# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

# Soil fertility, soil microbiology and plant nutrition 420 (GKD 420)

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| **Qualification** | Undergraduate |
| **Faculty** | Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences |
| **Module credits** | 14.00 |
| **Programmes** | BScAgric Option: Applied Plant and Soil Sciences |
| **Prerequisites** | GKD 250 GS |
| **Contact time** | 1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week |
| **Language of tuition** | Both Afr and Eng |
| **Academic organisation** | Plant Production and Soil Sc |
| **Period of presentation** | Semester 2 |

**Module content**

Soil ultimately controls nutrient supply to plants and organisms. The health and resilience of biota are therefore closely link to the interaction between the pedosphere and the biosphere. This course deals with the availability and uptake of macro and micro nutrients in the plant - microbial– soil system, nutrient deficiencies and toxicities, as well as soil properties and soil environmental conditions that influence soil fertility and its suitability to act as a growth medium. Practical work includes the laboratory evaluation of soil fertility and greenhouse pot trials to investigate nutrient uptake as well as deficiencies and toxicities symptoms in plants.