

Note: The closing date for applications has been extended to 31 July 2020. (Updated 20 July 2020).

2020/21

Undergraduate faculty brochure

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UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

**Faculty of
Health Sciences**

Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo



Note: The National Benchmark Test (NBT) is no longer required for selection or admission purposes for the 2021 intake. Faculties are communicating with all applicants who have applied for programmes where the NBT was either compulsory, or recommended. (Updated 20 July 2020).

Message from the Dean

The Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Pretoria has a long and proud tradition of excellence in the education of healthcare professionals. Our more than 600 full- and part-time lecturers, researchers and clinical practitioners are dedicated role models who excite and inspire our students.

Prof Tiaan de Jager
Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences



We are committed to ensuring that our graduates leave this institution as competent, responsible and caring health professionals.

Quality is at the heart of the Faculty's commitment to a culture of excellent teaching and learning. Our curricula and teaching methods are regularly updated to ensure that they meet the demands of a rapidly changing world.

Our high standards and innovative approaches to learning enhance the ability of our graduates to deal with and solve complex problems. Our teaching venues, laboratories, skills training laboratories, IT facilities, teaching hospitals and clinics are constantly being upgraded. To meet the healthcare needs of the country, we have responded to the national demand for more graduates by expanding the Health Sciences Campus and residences to accommodate the increasing number of students.

We offer our students a comprehensive range of tutoring, mentoring and progress monitoring, as well as on-site student health and counselling service. The excellent module pass rates and degree completion rates are further evidence of our students' commitment and hard work, and of the success of our student support systems. We recently created additional research opportunities so as to offer undergraduate students significantly more postgraduate opportunities in the Faculty.

Students in the health sciences can enjoy a full and balanced university experience as they have access to a wide range of social, sporting, cultural, leadership and community outreach activities.

We look forward to welcoming you as a student in the Faculty of Health Sciences in 2021.

Content



Message from the Dean	ii
Undergraduate programmes	1
General overview	3
School of Medicine	4
School of Dentistry	8
School of Healthcare Sciences	9
Prinshof Campus map	16

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Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2021*						
	Achievement level						APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics		Physical Sciences			
	NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level	
School of Dentistry							
BChD – Bachelor of Dental Surgery [5 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	5	C	6	B	5	C	35
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: Dentists, specialists, academics and researchers							
The suggested second-choice programme is BSc (Biological Sciences).							
BOH – Bachelor of Oral Hygiene [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	4	D	25
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Career: Oral hygienists							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
School of Healthcare Sciences							
BDietetics – Bachelor of Dietetics [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	5	C	5	C	28
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Career: Dieticians							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							

Undergraduate programmes

Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2021*						
	Achievement level					APS	
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics		Physical Sciences			
		NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level		
BNurs – Bachelor of Nursing Science [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	Life Sciences (not Physical Sciences)		28
					4	D	
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: General nursing and midwifery							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
BOT – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	4	D	30
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: Occupational therapists, academics and researchers							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
BPhysio – Bachelor of Physiotherapy [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	4	D	30
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: Physiotherapists, academics and researchers							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
BRad (Diagnostics) [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	4	D	30
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: Radiographers, academics and researchers							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
School of Medicine							
BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	Physical Sciences or Life Sciences		28
					4	D	
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results and the Biographical Information Form. Careers: Clinical associates, academics and researchers							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
MBChB – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery [6 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	5	C	6	B	5	C	35
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: General medical practitioners, specialists (after postgraduate training)							
The suggested second-choice programme for MBChB is BSc (Biological Sciences). A limited number of spaces are available for selection after the first semester.							
BSportSci – Bachelor of Sports Science [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 July Non-SA – 31 July	4	D	4	D	Physical Sciences or Life Sciences		30
					4	D	
Selection is based on a candidates' final Grade 11 examination results. Careers: This course prepares students to work competently in the health, wellness and sporting environment. It is a prerequisite for admission to the BScHons programme in Sports Science or Biokinetics.							
For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor at +27 (0)12 420 5144.							
BSc (Nutrition)	BSc (Nutrition) is an interfaculty degree programme, jointly presented by Food Science (Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences) and Human Nutrition (Faculty of Health Sciences). See page 4 of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences undergraduate faculty brochure.						
BA (Audiology)	BA (Audiology) and BA (Speech-Language Pathology) reside in the Faculty of Humanities. See page 3 of the Faculty of Humanities undergraduate faculty brochure.						
BA (Speech-Language Pathology)							

General overview

The Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Pretoria is an international role player focusing on healthcare in Africa. Its vision is to maintain health standards through quality education, research and community service. Since its inception, it has developed into one of the largest health training institutions in the country and boasts an under- and postgraduate student corps of more than 6 000.

The lecturers and personnel of the Faculty provide appropriate professional undergraduate training for doctors, clinical associates, dentists, oral hygienists, dieticians, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, radiographers and sports scientists, as well as numerous postgraduate qualifications. The curricula are regularly updated in accordance with global and local changes in health education methodology.

Community-based education is an important and integral part of all the programmes. The Faculty ensures that students are trained to work in multidisciplinary teams in tertiary and secondary health facilities. By also exposing students to primary healthcare in the rural and historically disadvantaged areas of South Africa, the Faculty of Health Sciences equips its students with the necessary knowledge, professional attitudes and skills to bring hope and a better quality of life to diverse communities.

Clinical training takes place in hospitals and clinics, as well as in communities. Due to the possibility of exposure to infection and the crime situation in the country, clinical training does involve some risks. The University of Pretoria has, however, introduced measures and explicit instructions for the protection of our students.

Students who join this Faculty will be part of a new generation of health professionals. The Faculty's outcomes-based and problem-oriented training offers a unique way of looking at patients and their health.

In order to participate in practical clinical training, students may have to register with the appropriate professional body, ie either the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) or the South African Nursing Council (SANC). These governing bodies have specific requirements in respect of academic knowledge and clinical experience and standards that must be adhered to. Once students have graduated and obtained their degrees, they will re-register to achieve professional status and the right to practise in the field.

Note: Students will be immunised at their own cost.

National Benchmark Test (NBT)

DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC THE UNIVERSITY HAS MADE THE DECISION NOT TO USE THE NATIONAL BENCHMARK AS PART OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA FOR 2021.

University experience

The applications of students who are studying towards a tertiary qualification or have obtained a tertiary qualification must meet the following requirements regarding school subjects and performance levels: They must be in possession of an NSC for degree studies/full exemption certificate and must have attained a performance level of 5 (or 50% HG if completed prior to 2009) for Mathematics and Physical Sciences (or Life Science, if required).

If the subjects were not passed in Grade 12, the equivalent subjects (Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics) must be completed at the tertiary level. University students do not have to submit any non-academic performance record or CV. Selection is based on the results attained in the qualification(s) previously completed, ie they will be considered on the basis of their results achieved in higher education.

The completion of only a three-year diploma or certificate is not considered as university experience, but will be considered in the school-leaver category and admission will be based on the applicant's final NSC results.



School of Medicine

MBChB – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery

To be allowed to register as a medical practitioner, a student has to obtain an MBChB degree, followed by a two-year internship and one year of community service. In the medical profession, the health of a patient is of vital importance. Patients are treated with the aim of restoring their health. Special programmes are developed to prevent the spread of diseases and/or infections in the community. The promotion of a healthy lifestyle is also an important responsibility of medical doctors.

The University of Pretoria's internationally comparable, problem-oriented and outcomes-based training programme is accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), and the high standard of training is recognised locally and internationally. Exchange agreements have been concluded between the School of Medicine and similar faculties at universities abroad.

Medicine is not only a profession—it is a calling. Prospective students, therefore, have to be prepared to serve humanity in all its facets. The medical profession demands high ethical standards in practice, and the career makes heavy physical and mental demands on practitioners.

Selection

- **Three hundred (300) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.
- The University considers both school leavers and applicants who have already studied at tertiary institutions.
- Compliance with the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the MBChB programme.
- Conditional selection is based on final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements, as indicated on page 2.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that their APS does not drop by more than two points.
- The conditional selection of candidates is made strictly according to the merit list, and any places that become vacant are filled from the waiting list.

- **NOTE:** Based on the results of the first-semester examination, further places are allocated to new first-year students registered for a programme in the Biological Sciences field at the University of Pretoria.

Duration of the programme

- **Year 1 to the middle of year 5:** Theoretical, practical and clinical training in the medical disciplines
- **Second half of year 5 and year 6:** Student internship, which is patient-centered and where clinical training takes place in hospitals and clinics. This is followed by two years of internship with clinical service under supervision in accredited hospitals throughout the country and a compulsory year of community service. These three years are not part of the university training.
- **Community engagement:** The curriculum was compiled from the viewpoint that training should take place through service delivery. In this context, the Faculty provides a comprehensive service to the broader community through several outreach programmes. Students are already involved in these programmes during their undergraduate studies. The Daspoort Clinic in Pretoria is an example of a place that serves as a service training platform where the students can work.
- **Research:** Advances in medical science depend on active research in the various fields of specialisation. This is the reason for undergraduate and postgraduate student training in a research environment, which promotes an enquiry-based approach to learning and skills for carrying out research.

Career opportunities

The MBChB degree allows graduates to register as medical practitioners once they have completed their internship (two years) and community service (one year). Thereafter, they may practise as general practitioners (medical doctors) in hospitals or in private general practice, carry out research, and/or teach undergraduates. Further postgraduate study is required to become a specialist. Specialists can work in hospitals and/or private practices, or follow a career in academic medicine. This involves clinical practice, teaching and research.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

‘As a fifth-year medical student, I am slowly but surely approaching the end of six wonderfully challenging years. ‘Never give up’—three words thrown around so often that we forget how powerful they truly are. There is no secret recipe for being a successful medical student, nor is there a secret code for being selected to study medicine. Even after an unsuccessful first attempt, giving up should never be an option. I can attest to the power of this attitude after having worked hard, tirelessly, for four years before my application to study medicine was approved. You do not choose medicine, medicine chooses you!

You choose to become a doctor with substance and compassion—which is why you choose the University of Pretoria.’



Michelle Cremer (MBChB – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery)

Student contributions



Tidimalo Lekhutlile
(BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice)

‘Studying towards a bachelor’s degree in Clinical Medical Practice (BCMP) at Tuks has been one of the most challenging experiences of my life and I have learnt a lot. However, my learning was not limited to my academic work as I also learnt a lot about myself and what I am capable of.

To successfully complete this programme, one has to work consistently, be flexible, but determined—and most importantly one must know when you need help. Accept the challenge and see what you can achieve!’



Nomalungelo Makhubu (BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice)

‘Studying towards a bachelor’s degree in Clinical Medical Practice (BCMP) at UP has moulded me into the strong and competent person I am today. I have gained a lot of experience in the past three years. Among other things I have mastered the skill of effectively communicating with patients, and carried out physical examinations and different procedures. I was never a person who could think or work under pressure, but my studies have made me increasingly aware of my purpose and improved my thinking ability. I am grateful that I chose to study clinical medical practice, which is the heartbeat of the healthcare system.’

‘Studying sports science at UP has been a challenging, but rewarding experience. I never doubted that I made the right choice. I have learnt so much about myself and have developed an even deeper understanding of, and respect for the many and varied benefits of exercise. I feel fully equipped and excited about pursuing my career as a biokineticist.’

Bianca Coetzee (BSportSci – Bachelor of Sports Science)



School of Medicine

BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice

A clinical associate is a professional member of the healthcare team who has the necessary knowledge and skills to make a substantial contribution to the South African district health system. Clinical associates are medical assistants working under supervising doctors in the performance of all practice-related activities, including the requisition of diagnostic, therapeutic and other medical services, based on their education, training and experience. Clinical associates can work as members of the healthcare team in district healthcare services.

To register as a clinical associate with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA), a student has to obtain a Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice degree. Potential employers include the Department of Health, the South African Military Health Service and non-governmental organisations.

Selection

- **Seventy (70) first-year students are selected annually.**
- First- and second-choice applicants are considered.
- Preference is given to students nominated by Provincial Health Departments in various SA provinces, who must also comply with the minimum admission requirements for this programme.

Selection is based on academic merit and the Biographical Information Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements, as indicated on page 2.

Duration of the programme

The Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice degree is a three-year, full-time programme and has a strong focus on service delivery. The training is practical and patient-oriented and can be summarised as follows:

- **Year 1:** Theoretical, practical and clinical training takes place mostly at the Prinshof Campus. The focus is on basic investigative studies, obtaining patients' medical histories and mastering physical examination techniques. Students are placed in various hospitals in Gauteng.
- **Years 2 and 3:** Clinical practicals are offered in various hospitals in Gauteng and Mpumalanga. Clinical skills are gained through service learning in hospitals and clinics and in community contexts.

Career opportunities

Clinical associates can work as members of healthcare teams in district healthcare services. Employment opportunities include public healthcare institutions and the South African Military Health Service (SAMHS).

Further studies and research can also be pursued and could open up employment opportunities in healthcare services and institutions of higher learning.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

BSportSci – Bachelor of Sports Science

The three-year, full-time BSportSci programme includes basic and applied sciences focused on the human body and human movement. The programme provides a pathway towards a BScHons in Biokinetics or Sports Science.

Selection

- **One hundred (100) first-year students are selected annually.**
- First- and second-choice applicants are considered.
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 2. Furthermore, candidates have to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and must ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Description of the programme

BSportSci is a full-time, three-year degree programme, and the curriculum is problem-based and student-oriented with vertical and horizontal integration of subjects. The programme exposes students to the practical application of the theoretical knowledge gained early on in the programme.

The primary focus of the BSportSci curriculum is to prepare students to work competently in the health, wellness and sporting environment. It also serves to prepare students who want to continue with the BScHons programme in Sports Science or Biokinetics.

Career opportunities

After completing the BSportSci degree, students may apply to continue with the BScHons in Biokinetics or Sports Science, which is strongly recommended for those who would like to pursue careers as sports scientists or biokineticists.

Sports scientists can work as strength and conditioning specialists for both team and individual athletes, as sports managers or as other sports-related professionals in the sports industry. Biokineticists can work in the health and wellness industry, private practice, multidisciplinary medical centres, final-phase rehabilitation centres, homes for the elderly, the South African Armed Forces and the corporate sector.

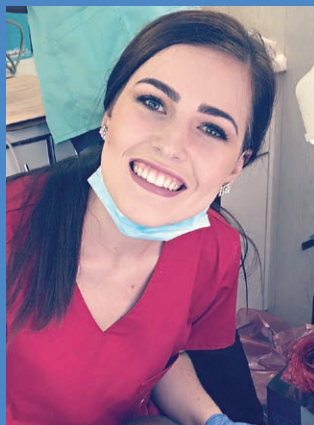
Both sports scientists and biokineticists can also work in the fitness industry as personal trainers, health and fitness instructors and exercise scientists or gymnasium managers/owners. Students who pursue further postgraduate studies could also consider careers in academia or in research.

Alternatively, qualified BSportSci students may apply for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education, which is ideal for students who are interested in developing sports and physical activities at schools.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

Student contributions



‘Oral hygiene is a very stimulating field of study. Being a BOH student at UP has challenged me in many ways and has shown me what I am capable of.

Hands-on training in the Oral and Dental Hospital has allowed me to see my own patients from an early stage, which I found most rewarding. I feel equipped and confident to enter the workplace and make a success of my career.’

Simoné Smit
(BOH – Bachelor of Oral Hygiene)



School of Dentistry

BChD – Bachelor of Dental Surgery

The School of Dentistry at the University of Pretoria is widely recognised—both nationally and internationally for the quality of its training, research and patient care, as well as for its involvement in community-based projects. Our graduates make decisive contributions to the practice of dentistry, health management, statutory councils and academic training.

The typical work-day of a dentist is spent diagnosing and treating diseases of the mouth and teeth. This includes the removal or repair of carious teeth, the replacement of absent teeth by means of crown and bridge therapy, and the treatment of diseases of the gums. Dentists are also responsible for surgical intervention in the mouth, the alignment of irregular teeth, alleviation of pain, root canal treatment and the planning of dental treatment in consultation with their patients.

Dentistry offers many challenges and stimulating opportunities. With the exclusive aim of rendering high-quality oral healthcare to the patient, the dentist cooperates with all the other role players in the oral health team. The total health of the individual forms the basis of the training of each dentist. Dentists should be academically gifted and dextrous.

Selection

- **Seventy (70) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 1.
- Furthermore, candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

PLEASE NOTE: Based on the results of the first semester examination, a further five places are allocated to new first-year students registered at the University of Pretoria for a programme in the biological sciences.

Description of the programme

In order to keep pace with the requirements of modern tertiary education, the School of Dentistry follows a curriculum that is problem-based, student-oriented and directed at the community, with vertical and horizontal integration of subjects. The degree in dentistry requires five years of full-time study, followed by one year of compulsory community service. Students get first-hand exposure to clinical dentistry from the second semester of the first year of study.

Career opportunities

Employment opportunities for dentists exist in private practice, in the South African National Defence Force, in public hospitals and clinics, in healthcare organisations and in academic institutions.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

BOH – Bachelor of Oral Hygiene

This is a three-year degree programme during which students receive training in basic medical and dental subjects. Theory and practice are integrated from the first year of study. The second half of the first year is dedicated to training in the pre-clinical training ward. Thereafter, from the second year, students treat patients in the well-equipped Oral and Dental Hospital. The work includes the education of patients, oral hygiene instruction, polishing and scaling of teeth, fluoride application and the application of fissure-sealing agents to teeth. It furthermore includes, among other functions, placement of certain restorations and administering of local anaesthesia. Oral hygiene entails the maintenance and care of the teeth and gums. The oral hygienist plays an important role in the evaluation, planning, prevention and treatment of diseases of the oral cavity and renders a preventative, educational and therapeutic service to each patient and to the community. In addition to their role as students, aspirant oral hygienists have a variety of other tasks to perform. These include participation in community projects, visits to nursery schools and special need schools for oral care maintenance. Community service includes visits to the Steve Biko Academic Hospital's children's oncology ward and the Phelophepa Health Train from which a dental service is rendered to the community. Oral hygiene is an excellent career choice, especially for those who wish to organise their working days according to their own needs. It is a challenging occupation with a high degree of job satisfaction, security and a good income. Oral hygienists play a very important role in modern society. They are trained to inform people about maintaining good oral hygiene. A large part of their daily activities is dedicated to carrying out preventative treatment procedures. Since oral hygienists deal with people all the time, they must have good interpersonal relationship skills, a spontaneous nature and lots of patience. Above all, they should have excellent communication skills, a sense of responsibility and the ability to tackle challenges.

Selection

- **Twenty-five (25) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 1.
- Furthermore, candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Career opportunities

An oral hygienist may be employed in a general dental practice. Oral hygienists are also increasingly employed by specialists such as orthodontists, periodontists, prosthodontists; and maxillo-facial and oral surgeons. Further employment possibilities exist with organisations such as the South African National Defence Force and elsewhere in the public service. Other employers include municipal clinics and healthcare organisations. Individuals who are interested in academic careers may join tertiary education institutions as lecturers. Oral hygienists are also allowed to work independently and open their own practices.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

School of Healthcare Sciences

BOT – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

The Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Pretoria embraces transformation and diversity and aims to be an outstanding internationally respected department, committed to excellence in research, social responsiveness and innovative teaching and learning.

- **Curriculum:** The curriculum is an integration of human and natural sciences, which enables therapists to assist those whose functioning has been affected by developmental delays, neglect, disease, trauma, accidents or ageing.
- **Learning programme:** The BOT programme requires four years of full-time study, and is designed to facilitate active participation. Throughout the four years, students do clinical fieldwork at various hospitals, clinics, other institutions and in the community setting.
- **Research:** At the undergraduate level, students are introduced to research activities under the guidance of staff members. Postgraduate students conduct research on the process and standards of interventions; the development of valid and reliable measurement tools; and the establishment of effective outcomes for interventions.

Postgraduate study offers increased occupational therapy knowledge and skills in vocational rehabilitation; hand therapy; neurology, mental health and physical conditions; education in occupational therapy; and areas of occupational therapy such as play, leisure, education/school, Activities of Daily Living (ADL)/ Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) and work.

As a healthcare profession, occupational therapy promotes health and well-being. It is the art and science of facilitating participation through occupations.

Occupations are activities that are meaningful to us and that we need to and/or are expected to do. People with loss of function as a result of disability and societal barriers are assisted by modifying their occupations or the environment so that they can maintain their independence.

In occupational therapy, individuals with physical and mental health conditions and/or disabilities are treated to enable them to function independently in their occupations and specific contexts. Occupational therapists enable persons with physical and mental impairment, to lead meaningful and independent lives.

Occupational therapy is a stimulating career that offers numerous opportunities. It requires an adaptable, intelligent and practical person with good problem-solving and managerial skills.

A successful occupational therapist has good interpersonal skills and can approach diverse situations in a resourceful and creative manner.

Selection

- **Forty-five (45) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 2.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Career opportunities

Both students and qualified occupational therapists are registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). The Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotics/ Prosthetics and Arts Therapy regulates the training and work-performance standards.

Occupational therapists can be employed in various institutions, such as hospitals (including psychiatric hospitals), schools, homes for the aged, welfare organisations, municipal clinics, mines and community organisations. Further employment opportunities exist in the private sector, including insurance companies and private practices.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za



‘Human beings are occupational beings, and occupational therapy is an amazing profession! I have learnt that it is possible to use low-cost materials to make a difference in the life of another.’

Interventions should address the contexts of your clients who need to be empowered to participate in meaningful activities. In this Department we are taught to think in innovative and creative ways when we treat clients.’

Baldwin Mphahlela Shirinda
(BOT – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy)

School of Healthcare Sciences

BDietetics – Bachelor of Dietetics

Dietetics is a discipline committed to the maintenance and improvement of health through good nutrition and is based on biological science, physical health science, communication science and management science. Dietitians specialise in human nutrition and provide advice on the nutrition of healthy and ill individuals in the public and private sectors by using appropriate standards of nutritional care.

Dietitians are also responsible for managing food service systems. This is done by providing optimal quality standards for feeding groups such as the elderly, students, children and hospital patients. Dietitians are involved in the development of new food products that have been specifically designed to meet the needs of consumers. They give important input when nutritional products are formulated to enhance the nutritional status of target groups in the community.

Dietitians participate in research to identify the causes and optimal treatment of nutrition-related problems. They plan and implement nutrition programmes and policy developments as part of community development—using the nutrition message to empower and uplift the community. They provide nutrition education to communities prone to diseases where there is nutritional excess or shortage and thus must have extensive knowledge of a community's nutritional status. Dietitians make a difference regarding the planning of special diets for athletes who participate at both the recreational and professional levels.

Selection

- **Fifty (50) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 1.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.
- First-choice applicants are considered.

Description of the programme

The BDietetics degree is a four-year, full-time structured and integrated programme that includes both theory and practical training. An outcomes-based and problem-oriented healthcare team approach in a clinical and a community environment is followed. The programme broadly comprises the following three areas of specialisation within the scope of practice:

- **Clinical dietetics** (medical nutrition therapy) focuses on the nutrition of individuals, either preventative in terms of lifestyle-related diseases or therapeutic in the treatment of a disease. For example, a person with diabetes will have a specific diet that will be designed and monitored by the dietitian.
- **Community-based dietetics** is aimed at educating and training communities or groups of people on how to improve their health through nutrition. An example of this is when communities are trained in respect of the types of food they would need in order to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Should they not have access to those foods, they are trained in how to acquire the necessary nutrition, for example, by growing the right types of vegetables.
- **The management of large-scale food service units**, where the nutritional needs of clients or patients are taken into consideration when planning normal and therapeutic diets of

a high quality. The effective delivery of this professional service requires scientific knowledge of the following:

- Foods and nutrients
- The nutritional needs of ill and healthy people
- The biochemical and physiological foundations of nutrition
- The role of nutrition in the cause, progress and management of diseases
- Nutrition education and counselling

After completing the degree, one year of compulsory community service is required. Graduates must register with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA). This degree is internationally recognised.

Career opportunities

The problem-solving skills acquired during their academic and practical training qualify dietitians to function independently and develop healthcare programmes in communities. Dietitians are skilled in the use of technology and research in the field of nutrition. They can also form part of members of multidisciplinary healthcare teams. They are experienced in reading, interpreting and writing scientific and popular reading matter about human nutrition for the lay person.

Dietitians who are registered with the HPCSA can provide nutrition counselling and dietary management in hospitals and clinics as members of healthcare teams. Preventative nutritional care can also be provided to the public by way of nutrition education about healthy eating habits and the prevention of nutrition-related diseases. Particular challenges exist in the context of primary healthcare, where dietitians are involved at grassroots level.

The Department of Health is a major employer of people qualified in this field. Dietitians in private practice provide counselling on nutrition to patients referred to them by medical practitioners. Sports nutrition also presents exciting opportunities for consultation. Dietitians can further offer their expertise to food service units and other private companies, for example in the pharmaceutical industry.

A career in dietetics offers opportunities to develop managerial skills. Food service system dietitians, for example, manage large-scale food service units, while experienced clinical dietitians may be placed in charge of the clinical nutrition service offered by hospitals. Quality assurance is important in this regard. Should you wish to pursue postgraduate studies, you could also consider a career in research or in academia.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za



School of Healthcare Sciences

BSc (Nutrition)

BSc (Nutrition) is a four-year interfaculty degree programme, jointly presented by Consumer and Food Sciences (Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences) and Human Nutrition (Faculty of Health Sciences).

World-class education and training for future leaders in nutrition is provided. The University of Pretoria is the co-host of the national Centre of Excellence in Food Security. The University's Institute for Food, Nutrition and Well-being is pioneering cross-disciplinary research to help solve South Africa's critical food and nutrition challenges.

This centre has an internationally recognised postgraduate research programme. Participation in national and international research projects attracts outstanding South African and foreign students.

Students are provided with ample opportunities to gain career exposure through practical training sessions and participation in competitions and mentorship programmes. They are also actively involved in the Nutrition Society of South Africa. Students organise activities through the student body TUKSFoST.

Selection

- Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 4 of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences' undergraduate faculty brochure.

Career opportunities

The food industry is South Africa's largest manufacturing sector. All multinational and numerous smaller food companies employ nutrition graduates who quantify the nutrient composition of products, ensure that products conform to legislation and communicate their nutritional benefits to consumers. They develop food products and supplements to meet the specialised nutrition and health needs of specific consumer groups.

All graduates may register as candidate natural scientists with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP).

Contact information

Email consumer.food@up.ac.za



School of Healthcare Sciences

BPhysio – Bachelor of Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy is a complementary healthcare profession that aims to restore or promote the normal physical functioning of the individual, as well as to rehabilitate individuals with injuries and those living with disabilities. Training is outcomes-based and problem-oriented. Physiotherapy students are exposed to a wide variety of patients, where they can use their examination and problem-solving skills to make a significant contribution to the health status of any patient. Physiotherapists who have qualified at the University of Pretoria are in demand in all sectors of healthcare worldwide.

The BPhysio programme requires four years of full-time study. Students are trained in exercise therapy, electrotherapy, massage therapy, musculoskeletal therapy and the education of patients to restore or promote their normal physical functioning.

Exercise therapy includes specialised techniques to strengthen muscles, mobilise stiff joints and facilitate normal movement patterns. Patients are taught coordinated and skilled movement patterns to render them as functional and independent as possible. Principles of treatment are applied to patients with neurological problems and spinal cord injuries, as well as to sportsmen.

Electrotherapy modalities are used mainly to alleviate pain and swelling and to increase the blood supply in order to influence the pathological processes in the body. Soft tissue, such as muscle, skin and scar tissue, is mobilised during myofascial and trigger-point release to alleviate pain and muscular spasm, reduce swelling, improve circulation and soften scar tissue. Musculoskeletal therapy is used to treat joint-related problems in the vertebral and peripheral joints. Pulmonary physiotherapy improves lung function. Rehabilitation is essential for returning function in neurologically impaired and sports patients.

Selection

- **Sixty (60) students are selected annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.

- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 2.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Programme content

The first four years of study consist of theoretical, practical and clinical training in basic medical sciences and physiotherapy. An additional community service year, which does not form part of the university training, is compulsory.

- **Community service:** An informed community is a healthy community. Consequently, much time is spent instructing patients and those who care for them. Patients are also taught to monitor their own health and to be physically active. Community-based training of undergraduate students takes place in the communities of Mamelodi, Hammanskraal, Daspoort and Eersterust, at various homes for the aged in Pretoria, and at the Sports Centre of the University of Pretoria.
- **Research:** A proactive research environment enjoys high priority at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and undergraduate students are introduced to the research process under the guidance of staff members.

Career opportunities

Employment opportunities for physiotherapists are available in hospitals, schools for children with special needs, mining clinics, industrial clinics and hospitals. Opportunities also exist in private practices, the South African National Defence Force, homes for the aged, local government bodies (municipal clinics), corporate companies, at sports centres and with sports teams. Should you undertake postgraduate studies, you could also consider a career in research or in academia.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

'I am a third-year physiotherapy student and so far my journey at UP has been incredible! I chose to study here, because I knew that it would be a unique experience at an institution recognised for its exceptional teaching and learning, and also for its research excellence.

I value UP's holistic approach to education. The student culture is diverse, yet inclusive and I have felt at home from day one. The hands-on approach followed in the Department of Physiotherapy is very enjoyable. I have learnt the fundamentals of physiotherapy, and interactions with other students have enriched the experience. I am part of an inclusive and cohesive student culture, and together we strive to balance work and play.

I have made wonderful friends in this Faculty and Department—people I can trust and with whom I can work well. Being a student here is memorable and rewarding! The standards are high and we are all challenged—and so will you be—but you will also become the best physiotherapist you can be! I believe that if an experience does not challenge you, it will not change you.'



Amy Hurlimann (BPhysio – Bachelor of Physiotherapy)

School of Healthcare Sciences

BRad (Diagnostics)

Radiography is a healthcare science profession that involves medical imaging and treatment. It is a rapidly growing occupation in modern healthcare. The University of Pretoria offers an undergraduate programme in diagnostic radiography and postgraduate degrees in three professional fields, namely diagnostics, radiation therapy and nuclear medicine. During training, students are exposed to all facets of healthcare. Training takes place at primary, secondary and tertiary institutions. Students have the opportunity to interact with teams of healthcare professionals where, as valued members, they obtain a better understanding of the holistic approach to patient care.

Personal characteristics a radiographer should display include a genuine desire to help sick and injured patients, as well as excellent time management, to ensure a balance between time for leisure and time for studies. In the course of a day, many decisions regarding patient care are taken. Self-discipline and responsibility are essential, and candidates should enjoy good health as the work entails considerable physical movement while supporting and assisting patients and manipulating the equipment.

Selection

- **Sixty (60) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 2 of this brochure.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Programme content

The BRad programme requires four years of full-time study, followed by one year of compulsory community service.

Clinical tuition takes place in the radiology departments at Steve Biko Academic Hospital, Kalafong Academic Hospital, Pretoria West Hospital, Mamelodi Hospital, Tshwane District Hospital, as well as at some private radiological practices. More clinical training facilities will be added to this list to accommodate and increase the intake of students. Students are allocated to these centres to gain the compulsory clinical experience needed to competently conduct various radiographic examinations and procedures.

Students will be expected to practice on public holidays and after hours on a rotational basis.

Categories of radiography offered at the University of Pretoria:

- **Diagnostic radiography:** The diagnostic radiographer is an essential member of the health team and is responsible for forming and capturing the diagnostic images of a patient referred by a medical practitioner for a specific radiographic procedure. X-ray procedures vary in complexity and range from simple skeletal examinations to sophisticated, high-technology examinations during which different imaging modalities are used. In the latter cases, X-rays and computers may be used to produce images. Fractures, brain tumours, haemorrhages and blood clots are only a few of the medical problems diagnosed by these sophisticated devices. Diagnostics is offered at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

- **Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine:** Radiotherapy entails the use of high-energy radiation in the treatment of benign and malignant tumours. Nuclear medicine entails the administration of a radiopharmaceutical substance to a patient to demonstrate the anatomy and functioning of organs, as well as the physiology of certain diseases. The University of Pretoria offers Radiation Therapy and Nuclear Medicine at honours level. These categories of radiography are offered at tertiary hospitals and selected private healthcare centres.
- The Department will be introducing a BRadHons degree in ultrasound in the near future.

Career opportunities

Qualified diagnostic radiographers may be employed by the following organisations:

- Urban and rural hospitals
- Private clinics and hospitals
- The South African National Defence Force
- Mining companies
- Private radiology practices
- Educational institutions and training bodies
- Specialised units, such as angiography, computer tomography, magnetic resonance and ultrasound units
- Suppliers of apparatus and equipment

Radiographers in all categories may also occupy managerial posts or establish their own private practices. Should you pursue postgraduate studies, you could consider a career in academia or in research. For career progression in each category, there are opportunities to undertake master's and doctoral studies.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za



School of Healthcare Sciences

BNurs – Bachelor of Nursing

The Department of Nursing Science strives for excellence in its teaching, research and community outreach programmes, and is focused on the promotion of the intellectual, cultural and personal development of all its students. The nursing profession equips people to serve others and enrich their lives. A considerable number of nursing graduates from the University of Pretoria occupy managerial positions in and outside South Africa.

Selection

- **Fifty (50) first-year students are admitted annually.**
- Only first-choice applicants are considered.
- Conditional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results.
- Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements provided on page 2.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 averages (in terms of which they were conditionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Description of the programme

Nurses are professional healthcare providers and in this programme they will be taught anatomy, physiology and clinical skills. The BNurs programme requires four years of full-time study and prepares students for the following career areas:

- **General nursing**, which involves caring for people of all ages in community settings, clinics and hospitals.
- **Midwifery**, in which the nursing emphasis is on providing counselling and care during preconception, pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. Clinical skills and experience in midwifery are obtained through practical exposure in clinics and hospitals.



Career opportunities

Nursing graduates are employed in clinics and hospitals, and many have private nursing practices. The state and the private sector also offer a wide variety of opportunities.

The following fields of nursing specialisation are available:

- General medical and surgical nursing
- Trauma nursing
- Theatre nursing
- Community nursing
- Psychiatric nursing
- Midwifery
- Paediatric nursing
- Neonatal nursing
- Nursing management
- Nursing education

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

‘Mahatma Gandhi said: ‘The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in service of others.’

My nursing studies have challenged me both mentally and physically. I have experienced much, but it remains an indescribable joy to see patients healing and to see the gratitude in their eyes when I perform my duties as a nurse. I chose nursing to help, to lead, and to open my heart to serve and take care of those who cannot take care of themselves.’

Ntombikayise Kgosa (BNurs – Bachelor of Nursing Science)



‘I have always wanted to change people’s lives, and nursing science has offered me the opportunity to do that. Nursing science has taught me what it means to be a leader and what is meant by patient-centred care.

I am thankful to TUKS for enabling me to realise my dreams and I believe that I have an important role to play in the future of nursing.’

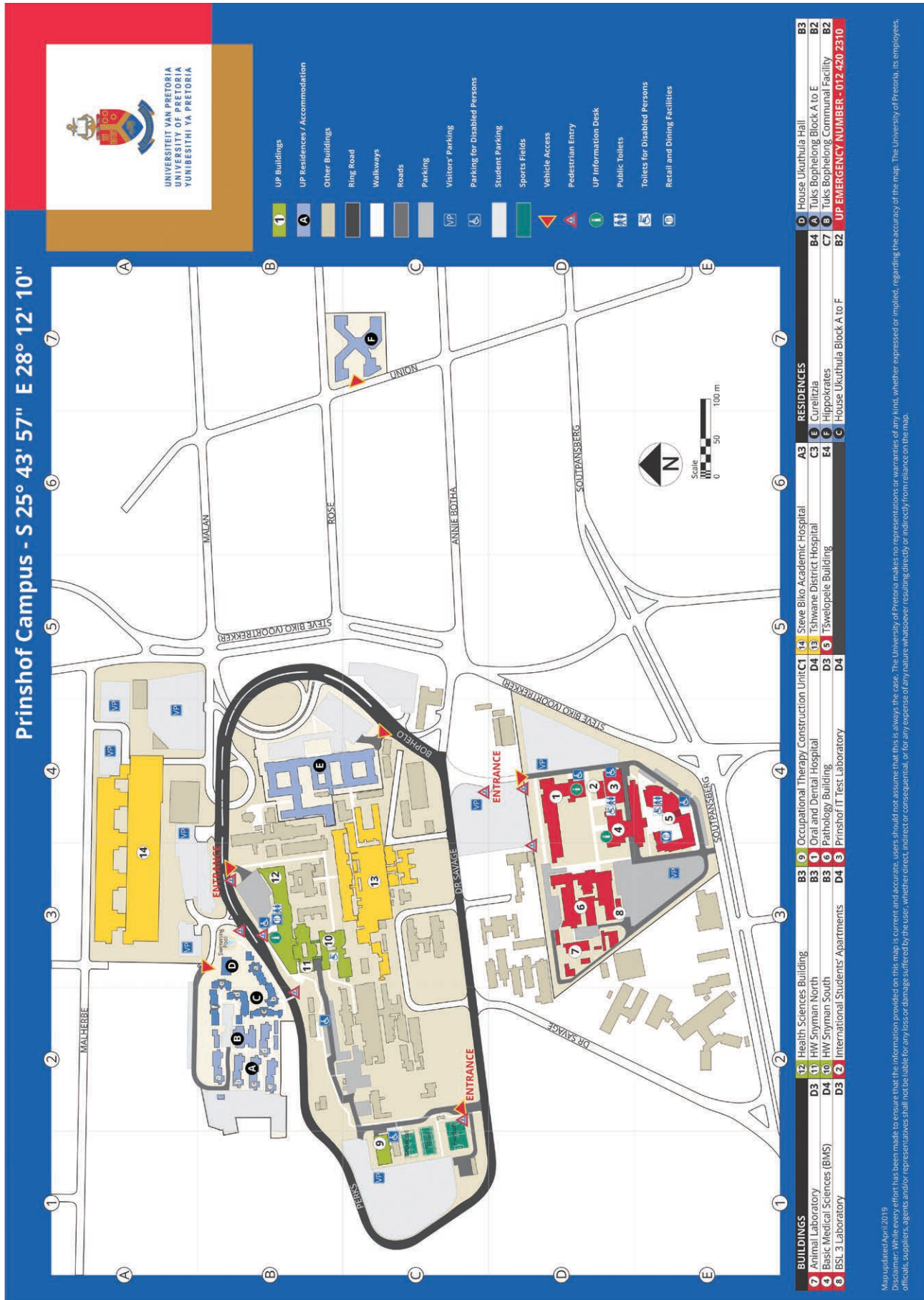
Legodi Tswantsho (BNurs – Bachelor of Nursing Science)



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Prinshof Campus map





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