



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2017

Introductory soil science 250 (GKD 250)

Qualification	Undergraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Module credits	12.00
Programmes	BSc Landscape Architecture BSc Biotechnology BSc Chemistry BSc Ecology BSc Engineering and Environmental Geology BSc Environmental Sciences BSc Geography BSc Geology BSc Meteorology BSc Plant Science BSc Zoology BScAgric Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management BScAgric Animal and Pasture Science BScAgric Animal Science BScAgric Applied Plant and Soil Sciences BScAgric Plant Pathology
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Prerequisites	CMY 117 GS or TDH
Contact time	1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Separate classes for Afrikaans and English
Academic organisation	Plant and Soil Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1



Module content

Origin and development of soil, weathering and soil formation processes. Profile differentiation and morphology. Physical characteristics: texture, structure, soil water, atmosphere and temperature. Chemical characteristics: clay minerals, ion exchange, pH, buffer action, soil acidification and salinisation of soil. Soil fertility and fertilisation. Soil classification. Practical work: Laboratory evaluation of simple soil characteristics. Field practicals on soil formation in the Pretoria area.

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