



**UNIVERSITY OF  
ZULULAND**

**A Node for African Thought**

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## **Career Options in Consumer Sciences Guide**



**Guide prepared for the Department of Consumer Sciences by Prof U Kolanisi**

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<https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=a%20black%20women%20in%20hospitality%20professional%20&q&qs=n&form=Q>

## The Department of Consumer Sciences at the University of Zululand

The department's motto is "We make science real", our philosophy is grounded on the discipline's mission statement which is to "Enhance Quality of life and Well-being". We found relevance and appropriateness to our science and position ourselves as such because we resonate with the statement made by Jenny K. Rodriguez: *"A psychological interpretation of science begins with the acute realization that science is a human creation, rather than an autonomous, nonhuman, or per se "thing" with intrinsic rules of its own. Its origins are in human motives, its goals are human goals, and it is created, renewed, and maintained by human beings. Its laws, organization, and articulation rests not only on the nature of the reality that it discovers, but also on the nature of the human nature that does the discovering."* (Jenny K. Rodriguez 2009). Our department understands that human needs and desires as well as contexts are continuously evolving so is science, hence we champion the meaning and value of science in relation to real life.

Across all our academic endeavours we instil a culture of excellence hence we champion cutting-edge learning and teaching strategies that foster learning that stimulates and develops inquiry, critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity approaches. In addition, to give our students the option of not only becoming industry-ready but also starting their own firms, we actively support Entrepreneurship and Work-Integrated Learning (WIL). We also look into the hospitality and leisure sectors, focusing on those that directly affect customer satisfaction and high-quality services.

Our field of study is defined by a unique attribute of being a multi-disciplinary profession that can be found in a wide range of industry sectors. The following three undergraduate qualifications in consumer sciences are offered by the department at undergraduate level:

<b>Diploma in Hospitality Management</b>	<b>Degree in Hospitality and Tourism</b>	<b>Degree in Extension and Rural Development</b>
		
<b>Study duration:</b> Three years	<b>Study duration:</b> Three years	<b>Study duration:</b> Four years
<b>Entry points:</b> 26	<b>Entry points:</b> 28	<b>Entry points:</b> 30

## **Extension and Rural Development Relating Careers**

### **Family or Household/Community Scientist /Extension Agent**

- Community Development Organizations as caregivers
- Development or Support Organizations for Children, Youth, or Seniors
- Family or Human Services Agencies (non-profit, faith-based etc)
- Government Agencies such as (Health Agencies, Military-Related Organizations etc)
- Household Livelihood Planning and Counselling for socio-economic wellbeing
- Family Scientist
- Policy Analysis, Advocacy, or Research Organizations
- Rehabilitation agencies
- Universities and Colleges - Academic Units and/or Cooperative Extension
- Private Practice or Consulting

### **Community Nutritional and Development Scientist**

- Community nutrition adviser
- Food and Nutrition Security adviser
- Modern and Indigenous foods Innovationists
- Health and Wellness adviser

### **Product developer and Food innovation analysts**

- Product and service developer
- Recipe developer
- Ingredients manager
- Food processing technical manager
- Food specialist

### **Quality assurer**

- Quality assurance (designing procedures and testing programmes/ product meets legal requirements and stays in good condition)
- Restaurant /food service manager/Catering/chef
- Food safety inspector

### **Consumer education**

- Health Promotion/Education Specialist
- Consumer advice
- Complaints and product quality specialist

### **Consumer scientist Research and Development Scientists**

- Marketing science
- Market Research Executive
- Consumer research scientist
- Consumer Sensory Insight Scientist
- Food research technician
- Consumer insight analyst
- Workplace Education Programs
- Administration of Consumer affairs

### **Another relating career**

- Deli manager
- Kitchen assistant
- Brand ambassador
- Sales representative

## **Hospitality and Tourism relating Career Options**

**After acquiring post grad qualifications** (*ie* if your topic is aligned)

- R&D Culinologist
- Sensory/Flavour Scientist
- Hospitality system consultant
- Training and development practitioner
- Business analyst
- Brand ambassador
- Support specialist
- Sommelier

### **Hospitality based**

- Operations manager
- Food & Beverage Director
- Assistant Food & Beverage Manager
- Food and beverage manager
- Lodge/hotel /Guest house manager
- Cleaning manager
- Quality assurance administrator
- Maintenance manager
- Director of sales
- Director of safety and security
- Executive meeting planner
- Director of purchasing
- Director of sales and marketing
- Executive chef
- Deli manager
- Stock controller

- Sales coordinator
- F&B Coordinator
- Reservation agent
- Human resources coordinator
- Barman and guest's host
- Kitchen assistant
- Guest experience liaison

### **Event planning**

- Event planner
- Conference organiser

### **Tourism based**

- Travel designer /VIP Ambassador adviser
- Travel consultant /adviser
- Game ranger
- Tourism liaison manager
- Concierge
- Marketing and Public Relations

## **Hospitality Management relating Career Options**

### **Post graduate qualifications**

- Brand ambassador

### **Managerial**

- Lodge/hotel /Guest house manager
- Back of house restaurant manager
- Guest Services/Housekeeping Manager
- Food & Beverage Manager
- Assistant Food & Beverage Manager
- Food & Beverage Executive
- Food & Beverage Supervisor
- Housekeeping supervisor
- Front of house manager
- Resident manager
- Duty Manager
- Deli manager
- Sales Coordinator (Room Sales / Banquet and Conventions)

### **Kitchen**

- Head Chef
- Sous chef
- Bus person
- Catering Assistant
- Cook
- Kitchen assistant

## **Front of house**

- Guest service agent / Guest Service Associate / Waiter
- Butler
- Food operations on cruise ship/military
- Hotel receptionist
- Host or hostess
- Busser

## **Events**

- Wedding coordinator
- Event specialist (Event Coordinator/planner)
- Corporate Event Manager
- Banqueting and Convention Manager

## **Bar**

- Barman and guest's host

## **Housekeeping**

- Director of Housekeeping
- Executive Housekeeper
- Deputy Housekeeper
- Housekeeping Manager
- Laundry Manager
- Housekeeping Executive
- Laundry Valet
- Room attendant

## **Other relating careers:**

- Flight attendant



Also do a frequent visit to these websites:

- [Job Guide - Consumer Scientist \(Home Economics/Consumer Stu...](#)
  - [www.inputyouth.co.uk/jobguides/job-consumerscientist.html](http://www.inputyouth.co.uk/jobguides/job-consumerscientist.html)
- [Job Guide - Consumer Scientist \(Home Economics/Consumer Studies\) \(inputyouth.co.uk\)](#)
- [Consumer Science Food Jobs, Employment | Indeed.com](#)
  - <https://www.indeed.com/q-Consumer-Science-Food-jobs.html>  
[Consumer Science Food Jobs, Employment | Indeed.com](#)
- [21 Jobs for Hospitality Management | Indeed.com](#)
- <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/what-are-the-different-jobs-in-a-hotel>
- [https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=Consumer+Science+Food&start=20&pp=gQAeAAAABhkUyqIwAAAAAB-XOuCABCAQEBCQHke0QBssQewY1nBI3iUFFLVLxjqdNSX7QcpYkkwT8Wk14pWCgr1WSYxx\\_fMClgGXTIst8-ajeShaqKlyFAAA&vjk=ad805d384ef95b2c](https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=Consumer+Science+Food&start=20&pp=gQAeAAAABhkUyqIwAAAAAB-XOuCABCAQEBCQHke0QBssQewY1nBI3iUFFLVLxjqdNSX7QcpYkkwT8Wk14pWCgr1WSYxx_fMClgGXTIst8-ajeShaqKlyFAAA&vjk=ad805d384ef95b2c)