

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2024

Outbreak investigations and research 815 (OHB 815)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Veterinary Science
Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	09
Programmes	MSc (Veterinary Tropical Diseases) Global One Health (Coursework)
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Veterinary Tropical Diseases
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

A set of interdisciplinary sessions will assist the students to gain new insights in outbreak investigation and research which can support outbreak control.

In the first part of the module, emphasis will be on introducing the different theoretical and operational concepts, using exercises to practice hands-on skills, such as

- 10 steps of outbreak investigation
- surveillance and early warning
- geographical information systems
- involving stakeholders, communities, health systems
- evaluation methods, data management
- ethics

In the second part, we will go more in depth by unravelling research opportunities and discussing the challenges, the specificities and impact of investigations and research during outbreaks through disease-specific examples. We will discuss infectious disease outbreaks of rare pathogens (e.g. Ebola), often neglected outbreaks (e.g. Cholera), nosocomial outbreaks (e.g. Antimicrobial resistance -related), vector-borne disease outbreaks (e.g. Chikungunya), as well as discuss Covid-19 related investigations and research. In all examples we will focus on multi- and interdisciplinarity in outbreak investigation, control and research.

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

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. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this 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 (HEQSF) 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.