

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2020

BScHons Engineering and Environmental Geology Engineering Geology (02240375)

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 135

NQF level 08

Programme information

Renewal of registration

- Subject to exceptions approved by the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, a student may not sit for an examination for the honours degree more than twice in the same module.
- 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. Under special circumstances, the Dean, on the recommendation of the relevant 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 (Geology) or BSc (Engineering and Environmental Geology)
- At least an average of 60% for all the modules in applied geology at second-year and third-year level
- Modules must include;
 - Soil mechanics,
 - Rock mechanics,
 - Engineering geology,
 - Hydrogeology.
- Complete preceding degree will be considered for selection.
- Only limited to 15 positions, candidates who have progressed in the minimum period will take preference.

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

Core credits: 135

Core modules

Site investigation project 713 (GTX 713)

Module credits	30.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week for 11 wks, 13 practicals per week (11 weeks)
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geology
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Field work which includes mapping, soil and rock description, joint surveys, borehole testing, water sampling, interpretation of laboratory test results and compilation of site investigation reports. Larger projects of at least two months of fieldwork and report writing which involves surface and underground studies, mapping, drill core logging, discontinuity surveys, rock mass classification, stability analyses, interpretation of laboratory tests or pollution studies including water and/or soil sampling, interpretation of laboratory tests, development of a rehabilitation plan or groundwater model and compilation of a report. Compulsory attendance at conferences, short courses, specialist lectures, visits to construction sites and fields excursions.

Engineering geology of South Africa 714 (GTX 714)

Module credits	20.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 practicals per week (4 weeks), 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geology
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Overview of site investigation phases; site investigation techniques; soil profiling and rock core description. Literature study and compilation of reports on the stratigraphy of South African rock types and engineering problems of rocks and soils within different stratigraphic units and climatic regions.

Environmental management and risk assessment 716 (GTX 716)

Module credits	20.00
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.



Contact time 2 practicals per week (3 weeks), 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Principles of integrated environmental management; environmental impact assessment; environmental management systems (ISO 14000 series); water resource management; environmental legislation; site investigation guidelines; natural hazard risk assessment; seismicity; project management and professional business practice. Geological models and software.

Rock engineering 722 (GTX 722)

Module credits 20.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 practicals per week (4 weeks), 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Mapping, description (core logging and discontinuity surveys) and classification of rock masses; engineering properties of rock masses including deformability, shear strength of discontinuities, in situ strength and permeability of rock masses; effects, theoretical derivation and practical measurements of in situ stresses.

Engineering applications 723 (GTX 723)

Module credits 15.00

Prerequisites GTX 722

Contact time 2 lectures per week for 3 weeks, 2 practicals per week (3 weeks)

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Year

Module content

The influence of geology on construction projects with specific reference to the requirements of dams, tunnels, slopes, waste disposal and urban development.

Fluid mechanics in geological media 725 (GTX 725)

Module credits 20.00

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 practicals per week (4 weeks), 4 lectures per week



Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
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Department	Geology
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Period of presentation	Year
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Module content

Statics and dynamics of fluids, including water, aqueous phase liquids (saline water), non-aqueous phase liquids (petroleum hydrocarbons), gases (atmospheric air) and man-made fluids (gout) through natural and man-made porous media (eg soil, rock, concrete). Single phase flow and multiphase flow; saturated and unsaturated flow. Quantification of hydrological parameters. South African hydrostratigraphy. Drainage and dewatering.

Applied geological field methods 728 (GTX 728)

Module credits	10.00
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Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
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Contact time	5 practicals per week (2 weeks)
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Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
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Department	Geology
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Period of presentation	Year
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Module content

Practical field-based investigation methods for engineering geological and hydrogeological application; geological mapping.

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.