



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2020

BComHons Mathematical Statistics (07240244)

Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	135
NQF level	08
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Admission requirements

- Relevant BCom degree with an average of at least 65% in Mathematical Statistics or equivalent at 3rd year level.

Note:

- Student numbers are limited to a maximum of 40, collectively over all honours programmes in the Department of Statistics.
- Historical performance during prior studies will also be considered in selecting students. Specific attention will be given to modules repeated and duration of study.
- A compulsory language proficiency test must be completed at the University of Pretoria. The Departmental Postgraduate Selection Committee will facilitate the test through the university's language unit. Based on the outcome, a student may be required to do additional language courses.

Other programme-specific information

Details of compilation of curriculum are available from the Head of the Department of Statistics as well as from the departmental postgraduate brochure.

A candidate must compile his/her curriculum in consultation with the head of department or his representative. It is also possible to include postgraduate modules from other departments. Refer to the Departmental website for further information.

Examinations and pass requirements

In calculating marks, General Regulation G12.2 applies.

Subject to the provisions of General Regulation G.26, a head of department determines, in consultation with the Dean

- when the honours examinations in his/her department will take place, provided that:
 - i. honours examinations which do not take place before the end of the academic year must take place no later than 18 January of the following year, and all examination results must be submitted to Student Administration by 25 January; and
 - ii. honours examinations which do not take place before the end of the first semester may take place no later than 15 July, and all examination results must be submitted to Student Administration on or before 18 July.



- whether a candidate will be admitted to a supplementary examination, provided that a supplementary examination is granted, only once in a maximum of two prescribed semester modules or once in one year module;
- supplementary examinations (if granted) cover the same subject matter as was the case for the examinations;
- NB: For the purpose of this provision, the phrase "not sit for an examination more than twice in the same subject" as it appears in General Regulation G.18.2, implies that a candidate may not be admitted to an examination in a module, including a supplementary examination, more than three times.
- the manner in which research reports are prepared and examined in his/her department.

NB: Full details are published in each department's postgraduate information brochure, which is available from the relevant head of department. The minimum pass mark for a research report is 50%. The provisions regarding pass requirements for dissertations contained in General Regulation G.12.2 apply mutatis mutandis to research reports.

Subject to the provisions of General Regulation G.12.2.1.3, the subminimum required in subdivisions of modules is published in the study guides, which is available from the relevant head of department.



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 135

Choose five modules from the list of electives.

Core modules

Linear models 710 (LMO 710)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 311, WST 312, WST 321

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Projection matrices and sums of squares of linear sets. Estimation and the Gauss-Markov theorem. Generalised t- and F- tests.

Multivariate analysis 710 (MVA 710)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 311, WST 312, WST 321

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Matrix algebra. Some multivariate measures. Visualising multivariate data. Multivariate distributions. Samples from multivariate normal populations. The Wishart distribution. Hotelling's T^2 statistic. Inferences about mean vectors.

Research orientation 796 (STK 796)

Module credits 0.00

Service modules Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites Admission to the relevant programme.

Contact time Ad Hoc



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Year

Module content

A compulsory bootcamp must be attended as part of this module – usually presented during the last week of January each year (details are made available by the department). The bootcamp will cover the basics of research to prepare students for the research component of their degree. The bootcamp should be done in the same year as registration for STK 795/WST 795. Each year of registration for the honours degree will also require the attendance of three departmental seminars. Students should ensure that their attendance is recorded by the postgraduate co-ordinator present at the seminars. The department approves the seminars attended. In addition, students are required to present their STK 795/WST 795 research in the department during the year of registration for these modules.

Research report: Mathematical statistics 795 (WST 795)

Module credits 30.00

Prerequisites WST 311, WST 312, WST 321

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1 and Semester 2

Module content

Refer to the document: Criteria for the research management process and the assessment of the honours essays, available on the web: www.up.ac.za under the Department of Statistics: postgraduate study.

Elective modules

Introduction to statistical learning 720 (EKT 720)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites RAL 780 or WST 311, 312, 321

Contact time 1 lecture per week, 1 web-based period per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

The emphasis is on the theoretical understanding and practical application of advances in statistical modelling. The following topics are covered: Single equation models: Nonparametric regression. Bootstrap procedures within regression analysis, k-nearest neighbour classification. Modelling categorical dependent variables - Logit/Probit models. Multiple outputs. Linear regression of an indicator matrix. Ridge regression. Non-linear regression modelling. Some new developments in regression and classification.

Simultaneous equation models: Specification, identification and estimation of simultaneous equation models.

Text and behavioural analytics 725 (EKT 725)

Module credits 15.00

Prerequisites STK 353

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Mixtures of distributions and regressions, frequentist and Bayes estimation. Latent components, soft allocation and belongings. Applications in unstructured data, including text data. Identification and interpretation of behavioural patterns.

Linear models 720 (LMO 720)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites LMO 710

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

The singular normal distribution. Distributions of quadratic forms. The general linear model. Multiple comparisons. Analysis of covariance. Generalised linear models. Analysis of categorical data.

Multivariate analysis 720 (MVA 720)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites MVA 710

Contact time 1 lecture per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Discriminant analysis and classification. Principal component analysis. The biplot. Multidimensional scaling. Factor analysis. Probabilistic clustering.

Parametric stochastic processes 720 (PNP 720)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WST 312

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to statistical measure theory. Queueing processes: M/M/1; M/M/S; M/G/1 queues and variants; limiting distribution of the queue length and waiting times. Queueing networks. Some stochastic inventory and storage processes.

Sampling techniques 720 (SFT 720)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 311, WST 312, WST 321, or STK 310, 320.

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Simple random sampling. Estimation of proportions and sample sizes. Stratified random sampling. Ratio and regression estimators. Systematic and cluster sampling. Introduction to spatial statistics. Spatial sampling – both model and design based approaches.

Simulation and computation 710 (STC 710)

Module credits 15.00

Prerequisites STK 353

Contact time 1 lecture per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Efficient programming, Monte Carlo simulation, sampling of discrete and continuous probability models, General transformation methods, Accept-reject methods, Monte Carlo integration, importance sampling, numerical optimisation, Metropolis-Hastings algorithm, GIBBS sampling.

Capita selecta: Statistics 720 (STC 720)

Module credits 15.00

Prerequisites STK 353

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

This module considers specific topics from the diverse field of statistics as deemed supportive towards the training of the cohort of scholars.

Distribution-free methods 710 (VMT 710)

Module credits 15.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 311, WST 312, WST 321

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

A selection of: Nonparametric stochastic processes. Power and asymptotic power of distribution-free procedures. Theory and simulation. Asymptotic relative efficiency. Linear rank tests: Definition, properties and applications. Equal in distribution technique. Counting and ranking statistics. Introduction to one and two sample U-statistics. Permutation and distribution-free rank-like statistics. Multi-sample distribution-free tests, rank correlation and regression. Some nonparametric bootstrap and smoothing methods.

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.