
University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

BScHons Biotechnology (02240392)

Duration of study 1 year

Total credits 135

Programme information

BScHons (Biotechnology) is a unique interdepartmental programme aimed at enabling students to pursue their interest in molecular biotechnology through relevant research areas offered within fields of biochemistry, plant science, microbiology and plant pathology, plant production, as well as genetics. Students within this programme will be registered and will conduct their studies within the department of their choice. A student's choice of research programme will determine which of the respective departments will mentor their honours degree programme.

Renewal of registration

- i. Subject to exceptions approved by the Dean, on the recommendation of the head of department, and in the case of distance education where the Dean formulates the stipulations that will apply, a student may not sit for an examination for the honours degree more than twice in the same module.
- ii. A student for an honours degree must complete his or her study, in the case of full-time students, within two years and, in the case of after-hours students, within three years of first registering for the degree and, in the case of distance education students, within the period stipulated by the Dean. Under special circumstances, the Dean, on the recommendation of the head of department, may give approval for a limited extension of this period.

In calculating marks, General Regulation G.12.2 applies.

Apart from the prescribed coursework, a research project is an integral part of the study.

Admission requirements

BSc in Biotechnology or equivalent degree with GTS 351, BCM 356 and MBY 364, an average pass mark of 60% or more at final-year level or permission by the head of department. Preference will be given to applicants with the highest final grade point averages for their preceding degree and qualifying applicants may be subjected to an entrance evaluation examination. Admission is furthermore contingent on the availability of supervisors and/or research projects within the participating departments.

Other programme-specific information

- The curriculum for the balance of the credits will be determined by the heads of the participating departments.
- Additional modules may be prescribed by the head of the department where deemed necessary. Honours students may also be required to complete a biometry or equivalent module, if they have not already done so during their undergraduate training.
- A pass mark is required for all the components of the honours study programme and the final mark is calculated proportionally to the credits of the respective prescribed modules.



Pass with distinction

The BScHons degree is awarded with distinction to a candidate who obtains a weighted average of at least 75% in all the prescribed modules and a minimum of 65% in any one module.



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 135

Fundamental modules

Biometry 120 (BME 120) - Credits: 16.00

Core modules

Biotechnology in the workplace 701 (BTW 701) - Credits: 15.00

Molecular and cellular biology 721 (MLB 721) - Credits: 15.00

Elective modules

Trends in biochemical research 771 (BCM 771) - Credits: 15.00

Research project and report 773 (BCM 773) - Credits: 60.00

Plant nomenclature 712 (BOT 712) - Credits: 10.00

Seed ecology 714 (BOT 714) - Credits: 10.00

Plant morphology 717 (BOT 717) - Credits: 10.00

Introduction to plant biotechnology 718 (BOT 718) - Credits: 10.00

Primary plant metabolism 719 (BOT 719) - Credits: 10.00

Plant taxonomy 741 (BOT 741) - Credits: 10.00

Plant classification 742 (BOT 742) - Credits: 20.00

Applications in plant biotechnology 746 (BOT 746) - Credits: 10.00

Advanced phytomedicine 761 (BOT 761) - Credits: 10.00

Research report 782 (BOT 782) - Credits: 60.00

Seminar 783 (BOT 783) - Credits: 15.00

Trends in plant science 784 (BOT 784) - Credits: 10.00

Practical plant identification 786 (BOT 786) - Credits: 10.00

Spatial analysis in ecology 788 (BOT 788) - Credits: 10.00

Seminar course 702 (GTK 702) - Credits: 15.00

Research project 703 (GTK 703) - Credits: 60.00

Trends in genetics 704 (GTK 704) - Credits: 15.00

Research methods 751 (MCP 751) - Credits: 30.00

Seminar course 752 (MCP 752) - Credits: 15.00

Trends in microbiology 753 (MCP 753) - Credits: 15.00

Research project and literature study 754 (MCP 754) - Credits: 60.00

Research methods 774 (BCM 774) - Credits: 30.00

Advanced biochemistry 775 (BCM 775) - Credits: 15.00

Research methods 705 (GTK 705) - Credits: 30.00

Molecular techniques 705 (BOT 705) - Credits: 15.00

Plant ecology and conservation 730 (BOT 730) - Credits: 20.00

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 each student to familiarise himself or herself 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.