



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Health Sciences

Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo

2017/2018

Undergraduate faculty brochure

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GESONDHEIDSWETENSKAPPE
HEALTH SCIENCES

Make today matter

Message from the Dean



Prof Tiaan de Jager
Acting 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 success

of our student support systems. We recently created research opportunities for undergraduate students to have 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 to the Faculty of Health Sciences in 2018.

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Produced by the Department of Enrolment and Student Administration in December 2016.
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Undergraduate programmes

Important information on undergraduate programmes for 2018

- The following persons will be considered for admission: a candidate who is in possession of a certificate that is deemed by the University to be equivalent to the required Grade 12 certificate with university endorsement; a candidate who is a graduate from another tertiary institution or has been granted the status of a graduate of such an institution; and a candidate who is a graduate of another faculty at the University of Pretoria.
- Admission to Health Sciences programmes is subject to a selection process.
- Grade 11 final examination results, the National Benchmark Test (NBT) results as well as a Value-added Questionnaire will be used for the provisional admission of prospective students.
- For selection purposes the sum of the results in six subjects, including English, Mathematics and Physical Science, is calculated.
- Life Orientation is excluded in the calculation of the Admission Point Score (APS).
- The applications of international candidates who come from countries that have medical schools will not be considered for placement in the MBChB programme except where intergovernmental agreements are in place.
- Candidates, please note that your APS may not drop with more than two points in your final school examination results in order to maintain your provisional admission.**
- PLEASE NOTE that compliance with the minimum admission requirements does not necessarily guarantee admission to any programme in this Faculty.
- Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

University of Pretoria website www.up.ac.za/health
National Benchmark Test website www.nbt.ac.za

Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2018													APS
	Achievement level													
	English				Mathematics				Physical Science					
	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level		
School of Dentistry														
BChD – Bachelor of Dental Surgery [5 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	5	3	C	C	5	3	C	C	5	3	C	C	35	
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Careers: Dentists, specialists, academics and researchers														
School of Healthcare Sciences														
BOH – Bachelor of Oral Hygiene [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	25	
Selection is based on Grade 11 results and the NBT. Career: Oral hygienists														
School of Healthcare Sciences														
BDietetics – Bachelor of Dietetics [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	25	
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Career: Dieticians														
BNurs – Bachelor of Nursing Science [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	-				-				28	
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT, the Value-added Questionnaire and an interview. Mathematics, Physical Science, Life Sciences or Physiology are not compulsory subjects, but they are recommended subjects. Careers: General nursing, psychiatric nursing, midwifery and community nursing														
BOT – Bachelor of Occupational Therapy [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	30	
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Careers: Occupational therapists, academics and researchers														

Undergraduate programmes

Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2018												APS
	Achievement level												
	English				Mathematics				Physical Science				
	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	
BPhysio – Bachelor of Physiotherapy [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	30
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Careers: Physiotherapists, academics and researchers													
BRad – Bachelor of Radiography [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	D	25
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Taking Life Sciences and Physiology are recommended for BRad, but these subjects are not compulsory. Careers: Radiographers, academics and researchers													
School of Medicine													
BCMP – Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	4	3	D	D	4	3	D	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. Careers: Clinical associates, academics and researchers													
MBChB – Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery [6 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	5	3	C	C	5	3	C	C	5	3	C	C	35
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Careers: General medical practitioners, specialists (after postgraduate training)													
Programmes	English				Mathematics				Physical Science or Life Sciences				APS
	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level	
BSportSci – Bachelor of Sports Science [3 years] Closing dates: SA – 31 May Non-SA – 31 May	5	3	C	C	5	3	C	C	5	3	C	C	30
Selection is based on Grade 11 results, the NBT and the Value-added Questionnaire. Careers: Prepare 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.													
Higher Certificate in Sports Science HCert (Sports Science)	English												APS
Focus areas (choose one): ■ Sports Coaching ■ Education [1 year] Closing dates: SA – 30 September Non-SA – 30 September	NSC/IEB	HIGCSE	AS Level	A Level									
	4	3	D	D									20
Selection to this programme is restricted to students endorsed by TuksSport only. Please note that the Higher Certificate is not a bridging programme for entry into the BSportSci programme. Students must comply with the admission and selection requirements for the degree programme. Careers: Sports coaching, sports and exercise industry													

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, biokineticists, physiotherapists and radiographers as well as 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 in the community. Clinical training does have some risks due to the 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 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 the results also assist with the development of curricula.

PLEASE NOTE:

- The NBT results support, but do not replace or duplicate final school examination results.
- The Faculty needs to have your NBT results no later than the end 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.
- Click on "Register to write." Follow the prompts. (You can also register using electronic devices and your smart phone).
- You will receive notification of your registration and an EasyPay barcode as soon as you press the submit button.
- Download and print the notification and take it with you when you go to the EasyPay pay points (list on the website below or go directly to 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 it and at the test centre you registered to write it. 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.

University students

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.

NBT contact information

Tel +27 (0)21 650 3523
Email nbt@uct.ac.za
Website www.nbt.ac.za

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 life style 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

- **Only three hundred (300) first-year students are admitted to the MBChB programme 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 MBChB.
- Provisional selection is based on final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Questionnaire. Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 2.
- Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries can be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

- 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

MBChB 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



‘I came to the University of Pretoria to study medicine, but was initially not accepted into the programme; instead I studied a BSc with the hope of changing to an MBChB by July. Six months later I was sitting in class on the Prinshof Campus and I did not want to be anywhere else in the world. After four years I still do not want to be doing anything else. Studying medicine at Tuks has afforded me so many opportunities and allowed me to grow. We have worked all over Pretoria, from hospitals and clinics to patients’ homes, and I was privileged to do my elective in Norway. I found a home at Olympus Residence and a family among my peers. There are days when I wonder why I did this but then there are days when I come home from the hospital and I feel nothing other than fulfilment and I know that I am exactly where I should be.’

Anleo Jansen – MBChB



‘As children, we all have dreams of what we would like to become. I went from wanting to be a chef who cooks amazing dishes to wanting to save and change lives. I always knew I had a passion for people and wanted to live a life that mattered. The day I heard about the Bachelor of Clinical Medical Practice (BCMP) programme was when I realised that dream was something I could attain. The programme imparts values such as passion, self-discipline and dedication, alongside excellent medical training. It changes your life far beyond academics; it moulds you as a person. It is by no means easy as it entails three years of the most intensive training, self-motivated learning and clinical work. Applying for this programme is one of the best decisions I have ever made and one I will definitely not regret. I am absolutely certain that once I graduate I will be a fully competent, forward-thinking and excellent clinician.’

Nicolene Pienaar – BCMP



‘The University of Pretoria has blessed me with more opportunities than I ever could have imagined. From the first day, I was astounded by the assistance and guidance I received. I had the opportunity to join Health House, where I was challenged in many areas of my life and learned to immerse myself in university life and the community, and how to make a difference in the lives of others. The academic standard was testing but also ensured that when I graduate I will enter the health profession with experience in the field, as well as academic knowledge. I could tell you all about how amazing this University is, but the only way that you can truly understand is to experience it for yourself!’

Labarré Jansen van Vuuren – BSportSci

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) students are selected annually, based on academic merit.**
- 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.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

BSportSci – Bachelor of Sports Science

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

Selection

- **Each year, one hundred first-year students are selected on academic merit.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Questionnaire. 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 admitted), in the final school examination, and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points.

- Selection queries must be sent to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

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 BSc Honours 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 greatly 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

Higher Certificate in Sports Science HCert (Sports Science)

The Higher Certificate in Sports Science is presented over one year, full-time and has two focus areas of which students choose one.

- **Sports Coaching**, that introduces students to the fundamentals of coaching.
- **Education**, that introduces students to the fundamentals of teaching sport in schools.

The programme provides a basis for knowledge and skills development to improve athlete performance by means of physical assessment, exercise and conditioning prescription. The programme incorporates lectures, tutorials, research and practical sessions. Students receive teaching and training by leaders in the

School of Medicine/School of Dentistry

field of sports science and coaching. Students will be provided with opportunities toward practical training on the application of sports coaching and sports science principles learnt in their theoretical lessons.

Selection

Selection for this programme is restricted to TuksSport-endorsed students only.

TuksSport Club prioritisation pertains to:

- Priority clubs;
- Individual specialised clubs;
- Recreational clubs.

Criteria considered/endorsed by TuksSport for selection for the Higher Certificate include:

- Potential to contribute positively to team performance at the USSA Student National Championships;
- Participation in the Varsity Sport SA competitions in a specific sporting code (in which UP competes);
- The scarcity of athletes in the club for specific events or playing positions, for example the need for a sprinter, 400 m hurdler, goal keeper, backstroke swimmer or a wicket keeper;
- Projected long-term athlete involvement in the specific club;
- Current position on the international rankings;
- Ability to qualify for international competitions;
- Current position on sport-specific SA Senior rankings;
- Current position on sport-specific SA Junior rankings;
- An updated, detailed curriculum vitae.

It is the prerogative of the University and the Faculty of Health Sciences to select students on the recommendation of the club, through the Director of TuksSport with regard to the aforementioned.

Contact information

Dr F Rossouw

Email france.rossouw@up.ac.za

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 for BChD.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Questionnaire. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are also required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.



‘Five years of dentistry can only be compared to a five-year-long roller-coaster ride that both starts and ends with excitement and a spoonful of fear of what comes next. Every year brings its own adventures. First year was a year of meeting new people, making lifelong friends and, of course, learning about my new environment of university life and how to thrive in it. In second year we established our identity when we stepped into the Oral and Dental Hospital. Three intense years of becoming dentists followed: meticulous hand-eye co-ordination, attention to detail, artistic value, patient care, compassion and empathy are only a few of the concepts and values we learned along the way. Through all of this, we had tears in our eyes – some of joy, some of sadness, but the whole experience was definitely worth the strain. Dentistry is not for the faint-hearted.’

Odirile Kironji – BChD

School of Dentistry/School of Healthcare Sciences

PLEASE NOTE: Based on the results of the first semester examination, a further 5 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 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, healthcare organisations and in academic institutions.

Contact information

Email healthapplications@up.ac.za

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 the individual patient and 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 for BOH annually.**

- The programme in oral hygiene is of a high academic standard, and consequently academic merit is of decisive importance for admission. 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 (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

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 are 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

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 BOT is four years, full-time study and 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, which vary 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 a client's remaining abilities are developed maximally, enabling clients to lead meaningful and independent lives. Occupational therapy is also applied to persons with developmental delays, learning disabilities or psycho-social dysfunctions.



‘My journey in this degree started off rather turbulently, especially in the first and second year, when I learned a lot of skills and then wondered how on earth I was expected to apply all this knowledge in real-life situations. Then in the third year we got full exposure to the field and met children with dreams and patients who aspired to be more than the label attached to their disability. These encounters helped me to realise that not only are we changing the face of health sciences; we are becoming a crucial factor in reinstating purpose in another person’s life. I cannot imagine anything more rewarding!’

Kamogelo Masinge – BOT



‘Studying dietetics has been a challenging and amazing journey. I have learnt to find humour in the most difficult situations in order to build up enough positive energy to get through. I have also learnt to change how I approach my studies along the way because, honestly, each semester and each year is demanding in its own way. If you have passion for dietetics, however, the real challenge is finding your feet and yourself in the process of studying. I developed a passion for leadership from being a student mentor

and house committee member and eventually becoming involved in the SRC. The lecturers have been very supportive and encouraging. I have also found other interests which I intend to explore in the future. All of this began when I decided to enrol for dietetics at the University of Pretoria.’

Letlhabile Makone – BDietetics



‘Since I began studying physiotherapy in 2014, there have been days that I loved it and days that I hated it. Despite this, I cannot think of anything I would rather be doing. I have been given some fantastic opportunities, such as working at SuperSport United Football Club, massaging at the High Performance Centre (hpc) , at rugby clubs and at sports events, as well as doing the clinical work required for the degree. The course at the University of Pretoria gives you clinical exposure to all aspects of physiotherapy, as you

work in hospitals for most of your third and fourth year. This has been my favourite part of the course thus far. I have enjoyed how practical the course is as this provides a solid platform for clinical work. Although it requires a lot of work and effort, there is nothing I would rather be doing and I look forward to being a physiotherapist in the near future.’

Stephen Barnsley – BPhysio

School of Healthcare Sciences

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 relations and can approach divergent situations in a resourceful manner.

Selection

- **Approximately 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 Questionnaire. Candidates must comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

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

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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

- **Approximately 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 Questionnaire. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

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.

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.

School of Healthcare Sciences

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, such as the pharmaceutical industry.

A career in dietetics offers opportunities to develop and unfold managerial skills. The food service system dietician, for example, manages the large-scale food service unit, whereas the experienced clinical dietician 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.

Contact information

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BPhysio – Bachelor of Physiotherapy

Physiotherapy 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.

Physiotherapy is a complementary healthcare profession, which 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, spinal cord injuries, as well as 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 are 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 in neurologically impaired and sports patients, is essential to returning to function.

Selection

- **Approximately sixty (60) students are selected annually.**
- Provisional selection is based on the final Grade 11 results, the NBT, as well as the Value-added Questionnaire. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 2. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

Programme content

The first four years of study consist of theoretical, practical and clinical training in basic medical sciences and in 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 in 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, various homes for the aged in Pretoria, and the Sports Centre of the University of Pretoria.
- **Research:** A proactive research environment at undergraduate and postgraduate level enjoys a high priority 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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BRad – Bachelor of Radiography

Radiography is a healthcare science occupation that deals with medical diagnostic images. It is one of the rapidly growing occupations 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 a valued member 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

- **Approximately 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 Questionnaire. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 2. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

School of Healthcare Sciences

Prospective students must submit proof of two visits to 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 BRad 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 for them 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.

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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 to enrich their lives. A considerable number of nursing graduates from the University of Pretoria occupy managerial positions in and outside South Africa.



‘Radiography has been defined as ‘an art and a science’. I define radiography as ‘a heART and a SCIENCE’. The heART represents the love the radiographers share with every patient they encounter; the SCIENCE signifies the various techniques that radiographers apply to obtain radiographic images. Critical thinking and a detailed knowledge of anatomy and pathology are essential to enabling the radiographer to analyse the images we produce. Radiography allows no room for boredom as there are a wide variety of fields

of specialisation. There are opportunities to study further and to specialise in the imaging modality of your choice. Radiography has contributed greatly to shaping my professional and personal character. One thing that makes radiography fun for me is the fact that we focus not only on academic and clinical training, but also on balancing these with social events and sporting activities.’

Thikhitha Moetla – BRad

School of Healthcare Sciences/General information

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 Questionnaire. Candidates must also comply with the minimum admission requirements on page 1. Candidates are required to maintain their Grade 11 average (with which they were provisionally admitted), in the final school examination – and ensure that the APS does not drop by more than two points. Selection queries may be directed to healthapplications@up.ac.za.

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 a private nursing practice. 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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General information

Visit www.up.ac.za/admissioninfo for information on the following:

- Study information
- Calculate your Admission Point Score (APS)
- Closing dates
- Fees and Funding
- Special offer for top academic achievers
- Apply at UP
- Change or add a programme
- National Benchmark Test (NBT)
- Application status
- Prepare to study at UP
- Registration and start of the academic year



‘Studying nursing, I think, is a lot like giving birth: Once it is over, everyone seems to forget just how painful the process really was. I was not prepared for the labour pains (challenges) of nursing school during the four years of study. Some days were stressful, exhausting and thankless, but I knew that I was living my dream. When I think about all the patients and their loved ones whom I have worked with over the years, I know most of them do not remember me, but I know that I had the opportunity to touch their

lives, and I grabbed those opportunities with both hands. To future nursing students, I am not saying it will be easy, but in the end it is definitely worth it. Take pride in how far you have come, and have faith in how far you can go.’

Carla Visagie – BNurs