



## Subjects in the Faculty of Humanities available as electives and for compiling a BA degree

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### Heritage and Cultural Tourism

Heritage and Cultural Tourism is currently one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the world and provides employment in a wide range of sectors. Besides opening the door of opportunity in both the public and private sectors, it is also now a school subject, where there is a dire need for qualified teachers. Heritage and Cultural Tourism imparts a range of skills, including writing proficiency, oral expression, research methods, analytical thinking and organizational abilities. Here are some of the career opportunities the subject Heritage and Cultural Tourism offers:

- tourist guide
- tour operator
- educator/teacher
- journalist/travel writer
- entrepreneur
- government official
- marketing
- museum curator
- heritage site developer
- researcher
- consultant

### History

Increasingly, students enrolling for degrees in humanities, economics and law are taking courses in history. This is a worldwide trend which is fast catching on locally. Here are some of the reasons why you should consider taking courses in history:

- It provides you with essential historical background and perspective.
- It gives you an understanding of the various global and local processes.
- It enhances and supplements your chosen field of study.
- It sharpens your analytical skills in reading and writing.
- It is designed to highlight the key historical events that shaped humankind in South Africa, Africa, Europe and the world, which underlie all other developments.

### African Languages

We offer courses in:

- **Zulu, Sepedi (Northern Sotho) and Tswana**
  - for beginners
  - as first or second additional language
  - as home language
- **Ndebele as home language**

Being able to communicate effectively, efficiently and appropriately in one or more of the indigenous African languages, and/or knowledge of multi- and cross-cultural communication, are highly sought-after skills in the public as well as in the private sector. One or more of the African languages are excellent in combination with any other subject and will add value to any field of study.

### Afrikaans

In the Department of Afrikaans we offer a range of undergraduate courses and we also encourage students to continue with Afrikaans on a postgraduate level. We guide students to understand language and literature better and to use Afrikaans with confidence in various domains.

At first-year level we also offer a semester course in Afrikaans for non-mother tongue speakers who have a prior knowledge of Afrikaans, for instance as an additional language up to Grade 12.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Courses presented by the Department of Afrikaans lead to a firm foundation in the following fields:

- education
- journalism and communication
- publishing
- writing and translation
- media careers
- advertising

### Ancient Languages and Cultures

Ancient Languages and Cultures comprises the sections Greek, Latin and Semitic Languages.

The following subjects are offered:

- Greek
- Semitic languages: Hebrew (undergraduate and postgraduate), Aramaic, Syriac, Ugaritic, Akkadian, Arabic (postgraduate)

### Modern European Languages

#### Languageskillsenhanceyourcareeropportunities

- Knowledge of a European language is a highly sought-after skill that affords you more professional choices and enhances your CV.
- Become a valuable asset for institutions and your country when dealing with foreign nationals and international organisations.
- Broaden your world-view by expanding your horizons to study, work or live overseas.

#### Multilingualism is a crucial social skill

Foreign languages are the foundation for intercultural understanding. Most crises in this world are global in nature, relating to humans not understanding one another – thereby necessitating international (ie multicultural) solution initiatives.

#### Our courses

The courses offered aim to develop communication skills as well as the capacity to analyse, interpret and appropriate fictional and non-fictional texts in French, German, Spanish and Portuguese.

We offer undergraduate courses from beginner to advanced levels, as well as postgraduate courses. Our beginners’ courses are designed for students with no previous knowledge of the language.

### Philosophy

#### What philosophy can do for you

- It deepens your insight into humankind and society.
- It sharpens your argumentation skills: Never lose an argument again!
- It develops your critical and creative thinking.
- It shapes and enriches you as a person: There is a field of philosophy that matches any interest.
- It covers the foundational principles of all other subjects.

#### Introduction to philosophy

The two semester modules at first-year level introduce students to the four main subfields of philosophy, namely epistemology and metaphysics, ethics and political philosophy. This module introduces

- Latin
- Ancient Cultures
- Medical Terminology

Besides teaching the various languages, our main fields of research are literature, history, religion and mythology, social values and art.

#### Study in ancient languages and cultures offers inter alia:

- critical reading and writing skills: indispensable for professionals, language and law practitioners, politicians, preachers and professors;
- insight in the grammar and syntax of ancient and modern languages, which provides an excellent basis for learning other foreign languages; and
- an introduction to the literature, religion, mythology, art, daily life and other cultural aspects of the different ancient peoples who lived in the Mediterranean world.

### Anthropology

Studying anthropology will help you to understand the society that you live in. Are you interested in understanding why South African society is so violent? Why are men less likely to send a ‘Please call me’ to women than the other way around? Why do people sing about Aids when they cannot talk about it? Why are hairstyles, fashions and diets political and not just personal?

As anthropologists, we research and write about societies and the people who live in them. We embrace the diversity of human life – from Amazonian Indians, tweeting sangomas, corporate worlds and political parties. We ask and answer the big questions.

WARNING! Studying anthropology is likely to take you out of your comfort zone and lead you to think critically about the changing world around you.

### Archaeology

Archaeology is the study of material evidence to find out about human cultures of the past: how they lived, where they lived, what they ate, and what their environment was like. Archaeologists use tools, settlement patterns, plant and animal remains, pollen, shells, and other evidence that they dig up in excavations to understand, among others, what the people of the deeper past were like, what they did and why, and how they lived. This helps us understand how the world came to be the way it is today, and also

students to two of these subfields. Students must contact the Department of Philosophy to ascertain which two subfields are covered in each semester as the choice may change from time to time owing to availability of teaching staff. Students will become acquainted with the nature of philosophical reflection by exploring a number of classical philosophical themes in each subfield. Throughout the module there is an emphasis on developing those critical thinking, reading and writing skills that are required in philosophy, while students become acquainted with the power of critique as critical judgment and discernment.

### Politics

#### Basics of politics

An introduction to the study of organised political society at national and international levels with specific reference to political concepts, approaches and methods. The emphasis is on state and governance as frameworks for analysis. This includes the development and comparison of related political entities, processes and regime types of a democratic and non-democratic nature, also considering the salient changes brought about by globalisation.

#### Cooperation in the political world

An introduction to cooperation at national and international levels with specific reference to the nature, foundations and politics of cooperation. This includes an analysis and comparison of the politicisation, localisation and internationalisation of issues and of the problems at national, regional and international levels related to cooperation in an increasingly interdependent world characterised by the absence of supranational institutions. Attention is also paid to the corresponding dynamics of regime development, performance and change.

### Psychology

The discipline of psychology not only focuses on helping people in their different life situations, but is also widely accepted as a science. As a science, psychology seeks to understand human behaviour in different contexts. However, this in itself would not be enough; it is also essential to apply this knowledge to the practical problems of daily life. Therefore, in its professional application, psychology aims to improve people’s quality of life in the wide variety of contexts in which they might find themselves.

helps us understand other people and their different cultures. After all, the past is the key to the present and the future. Everybody wants to know where they come from; they want to know about their heritage and the heritage of other people.

Some of the important and famous archaeological sites in South Africa include the uKhahlamba-Drakensberg Park, the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape, the Cradle of Humankind, the Sibudu Cave and the Blombos Cave. We have learned a lot from these archaeological sites to have an informed view on the origins of human behaviour, significance of rock art, human evolution, and the early developments of civilization and trade networks.

Is this not history? Archaeology is different from history in that history uses documents, letters and drawings to understand how people lived in the more recent past.

Sometimes archaeologists use written historical records together with the artefacts that they have dug up to create a picture or story of what the past was like. This is called historical archaeology.

Some of the big questions archaeologists ask:

- What makes me human?
- How do we date artefacts and sites?
- Why is Africa the Cradle of Humanity?
- Who owns the past?

### Criminology

Criminology is most commonly chosen as an elective major subject in the following programmes:

- BA (General)
- BA Law
- Bachelor of Social Work [BSW]

If all the 12 undergraduate criminology modules are successfully completed and third-level modules all passed with a mark of at least 70%, a student with an appropriate degree could apply for admission to an honours postgraduate degree programme in criminology.

#### Modules presented at the first-year level

- **Fundamental Criminology**  
The focus is on concepts relevant to criminology and the historical development of the discipline.
- **Violent Crime**  
The nature, extent and causes of violent crimes are studied.

The courses offered by the Department of Psychology aim to provide extensive academic training during which we focus on developing critical conceptual skills and in-depth understanding of the discipline. The purpose of receiving training in psychology is ultimately not only to gain insight into the fascinating field of human behaviour, but also to learn how this knowledge can be applied in different personal and professional contexts.

### Social Work

#### Developmental social work

The origin and nature, of social welfare and social work from a national and international perspective. Socio-economic problems, target groups, specialised fields, intervention levels (individual, family, group and community), service providers and role players in the South African context. Developmental social welfare; principles, values, goal and functions of social work within a developmental perspective. Cultural sensitive social work practice.

#### Social work intervention: Community

Nature and characteristics of social work intervention with communities; exploration of the components of communities and community work; the value of the ecosystems and strengths perspective in community work; composition of a community profile and the principles of social work services to communities to enhance community mobilisation and participation.

#### Social work intervention: Individual and group

Characteristic features of the helping relationship; the communication process; basic interpersonal skills and exploring skills in social work intervention with individuals. Different types of groups; group dynamics; leadership and basic skills for group leaders in social work intervention with groups.

#### Family development and assistance

Families: The life cycle of the family, tasks and behaviour of the members of the family. The focus is on the social, economical, religious and cultural diversity of families and causes of family disorganisation. Focus on valuing the rights of family members in the context of contemporary society.

### Sociology

Sociology’s uniqueness lies in its perspective. The sociological imagination, as C Wright Mills puts it, is

### Penology

The functioning of the criminal justice system is studied.

### Crime Prevention

Crime prevention involves the study of different actions or attempts to decrease the level of criminal activity.

### Drama

The theoretical component of Drama and Film Studies is open to non-drama students. Only students enrolled for BDrAm participate in performances.

**Drama and Film Studies** offers a theoretical understanding of the histories and analysis of drama and film. In this subject, students develop their critical skills and academic potential through research, writing essays and participating in seminars that feed their creative projects.

### English

Join us for a journey through some of the greatest literature ever written, and embark on the adventure of using the most dynamic language in the world.

Develop your advanced English skills so that you can-

- read more effectively,
- enhance your creative thinking
- enjoy the largest literary adventure in the world,
- deepen your imaginative understanding of people and cultures, and
- apply your English skills as a language practitioner.

#### What can I do with an English degree?

Build a career –

- as a teacher,
- as a journalist,
- as an editor/translator/proof-reader,
- as a writer of in-house journals,
- in advertising or in the media,

or combine your advanced skills in English with your other professional skills in law, tourism, community development and facilitation, cultural brokerage, mediation and translation, human resources work and other forms of management, communication, architecture or commerce.

our ability to locate our individual lives or biography within the unfolding of history as well as the dynamic processes and structure of the contemporary social world. This is a tradition of thinking that traces our individual consciousness and practice to the limits and possibilities created by the world beyond our control.

Sociology helps students to make sense of society and explain the social world around us, especially with regard to aspects like poverty, the prevalence of infectious diseases like HIV and AIDS, racism, gender inequality, labour relations and rural and urban development. Students learn how the society in which they live is constituted and how it functions. The multi-perspectival nature of sociological knowledge enables sociologists to ask critical scientific questions, challenge set assumptions and build a systematic understanding of societies. Such reflection opens up possibilities for debating change. Sociology draws on established analytic traditions and scientific research contributing towards an understanding of these processes of societal change and dynamics. Our aim is to develop your sociological imagination, and we hope that students will embark on their own sociological journey of self-reflection and self-discovery, leading to intellectual integrity and maturity, which is the hallmark of academic and social life at university.

### Visual Culture Studies

We are confronted with the visual everywhere: on billboards and TV screens, in cinemas, magazines and newspapers, on the Internet, in fashion, architecture and malls. Visual Studies as programme, and Visual Culture Studies as the main subject, enables students to explore the various exciting forms of visual images that surround them on a daily basis. The aim is to promote critical skills by offering direction in the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of various aspects of visual culture, both in a historical and contemporary context.

Students do not need artistic talent to study the course and are equipped with the background and critical skills that can be applied in a wide variety of career options, mainly in the cultural industry, media, television, new technologies, education, and visual communication. It is not a vocational training for a specific career, but allows for a diversity of employment opportunities focusing on the visual in the broadest sense.

