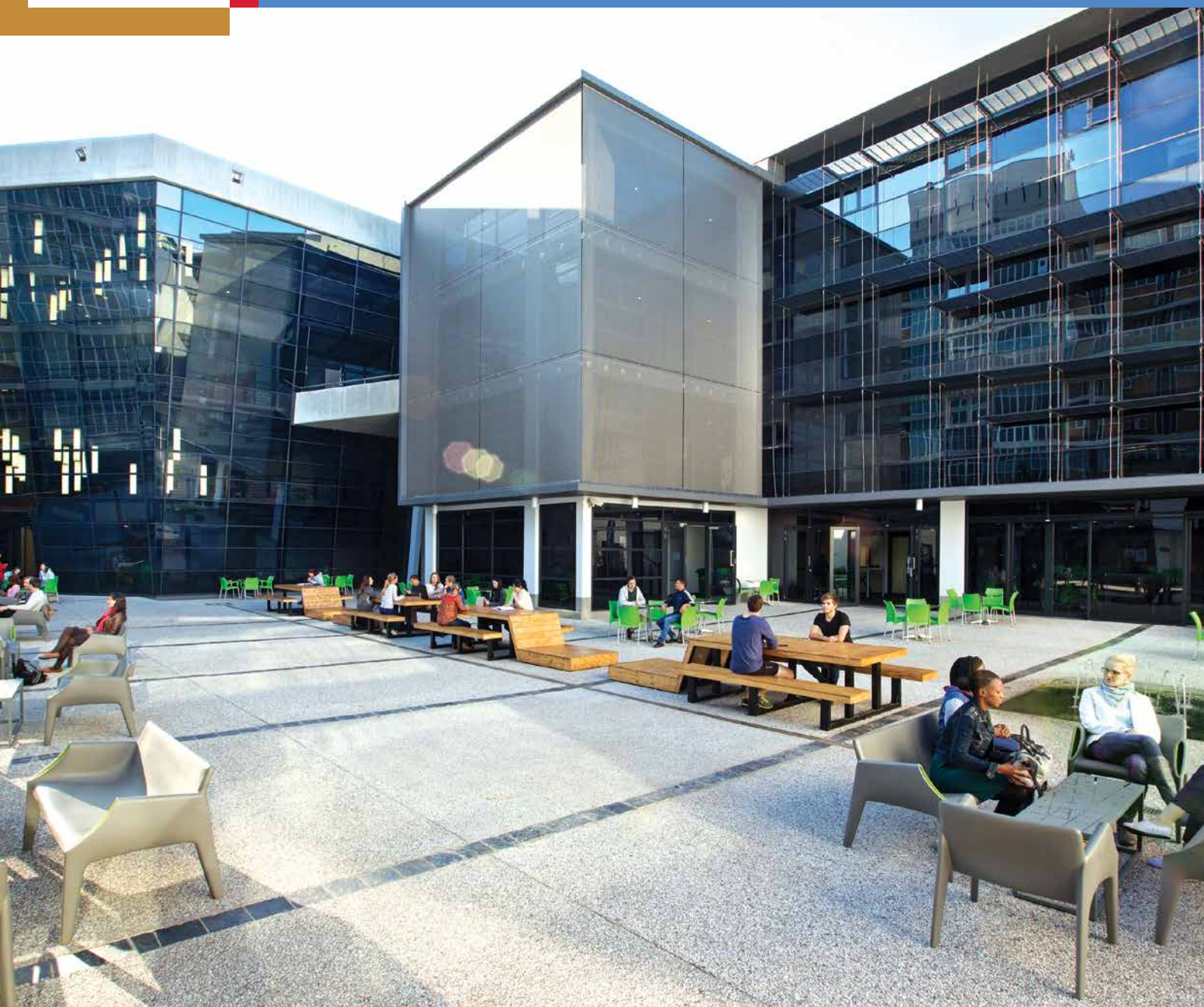




UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

## Faculty of Health Sciences

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2019/2020

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## Message from the Dean



**Prof Tiaan de Jager**  
**Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences**

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 staff of more than 600 full-time and part-time lecturers, researchers and clinical practitioners are dedicated role models who excite and inspire our students. We are committed to ensuring that our graduates leave as competent, responsible and caring health professionals.

Quality is at the heart of the Faculty's commitment to a deep culture of teaching and learning. Our curricula and teaching methods are constantly updated to ensure that we keep pace with the demands of a rapidly changing world.

High standards and innovative approaches to learning enhance the ability of our graduates to deal with complexity and solve problems. Our teaching venues, laboratories, skills training laboratories, IT facilities, teaching hospitals and clinics are constantly being upgraded. We have responded to national demands for

more graduates to meet the healthcare needs of the country by expanding the Health Sciences campus and residences to accommodate increased numbers of students.

We offer our students a comprehensive range of tutoring, mentoring and progress monitoring as well as a student health and counselling service on-site. The excellent pass rates for our modules and completion rates of our degrees are further evidence of the commitment and hard work of our students and the success of our student

support systems. We recently created research opportunities in order to give undergraduate students a significant offering of postgraduate opportunities in the Faculty. Students in Health Sciences also have opportunities for a full and balanced university experience with access to a wide range of social, sporting, cultural, leadership and community outreach activities.

We look forward to welcoming you as a student of the Faculty of Health Sciences in 2020.



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Comments and queries can be directed to [ssc@up.ac.za](mailto:ssc@up.ac.za) or tel: +27 (0) 12 420 3111.

**Disclaimer:** This publication contains information about regulations, policies, tuition fees, curricula and programmes of the University of Pretoria that are applicable at the time of printing. The information in this publication may be amended or updated from time to time without prior notification. The accuracy, correctness or validity of the information contained in this publication is therefore not guaranteed by the University at any given time and is always subject to verification. The user is kindly requested to verify the correctness of the published information with the University at all times. Failure to do so will not give rise to any claim or action of any nature against the University by any party whatsoever.

Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2020						
	Achievement level					APS	
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics		Physical Science			
		NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level		NSC/IEB
<b>School of Dentistry</b>							
<b>BChD – Bachelor of Dental Surgery</b> [5 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	5	C	5	C	5	C	35
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. <b>Careers:</b> Dentists, specialists, academics and researchers							
<b>BOH – Bachelor of Oral Hygiene</b> [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	4	D	25
Selection is based on Grade 11 results and the NBT. <b>Career:</b> Oral hygienists							
<b>School of Healthcare Sciences</b>							
<b>BDietetics – Bachelor of Dietetics</b> [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	4	D	25
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. <b>Career:</b> Dieticians							
<b>BNurs – Bachelor of Nursing Science</b> [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	-	-	-	-	28
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT, the Value-added Form and an interview. Mathematics, Physical Science or Life Sciences are not compulsory subjects, but they will be an advantage for selection purposes. <b>Careers:</b> General nursing, psychiatric nursing, midwifery and community nursing							
<b>BOT – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy</b> [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	4	D	30
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. <b>Careers:</b> Occupational therapists, academics and researchers							

# Undergraduate programmes

Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2020						APS
	Achievement level						
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language		Mathematics		Physical Science		
	NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level	NSC/IEB	AS Level	
<b>BPhysio – Bachelor of Physiotherapy</b> [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	4	D	30
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. <b>Careers:</b> Physiotherapists, academics and researchers							
<b>BRad – Bachelor of Radiography</b> [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	4	D	25
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. Taking Life Sciences is recommended for BRad, but is not compulsory. <b>Careers:</b> Radiographers, academics and researchers							
School of Medicine							
<b>BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice</b> [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	-		25
Selection is based on Grade 11 results and the Biographical Information Form. Physical Science and Life Sciences are not compulsory subjects, but will be an advantage for selection purposes. <b>Careers:</b> Clinical associates, academics and researchers							
<b>MBChB – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery</b> [6 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	5	C	5	C	5	C	35
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. <b>Careers:</b> General medical practitioners, specialists (after postgraduate training)							
<b>BSportSci – Bachelor of Sports Science</b> [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	D	4	D	or Life Sciences		30
					4	D	
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Form. <b>Careers:</b> This course prepares students to work competently in the health, wellness and sporting environment. It is a prerequisite to apply for the BSc Honours programme in Sports Science or Biokinetics.							



## General overview

### General overview

As an international role-player focusing on healthcare in Africa, the vision of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Pretoria is to maintain health standards through quality education, research and community service. Since its inception, it has grown to be one of the largest health training institutions in the country and boasts an undergraduate and postgraduate student corps of over 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 and radiographers, as well as in sports science and numerous postgraduate qualifications. The curricula are updated on a regular basis in accordance with changes in health education methodology globally and in South Africa.

Community-based education is an important and integral part of all the programmes. The Faculty ensures that students are trained as part of a multidisciplinary team in tertiary and secondary health facilities. Students are also exposed to primary healthcare in rural and historically disadvantaged areas of South Africa. Therefore, 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 communities.

Clinical training takes place in hospitals, clinics and the community. Clinical training does have some risks owing to the possibility of exposure to infection and the crime situation in the country. The University of Pretoria has, however, instituted 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 training is outcomes-based and problem-orientated—a unique way of looking at patients and their health.

Students may have to register with the appropriate professional body, the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) or the South African Nursing Council (SANC), in order to participate in practical clinical training. These governing bodies have specific requirements in terms of academic knowledge and clinical experience and standards that must be adhered to. Once a student has graduated and obtained a degree, they will re-register to obtain professional status and the right to practise in the field.

### National Benchmark Test (NBT)

The NBT is compulsory for all school leavers who apply for admission to any programme in the Faculty of Health Sciences. The NBT determines academic readiness for university studies and the results help universities to interpret final school examination results (such as the National Senior Certificate—NSC). The results also indicate whether a student might need extra academic support and assist with the development of curricula.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

- The NBT results support, but do not replace or duplicate final school examination results.
- Applicants must write the NBT no later than the middle of July.
- Each test requires you to apply prior learning (ie what you know and are able to do).
- The tests are confidential.
- There are no previous test papers available.
- There are no study materials that enable you to prepare for the tests.
- Students with disabilities are accommodated at test centres.
- The NBT consists of two components:
  - **AQL:** Academic Literacy and Quantitative Literacy (which are combined). Quantitative Literacy is similar to Mathematical Literacy.
  - **MAT:** Mathematics
- A complete schedule with all the test centres can be found on the NBT website below.

#### Process to register

- Log onto [www.nbt.ac.za](http://www.nbt.ac.za).
- Click on "Register to write". Follow the prompts. (You can also register using electronic devices such as your smartphone).
- You will receive notification of your registration and an Easy Pay barcode as soon as you press the submit button.
- Download and print the notification and take it with you when you go to the Easy Pay pay points (list on the website below or go directly to [www.easypay.co.za](http://www.easypay.co.za) to complete your transaction there).
- Keep copies of both your proof of registration and proof of payment, and bring both with you to the test centre on the day you write.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You must write the NBT on the DATE you registered for and at the test centre at which you registered to write. If, for whatever reason, you are late or miss your scheduled writing session, you will have to register again and pay again. Results are released only for tests for which payment has been made.

#### NBT contact information

**Tel** +27 (0)21 650 3523  
**Email** [nbt@uct.ac.za](mailto:nbt@uct.ac.za)  
**Website** [www.nbt.ac.za](http://www.nbt.ac.za)

### University experience

Applications of students who are studying towards a tertiary qualification or who have obtained a tertiary qualification must meet the following school subject and performance level requirement: 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 done prior to 2009) for Mathematics and Physical Science (or Life Science, if it is a requirement). If subjects were not passed in Grade 12, the equivalent subjects (Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics) must be completed at tertiary level. University students do not have to write the National Benchmark Test (NBT) or submit any non-academic performance record or CV. Selection is based on results attained in the qualification(s) completed. University students will be considered on the basis of their higher education results.



# School of Medicine

## School of Medicine

### MBChB – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery

To be allowed to register as a doctor (medical practitioner), a student has to obtain the 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. People who are ill are treated with the aim of restoring them to health again. Special programmes are developed to prevent the spread of diseases and/or infections in the community. Promotion of a healthy lifestyle is also an important responsibility of the medical doctor.

The University of Pretoria has an internationally comparable, problem-orientated and outcomes-based training programme, which is accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and the high standard of training is recognised locally and internationally. We have exchange agreements between the School of Medicine and similar faculties at universities abroad.

Medicine is not only a profession; it is a calling. That is why prospective students 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.**
- The University considers both school-leavers and those who have been students at a tertiary institution before.
- **PLEASE NOTE** that compliance with the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission to the MBChB programme.
- Provisional selection is based on final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 2.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

- Candidates are provisionally selected strictly according to the merit list. Any places that become vacant are filled from the waiting list.
- **PLEASE 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 fields 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, during which all the clinical training takes place around patients in hospitals and clinics. After this, there are two years of internship: 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 why undergraduate and postgraduate students are trained 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). After that, they may practise as general practitioners (medical doctors) in hospitals or in private general practice, do research, and/or teach undergraduates. Further postgraduate study is necessary to become a specialist. Specialists can work in hospitals and/or private practice or follow careers in academic medicine. This involves clinical practice, teaching and research.

#### Contact information

Email [healthapplications@up.ac.za](mailto:healthapplications@up.ac.za)



### #MBChB @ UP

‘Medical school is an enjoyable yet challenging journey. Medicine requires persistence, hard work and a balance between your social life and studying. Although it is an overwhelming degree, it is not a struggle when it’s your calling.’

**Makhanani Baloyi – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery**

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## School of Medicine

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### #MBChB @ UP

‘Studying Medicine has been the most challenging, yet rewarding experience; one where I have been pushed beyond my boundaries, learned who I am as an individual and come to appreciate the beauty of being human. The University of Pretoria has played a fundamental part in laying the foundation of my professional career.’

**Lee-Anne Claassen – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery**

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### #BCMP @ UP

‘Studying BCMP requires hard work, strength, time management and consistency. There is a lot of practical work and self-study. I have acquired enough knowledge to save a life and I am grateful for the 3 years journey of studying and training.’

**Queen Kekana – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice**

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‘One of the most important things when it comes to career choices is understanding who you are but one of the most beautiful experiences is discovering what you are capable of becoming. These words sum up my experience as a BCMP undergraduate student.’

**Olwethu Mthethwa – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice**

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### #Sports Science

‘Being a Sports Science student at UP is an interesting and intriguing academic challenge that is comparable to the knowledge of all other health sciences courses, combined with sport participation and education that will have you wanting to correct everyone’s form in the gym.’

**Kirstin Ferrie – Bachelor of Sports Science**



## School of Medicine

### BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice

A Clinical Associate is a professional member of the healthcare team with the necessary knowledge and skills to make a substantial contribution within the district health system of South Africa. Clinical Associates work under the supervision of a qualified medical practitioner, often functioning within the Department of Family Medicine. Teamwork and communication skills are critical and Clinical Associates need good clinical skills to manage common ailments and diseases. Clinical Associates are medical assistants to 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 a member 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 the Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice degree. Potential employers include the Department of Health, the South African Military Health Service and non-governmental organisations.

#### Selection

- **Eighty (80) first-year students are selected annually.**
- 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 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, patient-orientated and can be summarised as follows:

- **Year 1:** Theoretical, practical and clinical training takes place mostly at the Prinshof Campus. The focus is on obtaining patients' medical history, mastering physical examination techniques and basic investigative studies. Students are placed in various hospitals in Gauteng.
- **Years 2 and 3:** Clinical practicals are based in various hospitals in Gauteng, Mpumalanga and other provinces. Clinical skills are gained through service learning in hospitals, clinics and 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 will open up many 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 of 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.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements given on page 2. Furthermore, candidates have to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally selected) in the final school examination, and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

#### Description of the programme

The BSportSci curriculum is problem-based and student-orientated with vertical and horizontal integration of subjects. The duration of the degree is three years, full-time. The programme exposes the 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. The BSportSci curriculum also prepares students wanting 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. Continuing with one of the two honours programmes is strongly encouraged for students who would like to pursue a career as a Sports Scientist or Biokineticist.

Sports scientists can work as strength and conditioning specialists for both teams and individual athletes, as sports managers or as other sports-related professionals, within the sports industry. Biokineticists can work in the health and wellness industry, private practice, multi-disciplinary 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. Should students pursue further postgraduate studies, they could also consider a career in academia or as a researcher.

Alternatively, qualified BSportSci students may also apply for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education. This is ideal for students interested in developing sports and physical activities in schools.

#### Contact information

**Email** healthapplications@up.ac.za

## School of Dentistry

### 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, patient care and its involvement in community-based projects. Our graduates are making 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. The dentist is also responsible for surgical intervention in the mouth, the alignment of irregular teeth, alleviation of pain, root canal treatment of teeth, and the planning of dental treatment in cooperation with the patient.

Dentistry offers many challenges and stimulating opportunities for men and women. With the exclusive aim of rendering high-quality oral healthcare to the patient, the dentist cooperates as a team member with all the other role-players of 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.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are also required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally 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 fields.

#### Description of the programme

In order to keep pace with the modern requirements of tertiary education, the School of Dentistry follows a curriculum that is problem-based, student-orientated and directed at the community, with vertical and horizontal integration of subjects. The duration of the degree in Dentistry is five years, full-time,

followed by one year of compulsory community service. As early as the second semester of the first year of study, students get first-hand exposure to clinical dentistry.

#### 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](mailto:healthapplications@up.ac.za)



#### #Dentistry @ UP

**‘I was prepared for hard work, but what took me by surprise was the absolute fascination for Dentistry and the passion for oral health that UP stirred up in me.’**

**Carolyn Hawkesworth – Bachelor of Dental Surgery**

## School of Dentistry

### BOH – Bachelor of Oral Hygiene

BOH is a three-year degree programme in which the student receives training in basic medical and dental subjects. Theory and practice are integrated from the first year of study. The first half of the first year is dedicated to training in the pre-clinical training ward. Thereafter, students treat patients in the well-equipped Oral and Dental Hospital. The work includes motivation of the patient, oral hygiene instruction, polishing and scaling of teeth, fluoride application and the application of fissure sealing agents to teeth.

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. In this way, a preventative, educational and therapeutic service is rendered to each patient and to the community.

In addition to his or her role as student, the aspirant oral hygienist has a variety of other tasks to perform. These include taking part in National Dental Health Week and research projects, as well as visits to nursery schools and special schools for oral care maintenance. Community service includes visits to the Steve Biko Academic Hospital's spinal unit and children's wards, and a visit to 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 are 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

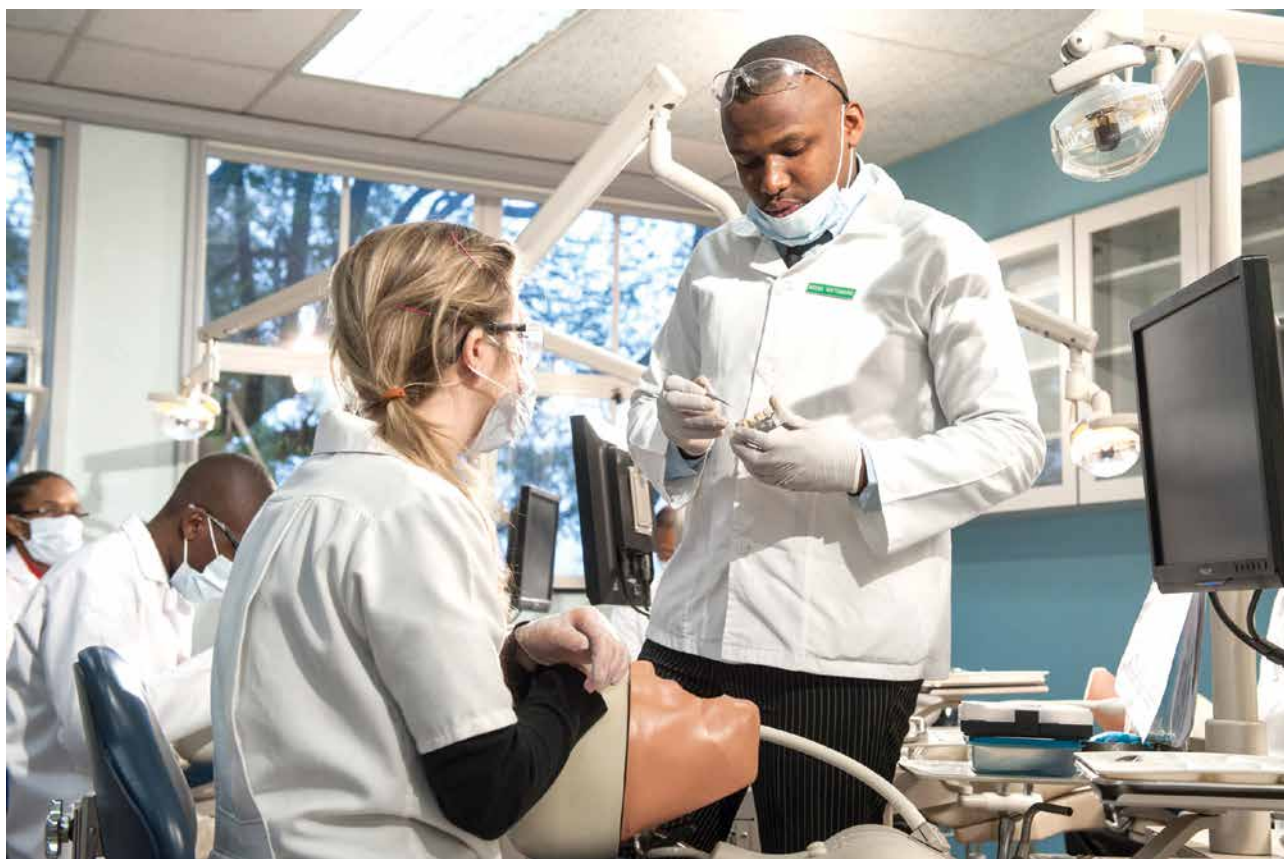
- **Twenty-five (25) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Provisional selection is based on academic merit, the final Grade 11 results and the NBT. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are also required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally 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 and prosthodontists. Further employment possibilities exist with organisations such as the South African National Defence Force or elsewhere in the public service. Individuals who are interested in academic careers may join tertiary education institutions as lecturers. Other employers include municipal clinics and healthcare organisations.

#### Contact information

**Email** [healthapplications@up.ac.za](mailto:healthapplications@up.ac.za)





## School of Healthcare Sciences

### School of Healthcare Sciences

#### BOT – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

Occupational therapy is an integrated programme which employs a problem-based teaching approach, which enhances students' confidence and independence. These qualities are important for their work in hospitals or clinics in the community in the present health system.

- **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 duration of the BOT programme is four years' full-time study, and it is designed to facilitate active participation. Students do practical work throughout the four years at various hospitals, clinics and other institutions, as well as in developing communities.
- **Research:** At undergraduate level, students are given the opportunity to become acquainted with research activities under the guidance of staff members. Postgraduate students conduct research on a range of topics, ranging from the ergonomic design of wheelchairs to the effect of musical activities on patients who are psychiatrically ill. Postgraduate diplomas in Hand Therapy and Vocational Rehabilitation are also presented by the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Pretoria.

Occupational therapy is a healthcare occupation in which people with physical or mental diseases or disabilities are treated by means of participation in everyday activities. The occupational therapist aims to help patients function as normally as possible in society through the application of specific techniques and procedures. The result is that clients' remaining abilities are developed maximally, enabling them to lead meaningful and independent lives. Occupational therapy is also applied to persons with developmental delays, learning disabilities or psycho-social dysfunctions.

Occupational therapy is a stimulating career that offers ever-present challenges. It requires an adaptable, intelligent and practical person with good problem-solving and people skills. A successful occupational therapist has good interpersonal skills and can approach divergent situations in a resourceful manner.

#### Selection

- **Forty-seven (47) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

#### Career opportunities

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 and community organisations. There are further employment opportunities in the private sector with insurance companies and private practices. Postgraduate study offers careers in education, academia or in research.

#### Contact information

**Email** [healthapplications@up.ac.za](mailto:healthapplications@up.ac.za)



#### #Occupational Therapy @ UP

‘Occupational Therapy taught me that there is no fixed intervention to a condition and that each patient is a unique individual. At UP one is taught to think creatively and out of the box to treat the patient holistically.’

**Palesa Mbalo – 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. Dietetics is based on biological science, physical health science, the human sciences, communication science and management science. Dietitians specialise in human nutrition, providing advice on the nutrition of healthy and ill individuals in the public and private sector, 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 developing 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 all South Africans. Dietitians provide nutrition education to communities prone to diseases of nutritional excess or shortage, and they have to have extensive knowledge of a community's nutritional status. Dietitians make a difference when it comes to planning special diets for athletes who participate at recreational or professional level.

#### Selection

- **Forty-eight (48) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

#### Description of the programme

The BDietetics degree is a four-year, full-time structured and integrated programme, consisting of theory and practical training. An outcomes-based and problem-orientated healthcare team approach in a clinical and a community environment is followed. The programme broadly comprises 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** has the goal of educating and training communities or groups of people on how to improve their health through nutrition. A good example of this is where communities are trained in respect of the types of food they would need 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, is studied. In order to deliver this professional service, scientific knowledge of the following is necessary:
  - 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 recognised internationally.



### #Dietetics @ UP

‘It has been nothing short of amazing. At first it was one of the hardest things I’ve ever had to go through, but I’ve learnt to love it and cannot imagine myself being anything other than a dietitian.’

**Nokubonga Joy Shabalala – Bachelor of Dietetics**

## School of Healthcare Sciences

### Career opportunities

Dietitians are qualified to function independently because of the problem-solving skills acquired during academic and practical training, and will be able to develop healthcare programmes in communities. Dietitians are skilled in the use of technology and research in the field of nutrition. They can also work effectively as members of a multidisciplinary healthcare team. They are experienced in reading, interpreting and writing scientific and popular reading matter for the layperson about human nutrition.

When dietitians are registered with the HPCSA, they 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 means of nutrition education about healthy eating habits and the prevention of nutrition-related diseases. Particular challenges exist in the context of primary healthcare where the dietitian is involved at grass-roots level.

The Department of Health acts as a major employer in this regard. Dietitians in private practice provide counselling in nutrition to patients referred by medical doctors. Normal nutrition, such as 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. The food service system dietitian, for example, manages large-scale food service units, whereas the experienced clinical dietitian is in charge of the clinical nutrition service offered by a hospital. Quality assurance is important in this regard. Should you wish to pursue postgraduate studies, you could also consider a career in academia or as a researcher.

### BSc (Nutrition)

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

We provide relevant, world-class education and training of future leaders in nutrition. 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.

We boast an internationally recognised postgraduate research programme. Participation in national and international research projects attracts outstanding students from within and outside South Africa.

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

### 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.

Our graduates make a difference. All graduates may register as candidate natural scientists with SACNASP.

### Contact information

Email [healthapplications@up.ac.za](mailto:healthapplications@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 persons with injuries and those living with disabilities. The training is outcomes-based and problem-orientated. Physiotherapy students are exposed to a wide variety of patients and can make a significant contribution to the health status of any patient by means of examination and problem-solving skills. Physiotherapists who have qualified at the University of Pretoria are in demand in all sectors of healthcare worldwide.

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

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 to returning to function in neurologically impaired and sports patients.

#### Selection

- **Sixty (60) students are selected annually.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 2. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally 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 a high priority at undergraduate and postgraduate level, and undergraduate students are acquainted with 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 academia or as a researcher.

#### Contact information

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### #Physiotherapy @ UP

‘Life as a physiotherapy undergraduate student is great. I did not just learn about physiotherapy as a profession but other life values. Most of the time it surely was about Anatomy. That word right there will change your life as a physiotherapy student.’

**Gcebile Mhlanga – Bachelor of Physiotherapy**

## School of Healthcare Sciences

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### #Physiotherapy @ UP

‘Studying physiotherapy at UP thus far has been challenging, but amazing. The theoretical and practical application of my studies have prepared me to excel in my future chosen career of a physiotherapist.’

**Charin Kruger – Bachelor of Physiotherapy**

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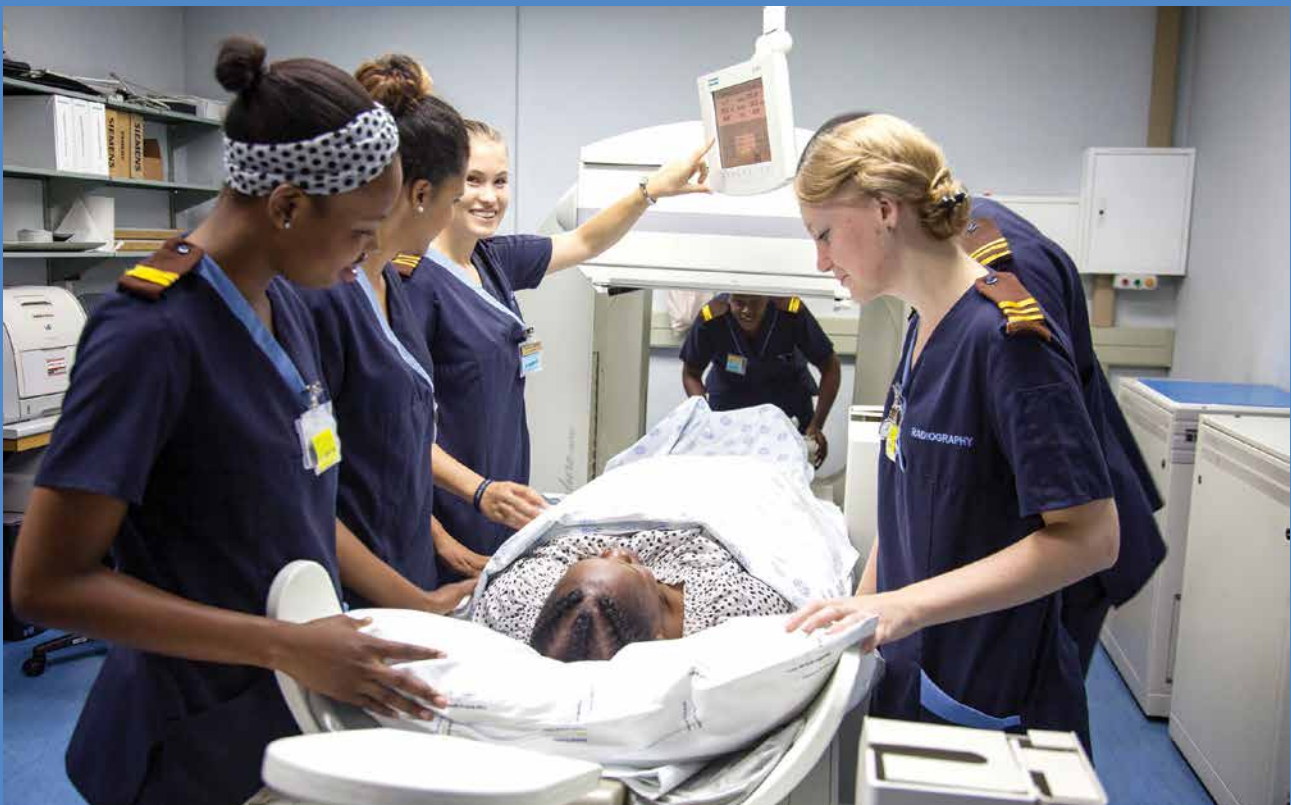


### #Radiography @ UP

‘My journey as a Radiography student has been a wholesome endeavour. It has taught me the values of humility and respect, which I believe will serve as a foundation to your pathway to greatness!’

**Thulisiwe Manunga – Bachelor of Radiography**

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## School of Healthcare Sciences

### BRad – Bachelor of Radiography

Radiography is a healthcare science occupation that deals with medical diagnostic images. It is a rapidly growing occupation in modern healthcare. The University of Pretoria offers an undergraduate degree in Diagnostic Radiography and postgraduate degrees in three professional fields: 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 the genuine desire to help sick and injured patients. In the course of a day, many decisions regarding patient care are taken. Self-discipline and responsibility are essential, and one should enjoy good health, since the work entails a lot of physical movement while supporting and assisting patients and manipulating the equipment.

#### Selection

- **Forty (40) first-year students are selected annually.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 2. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally selected) in the final school examination and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

Prospective students must submit proof that they have visited two X-ray departments, one in the public sector and one in the private sector, in order to be exposed to the various examinations and procedures performed in departments of radiography. This will assist applicants in making a sensible career choice.

#### Programme content

The duration of the BRad programme is three years' full-time study, followed by one year of compulsory community service.

The 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 certain private radiological practices, in order for students to gain the compulsory clinical experience needed to competently conduct various examinations and perform procedures.

Students also gain clinical experience after hours by working on some public holidays or over Christmas, Easter and New Year's Day. A positive attitude towards this portion of the undergraduate training is important.

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-rays are used to form the image on film. X-ray procedures vary in complexity and range from simple skeletal examinations to sophisticated, high-technology examinations, where 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 undergraduate and postgraduate level.

- **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 the 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.

#### Career opportunities

The qualified diagnostic radiographer 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
- companies supplying 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 also consider a career in academia or in research. For career progression in each category, there are opportunities to do master's and doctoral studies.

#### Contact information

Email [healthapplications@up.ac.za](mailto: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. Nursing, as a profession, equips one 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.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, an **interview** as well as the Value-added Form. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (in terms of which they were provisionally 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 learn about anatomy, physiology and clinical skills in hospitals and clinics. The programme duration is four years' full-time study. The programme prepares students for four career areas, namely:

- **General nursing**, which involves caring for people of all ages in hospitals, clinics and community settings.
- **Community nursing**, which is aimed at primary healthcare and includes the prevention of diseases and the promotion of health, the rendering of clinical nursing services and the rehabilitation of people in the general community.

- **Psychiatric nursing**, which is a specialisation field of nursing. Psychiatric nurses care for people of all ages with mental illness or mental distress. During placement in psychiatric hospitals and clinics, nurses receive training in psychological therapies, building a therapeutic alliance, dealing with challenging behaviour, and the administration of psychiatric medication.
- **Midwifery**, where the nursing emphasis is on providing counselling and care during pre-conception, pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. Clinical skills and experience in midwifery are obtained through practical exposure in hospitals and clinics.

#### Career opportunities

Nursing graduates are employed in hospitals and clinics, and many run 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

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### #Nursing Science

‘I have always loved working with people. As a nursing student at Tuks it has granted me this opportunity. Studying nursing has been an amazing journey. I also managed to grow in leadership from a class representative to the Faculty of Health Sciences student committee chairperson.’

### Sarah Mahlangu – Bachelor of Nursing Science

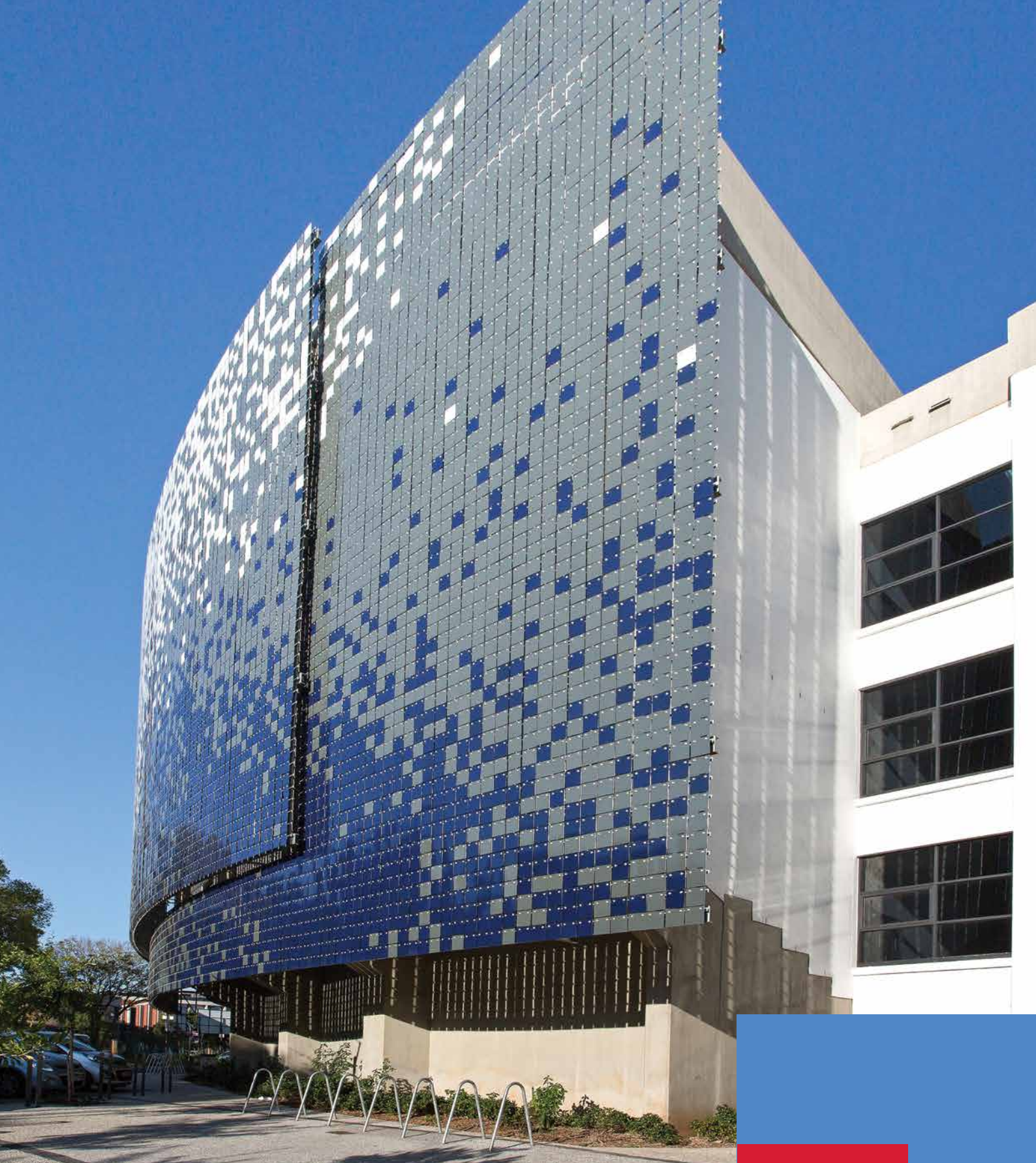


‘My journey in nursing has required perseverance, passion and love. Being a nurse is such a privilege, because it gives you a way to enter someone’s life with a little touch of your hands and heart.’

### Eunhee Ko – Bachelor of Nursing Science







**University of Pretoria | Universiteit van Pretoria | Yunibesithi ya Pretoria**

Private Bag/Privaatsak/Mokotla wa Poso X20

Hatfield 0028, South Africa/Suid-Afrika/Afrika Borwa

**Tel** +27 (0)12 420 4111, **Fax/Faks/Fekse** +27 (0)12 420 4555

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