

How does the 2-year Golf Course Maintenance Program work? And how are students assessed?

Student Files & Modules

The complete training program consists of 21 modules that cover 9 learning areas. At the start of the academic year, students are issued with a “Student file” that contains a contents page, dividers for the various learning areas, and learning area 1 (The rules of Golf that affect Maintenance).

As each learning area is completed, students are sent the following modules that they must file in their allocated slots in the Student file and work through. Because we work through the work at a set pace as a group, students can not “work ahead” or request to receive modules up front. Each module is sent out to the academic group that is enrolled together at the same time.

Student Interaction, questions & resources

Each student will be issued with a student number & login information for an online student portal where they will be able to:

- post questions;
- discuss things that they are unsure of;
- offer their ideas & suggestions to fellow students who ask questions;
- and view a range of resources such as video clips & articles that are relevant to the learning content that they are working through.

This Student Portal is in many ways a “virtual classroom” where students can interact with each other, network with other golf course superintendents from around South Africa & share information and ideas.

Assessment

Assessment is done in 3 ways.

Firstly, there is Continuous Assessment Plan which entails the submission of assignments for every module that is covered.

The second & third aspects of assessment are covered in compulsory 2-day workshops at the end of each academic year. At these workshops students will partake in specific lessons, write exams that cover the full scope of work for the academic year and partake in practical exams.