

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2024

BSc (Geography) *Geography and Environmental Science* (02133364)

Department Geography, Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 405

NQF level 07

Programme information

Those students registered for the BSc (Geography and Environmental Science) 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

Geography and Environmental Science

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2024

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	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	APS
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
5	5	5	34

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Applicants currently in Grade 12 must apply with their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.

Applicants who have completed Grade 12 must apply with their final NSC or equivalent qualification results.

Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.

Successful candidates will be notified once admitted or conditionally admitted.

Unsuccessful candidates will be notified after 30 June.

Applicants should check their application status regularly on the UP Student Portal at [click here](#).

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

Undergraduate Programme Information 2024: 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 Geography (Geography and Environmental Sciences), 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	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	APS
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
4	4	4	28

*** Please note:** Progression from the BSc – Extended programme – Physical Sciences to the mathematics-intensive programmes will be considered only if students obtained a GPA of 65% in their first-year modules. Students who pass all their first-year modules will be advised on alternative academic pathways.

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.

** BSc Extended programmes are selection programmes. Additional selection criteria apply.* BSc Extended programmes are selection programmes. Additional selection criteria apply.*

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. 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.

- 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 readmission.
- Should the student be readmitted 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 readmitted to further studies by the Admissions Committee, he/she will be informed in writing.
- Students who are not readmitted by the Admissions Committee have the right to appeal to the Senior Appeals Committee.
- Any decision taken by the Senior Appeals Committee is final.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 128

Fundamental = 14

Core = 66

Elective = 48

Additional Information

Students are advised to choose elective modules based on the requirements for a second major of interest. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that all prerequisites are taken into account. Choose electives according to the combinations below with a view to pursuing specialisation in the relevant field. Continue with the electives pertaining to the specific second major chosen, through to the second and third years of study.

- **Geoinformatics as a second major:** INF 154 (S1, 10), INF 171 (S1 & 2, 10 + 10) INF 164 (S2, 10), INF 112 (S2, 10) [20 + 30 = 50]
- **Plant Science as a second major:** MLB 111 (S1, 16), BOT 161 (S2, 8), CMY 117 (S1, 16), CMY 127 (S2, 16), MBY 161 (S2, 8) [32 + 32 = 64]
- **Soil Science as a second major:** BOT 161 (S2, 8), CMY 117 (S1, 16), CMY 127 (S2, 16), MLB 111 (S1, 16) [32 + 24 = 56]
- **Ecology as a second major:** BOT 161 (S2, 8), CMY 117 (S1, 16), CMY 127 (S2, 16), MLB 111 (S1, 16), ZEN 161 (S2, 8) [32 + 32 = 64]
- **Meteorology as second major:** WKD 155, PHY 114. Students doing a second major in meteorology should replace WTW 134 with WTW 114 and WTW 124 (48 credits)

Possibilities for second majors in Social Sciences (two options)

- **Anthropology as a second major:** APL 110 (S1, 12), APL 120 (S2, 12), EFK 110 (S1, 12), EFK 120 (S2, 12) [24 + 24 = 48] - towards BSocSciHons (Anthropology)
- **Heritage and Cultural Tourism as second major:** EFK 110 (S1, 12), EFK 120 (S2, 12), APL 110 (S1,12), APL 120 (S2, 12) = [24 + 24 = 48] - towards BSocSciHons (Heritage and Cultural Tourism)

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

[Biometry 120](#) (BME 120) - Credits: 16.00

[Introduction to environmental sciences 101](#) (ENV 101) - Credits: 8.00

[Aspects of human geography 156](#) (GGY 156) - Credits: 8.00

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

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

[Mathematics 134](#) (WTW 134) - Credits: 16.00

Elective modules

[Introduction to social anthropology 110](#) (APL 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Advanced introduction to social anthropology 120](#) (APL 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Plants and society 161](#) (BOT 161) - Credits: 8.00



General chemistry 117 (CMY 117) - Credits: 16.00
General chemistry 127 (CMY 127) - Credits: 16.00
Introduction to tourism 110 (EFK 110) - Credits: 12.00
Heritage tourism management 120 (EFK 120) - Credits: 12.00
Informatics 112 (INF 112) - Credits: 10.00
Informatics 154 (INF 154) - Credits: 10.00
Informatics 164 (INF 164) - Credits: 10.00
Informatics 171 (INF 171) - Credits: 20.00
Introduction to microbiology 161 (MBY 161) - Credits: 8.00
Molecular and cell biology 111 (MLB 111) - Credits: 16.00
First course in physics 114 (PHY 114) - Credits: 16.00
Atmospheric structure and processes 155 (WKD 155) - Credits: 16.00
Calculus 114 (WTW 114) - Credits: 16.00
Mathematics 124 (WTW 124) - Credits: 16.00
Animal diversity 161 (ZEN 161) - Credits: 8.00

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 132

Core = 82

Elective = 50

Additional information

Continue with electives pertaining to the second major chosen in the first year of study.

- **Geoinformatics as a second major:** INF 214 (S1, 14), INF 225 (S1, 14), INF 261 (S2, 7), SUR 220 (S2, 14), FIL 252 (10) [28 + 31 = 59]
- **Plant Science as a second major:** BOT 251 (S1, 12), MBY 251 (S1, 12), MBY 261 (S2, 12), GKD 250 (S1, 12), BOT 261 (S2, 12) [36 + 24 = 60]
- **Soil Science as a second major:** GKD 250 (S1, 12), SUR 220 (S2, 14), BOT 251 (S1, 12), BOT 261 (S2, 12), WKD 261 (Q1, 12) [36 + 26 = 62]
- **Ecology as a second major:** BOT 251 (S1, 12), BOT 261 (S2, 12), GKD 250 (S1, 12), ZEN 251 (S1, 12), ZEN 261 (S2, 12) [36 + 24 = 60]
- **Meteorology as second major:** WKD 261, WKD 254, WKD 263 and WKD 265 (50 credits) and one of [WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220, WTW 221, WTW 248, WTW 285, WTW 286 PLG 251, PPK 251, SUR 220] (50 credits)

Possibilities for second majors in Social Sciences (two options)

- **Anthropology as a second major:** APL 210 (S1, 20), APL 220 (S2, 20), EFK 210 (S1, 20) or EFK 220 (S2, 20) [20 + 40 = 60]
- **Heritage and Cultural Tourism as second major:** EFK 210 (S1, 20), EFK 220 (S2, 20), APL 210 (S1, 20) or APL 220 (S2, 20) [20 + 40 = 60]

Core modules

[Environmental sciences 201](#) (ENV 201) - Credits: 14.00

[City, structure, environment and society 201](#) (GGY 201) - Credits: 14.00

[Process geomorphology 252](#) (GGY 252) - Credits: 12.00

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

[Geographic data analysis 220](#) (GIS 220) - Credits: 14.00

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

Elective modules

[Sex, culture and society 210](#) (APL 210) - Credits: 20.00

[Anthropology 220](#) (APL 220) - Credits: 20.00

[Introduction to proteins and enzymes 251](#) (BCM 251) - Credits: 12.00

[South African flora and vegetation 251](#) (BOT 251) - Credits: 12.00

[Plant physiology and biotechnology 261](#) (BOT 261) - Credits: 12.00

[Tourism and representation 210](#) (EFK 210) - Credits: 20.00

[Community-based tourism 220](#) (EFK 220) - Credits: 20.00

[Introduction to moral and political philosophy 252](#) (FIL 252) - Credits: 10.00

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

[Informatics 214](#) (INF 214) - Credits: 14.00

[Informatics 225](#) (INF 225) - Credits: 14.00

[Informatics 261](#) (INF 261) - Credits: 7.00

[Bacteriology 251](#) (MBY 251) - Credits: 12.00



[Mycology 261](#) (MBY 261) - Credits: 12.00
[Introduction to crop protection 251](#) (PLG 251) - Credits: 12.00
[Sustainable crop production and agroclimatology 251](#) (PPK 251) - Credits: 15.00
[Surveying 220](#) (SUR 220) - Credits: 14.00
[Programming in meteorology 254](#) (WKD 254) - Credits: 12.00
[Physical meteorology 261](#) (WKD 261) - Credits: 12.00
[Introduction to dynamic meteorology 263](#) (WKD 263) - Credits: 14.00
[Satellite meteorology 265](#) (WKD 265) - Credits: 12.00
[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
[Vector analysis 248](#) (WTW 248) - Credits: 12.00
[Discrete structures 285](#) (WTW 285) - Credits: 12.00
[Differential equations 286](#) (WTW 286) - Credits: 12.00
[Invertebrate biology 251](#) (ZEN 251) - Credits: 12.00
[African vertebrates 261](#) (ZEN 261) - Credits: 12.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 136

Core = 76

Elective = 60

Additional information

Students must choose one of the two geoinformatics modules, GIS 310 or GMA 320, as a core module, except students on the geoinformatics second major who have to complete both modules.

Continue with electives pertaining to the second major chosen in the first and second years of study.

- **Geoinformatics as a second major:** GIS 320 (S1, 22), GMC 310 (S1, 22), GMA 320 (S2, 22) [44 + 22 = 66]
- **Plant Science as a second major:** BOT 356 (S1, 18), BOT 358 (S1, 18), BOT 365 (S2, 18), BOT 366 (S2, 18) [36 + 36 = 72]
- **Soil Science as a second major:** BOT 358 (S1, 18), GKD 350 (S1, 14), GKD 320 (S2, 14), BOT 366 (S2, 18), [32 + 32 = 64]
- **Ecology as a second major:** BOT 358 (S1, 18), ZEN 351 (Q1, 18), ZEN 364 (Q2, 18), ZEN 353 (Q4, 18) or ZEN 363 (Q4, 18) [36 + 36 = 72]
- **Meteorology as second major:** WKD 352, WKD 361, WKD 315, WKD 316 (72 credits)

Possibilities for second majors in Social Sciences (two options)

- **Anthropology as a second major:** APL 310 (S1, 30), APL 320 (S2, 30) [30 + 30 = 60]
- **Heritage and Cultural Tourism as a second major:** EFK 310 (S1, 30), EFK 320 (S2, 30) [30 + 30 = 60]

Core modules

Human environmental interactions 301 (ENV 301) - Credits: 18.00

Theories and applications of human geography 301 (GGY 301) - Credits: 18.00

Environmental geomorphology 361 (GGY 361) - Credits: 18.00

Geographic information systems 310 (GIS 310) - Credits: 22.00

Remote sensing 320 (GMA 320) - Credits: 22.00

Elective modules

Decoloniality, Anthropology and Africa 310 (APL 310) - Credits: 30.00

Anthropology 320 (APL 320) - Credits: 30.00

Plant ecophysiology 356 (BOT 356) - Credits: 18.00

Plant ecology 358 (BOT 358) - Credits: 18.00

Phytomedicine 365 (BOT 365) - Credits: 18.00

Plant diversity 366 (BOT 366) - Credits: 18.00

The South African tourism product 310 (EFK 310) - Credits: 30.00

Current discourses in tourism 320 (EFK 320) - Credits: 30.00

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

Remote sensing 320 (GMA 320) - Credits: 22.00

Geometrical and space geodesy 310 (GMC 310) - Credits: 22.00

Mid-latitude and polar meteorology 315 (WKD 315) - Credits: 18.00

Tropical meteorology 316 (WKD 316) - Credits: 18.00

[Synoptic-scale circulation dynamics and vorticity in mid-latitudes 352](#) (WKD 352) - Credits: 18.00

[Quasi-geostrophic analysis 361](#) (WKD 361) - Credits: 18.00

[Population ecology 351](#) (ZEN 351) - Credits: 18.00

[Community ecology 353](#) (ZEN 353) - Credits: 18.00

[Behavioural ecology 363](#) (ZEN 363) - Credits: 18.00

[Conservation ecology 364](#) (ZEN 364) - Credits: 18.00

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.