

## BScAgric (Applied Plant and Soil Sciences)

BScAgric (Applied Plant and Soil Sciences) is a four-year, full-time degree programme. It teaches the principles of plant-based agriculture within the disciplines of agronomy, horticultural science, pasture science and soil science. Graduates can embark on a diverse range of careers in the agricultural and environmental fields.

### Who is the ideal candidate?

Students who have a keen interest in plants and soil, would like to improve their understanding of the environment and want to make a difference in the world are the ideal candidates for this degree.

Graduates make a direct contribution to sustainable food production, while simultaneously protecting our natural resources.

### What makes this programme unique?

This programme is unique in terms of the combination of disciplines taught within the degree. Students are exposed to the various fields within plant production and soil sciences, which ensures that graduates are well-rounded and able to access a wide array of career opportunities, or make informed decisions on specialisation should they wish to continue with postgraduate studies.

Our graduates are highly sought after and often have to choose between several offers of employment.

The degree is accredited by the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) and graduates can be registered as professional natural scientists.

### What career opportunities exist for graduates?



#### Public sector

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC); government departments that address issues related to agriculture and rural development, water supply, conservation and the environment; the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR); provincial departments of agriculture and nature conservation; the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI); municipalities; South African National Parks; and national farming and food production agencies.



#### Entrepreneurial

Consultants to producers of crops, pastures, vegetables, medicinal and aromatic plants, and ornamental and cut-flowers; landscaping enterprises; managing own farms and nurseries for extensive (field) or intensive (tunnel/greenhouse) production systems involving various crops; and managing companies specialising in irrigation, reclamation and soil conservation.



#### Private sector

Companies involved in seed, fertilizer and plant protection research, development and marketing; environmental planning and management; nurseries; vegetable, fruit, ornamental and cut flower production; and irrigation.



#### Extension services involving knowledge transfer

Nature conservation; national and provincial departments of agriculture and the environment; environmental management and rehabilitation, including mine lands; nurseries; crop, turf grass and weed management; private companies servicing field crops, vegetables, medicinal and aromatic plants, fruit, ornamental and cut-flower production.



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## Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe  
Lefapha la Disaense tša Tlhago le Temo



'What I enjoyed most about this degree is that it exposed students to the diverse range of disciplines that form the basis of crop production, and that each discipline is unique yet connected to the others. Crop production is the perfect field for anyone who enjoys working on solving complex problems to have a meaningful impact on people's quality of life. My dream job is to continue with the work I am doing for my postgraduate studies, which is to find ways of making agricultural science accessible to smallholder farmers and the public in order to build a more equitable food system.'

– Richard Hay (MSc Student)

### Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC and IEB for 2022			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	
<b>BScAgric (Applied Plant and Soil Sciences)</b> [4 years] Closing dates: SA – 30 September, Non-SA – 31 August	5	5	5	32