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# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2019

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## BScAgricHons Crop Science (02241004)

**Minimum duration of study** 1 year

**Total credits** 135

### Programme information

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 relevant 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

The admission requirement is a BScAgric (Applied Plant and Soil Sciences) degree or equivalent qualification, or an appropriate BSc degree after consultation with the Head of Department. A South African equivalent aggregate mark of 60% is required for all the modules taken in the final year of undergraduate studies. Students are selected on merit.

### Other programme-specific information

Electives can be chosen out of the modules listed or any other 700-module that is presented in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, chosen in consultation with the Head of Department of Plant and Soil Science.

### 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**

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Core credits: 60

Elective credits: 75

### Core modules

#### Research project in crop science 701 (PGW 701)

##### Module content:

Students will design, execute and write up a research project in any one of the subdisciplines of Crop science, eg Agronomy, Horticultural science or Pasture science.

<b>Module credits</b>	30.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	1 discussion class per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Year

#### Scientific communication 702 (PGW 702)

##### Module content:

Principles of the scientific process. Literature accessing and article assessment. Manuscript preparation and presentation of seminars. Use of visual aids.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	2 seminars, 1 lecture per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Year

#### Research methodology 704 (PGW 704)

##### Module content:

Basic experimental designs. Measurements and control over experimental error. Factorial experiments and interactions. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) and data interpretation.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
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<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2

## Elective modules

### Crop production systems (I): Field crops 785 (AGR 785)

#### Module content:

Integrated agronomic, climatic, soil, botanical, economic and managerial considerations in crop production systems aimed at maximum economic yield and sustainability. Case studies of specific field crops.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	2 lectures per week, 1 practical per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2

### Crop production systems (II): Vegetable crops 786 (AGR 786)

#### Module content:

Integrating agronomic, climatic, soil, botanical, economic and managerial considerations in crop production systems aimed at maximum economic yield and sustainability. Case studies of specific vegetable crops.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	2 lectures per week, 1 practical per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 1

### Crop physiology 761 (APS 761)

#### Module content:

An overview of photosynthesis and respiration, with the aim of examining the physiological basis of yield in cropping systems. This includes an assessment of parameters for determining plant growth, factors governing yield, partitioning of photoassimilates within plants and opportunities for increasing yield. Crop growth and yield



will be put into context of a changing global climate. Evaluation of the manner in which plants respond to various abiotic stresses and how plants sense changing environments. The various roles of plant growth regulators in plants and the importance of these compounds in agriculture.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	Fortnightly practicals, 2 lectures per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2

### **Plant nutrition, soil biology and soil fertility 773 (GDK 773)**

#### **Module content:**

Study of the latest trends and developments in plant nutrition, soil biology and soil fertility.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	1 discussion class per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Year

### **Fruit tree crops 780 (HSC 780)**

#### **Module content:**

An overview of the South African fruit industry indicating economic importance and the areas of production of the various crops. Principles governing orchard establishment and orchard management, including location and site selection, crop and cultivar choices, site preparation, orchard layout and design, irrigation, fertilisation, pruning and training, the application of plant growth regulators and disease and pest management. Harvesting practices and the post-harvest physiology of fruit which determines storage protocols and the quality of the fruit reaching the consumer. Climatic requirements, phenological models, cultivars and rootstocks, fruit manipulation, physiological disorders and pest and disease complexes of subtropical and deciduous fruit crops produced in South Africa.

<b>Module credits</b>	30.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	4 lectures per week, 1 practical per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2



## Environmental biophysics 750 (LKM 750)

### Module content:

Environmental variables. Quantitative description and measurements of atmospheric environmental variables and water in organisms. Mass and energy fluxes. Quantitative description of energy fluxes in organisms' environments. Energy balances of animals and plant communities will be derived.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	2 lectures per week, 1 practical per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 1

## Plant production: Herbicides and control 712 (PPR 712)

### Module content:

Weeds and their importance in Southern Africa. Properties and uses of herbicides. Herbicides in soils and their mode of action in plants.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	2 lectures per week, 1 discussion class per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 2

## Agroforestry 713 (PPR 713)

### Module content:

Agro-ecological zones (climate and soil); trees for fruit, fodder, fuel and/or timber; intercropping or alley cropping with grains, vegetables or pastures; management (including aspects such as nursery production, establishment, fertilization, pest control) and utilization/marketing.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	1 lecture per week, 1 discussion class per week, 1 practical per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Year



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## Rangeland management 781 (WDE 781)

### Module content:

The development of rangeland management strategies integrating ecological and physiological principles with economic and sociological constraints to achieve desired objectives whilst ensuring the conservation, and where necessary, the recuperation of natural resources.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	1 lecture per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Year

## Pasture science 782 (WDE 782)

### Module content:

The identification of adapted pasture and fodder species (including grasses, legumes, fodder trees and drought tolerant crops) for different agro-ecological areas. The establishment, fertilization and irrigation requirements of different pastures. The management requirements when utilized as green grazing, standing hay or conserved feed.

<b>Module credits</b>	15.00
<b>Prerequisites</b>	No prerequisites.
<b>Contact time</b>	2 lectures per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Year

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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.