



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

Soil chemistry 320 (GKD 320)

Qualification Undergraduate

Faculty [Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences](#)

Module credits 14.00

NQF Level 07

Programmes [BSc \(Engineering and Environmental Geology\)](#)

[BSc \(Geography\) Geography and Environmental Science](#)

[BSc \(Geology\)](#)

[BSc \(Meteorology\)](#)

[BScAgric \(Applied Plant and Soil Sciences\)](#)

Prerequisites GKD 250

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Soil chemistry is the study of the chemical behaviour (precipitation, dissolution, sorption, oxidation, reduction, volatilization etc.) of elements and compounds in the soil. Soil exerts a control on nutrient availability and therefore on nutrient cycling (for example the soil-plant system). The growing anthropogenic pressure on soil and the larger environment means a fundamental understanding of the behaviour of pollutants is an increasingly important skill set required by industry. In this module we will look at the soil solution chemistry, mineral solubility, redox chemistry, as well as the chemistry at the surface of soil minerals, of a wide range of nutrients and pollutants. Soil acidification, weathering and associated chemical/mineralogical transformation, as well as landscape dynamics of carbon, iron and manganese receive special attention in this module.

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



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