



### Academic host programme

Political Transformation and Governance

### Programme

Governance and Political Transformation

### Study year of students

Masters

### Credits: 16

### Module offered during

Second semester

### Lecturer

Dr Tania Coetzee



# MGT749

## Service Learning in Political Transformation and Governance

### Brief description

The aim of this module is to determine the impact of political transformation on service delivery in different municipalities in South Africa; and to explain and analyse the relationship between the ward councillors and communities in different local municipalities in different provinces.

### Community partners

- Hector Pieterse Home Care-givers
- Principal, educators and learners at Hohle Intermediate School
- Organiser of support groups at Northern Lesotho Manohau Hospital

### Service sector partners

- Botshabelo Municipality, Ward 30
- Department of Health, Free State Provincial Government
- Emfuleni Local Municipality
- Lesotho Government, Department of Health
- Ward Committee Members

### Service learning component

Firstly, this module entails the compilation of a community profile, which includes the demographics and recent census information on the community. Secondly, students attend a workshop where the representatives of the community, community leaders and service sector are present. Students arrange a second workshop where municipal councillors, ward committee members and representa-

tives of the service sector are present. During these workshops students determine the community challenges, and also indicate what and where they can contribute to meet the challenges of the community. Thirdly, students compile a draft action plan indicating how the community needs are to be addressed and how the different partners can work together towards achieving the goals set by the community.

### Outcomes for students

The majority of the students are employed in central government, provincial government or local government, and therefore this module provides a favourable opportunity to obtain recognised knowledge concerning the practical implications experienced. Students engage with representatives of political parties and other interest groups in order to learn from the constituent community with regard to political management, governance and liberal democracy. Students may also contribute to the communication between the community and the legislators or political management and may obtain a better understanding of the theoretical framework of political management.

### Impact on community

The community gain a better understanding of the theoretical framework of political management and the difficulties of implementing decisions. Improved communication between the community and municipalities ensure the manifestation of a liberal democracy as well as the underlying values of liberal democracy. The community are made aware of who their leaders and representatives in the ward committees of the municipality are. The community's challenges, problems and disputes are also identified and discussed. In the process, accountability of public servants to the community is ensured by more direct interaction with the community.