



UNIVERSITY  
OF  
JOHANNESBURG

DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORT AND SUPPLY  
CHAIN MANAGEMENT

# BCom Honours (Transport Economics) 2025

School of Management  
College of Business and Economics

The Future  
Reimagined



# **BCOM HONOURS (TRANSPORT ECONOMICS)**

## **PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATION**

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**Department of Transport and Supply Chain Management**

**School of Management (SoM)**

**College of Business and Economics (CBE)**

**University of Johannesburg, Auckland Park Kingsway Campus (APK)**

**PO Box 524 Auckland Park 2006**

**Fax 011 559 2806**

**Applications will be accepted until October of each year.**

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## **1. GENERAL**

The Department of Transport and Supply Chain Management offers training in two fields for the degree:

- **BCom Honours (Transport Economics)**
- **BCom Honours (Logistics Management)**

After completion of an honours degree, advanced study may be undertaken in one of the following:

- **MCom / MPhil** (with the same endorsement as for honours).  
This is a dissertation on an approved subject under leadership of a study leader.
- A course based **MCom with specialisation in Supply Chain Management** is offered in the College.

The Department also provides the opportunity to obtain DCom and DPhil degrees in Logistics Management or Transport Economics, in which research is undertaken under guidance of a study leader appointed by the department.

## **2. COMPOSITION OF THE PROGRAMME**

The Honours programme has 21 modules. A learner should do at least 11. A particular programme is assembled according to certain requirements. A number of compulsory modules are included in each programme and in some instances it is prescribed that modules or combinations of modules, must be completed in a specified order.

The reason for this is to ensure the necessary frame of reference before continuing with the next modules.

The composition of the various modules are set out in paragraph 10. The nature of the various modules indicates a certain measure of flexibility, which inter alia manifests itself in the format of a task or assignment.

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Lectures are all “after hours” depending on the choice of course. Lectures start at 17:10 – 19:00 and 18:50 – 21:00. Tests and exams are written during the day.

### 3. METHOD OF PRESENTATION

The following is valid for each of the modules:

**Class discussions:** at least seven meetings per module, following a set timetable.

**Test:** a written test of at least three hours, following a pre set timetable.

**Task or assignment:** varies from module to module.

**Examination:** a written paper of three hours during the official university examinations, following a pre set timetable.

### 4. SUCCESS CRITERIA

The pass mark for each module is 50%. The degree is awarded *cum laude* if the average mark of the 11 modules is at least 75%. The mark for each module consists of two equally weighted components, viz. the examination mark and the semester mark. A minimum semester mark of 40% is required for entry to the exam. The semester mark of each module is comprised of the test and the task/assignment, and also other possible components, and is elucidated in the learner guide for each module. The year module of Research Project has calculation criteria based on continuous assessment, the outcomes of which are stipulated in the learner guide for the module.

## 5. ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

**Please be advised that all applications are subject to a screening process. Applicants will be advised if they have been accepted.**

The following minimum admission requirements apply for

BCom Honours (Transport Economics)

(a) BCom (Transport Economics) degree. A final year average of 60% (only considering NQF Level 7 modules)

**OR**

(b) Advanced Diploma (Transport Management) degree. A final year average of 65% (only considering NQF Level 7 modules)

**OR**

(c) Any other BCom with a major with comparable content, and as far as is necessary, complemented by an entrance examination

(d) Please be advised that academic performance in past qualifications will be taken into consideration.

**AND**

(e) Adequate English language proficiency.

In the case of the before mentioned, the programme co-ordinators determine the necessity for entrance examinations in consultation with an academic selection committee for each prospective learner, taking into account academic background and performance, together with the practical experience of the prospective learner. If applicable, a candidate will be informed about this.

Admission to study is no guarantee of the successful completion of the programme. At the end of each semester each learner's continuation of studies is judged on the basis of the performance during the preceding examination.

## 6. STUDENTS FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES

All learners who attained their B degree at another university (or who have not been enrolled at the University of Johannesburg for more than 1 year) must complete the University of Johannesburg application form. The following must be included:

- A certified copy of the qualification (if already completed).
- A certified copy of an official academic record issued by the university.
- A statement from the university (or academic department) in respect of the content matter of subject courses that are indicated as pre-requisites e.g. Transport 3A; Transport 3B.
- Certified copies of identity documents/passports.
- SAQA verification for international students.

## 7. FURTHER INQUIRIES

Further information and general inquiries may be addressed to the programme co-ordinator.

## 8. CURRICULUM BCOM HONOURS (TRANSPORT ECONOMICS)

YEAR MODULE		
MODULE NAME	MODULE CODE	NQF CREDITS
Research Project: Transport Management	TRE8X15	30
	<b>1 Year module</b>	<b>30 Credits</b>

SEMESTER MODULES					
FIRST SEMESTER			SECOND SEMESTER		
MODULE NAME	MODULE CODE	NQF CREDITS	MODULE NAME	MODULE CODE	NQF CREDITS
<b>Urban Transport Studies</b>	TRE8X16	12	<b>Infrastructure Studies</b>	TRE8X04	12
<b>Transport Policy and Regulation</b>	TRE8X17	12	<b>Urban Transport and Society</b>	TRE8X19	12
<b>Principles of Transport Economics</b>	TRE8X18	12	<b>Contemporary Issues in Transportation</b>	TRE8X20	12
<b>Electives — Choose TWO of the following:*</b> (when a particular first semester module is taken, the matching second semester module is compulsory)			<b>Electives – Choose TWO of the following:*</b> (when a particular first semester module is taken, the matching second semester module is compulsory)		
<b>Contemporary Issues in Logistics Management</b>	CIL8X01	12	<b>Supply Chain Management</b>	LMA8X02	12
<b>Introduction To Aviation And Regulation</b>	TRE8X13	12	<b>Airlines and Airports</b>	TRE8X14	12
<b>Rail Transport Management</b>	TRE8X07	12	<b>Rail Transport Issues</b>	TRE8X08	12
<b>Introduction To Shipping and Maritime Regulation</b>	TRE8X11	12	<b>Shipping and Harbours</b>	TRE8X12	12
<b>Road Freight Transport Management</b>	TRE8X09	12	<b>Road Transport Costing and Distribution</b>	TRE8X10	12
	5 Semester modules	60 Credits		5 Semester modules	60 Credits

## 9. CONTENT

### **Urban Transport Studies (TRE8X16)**

The purpose of this module is to identify and critically evaluate the roles and responsibilities of the South African agencies involved in the implementation of transport planning policy, legislation, and guidelines. Apply the management principles of organising and coordinating resources in a transport planning/project context, reflecting on the financial implications and the applications made to resolve highly specialised contextual and abstract problems. Analyse international and local approaches to transport planning, and reflect upon the skills and capabilities required by those involved. Conduct specialised, scholastic, professional, technical and advanced research in the transport planning field. Apply the theory of modal integration and critically evaluate the international examples where modal integration was introduced, explain the current state of the road and rail infrastructure in South Africa, discuss the role of road and rail infrastructure in development and understand the issues related to the design, construction, maintenance and amangement of road and rail infrastructure in South Africa.

### **Transport Policy and Regulation (TRE8X17)**

The purpose of this module is to identify and evaluate the roles and responsibilities of the South African agencies in the implementation of transport policy and reflect upon the application of transport regulatory concepts and principles on a highly specialised level. The student is required to review and evaluate the different stakeholders in transport policy formulation and reflect on their individual roles and needs particularly in the context of a team scenario. The module will enable students to conduct specialised research in the transport policy formulation field and make a contribution to the level of knowledge by analysing, transforming and evaluating new information, abstract data and concepts including evidence from a range of sources, thus positively impacting on the economy and contributing to the redress of poverty in the country.



**Principles of Transport Economics (TRE8X18)**

The purpose of this module is to introduce the student to the principles of transport economics with a focus on competition and ownership issues. Students will also be required to summarise the price formation concept with specific reference to demand and supply of transport services, elasticity, marginal costing and consumer surplus. Students will be required to reflect on the role of transport plays in the economy of a country.

**Infrastructure Studies (TRE8X04)**

The purpose of the infrastructure studies module is to equip participants with a sound theoretical and practical knowledge of the major aspects of Transport Infrastructure. On completion of this module, the participant should be able to explain the outcomes, principles, theories, approaches and practices, related to infrastructure, as well as some of the more technical aspects and processes.

**Urban Transport and Society (TRE8X19)**

The purpose of this module is to introduce the student to various government departments and agencies in South Africa dealing with transport policy. Students will be required to evaluate national and international approaches to policy formulation and instruments. Lastly, students will be equipped to analyse transport policy documents and also reflect on the principles of transport policy formulation applied to identifying possible problems and solutions.

**Contemporary Issues in Transportation (TRE8X20)**

The purpose of this module is to allow the students to analyse the contemporary issues in transportation in South Africa as well as globally. Students will be prepared to evaluate the role of intelligent transport systems. Various new technologies, such as big data analytics and on demand transport will be identified and examined. Lastly, students will have to reflect on knowledge acquired with regard to contemporary issues in transportation.

### **Research Project (TRE8X15)**

The purpose of the module is for students to understand the rationale for research and to gain skills in undertaking field research. The module culminates in the submission of a scientifically correct and academically sound research proposal. This module covers the following topics: UJ Library orientation (workshop), ethical considerations in research, an introduction to Social Sciences research, research proposal workshop, quantitative research methods, qualitative research methods, quantitative data analysis and presentation (workshop) and qualitative data analysis.

### **Contemporary Issues in Logistics Management (LMA8X01)**

The purpose of this module is to equip students with knowledge of the nature and impact of pertinent modern day issues confronting logistics managers. This module will enable students to understand and reflect on the impact of modern day technological advances, key trends in logistics management and developments in sustainable logistics, logistics strategies and operations. The following study units are covered: Green operations and supply chain management, Design for the environment (DfE), Sustainable management strategies, Contemporary digital systems, contract logistics and city logistics.

### **Rail Transport (TRE8X07 & TRE8X08)**

The purpose of these modules are to familiarise learners with the principles and issues relating to rail transport and the role of the mode in the national economy. Topics include: Brief historical background of rail transport. The role of railways in the Southern African context. Current issues in rail transport in South Africa. Market shares and financial aspects. Rail cost patterns. Analysis of cost patterns. Tariff setting in a rail context. Management and control of railway operations. Marketing of railway services. Privatisation and its implications. Technical matters. Co operation with other modes and intermodal arrangements. Railways and tourism. Railway and rural development. Concessioning and contracting in of rail transport.

## **Road Freight Transport (TRE8X09 & TRE8X10)**

The purpose of the course is to familiarise the learner with all aspects relating to road freight transport and its role in the national economy. Topics include: The extent of road freight transport. Modal characteristics and inherent advantages. Intermodalism - opportunities and developments. Intermodal technology - Door-to-door logistics. Practical road/rail interface. Policy recommendations - the White Paper on Transport. History, evaluation and current status of road transport and legislation. The RTQS. Law enforcement and management. Role of public and private sector in road freight transport. Types of carrier ownership. Own transport vs. for-hire transport. Transport planning. Routing and vehicle utilisation. Vehicle specification and design. Legislation on hazardous products and abnormal loads. Costing and pricing of transport.

## **Maritime Transport (TRE8X11 & TRE8X12)**

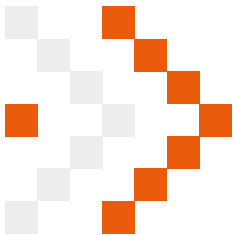
The module cover: The organisation of sea transport – major institutions, shipping lines, port authorities, governments. The demand for and supply of shipping – bulk/liners/tramp services. Global trading and cyclical factors. Shipping economics and pricing. Conference systems. Shipping policy instruments. Types of ships. Equipment on ships. Documentation in international trade. Port Management. Safety at sea. Ship registration and financing. Qualification standards. Shipping Law and Regulations. Pollution and salvage legislation. Flags of convenience. International conventions. National and international policies on maritime issues.

### **Aviation Transport (TRE8X13 & TRE8X14)**

The purpose of these modules are to familiarize the learner with aspects related to aviation management in South Africa. Although the focus of the module is to concentrate on airlines and airport management, aviation legislation and institutional structures, it will also be expected of the learner to understand the economics, costing procedures and unique characteristics of the airline industry. At the end of the module learners will have a thorough theoretical base that will enable them to manage aviation tasks. History and role of aviation in South Africa. Domestic and international air transport policy. The White Paper on Transport and various international agreements and conventions. Roles and responsibilities of institutional structures, like the Airports Company and other governmental institutions. Airline Management and organization. Pricing, demand and output determination. Airline scheduling. Fleet planning and aircraft selection. Aircraft financing and passenger marketing. Aviation infrastructure. Airport administration and management. Airport costs. Airport pricing strategies and policies. Revenue recovery structures.

### **Supply Chain Management (LMA8X02)**

The purpose of this module is to develop highly specialised applied competence enabling students to critically analyse and explain the principles and importance of supply chain management. To create an understanding of the way supply chain management impacts all areas of the business organisation and how businesses can improve their competitive positions by employing supply chain practices. The following topics are covered: Understanding supply chain management and related concepts, supply chain management vs. logistics management, supply chain business processes, supply chain models, supply chain structures, purchasing issues in supply chain management, operations issues in supply chain management, distribution issues in supply chain management and co-ordination and technology in the supply chain.



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