

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

BScHons Biotechnology (02240393)

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 135

Programme information

BScHons (Biotechnology) is a unique interdepartmental programme aimed at enabling students to pursue their interest in molecular biotechnology through relevant research areas offered within fields of biochemistry, plant science, microbiology and plant pathology, plant production, as well as genetics. Students within this programme will be registered and will conduct their studies within the department of their choice. A student's choice of research programme will determine which of the respective departments will mentor their honours degree programme.

Renewal of registration

- i. Subject to exceptions approved by the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, and in the case of distance education where the Dean formulates the stipulations that will apply, a student may not sit for an examination for the honours degree more than twice in the same module.
- ii. A student for an honours degree must complete his or her study, in the case of full-time students, within two years and, in the case of after-hours students, within three years of first registering for the degree and, in the case of distance education students, within the period stipulated by the Dean. Under special circumstances, the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, may give approval for a limited extension of this period.

In calculating marks, General Regulation G.12.2 applies.

Apart from the prescribed coursework, a research project is an integral part of the study.

Admission requirements

- BSc in Biotechnology or equivalent degree including at least three final-year modules with a strong molecular biology focus. The following UP modules or their equivalent will be considered: GTS 351, GTS 354, GTS 368, BCM 356, MBC 357, BCM 367, MBY 355, MBY 364, MBY 365, BTC 361.
- Students must have completed four final-year modules in the disciplinary field within which the honours degree will be registered.
- An average pass mark of 60% or more at final-year level or permission by the head of department. Preference will be given to applicants with the highest final grade point averages for their preceding degree and qualifying applicants may be subjected to an entrance evaluation examination.
- Admission is furthermore contingent on the availability of supervisors and/or research projects within the participating departments.



Pass with distinction

The BScHons degree is awarded with distinction to a candidate who obtains a weighted average of at least 75% in all the prescribed modules and a minimum of 65% in any one module.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 135

Minimum credits: 135

Fundamental credit: 16

Core credits: 30

Elective credits: 105

Other programme-specific information:

- The curriculum for the balance of the credits will be determined by the heads of the participating departments.
- Additional modules may be prescribed by the head of the department where deemed necessary. Honours students may also be required to complete a biometry or equivalent module, if they have not already done so during their undergraduate training.

Core modules

[Biotechnology in the workplace 701](#) (BTW 701) - Credits: 15.00

[Molecular and cellular biology 721](#) (MLB 721) - Credits: 15.00

Elective modules

[Research project and report 773](#) (BCM 773) - Credits: 60.00

[Research methods 774](#) (BCM 774) - Credits: 30.00

[Molecular techniques 705](#) (BOT 705) - Credits: 15.00

[Research report 782](#) (BOT 782) - Credits: 60.00

[Research project 703](#) (GTK 703) - Credits: 60.00

[Research methods 705](#) (GTK 705) - Credits: 30.00

[Research methods 751](#) (MCP 751) - Credits: 30.00

[Research project and literature study 754](#) (MCP 754) - Credits: 60.00

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.