

# University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

## Introductory biochemistry 257 (BCM 257)

<b>Qualification</b>	Undergraduate
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
<b>Module credits</b>	12.00
<b>NQF Level</b>	06
<b>Programmes</b>	Bachelor of Dietetics [BDietetics]
	BSc (Biochemistry)
	BSc (Biotechnology)
	BSc (Chemistry)
	BSc (Ecology)
	BSc (Entomology)
	BSc (Food Management) <i>Culinary Science</i>
	BSc (Food Management) <i>Nutrition</i>
	BSc (Food Science)
	BSc (Genetics)
	BSc (Human Genetics)
	BSc (Human Physiology)
	BSc (Human Physiology, Genetics and Psychology)
	BSc (Medical Sciences)
	BSc (Microbiology)
	BSc (Plant Science)
	BSc (Zoology)
	BScAgric (Animal Science)
<b>Prerequisites</b>	CMY 117 GS and CMY 127 GS and MLB 111 GS
<b>Contact time</b>	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Module is presented in English
<b>Department</b>	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology
<b>Period of presentation</b>	Semester 1

---

## Module content

Chemical foundations. Weak interactions in aqueous systems. Ionisation of water, weak acids and weak bases. Buffering against pH changes in biological systems. Water as a reactant and function of water. Carbohydrate structure and function. Biochemistry of lipids and membrane structure. Nucleotides and nucleic acids. Other functions of nucleotides: energy carriers, components of enzyme cofactors and chemical messengers. Introduction to metabolism. Bioenergetics and biochemical reaction types. Online activities include introduction to laboratory safety and Good Laboratory Practice; basic biochemical calculations; experimental method design and scientific controls, processing and presentation of scientific data.

---

## Regulations and rules

The regulations and rules for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations.

## University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.