



---

# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2020

---

## Computer organisation and architecture 284 (COS 284)

<b>Qualification</b>	Undergraduate
<b>Faculty</b>	<a href="#">Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology</a>
<b>Module credits</b>	16.00
<b>Programmes</b>	<a href="#">BIS Multimedia</a> <a href="#">BSc Computer Science</a> <a href="#">BSc Information and Knowledge Systems</a> <a href="#">BSc Physics</a>
<b>Prerequisites</b>	COS 212 GS
<b>Contact time</b>	1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Computer Science
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2

### Module content

This module provides the foundations on which other modules build by enabling a deeper understanding of how software interacts with hardware. It will teach the design and operation of modern digital computers by studying each of the components that make up a digital computer and the interaction between these components. Specific areas of interest, but not limited to, are: representation of data on the machine-level; organisation of the machine on the assembly level; the architecture and organisation of memory; inter- and intra-component interfacing and communication; data paths and control; and parallelism. Topic-level detail and learning outcomes for each of these areas are given by the first 6 units of 'Architecture and Organisation' knowledge area as specified by the ACM/IEEE Computer Science Curriculum 2013.

The concepts presented in the theory lectures will be reinforced during the practical sessions by requiring design and implementation of the concepts in simulators and assembly language using an open source operating system.

---

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.

---