World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology International Journal of Educational and Pedagogical Sciences Vol:19, No:10, 2025

An Assessment Of Student's Satisfaction In The Teaching And Learning Experienced In The Master's Coursework Programme In Environmental Management At The University Of Johannesburg, South Africa

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Abstract: Regardless of the many years in which the master's coursework programme in environmental management (MCWPEM) has been offered at the University of Johannesburg and the routine student evaluations of modules offered, no empirical and reflective research on student's satisfaction have been undertaken. The same shortcoming apply to similar degree programmes offered by some of the universities in South Africa where there is limited literature on student's perceptions on the value of environmental management courses. As a result, the present paper assessed student's satisfaction levels regarding the MCWPEM at the University of Johannesburg in South Africa. Thus, the main goal was to investigate student's satisfaction in the manner in which the programme was organised and presented to them during their enrolment years. The research used a mixed-methods research design comprised mainly of a survey and focus group discussions, thereby collecting and analysing both quantitative and qualitative data. The results indicated higher proportions of students who were satisfied with the support received from the university and presentation of the teaching content, teaching methods, supervision, thereby enhancing their overall learning experiences in the programme. Nonetheless, some students expressed some dissatisfaction with certain aspects of the same course. The results have various implications for teaching practice and the professional development of environmental managers in South Africa and neighbouring countries with the same socioeconomic context.

Keywords: masters coursework programme, barriers and challenges, mixed-methods design, student's satisfaction

Conference Title: ICTES 2025: International Conference on Teaching and Education Sciences

Conference Location : Tokyo, Japan **Conference Dates :** October 07-08, 2025