

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

BCom (M) Four-year programme (07139922)

Duration of study 4 years

Total credits 88

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Programme information

The programme is aimed at the training of students in the Economic and Management Sciences who do not meet the prescribed admission requirements for a BCom degree.

This is the ideal starting point for students who are interested in studying towards BCom degrees in Management or Financial sciences. Students must apply during October of their first year to transfer to the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences (Hatfield Campus). Placement in BCom (Accounting Sciences) and BCom (Investment Management) cannot be guaranteed as these are selection programmes where numbers are limited. All modules must be passed in the first year to transfer to any of the BCom programmes.

The first year is presented on the Mamelodi Campus.

Admission requirements

- To be able to register, NSC candidates must comply with the minimum requirements for degree studies as well as with the minimum requirements for the relevant study programme.
- Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Minimum requirements vir 2016								
Achievement Level								APS
Afrikaans or English				Mathematics				
NSS/IEB	HIGCSE	AS-Level	A-Level	NSS/IEB	HIGCSE	AS-Level	A-Level	
4	3	D	D	3	4	E	E	26

Additional requirements

- General Regulations G.1 to G.15 (with the exception of Regulation G.11.2(c)) apply to a bachelor's degree.
- A student may not take more than the prescribed number of modules per semester unless the Dean decides

otherwise.

- c. A student may take a module not listed as an elective module only if the prior approval of the Dean has been obtained.
- d. A student who is in possession of a bachelor's degree may not present any modules passed for that degree for another field of specialisation or degree in this Faculty. (See General Regulations G.8 and G.9)
- e. A module passed at 300-level shall only be recognised for degree purposes if the corresponding prescribed module(s) at 200-level has/have been passed, unless the Dean decides otherwise, with the proviso that the following modules which are offered at 300-level only, are also considered "major subjects": Labour law 311 (ABR 311), Labour relations 320 (ABV 320) and International business management 359 and 369 (OBS 359 and 369); only two 14-week modules, or the equivalent thereof, that are not preceded by the 100- and 200-level modules, may be taken for degree purposes. In other words, at least four 14-week modules must be taken at 300-level that are preceded by the 100- and 200-level, except for modules offered on 200- and 300-level only.
- f. A module already passed may only be repeated with the approval of the Dean.
- g. A module passed may not be taken into account for more than one degree or field of specialisation.
- h. It remains the student's responsibility to ascertain, prior to registration, whether all the modules he/she intends taking can be accommodated in the class, test and examination timetables.
- i. The Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences supports an outcomes-based education system and places a high premium on the development of specific academic competences. Class attendance in all modules and for the full duration of all programmes is therefore compulsory for all students.
- j. The Dean has the right of authorisation regarding matters not provided for in the General Regulations or the Faculty Regulations.

Other programme-specific information

- Students who want to do a non-numerical BCom degree only do a first-semester course in WTW 133 (Precalculus), and will not be required to do WTW 143 in the second semester. Students who want to continue with a numerical BCom degree programme (eg Economics, Econometrics, Accounting Science, Informatics, Financial Sciences and Investment Management) need to have obtained a level 4 or higher in Grade 12 Mathematics and will need to register for WTW 133 and WTW 143.
- Students who want to do a non-numerical BCom degree programme register for STK 133 and STK 143. Students who want to transfer to a numerical BCom degree programme must obtain 70% or more for STK 133 and STK 143 in order to be considered.
- Only students who have obtained a level 4 in Grade 12 Mathematics can register for WST 133 and WST 143 and mostly follow a numerical BCom degree programme (eg Economics, Econometrics, Accounting Science, Informatics, Financial Sciences, Investment Management and Statistics).
- **Selection from the second academic year onwards, to be discussed with the Student Administration of the Faculty.**

- AIM 111 and AIM 121 – as currently presented on the Hatfield Campus.
- STK 133 and STK 143 – equivalent to STK 110.
- STK 133 and STK 143 will give BCom students entrance to STK 120.
- WST 133 and WST 143 will be equivalent to STK 110
- WST 133 and WST 143 will give BCom students entrance to either WST 153 or STK 120
- Students must register for STK 120 in the first semester of the second year.
- FRK 133 and FRK 143 – equivalent to FRK 111.

- OBS 133 and OBS 143 – equivalent to OBS 114.
- Students must register for FRK 153 in the first semester of the second year.
- FRK 153 is equivalent to FRK 122.

"Major subject"

To be considered a "major subject" the equivalent of four 14-week modules, including two at 300-level, must be passed provided that:

- the following modules which are offered at 300-level only, are also considered "major subjects": Labour law 311 (ABR 311), Labour relations 320 (ABV 320), and International business management 359 and 369 (OBS 359 and 369);
- only two 14-week modules, or the equivalent thereof, that are not preceded by the 100- and 200-level modules, may be taken for degree purposes. In other words, at least four 14-week modules must be taken at 300-level that are preceded by the 100- and 200-level, except for modules offered on 200- and 300-level only.

Promotion to next study year

According to General Regulation G.3 students have to comply with certain requirements as set by the Faculty Board.

- a. A student must pass at least 4 core semester or 2 core year modules to be admitted to the subsequent year of study.
- b. If a student has passed less than the required minimum of 4 core semester or 2 core year modules, he/she will not be readmitted to the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. Such a student may apply in writing to the Faculty's Admissions Committee to be readmitted conditionally – with the proviso that the Admissions Committee may set further conditions with regards to the student's academic progress. The Faculty's Admissions Committee may deny a student's application for readmission.
- c. If a student has been readmitted conditionally, his/her academic progress will be monitored after the first semester examinations to determine whether he/she has complied with the requirements set by the Admissions Committee. If not, his/her studies will be suspended.
- d. A student whose studies have been suspended because of his/her poor academic performance has the right to appeal against the decision of the Faculty's Admissions Committee.
- e. A student may be refused promotion to a subsequent year of study if the prescribed tuition fees are not paid.
- f. A student may be refused admission to the examination, or promotion to a subsequent year of study or promotion in a module (if applicable) if he/ she fails to fulfil the attendance requirements. Class attendance in all modules and for the full duration of all programmes is compulsory for all students.

Pass with distinction

- a. A degree may be awarded with distinction provided the candidate meets the following criteria:
 - i. Completes the degree within three years;
 - ii. Obtains a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 75%;
 - iii. Repeated passed modules will not be considered. The initial pass mark of module will be used when calculating the GPA.
- b. Transferees from other faculties and from other universities who still complete their bachelor degrees (including credits transferred and recognised from the degrees they registered for originally) within three years will be considered as exceptional cases by the Dean.

- c. The GPA will be not be rounded up to a whole number.
- d. Exceptional cases will be considered by the Dean.

General information

Minimum requirements for bachelor's degrees; semester and year modules; new regulations

1. Students who commenced their studies before 2015 must complete the programme in terms of the curriculum of the year in which they commenced their studies, or in terms of the curriculum of the year in which they switched to their current field of specialisation. Students who prefer to do so may, however, apply to change over to the latest curriculum, but then they should comply with all the requirements thereof and they may not revert to the regulations of an earlier year.
2. Students who are registering for a degree programme for the first time in 2015 must take the modules indicated under the particular field of specialisation.

Please note: Only two 14-week modules, or the equivalent thereof, that are not preceded by the 100- and 200-level modules, may be taken for degree purposes. In other words, at least four 14-week modules must be taken at 300-level that are preceded by the 100- and 200-level, except for modules offered on 200- and 300-level only. It is thus the responsibility of students to ensure before registration, that their curricula comply with all the requirements of the applicable regulations.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 88

Core modules

Language, life and study skills 133 (LST 133)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites As for BSc Four-year programme and BCom Four-year programme

Contact time 4 discussion classes per week, Foundation Course, MAMELODI

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Natural + Agric Sciences Dean

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

In this module students use different information and time management strategies, build academic vocabulary, revise basic grammar concepts and dictionary skills, examine learning styles, memory and note-taking techniques, practise academic reading skills and explore basic research and referencing techniques, learn how to use discourse markers and construct definitions, and are introduced to paragraph writing. The work is set in the context of the students' field of study.

Language, life and study skills 143 (LST 143)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites LST 133

Contact time Foundation Course, 4 discussion classes per week, MAMELODI

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Natural + Agric Sciences Dean

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

In this module students learn how to interpret and use visual literacy conventions. Students write more advance paragraphs, and also learn how to structure academic writing, how to refine their use of discourse markers and referencing techniques and how to structure their own academic arguments. Students' writing is expected to be rational, clear and concise. As a final assignment all aspects of the LST 133 and LST 143 modules are combined in a research assignment. In this project, students work in writing teams to produce a chapter on a career and to present an oral presentation of aspects of the chapter. The work is set in the context of the students' field of study.

Precalculus 133 (WTW 133)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Health Sciences

Prerequisites BSc and BCom students: At least 3 (40-49%) in Mathematics in the Grade 12 examination and must be taken concurrently with WTW133

Contact time 3 lectures per week, Foundation Course, MAMELODI, 1 practical per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Mathematics and Applied Maths

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Real numbers, elementary set notation, exponents and radicals. Algebraic expressions, fractional expressions, linear and quadratic equations, inequalities. Coordinate geometry: lines, circles. Functions: definition, notation, piecewise defined functions, domain and range, graphs, transformations of functions, symmetry, even and odd functions, combining functions, one-to-one functions and inverses, polynomial functions and zeros.

Sequences, summation notation, arithmetic, geometric sequences, infinite geometric series, annuities and instalments. Degrees and radians, unit circle, trigonometric functions, fundamental identities, trigonometric graphs, trigonometric identities, double-angle, half-angle formulae, trigonometric equations, applications.

This module is only offered in English at the Mamelodi Campus for the BSc Extended programme. At the Hatfield and Groenkloof campuses it is offered in English and Afrikaans.

Calculus 143 (WTW 143)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Health Sciences

Prerequisites BSc and BCom students: WTW 133 and WST133 and must be taken concurrently with WTW143

Contact time Foundation Course, MAMELODI, 1 tutorial per week, 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Mathematics and Applied Maths

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Functions: exponential and logarithmic functions, natural exponential and logarithmic functions, exponential and logarithmic laws, exponential and logarithmic equations, compound interest. Limits: concept of a limit, finding limits numerically and graphically, finding limits algebraically, limit laws without proofs, squeeze theorem without proof, one-sided limits, infinite limits, limits at infinity, vertical, horizontal and slant asymptotes, substitution rule, continuity, laws for continuity without proofs. Differentiation: average and instantaneous change, definition of derivative, differentiation rules without proofs, derivatives of polynomials, chain rule for differentiation, derivatives of trigonometric, exponential and logarithmic functions, applications of differentiation: extreme values, critical numbers, monotone functions, first derivative test, optimisation.

Financial accounting 133 (FRK 133)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites Only available to the BCom Four-year programme

Contact time MAMELODI, 4 lectures per week, Foundation Course

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Accounting

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

The nature and function of accounting; the development of accounting; financial position; financial performance; flow of documents; the recording process; processing of accounting data; treatment of VAT; elementary statement of comprehensive income (income statement) and statement of financial position (balance sheet).

Financial accounting 143 (FRK 143)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites FRK 133; Only available to the BCom Four-year programme

Contact time 4 lectures per week, Foundation Course, MAMELODI

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Accounting

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Accounting systems; introduction to internal control and internal control measures; bank reconciliations; control accounts; adjustments; preparing the financial statements of a sole proprietorship; the accounting framework.

Mathematical statistics 133 (WST 133)

Module credits 8.00

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites	At least 4 (50-59%) in Mathematics in the Grade 12 examination; BSc and BCom numeric stream students must be take WTW 133 concurrently.
Contact time	4 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week, MAMELODI, Foundation Course, 1 practical per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Statistics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Descriptive statistics – Univariate:

The role of Statistics, various types of data. Sampling, probability and non-probability sampling techniques and the collection of data. Frequency, relative and cumulative distributions and graphical representations. Additional concepts relating to data processing: sigma notation, factorial notation. Descriptive measures of location, dispersion and symmetry. Exploratory data analysis.

Probability:

Introductory probability theory and applications. Set theory and probability laws. Introduction to random variables. Assigning probabilities, probability distributions, expected value and variance in general. Specific discrete probability distributions (Uniform, Binomial). Report writing and presentation. Identification, use, evaluation and interpretation of statistical computer packages and statistical techniques.

Mathematical statistics 143 (WST 143)

Module credits	8.00
Service modules	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Prerequisites	BSc and BCom numeric students: WST 133 and WTW 133 and must be taken concurrently with WTW 143.
Contact time	1 practical per week, Foundation Course, 4 lectures per week, MAMELODI, 2 tutorials per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Statistics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Probability and inference:

Probability theory and theoretical distributions for continuous random variables (Uniform, Normal and t).

Sampling distributions (means and proportions). Estimation theory and hypothesis testing of sampling averages and proportions (one- and two-sample cases).

Optimisation techniques with economic applications:

Applications of differentiation in statistic and economic related problems. Integration. Applications of integration in statistic and economic related problems. Systems of equations in equilibrium. The area under a curve and applications of definite integrals in Statistics and Economics. Report writing and presentation. Identification, use, evaluation and interpretation of statistical computer packages and statistical techniques.

Academic information management 111 (AIM 111)

Module credits 4.00

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Law
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Theology

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time MAMELODI, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Both Afr and Eng

Academic organisation Information Science

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Find, evaluate, process, manage and present information resources for academic purposes using appropriate technology.

Academic information management 121 (AIM 121)

Module credits 4.00

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Law
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Theology
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week, MAMELODI

Language of tuition Both Afr and Eng

Academic organisation Information Science

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Apply effective search strategies in different technological environments. Demonstrate the ethical and fair use of information resources. Integrate 21st-century communications into the management of academic information.

Business management 133 (OBS 133)

Module credits 8.00

Prerequisites	Only available to BCom (Four-year programme) students
Contact time	Foundation Course, 3 lectures per week, 1 discussion class per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Business Management
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to Business Management as a science, the environment in which the enterprise operates, the field of business, the mission and goals of an enterprise, management and entrepreneurship. The choice of a form of enterprise, the choice of products and/or services, profit and cost planning for different sizes of operating units, the choice of location, the nature of production processes and the layout of the plant or operating unit.

Business management 143 (OBS 143)

Module credits	8.00
Prerequisites	OBS 133; Only available to BCom (Four-year programme) students
Contact time	Foundation Course, 3 lectures per week, 1 discussion class per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Business Management
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to and overview of general management, especially regarding the five management tasks, strategic management, contemporary developments and management issues, financial management, marketing, public relations. (Note: For marketing students, marketing is replaced by financial management, and public relations by small business management.)

Introduction to and overview of the value chain model, management of the input, management of the purchasing function, management of the transformation process with specific reference to production and operations management, human resources management, and information management; corporate governance and black economic empowerment (BEE).

Academic orientation 120 (UPO 120)

Module credits	0.00
Language of tuition	Double Medium
Academic organisation	Humanities Dean's Office
Period of presentation	Year

Statistics 133 (STK 133)

Module credits	8.00
Prerequisites	At least 3 (40-49%) in Mathematics in the Grade 12 examination; BCom non-numeric stream students must take WTW 133 concurrently.

Contact time 2 tutorials per week, 3 lectures per week, 1 practical per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Data operations and transformations: Introductory concepts, the role of statistics, various types of data and the number system. Concepts underlying hyperbolic transformations of quantitative data. The relationship between the exponential and logarithmic functions in economic and related problems. Systems of equations in equilibrium. Additional concepts relating to data processing, factorial notation and absolute values.

Descriptive statistics – Univariate: Sampling and the collection of data, frequency distributions and graphical representations. Descriptive measures of location and dispersion. Correlation and regression: Least squares line, single log, double log and inverse transformations. Report writing and presentation. Identification, use, evaluation and interpretation of statistical computer packages and statistical techniques.

Statistics 143 (STK 143)

Module credits 16.00

Prerequisites STK 133 and WTW 133

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 tutorials per week, 6 lectures per week

Language of tuition English

Academic organisation Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Optimisation techniques with economic applications: system of linear inequalities, solving of linear programming problems by means of the graphical and extreme point methods. Applications of differentiation and integration in statistic and economic related problems: the limit of a function, continuity, rate of change, the derivative of a function, differentiation rules, higher order derivatives, optimisation techniques, the area under a curve and applications of definite and indefinite integrals in Economic and Probability applications. Introduction to probability theory. Probability and inference: Theoretical distributions. Sampling distributions. Estimation theory and hypothesis testing of sampling averages and proportions (one-sample and two-sample cases). Non Parametric tests. Report writing and presentation. Identification, use, evaluation and interpretation of statistical computer packages and statistical techniques.

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.