

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

BSc (Geology) (02133023)

Department Geology

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 428

NQF level 07

Programme information

Those students registered for the BSc (Geology) programme and who have opted to select any of the dual major fields of study offered within this programme must take note of the following:

- Their Academic Record will list all the modules that they have completed towards a second major field of study (based on final year modules completed).
- Their Degree certificate will only print the officially approved programme name:

Bachelor of Science
Geology

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2023

The admission requirements below apply to all who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) qualifications**. [Click here](#) for this Faculty Brochure.

Minimum requirements

Achievement level

English Home

Language or

English First

Additional

Language

NSC/IEB

5

Mathematics

NSC/IEB

5

Physical Sciences

NSC/IEB

5

APS

34

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

You will be considered for final admission to degree studies if space allows, and if you have a National Senior Certificate (NSC) or equivalent qualification with admission to bachelor's degree studies, and comply with the minimum subject requirements as well as the APS requirements of your chosen programme.

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the Brochure:

Undergraduate Programme Information 2023: Qualifications other than the NSC and IEB, available at [click here](#).

International students: [Click here](#).

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above.

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

Note:

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students

Unless capacity allows for an extension of the closing date, applications from returning students must be submitted before the end of August via your UP Student Centre.

Candidates who do not comply with the minimum admission requirements for BSc (Geology), may be considered for admission to the BSc – Extended programme – Physical Sciences, which requires an additional year of study.

BSc – Extended Programme – Physical Sciences

Minimum requirements

Achievement level

English Home

Language or

English First

Additional

Language

NSC/IEB

4

Mathematics

NSC/IEB

4

Physical Sciences

NSC/IEB

4

APS

28

Note:

*The BSc – Extended programmes are not available for students who meet all the requirements for the corresponding mainstream programme.

*Please note that only students who apply in their final NSC or equivalent qualification year will be considered for admission into any of the BSc – Extended programmes. Students who are upgrading or taking a gap year will not be considered.

Other programme-specific information

1.1 Requirements for specific modules

A candidate who:

- a. does not qualify for STK 110, must enrol for STK 113 and STK 123;
- b. registers for Mathematical Statistics (WST) and Statistics (STK) modules must take note that WST and STK modules, except for STK 281, may not be taken simultaneously in a programme; a student must take one and only one of the following options:
 - WST 111, WST 121, WST 212, WST 211, WST 221, WST 311, WST 312, WST 322, WST 321, and STK 353
or
 - WST 111, WST 121, WST 212, WST 211, WST 221, WST 311, WST 312, WST 322, STK 320, STK 353.
or
 - STK 110, STK 122, STK 210, STK 220, WST 212, STK 310, STK 320, STK 353.
- c. registers for a module presented by another faculty must take note of the timetable clashes, prerequisites for that module, subminimum required in examination papers, supplementary examinations, etc.

1.2 Fundamental modules

- a. It is compulsory for all new first-year students to satisfactorily complete the Academic orientation (UPO 102) and to take Academic information management modules (AIM 111 and AIM 121) and Language and study skills (LST 110). Please see curricula for details.
- b. Students who intend to apply for admission to MBChB or BChD in the second semester, when places become available in those programmes, may be permitted to register for up to 80 module credits and 4 core modules in the first semester during the first year provided that they obtained a final mark of no less than 70% for Grade 12 Mathematics and achieved an APS of 34 or more in the NSC.

Promotion to next study year

A student will be promoted to the following year of study if he or she passed 100 credits of the prescribed credits for a year of study, unless the Dean on the recommendation of the relevant head of department decides otherwise. A student who does not comply with the requirements for promotion to the following year of study, retains the credit for the modules already passed and may be admitted by the Dean, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, to modules of the following year of study to a maximum of 48 credits, provided that it will fit in with both the lecture and examination timetable.

General promotion requirements in the faculty

All students whose academic progress is not acceptable can be suspended from further studies.

- A student who is excluded from further studies in terms of the stipulations of the abovementioned regulations, will be notified in writing by the Dean or Admissions Committee at the end of the relevant semester.
- A student who has been excluded from further studies may apply in writing to the Admissions Committee of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences for re-admission.
- Should the student be re-admitted by the Admissions Committee, strict conditions will be set which the student must comply with in order to proceed with his/her studies.
- Should the student not be re-admitted to further studies by the Admissions Committee, he/she will be informed in writing.
- Students who are not re-admitted by the Admissions Committee have the right to appeal to the Senate Appeals Committee.
- Any decision taken by the Senate Appeals Committee is final.

General information

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.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 142

Fundamental = 14

Core = 112

Electives = 16

Additional information:

- Students who do not intend to continue with a second major in Physics or Mathematics may replace WTW 124 with WTW 146 and WTW 148.
- Students cannot take both WTW 124 and [WTW 146 + WTW 148]
- Students must select to do one of the following electives in semester 2: PHY 124 First Course in Physics, SWK 122 Mechanics, or both GMC 110 Cartography and GGY 166 Southern African Geomorphology.
- Students who select PHY 124 are able to continue with a second major in Chemistry, Mathematics, Soil Science or Physics. Students intending to continue with a second major in Physics must take WTW 124.
- Students who select SWK 122 may continue with a second major in Engineering Geology, Mathematics, Chemistry, Soil Science or Mechanics. Students intending to continue with a second major in Engineering Geology must take WTW 124.
- Students who select GMC 110 and GGY 166 can carry on with a second major in Applied Earth Science, Mathematics, Chemistry, or Soil Science. Students intending to continue with a second major in Mathematics must take WTW 124.

Fundamental modules

[Academic information management 111](#) (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

[Academic information management 121](#) (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

[Language and study skills 110](#) (LST 110) - Credits: 6.00

[Academic orientation 102](#) (UPO 102) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

[General chemistry 117](#) (CMY 117) - Credits: 16.00

[General chemistry 127](#) (CMY 127) - Credits: 16.00

[Introduction to geology 155](#) (GLY 155) - Credits: 16.00

[Earth history 163](#) (GLY 163) - Credits: 16.00

[First course in physics 114](#) (PHY 114) - Credits: 16.00

[Calculus 114](#) (WTW 114) - Credits: 16.00

Elective modules

[Southern African geomorphology 166](#) (GGY 166) - Credits: 8.00

[Cartography 110](#) (GMC 110) - Credits: 10.00

[First course in physics 124](#) (PHY 124) - Credits: 16.00

[Statics 122](#) (SWK 122) - Credits: 16.00

[Mathematics 124](#) (WTW 124) - Credits: 16.00

[Linear algebra 146](#) (WTW 146) - Credits: 8.00

[Calculus 148](#) (WTW 148) - Credits: 8.00

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 142

Core = 54

Elective = 88

Additional information:

- Students who do not intend to continue with Mathematics on third year level may replace WTW 220 with WTW 224.
- Students must select 2 groups of modules (either 2 x 48 credits = 96 credits or 48 + 40 = 88 credits) from the following list, depending on the second major intended:
 - **Chemistry:** CMY 282, CMY 283, CMY 284, CMY 285 (48 credits)
 - **Mathematics:** WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220, WTW 221 (48 credits)
 - **Applied Mathematics:** WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 248, WTW 264 (48 credits)
 - **Physics:** PHY 263, PHY 255 (48 credits) and WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220, WTW 248 (48 credits)
 - **Engineering Geology/Soil Science/Mechanics:** GKD 250, SWK 210, GIS 221 (40 credits)
 - **GIS/Geomorphology:** GKD 250, GGY 283, GMA 220 (40 credits)

Core modules

[Sedimentology 253](#) (GLY 253) - Credits: 12.00

[Fundamental and applied mineralogy 255](#) (GLY 255) - Credits: 12.00

[Igneous and metamorphic petrology 263](#) (GLY 263) - Credits: 24.00

[Geological field mapping 266](#) (GLY 266) - Credits: 6.00

Elective modules

[Physical chemistry 282](#) (CMY 282) - Credits: 12.00

[Analytical chemistry 283](#) (CMY 283) - Credits: 12.00

[Organic chemistry 284](#) (CMY 284) - Credits: 12.00

[Inorganic chemistry 285](#) (CMY 285) - Credits: 12.00

[Introductory geographic information systems 283](#) (GGY 283) - Credits: 14.00

[Geographic information systems introduction 221](#) (GIS 221) - Credits: 12.00

[Introductory soil science 250](#) (GKD 250) - Credits: 12.00

[Remote sensing 220](#) (GMA 220) - Credits: 14.00

[Waves, thermodynamics and modern physics 255](#) (PHY 255) - Credits: 24.00

[General physics 263](#) (PHY 263) - Credits: 24.00

[Strength of materials 210](#) (SWK 210) - Credits: 16.00

[Linear algebra 211](#) (WTW 211) - Credits: 12.00

[Calculus 218](#) (WTW 218) - Credits: 12.00

[Analysis 220](#) (WTW 220) - Credits: 12.00

[Linear algebra 221](#) (WTW 221) - Credits: 12.00

[Techniques of analysis 224](#) (WTW 224) - Credits: 12.00

[Vector analysis 248](#) (WTW 248) - Credits: 12.00

[Differential equations 264](#) (WTW 264) - Credits: 12.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 144

Core = 78

Elective = 66

Additional information:

Elective Modules (Credits = 66)

Students must select one group of modules (at least 66 credits each) from the following list, provided the appropriate second year modules were taken:

- **Chemistry:** CMY 382, CMY 383, CMY 384, CMY 385 (72 credits)
- **Mathematics:** WTW 310, WTW 320, WTW 381, WTW 389 (72 credits)
- **Applied Mathematics:** WTW 382, WTW 383, WTW 386, WTW 387 (72 credits)
- **Physics:** PHY 364, PHY 356 (72 credits)
- **Engineering Geology/Soil Science/Mechanics:** GKD 350, SGM 311, GLY 369 (66 credits)
- **Applied Earth Science:** GMA 320, GIS 310, GKD 320, GKD 350 (72 credits)

Core modules

[Structural geology 365](#) (GLY 365) - Credits: 18.00

[Groundwater 366](#) (GLY 366) - Credits: 18.00

[Economic geology 367](#) (GLY 367) - Credits: 36.00

[Advanced Geological field mapping 368](#) (GLY 368) - Credits: 6.00

Elective modules

[Physical chemistry 382](#) (CMY 382) - Credits: 18.00

[Analytical chemistry 383](#) (CMY 383) - Credits: 18.00

[Organic chemistry 384](#) (CMY 384) - Credits: 18.00

[Inorganic chemistry 385](#) (CMY 385) - Credits: 18.00

[Geographic information systems 310](#) (GIS 310) - Credits: 22.00

[Spatial analysis 320](#) (GIS 320) - Credits: 22.00

[Soil chemistry 320](#) (GKD 320) - Credits: 14.00

[Soil formation and classification 350](#) (GKD 350) - Credits: 14.00

[Engineering geology and rock mechanics 369](#) (GLY 369) - Credits: 36.00

[Remote sensing 320](#) (GMA 320) - Credits: 22.00

[Soil-water relationship and irrigation 350](#) (PGW 350) - Credits: 14.00

[Observational astronomy 300](#) (PHY 300) - Credits: 36.00

[Electronics, electromagnetism and quantum mechanics 356](#) (PHY 356) - Credits: 36.00

[Soil mechanics 311](#) (SGM 311) - Credits: 16.00

[Analysis 310](#) (WTW 310) - Credits: 18.00

[Complex analysis 320](#) (WTW 320) - Credits: 18.00

[Algebra 381](#) (WTW 381) - Credits: 18.00

[Dynamical systems 382](#) (WTW 382) - Credits: 18.00

[Numerical analysis 383](#) (WTW 383) - Credits: 18.00

[Partial differential equations 386](#) (WTW 386) - Credits: 18.00

[Continuum mechanics 387](#) (WTW 387) - Credits: 18.00

[Geometry 389](#) (WTW 389) - Credits: 18.00

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.

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