



**MINISTRY
HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Private Bag X893, Pretoria, 0001, Tel (012) 312 5555, Fax (012) 323 5618

Private Bag X9192, Cape Town, 8000, Tel (021) 469 5150, Fax: (021) 465 7956

Memorandum from the Parliamentary Office

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 714

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 16/03/2012

(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER 08 OF 2012)

Mrs H Lamoela (DA) to ask the Minister of Higher Education and Training:

Whether undergraduate social work curricula in South African tertiary education institutions include modules dealing with substance abuse; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many modules and (b) how many hours are spent teaching each module?

NW878E

REPLY:

Substance Abuse and Substance Dependence are both included as part of the curriculum of all the social work professional four year bachelor's degrees offered by public universities in South Africa. The academic year in which these modules are offered differ depending on the extent to which the knowledge of substance abuse and dependence is a requirement to become a social worker in a specific geographic area. For example, the University of Stellenbosch has moved its 48 credit module in Substance Abuse and Dependence from the 3rd to the 4th year level in order to deepen the level of understanding and exit level outcomes that must be achieved by the students. This is a full year-long module. The University of Cape Town has opted for a different approach by including Substance Abuse and Dependence as an elective module in their Bachelor of Arts Honours in Social Science. It is therefore offered at different levels depending on the target group (university community) and geographical location of the university. In both examples the module would have a credit weight at NQF Level 8 of 48 credits, implying 480 notional hours, and typically 10% of a professional bachelor's degree programme. This would include at least 30 hours of face-to-face lecturing.