

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

MSc Biotechnology (03251052)

Duration of study 1 year

Total credits 180

Programme information

This is an interdepartmental programme.

The curriculum is to be determined by the heads of the participating departments, namely the departments of Biochemistry, Genetics, Microbiology and Plant Pathology, Plant Science, and Plant Production and Soil Science.

Please consult with Prof P Bloomer, Tel: 012 420 3259, for further details.

The MSc degree is conferred on the grounds of a dissertation and such additional postgraduate coursework as may be prescribed.

Renewal of registration

As long as progress is satisfactory, renewal of the registration of a master's student will be accepted for the second year of the study. Registration for a third and subsequent years will only take place when the Student Administration of the Faculty receives a written motivation that is supported by the head of department and Postgraduate Studies Committee.

General

Candidates are required to familiarise themselves with the General Regulations regarding the maximum period of registration and the requirements on the submission of a draft article for publication.

Admission requirements

In addition to the General Regulations G.1.3 G.30 and G.62 an appropriate BScHons degree is a prerequisite for admission. An average of 60% is required in the honours year of study for admission to the MSc. Additional requirements and conditions may be prescribed by the Dean on the recommendation of the supervisor head of department and Postgraduate Studies Committee. Admission is approved by the Postgraduate Studies Committee in consultation with the head of department and the supervisor.

Note

Additional modules may be prescribed by the head of department eg Advanced academic literacy 300 (EOT 300) where deemed necessary.

Additional requirements

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

Additional modules may be prescribed by the heads of department where deemed necessary.

Promotion to next study year

The progress of all master's candidates is monitored biannually by the supervisor and the postgraduate coordinator. A candidate's study may be terminated if the progress is unsatisfactory or if the candidate is unable to finish his/her studies during the prescribed period.

Subject to exceptions approved by the dean, on recommendation of the head of department, and where applicable, a student may not enter for the master's examination in the same module more than twice.

Pass with distinction

The MSc degree is conferred with distinction to candidates who obtain a final average mark of at least 75% and a mark of at least 75% for the dissertation/mini-dissertation from each of the members of the examination panel. Where a member of the examination panel awards a mark of less than 75% for the dissertation/mini-dissertation, that member of the examination panel must offer, in writing, support for his/her decision, or indicate in writing that he/she supports the examination committee's decision to confer the degree with distinction.

Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Dissertation: Agronomy 890 (AGR 890)

Module credits	180.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Plant and Soil Sciences
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module involves the development, presentation and approval of a research proposal, the execution of the research project, and the writing up and presentation of the research results. In addition to the dissertation, the student is also expected to compile a concept research paper for publication in a peer-reviewed UP accredited scientific journal.

Project and dissertation 890 (BCM 890)

Module credits	180.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Biochemistry
Period of presentation	Year

Dissertation: Plant science 890 (BOT 890)

Module credits	180.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Both Afr and Eng
Academic organisation	Plant and Soil Sciences
Period of presentation	Year

Dissertation: Genetics 890 (GTK 890)

Module credits	180.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Genetics
Period of presentation	Year

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.