Malawi; or (b) An equivalent international qualification (LLB, BSoC, BA, BCom or similar) that has been certified as comparable to a University of Malawi degree.

Contacts for further details: The Executive Dean, School of Law, Economics and Government, Phone: +265 1 951 096, deanleg@unima.ac.mw or deanoflaweconomicsandgovernment@unima.ac.mw or the Programme Coordinator at postgradpubliclaw@unima.ac.mw and publiclaw@unima.ac.mw.

(ii) PhD in Law

Programme Description: The doctoral programme is a rigorous research-based programme offered on both full-time (3-4 years) and part-time (5-6 years) bases. It cultivates legal scholars capable of generating transformative knowledge and practical solutions. The programme emphasises supervised independence, academic rigour, and practical impact through original legal research to address contemporary legal challenges at local, regional and global levels.

Entry Requirements:

- a) A Master's degree in law or legal studies obtained from an accredited institution of higher learning, with a minimum of a credit score, and accompanied by an academic transcript
- b) Personal Statement (500-100) that describes the applicant's motivation and capacity for pursuing the PhD in Law degree
- c) PhD Research Proposal.

Fee Structure: MK4,500,000.00 for Malawian nationals, or US\$5,000 for international students per year for full-time candidates and MK3,000,000.00 for Malawian nationals and US\$ 3,000 for international students per year for part-time candidates.

Contacts for further details: The Executive Dean, School of Law, Economics and Government, Phone: +265 1 951 096, deanleg@unima.ac.mw or deanoflaweconomicsandgovernment@unima.ac.mw or the Programme Coordinator at postgradpubliclaw@unima.ac.mw and publiclaw@unima.ac.mw.

4. SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

(a) DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY ARCHAEOLOGY AND HERITAGE STUDIES

(i) Master of Arts in African Social and Economic History

The programme is organised around a modular system, and candidates may choose either the MA (African Social History) or the MA (African Economic History) route.

Duration: 24 months (full-time)

Specific Entry Requirements: To qualify for admission in this programme, applicants must have Bachelor's degree with credit in history or related disciplines obtained from accredited institutions of higher learning. Applicants with a strong pass in their first degree (55% or above) and relevant work experience will also be considered.

Fee Structure: MK5,200,000 for the entire period of study for Malawian nationals; U\$6,720 for SADC and U\$9,580 for Non-SADC students for a similar period of study.

Preliminary inquiries can be made to: Head of the History Department on gkayira@unima.ac.mw or by calling +265883688771

(ii) Doctor of Philosophy in History

Programme Description

The PhD in History at the University of Malawi is a three-year research programme with minimal coursework. To foster intellectual growth, the department maintains an interactive learning environment in which all candidates are expected to engage regularly in scholarly activities, including postgraduate seminars, departmental discussions, theme-oriented reading groups, and structured meetings with their supervisors. The programme unfolds in two distinct stages. The first, covering one and a half years, combines directed reading with the development of a doctoral research proposal. Each candidate is assigned a minimum of two supervisors from the outset. During the first semester, candidates undertake a compulsory directed study in Historiography and Research alongside two further directed study modules in their chosen areas. In the second semester, candidates register for the compulsory History Research Proposal module, through which they develop an acceptable doctoral proposal under close supervision. The second stage, spanning the remaining two years of the programme, is devoted entirely to writing the dissertation.

Delivery Mode

Students admitted at the first-year level will be regular students, taking modules through a face-to-face mode of delivery at the University of Malawi campus or its satellites.

Additional Entry Requirements

Students applying for admission to this programme must have a master's degree in history or related disciplines obtained from accredited institutions of higher learning.

Fee Structure

The following tuition fees apply:

Malawian Students: MK 2,500,000 per year. International Students: USD 2,500 per year

Contact for Further Details

For further information about the programme, please contact:

Head of the Department of History, Archaeology and Heritage Studies, University of Malawi Email: hodhistory@unima.ac.mw

(b) DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

(i) Name of Programme: PhD in Theology and Religious Studies (TRS)

Fee Structure: Tuition fees for the whole programme is **K6, 500, 000** for Malawian nationals, **US\$ 6,000** for SADC students, and **US\$ 8, 000** for international students.

Duration of the Programme: 3 years

Programme Description

The PhD in Theology and Religious Studies (TRS) is a research degree for postgraduate students in the TRS department. It offers a high-quality training programme and an outstanding environment for research in various fields of theological and religious studies. This is a full-time PhD programme by research. Candidates will undergo a compulsory research methods course prior to commencement of their research studies. Candidates will later be expected to work with allocated supervisors on their chosen research topics and they will be expected to make at least two presentations: one on the research proposal and the other one on the research findings. Each candidate is also expected to publish articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals before completion of the study.

Specific Entry Requirements

Qualification for admission into the PhD in Theology and Religious Studies (TRS) is a strong Master's degree in Theology and Religious Studies or any other related field from accredited institutions. Prospective candidates will be expected to be able to conduct independent research in the various academic fields of Theology and Religious Studies.

Contact for further details: Head of TRS department, Dr. Hermann Mvula on +265 884 03 31 20 or via email at hmvula@unima.ac.mw or the Postgraduate Coordinator, Dr. Jones Mawerenga on +265 991 91 88 97 or via email at jmawerenga@unima.ac.mw.

(ii) Name of Programme: Master of Theology and Religious Studies

Additional Entry Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Theology and Religious Studies or any other relevant first degree with a credit.

Fee Structure: MK3,000,000 per year for Malawian nationals and US\$6,000 for international student

Contact for further details: Head of TRS department, Dr. Hermann Mvula on +265 884 03 31 20 or via email at hmvula@unima.ac.mw or the Postgraduate Coordinator, Dr. Jones Mawerenga on +265 991 91 88 97 or via email at jmawerenga@unima.ac.mw

(ii) Name of Programme: Master of Arts in Religion and Leadership (MARL)

Programme Overview

An advanced interdisciplinary programme exploring the relationship between religion, leadership, and social transformation. It equips students with skills in ethical leadership, governance, and institutional management.

Entry Requirements: Bachelor's degree (credit or above) in: Theology, Religious Studies, Leadership or Management, Social Sciences, Humanities, or related fields

Those with a high pass and 2 years post-qualification experience in a relevant field may also apply.

Duration: 2 years (1-year coursework + 1-year research)

Mode of Study: - Full-time

Key areas of study: Leadership Theory, Religion and Governance, Financial Management in Faith-Based Organizations, Religion and Constitutionalism, Gender and Political Leadership

Fees Structure: Malawian: MWK 3, 000,000 **per year and** International students: USD 3, 500

Contact for further details: Head of Department (Theology and Religious Studies): Email: headtrs@unima.ac.mw | Tel: 0884033120 or Program Coordinator (TRS):

Email: Indekha@unima.ac.mw | Tel: 0894781364

(c) DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

(i) Name of Programme: Master of Arts in Sociology

Applications are invited from motivated social scientists to pursue a two-year research programme in the Sociology and Population studies Department at the University of Malawi leading to the award of a Master of Arts Degree in Sociology.

Duration: This is a two-year programme. In the first year, students will undertake a bridging course, develop a research proposal, and conduct fieldwork under the guidance of department-assigned supervisors. In the second year, students will focus on developing and completing their thesis.

Specific Entry Requirements: To qualify for admission, an applicant should have a good bachelor's degree in Social Science from a recognized university majoring in Sociology/Social Anthropology/ Gender studies/ Social Work. The applicant must have covered Introductory Sociology and demonstrated competence in Sociological Theories and Social Research Methods.

A complete application dossier must include the following: a one-paged motivation letter, a concept note (maximum of two pages), three copies of completed application forms (University of Malawi PG1), updated curriculum vitae, two academic references, copies of diplomas and degrees and an academic transcript and deposit slip for the application fee.

Fee Structure: MK 2,800,000 per year for Malawian students and \$2500 per year for international students.

E-mail: sec.sociology_population_studies@unima.ac.mw

(ii) Name of Programme: PhD in Sociology (By Research)

Fee Structure: MK3,500,000.00 per year for Malawian nationals and USD 3,000 per academic year for International students.

Duration of Programme: 3-5 years

Programme Description: Candidates will undergo a compulsory research methods course prior to the commencement of their research studies. Candidates will later be expected to work with allocated supervisors on their research topics during which they will make at least two presentations one on the proposal and the other on the findings. Each candidate is also expected to publish articles in scholarly journals before the completion of the study.

Additional Entry Requirements: Prospective candidates must be capable of carrying out independent sociological research, using and exchanging ideas with a view to improving and critically analyzing societal phenomena and development interventions. Candidates should have a strong Master's degree in Sociology, Development Studies and other social science fields from a recognized institution.

Candidates from Development Studies and other social science fields will be considered if they have some background in Sociology at the undergraduate or master's level.

Contacts for further details: The secretary for the Department of Sociology and Population Studies; Email: sec.sociology_population_studies@unima.ac.mw

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

Strictly Online Application using the link <https://admission.unima.ac.mw/>. The deadline for receiving the applications is Friday, 25th September 2026.