



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

BScHons (Chemistry) (02240123)

Department Chemistry

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 135

NQF level 08

Admission requirements

1. Relevant BSc degree
2. A weighted average of at least 60% for chemistry modules at final-year level

Note: Additional modules may be required in order to reach the desired level of competency

General information

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 135

Students must choose any two of the three research modules: CMY 718, CMY 719, CMY 731.

Core modules

Analytical chemistry A 706 (CMY 706)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Selected aspects of: Mass spectrometry: ion sources, analysers, detectors, isotope ratios, accurate mass, ion fragmentation, tandem mass spectrometry. Chromatography: theory and instrumentation of gas, liquid and supercritical fluid chromatography, multidimensional systems and coupling to mass spectrometry.

Analytical chemistry B 707 (CMY 707)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Selected aspects: Electrochemistry: fundamental theory, voltammetry, metal-ligand equilibria, modelling and measurement of solution composition. Statistics: precision and accuracy, random errors, hypothesis testing, method of least squares, curve fitting, multivariate statistics, interpreting patterns of data. Chemical metrology: propagation of errors, quality control of quantitative and qualitative analytical information, international standards, interlaboratory calibration

Organic chemistry A 708 (CMY 708)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08



Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Stereocontrolled organic synthesis: substrate stereocontrol in diastereoselective synthesis. Retrosynthesis: principles and applications. Protecting groups in synthesis. Aromatic and heteroaromatic chemistry.

Organic chemistry B 709 (CMY 709)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Stereocontrolled organic synthesis: chiral auxiliaries in synthesis; reagent controlled synthesis; catalyst controlled synthetic methods. Pericyclic reactions and transition metals in organic synthesis. Aliphatic and heterocyclic amine chemistry.

Inorganic chemistry A 714 (CMY 714)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Inorganic and organometallic chemistry. Classification of ligands and complexes. Synthesis, structure, bonding and reactivity of complexes. Homogeneous catalysis and template effects.

Inorganic chemistry B 715 (CMY 715)

Module credits	10.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Main group chemistry. From complexes to clusters to networks. Reaction kinetics and mechanisms. Supramolecular chemistry Bioinorganic and bioorganometallic compounds. Metals in medicine.

Physical chemistry A 716 (CMY 716)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week for 4 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Crystallography: theoretical principles, symmetry elements and operations, point groups, space groups, theory of crystals, X-rays, crystallographic techniques, structure determinations, powder diffraction and crystallographic data bases.

Molecular modelling: molecular structure/energy, methodology, principles and and molecular surfaces.

Physical chemistry B 717 (CMY 717)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 practical per week for 7 weeks, 6 lectures per week for 4 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Chemical kinetics: rates of chemical reactions, equilibrium reactions, temperature dependence of reactions, complex reactions, reaction mechanisms and kinetics by thermal analysis. Statistical mechanics: Boltzmann distribution, partition functions, ensembles, thermodynamic functions, equilibria.



Research: Organic/inorganic project 718 (CMY 718)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 seminar, 6 practicals per week for 9 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 and Semester 2

Module content

Students work on one project during the year which has a significant component that can be described as instrumental or computational or analysis of data or theoretical. A report and a presentation are required.

Research: Physical/analytical project 719 (CMY 719)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 seminar, 6 practicals per week for 9 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 and Semester 2

Module content

Students work on one project during the year which has a significant component that can be described as instrumental or computational or analysis of data or theoretical. A report and a presentation are required.

Advanced practical techniques 730 (CMY 730)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	5 lectures per week for 6 weeks, 5 tutorials per week for 6 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Chemical information literacy; Molecular modelling; NMR spectroscopy; Mass spectrometry; Crystallography and Metrology will be presented from a practical point of view with an emphasis on the interpretation of data and use of instrumentation rather than on underlying theory.



Research: Chemistry education 731 (CMY 731)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 seminar, 6 other contact sessions per week for 9 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1 and Semester 2

Module content

Students may select one project per year which can be described as research into the teaching and learning of chemistry at tertiary level.

Regulations and rules

The regulations and rules for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations.

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