

BSc (Geology)

Geology is the study of the Earth and includes aspects related to its formation, composition, structure and processes. South Africa is known for its large reserves of gold, platinum, chromium, vanadium and other metal ores, as well as substantial diamond and coal reserves. A mere hour's drive from UP takes one to the Karoo coalfields, the site where the Cullinan diamond was discovered, the Bushveld platinum mines and the gold mines of the Witwatersrand. South Africa also has some of the Earth's oldest well-exposed geology and significant fossils informing us about the history of the planet.

Who is the ideal candidate?

The programme requires an appreciation for mathematics and chemistry. A love for the Earth and working outdoors, and an interest in geology or geomorphology will be beneficial. Depending on your personality, you can decide how you would like to divide your time between working in the field and working in the office.

What makes this programme unique?

UP is well situated within easy reach of the mining and applied geological industries and offers a strong programme in the applied fields of economic geology, structural geology and mechanics, and engineering geology and hydrogeology. Candidates who successfully complete this programme qualify for professional registration as geological scientists.

What career opportunities exist for graduates?

Geology is split into many subdisciplines which include mineralogy (the study of rock-forming minerals), petrology (the study of rock formation), structural geology (the deformation and behaviour of rock under stress) and economic or mining geology (identification of mineral resources and contribution to the day-to-day operations of mines).

As a geologist, you can choose whether you would prefer to work in a mine or laboratory, or as an exploration geologist in the field. The programme also allows entry into applied geological professions such as hydrogeology and engineering geology.

Apart from working in the mining industry, candidates also find employment at analytical facilities, in forensics, or in the insurance industry.

Which companies employ our graduates?

Our graduates are employed as economic or exploration geologists in the mining industry, or work for parastatals (Council for Geoscience, CSIR, Mintek) or government (Mineral Resources; Energy).



GEOLOGY



Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC and IEB for 2022			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	
BSc (Geology) [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 30 September Non-SA – 31 August	5	5	5	34