Introduction

Students who matriculate with the required subjects and wish to complete their studies in mechanical engineering qualify to register for the N4 – N6 courses. Students who complete the N4 - N6 certificates and want to become qualified artisans may be indentured as apprentices in the trades listed below. The students are also suitably qualified to enter the higher level of engineering to become technicians and assistants to qualified engineers.

Once a student has completed his/her N4 - N6 Certificates, he/she need to work towards obtaining their National N-Diploma. Students will qualify for the N-Diploma when they have completed at least two years of practical work experience in their specific field of study.

Students who wish to further their academic qualifications may apply to any other institution of Higher Education, such as a University of Technology.

Career Options

What will I be qualified as once I’ve obtained the N-Diploma?

- Assistant Mechanical Engineer
- Boilermaker
- Fitter & Turner
- Motor Mechanic
- Tool Maker
- Fitter (e.g. Maintenance Fitter, Marine Fitter, Hydraulic Fitter, etc.)
- Auto Electrician
- Diesel Mechanic
- Mechanical Engineering Technician
- Sheetmetal Worker
- Welder

In which industries will I be able to work?

- Aerospace industry
- Mining industry
- Motor vehicle maintenance and manufacturing
- Printing industry
- Manufacturing industry
- Packaging industry
- Petrol and chemical industry

What could I do to further improve my skills and my chances of furthering my career?

Your N6 Certificate will equip you to be indentured (sign a contract) as an apprentice and work at any organisation within the industry that requires artisans within the engineering sector. You will be able to work towards promotion within your career by working within your field of study and gaining experience within the industry. As with any other career, you would need to work very hard to prove your skills and abilities, be dedicated and be prepared to continue learning throughout your career.

Once you’ve completed your N6 Certificate, you need to work towards obtaining your National N-Diploma. Students will qualify for the N-Diploma when they have completed at least two years of practical work experience in the field of study. Students who wish to further their academic qualifications may apply to any other institution of Higher Education, such as a University of Technology to further continue their studies in the Engineering field.
Programme Structure
What will I be studying during this course?

N4 CERTIFICATE
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Drawing
- Engineering Science
- Mechanotechnology

N5 & N6 CERTIFICATES
- Power machines
- Mechanotechnology
- Strength of Materials & Structures
- Fluid Mechanics

Admission Requirements
What do I need to have completed before I can apply to study these courses?
- To enter N4 – Grade 12, N3 Certificate or equivalent qualification
- To enter N5 – N4 Certificate or equivalent qualification
- To enter N6 – N5 Certificate or equivalent qualification

You must have passed the following subjects at school:
- Mathematics
- Science
- English

The criteria for application for the National N-Diploma are:
- A minimum of 4 subjects completed at each level of certification.
- A minimum of 2 years of practical experience in the field of study.

Duration
1 year (3 trimesters) to complete the N4 – N6 Certificates with an additional 2 years practical work experience in industry to apply for a National N-Diploma.
Students may register in January, May and September of each year.

Could I study this course part-time?
Yes, but only the N4 – N6 Certificates which may be completed through the Distance Learning option.

For information on Distance Learning, please contact the Pinelands Campus at tel. +27 21 531 2105.

The National N-Diploma is not available as a part-time option.