

A stylized line-art illustration of a grain mill machine. It features a hopper at the top, a grinding mechanism in the middle, and a collection tray at the bottom. The machine is shown in profile, facing right. The background is a light yellow and green gradient.

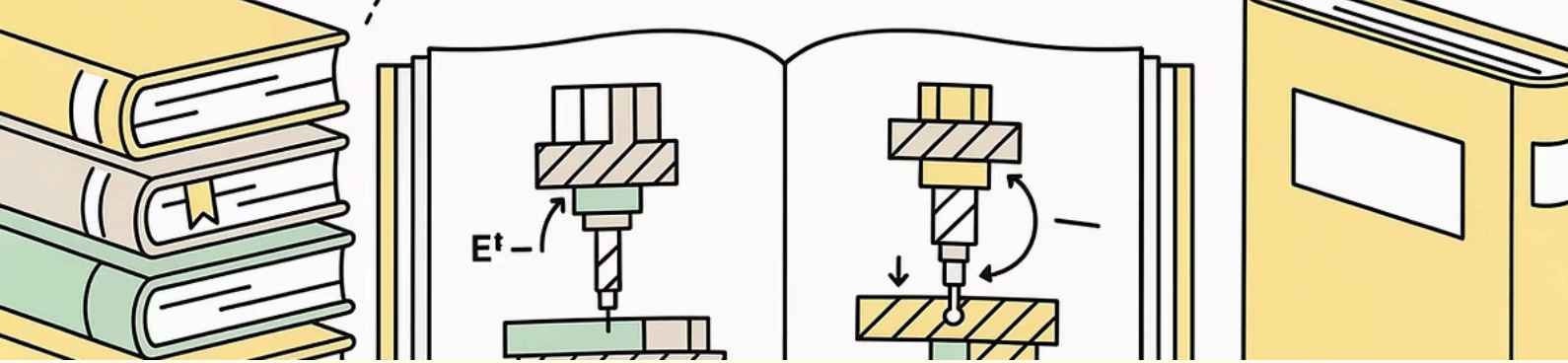
Advanced Technology Course in Maize & Wheat Milling

This Advanced Technology Course is a complete program for professionals in the wheat and maize milling industry. It helps in two main ways: it improves the skills of current managers and prepares skilled workers for management roles. This course does not lead to a specific job title like "head miller" or "mill manager." Instead, it focuses on teaching key skills needed for today's milling operations.

We created this program to meet important management needs in the industry. First, it helps current managers. It teaches them vital skills to better connect different business areas. It also improves their ability to solve problems and make decisions as managers. Finally, it helps them learn how to lead and manage operations effectively. Second, it prepares individuals who have trade test certificates in wheat or maize. It gives them the skills needed to move into management jobs within the milling industry.

To join the Advanced Course, students must have an average score of 70% in all theory sections. If a student scores less than 70% in any section, they must retake those parts. All practice questions for each section must be finished before students can take their exams. Students who need to redo sections will pay a small fee for administration and marking before they can retake the work. People who hold a SAGMA/GMF Trade Test Certificate in wheat or maize can also enroll in this advanced program.

The course has high academic standards. Students must score at least 60% on both the practice questions and the semester exams. You need to pass both parts of a section before you can move to the next one. However, if you've already passed a part, you will get credit for it. This setup ensures you understand everything well, while still being flexible for students who might need more time on certain topics.



Comprehensive Curriculum Structure

The Advanced Course encompasses both wheat and maize milling operations through a carefully structured eight-module program consisting of eight chapters total. The curriculum is designed with a progressive learning approach, where more straightforward chapters comprise the first year of study, allowing students to build foundational knowledge before advancing to more complex topics in subsequent years.

Module 1 - Year One

Chapter 1: Product handling and distribution

Chapter 2: Flour, maize, rye and durum products and their treatment

Module 2 - Year One

Chapter 3: Quality control

Chapter 4: Pelleting wheat bran and maize germ

Module 3 - Year Two

Chapter 5: Finance administration, mill organization, staffing, location, and design of mills

Chapter 6: Legislation

Module 4 - Year Two

Chapter 7: Air conveying, power, and application of electrical power

Chapter 8: Instrumentation and process control

The first year focuses on operational fundamentals including product handling, distribution systems, and the treatment of various milling products including flour, maize, rye, and durum. Students also study quality control principles and specialized processes such as pelleting wheat bran and maize germ. These foundational modules prepare students for the more complex management and technical topics covered in year two.

Year two advances into sophisticated management and technical domains. Module 3 covers finance administration, mill organization, staffing considerations, location planning, and mill design principles, alongside comprehensive legislation relevant to the milling industry. Module 4 delves into technical systems including air conveying, power management, electrical power applications, instrumentation, and process control systems. This progression ensures students develop both the business acumen and technical expertise required for management roles in modern milling operations.

Fee Structure and Academic Calendar 2026

Registration Fees Per Module

(two chapters per module)

NCM Members: R9,257.50

Non-members: R24,179.90

Foreign students: R26,263.23

Redoing Advanced Chapter:

NCM Members: R2,310.30

Non-members: R6,053.60

Foreign students: R6,588.07

The fee structure for 2026 reflects the comprehensive nature of the Advanced Course and varies based on membership status. NCM members receive significantly reduced rates compared to non-members and foreign students. Fees are reviewed annually in October and become effective from November, ensuring the program remains sustainable while providing value to the milling industry.

Once proof of payment has been received, progress questions and study material will be sent to the student. Students should ensure their finance department uses the invoice number as a reference when processing payment. Copies of proof of payment or remittance can be emailed to elmien@sagma.co.za for prompt processing.

Important Dates and Deadlines

First Semester

Starts: 12 January

Registration closes: 30 January

Changes/postponement deadline: 2 February

Assignments due: 4 March

Assignment results: 15 April

Semester exam: 13 May

Results released: 24 June

Semester ends: 26 June

Second Semester

Starts: 1 July

Registration closes: 10 July

Changes/postponement deadline: 17 July

Assignments due: 26 August

Assignment results: 7 October

Semester exam: 4 November

Results released: 15 December

Semester ends: 15 December

The academic calendar is structured around two semesters, providing students with multiple opportunities throughout the year to advance their studies. Critical deadlines for registration, assignment submission, and examination dates are clearly defined to ensure smooth program administration. Students must adhere to these deadlines to maintain their academic progress and successfully complete their chosen modules within the designated timeframes.