

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BPolSci specialising in Political Studies (01130039)

Department Political Sciences

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 372

NQF level 07

Programme information

This programme is aimed at the development of knowledge and skills to understand political developments and events and the impact thereof. This will enable the student, once employed in the public or private sector, to respond in an innovative and proactive manner to the problems and challenges of the political environment.

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2025

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	APS (Grade 11)	APS (NSC/IEB completed)
5	30	28

* To retain admission, candidates must obtain an APS of at least 28 in the NSC/IEB.

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 International undergraduate prospectus 2025: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa), 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.

Other programme-specific information

Note: First year of study - FUNDAMENTAL MODULES

Students who are deemed to be at risk of their level of academic literacy are compelled to take ALL 110 and ALL 125.

Students who are deemed NOT to be at risk of their level of academic literacy are compelled to take language modules to the value of 12 credits from the list of language modules under Academic literacy.

Elective modules

Outline of credits for ELECTIVE MODULES (total = 188):

First year: 88/96

Second year: 40

Third year: 60

Elective modules Year level 1

Select four disciplines and do two semester modules (or the credit value thereof) from each of these disciplines.

Elective modules Year level 2

Select two semester modules (or the credit value thereof) from the same subject as for level 1; or select two Economics semester modules at yr level 2 (on condition that EKN 120 was taken and that the prerequisites are complied with) together with one additional module at yr level 2 if the Economics modules' credit value is not 40; or select two Public Administration semester modules at yr level 2 together with one additional module at yr level 2 if the Public Administration modules' credit value is not 40.

Elective modules Year level 3

Select two semester modules (or the credit value thereof) either from the same subject as for yr level 2; or from



International Relations; or from Economics together with one additional module at yr level 3 if the Economics modules' credit value is not 60; or from Public Administration together with one additional module at yr level 3 if the Public Administration modules' credit value is not 60.

Note: Language modules leading to mastery of any language/languages may be taken up to third-year level. See the Language groups.

In collaboration with the coordinator, students can select any other appropriate modules as electives from the Faculty of Humanities.

LANGUAGE GROUPS FOR SELECTION IN PROGRAMMES

Note: Consult the yearbook for module-specific requirements/prerequisites by searching for the relevant language module.

Module group 1 - Afrikaans

Year level 1

- As a first language: AFR 110, 120
- For speakers of other languages (also for speakers of other languages who are registered for qualifications in education and law) AFR 114

Year level 2

- As a first language: AFR 214, AFR 210, 220
- For students following a programme in education: AFR 214, AFR 220

Year level 3

- As a first language: AFR 311, 321
- For students following a programme in education: Any modules with alpha codes AFR offered at year level 3.

Module group 2 - English

Year level 1

- For special purposes: ENG 118
- For academic purposes: ENG 110, 120

Year level 2

ENG 210, 220

Year level 3

- ENG 310, 320
- ENG 311, 322

Module group 3 - French

Year level 1

- For beginners: FRN 104
- Cultural-professional (for students who have passed French in Grade 12): FRN 113, 123

Year level 2

FRN 211, 221

Year level 3

Cultural-professional: FRN 361, 362, 363, 364

Module group 4 - German

Year level 1

- For beginners: DTS 104
- Cultural-professional (for students who have passed German in Grade 12): DTS 113, 123

Year level 2



DTS 211, 221

Year level 3

Cultural-professional: DTS 361, 362, 363, 364

Module group 5 - Greek

Year level 1

GRK 110, 120

Year level 2

GRK 210, 220

Module group 6 - Hebrew

Year level 1

HEB 110, 120

Year level 2

HEB 210, 220

Module group 7 - Latin

Year level 1

LAT 110, 120 (students who passed Latin in Grade 12 may start immediately with Latin at year level 2)

Year level 2

LAT 210, 220

Year level 3

LAT 310, 320

Module group 8 - IsiNdebele

Year level 1

For speakers of isiNdebele as home language or first or second additional language

NDE 110, AFT 121

Year level 2

NDE 210, AFT 220

Year level 3

NDE 310, AFT 320

Module group 9 - IsiZulu

Year level 1

- For beginners: ZUL 110, 120
- For speakers of isiZulu as home language or first or second additional language: ZUL 111, AFT 121

Year level 2

- For students who did ZUL 110, 120 at year level 1: ZUL 210, 220
- For students who did AFT 121: ZUL 111 at year level 1: AFT 220, ZUL 211

Year level 3

ZUL 310, AFT 320

Module group 10 - Sepedi

Year level 1

- For beginners: SEP 110, 120
- For speakers of Sepedi as home language or first or second additional language: SEP 111, AFT 121

Year level 2



- For students who did SEP 110, 120 at year level 1: SEP 210, 220
- For students who did AFT 121, SEP 111 at year level 1: AFT 220, SEP 211

Year level 3

SEP 310, AFT 320

Module group 11 - Setswana

Year level 1

- For beginners: STW 110, 120
- For speakers of Setswana as home language or first or second additional language: STW 111, AFT 121

Year level 2

- For students who did STW 110, 120 at year level 1: STW 210, 220
- For students who did AFT 121, STW 111 at year level 1: AFT 220, STW 211

Year level 3

STW 310, AFT 320

Module group 12 - Spanish

Year level 1

For beginners: SPN 101, 102

Year level 2

SPN 211, 221

Year level 3

SPN 311, 321

Module group 13 - Portuguese

Year level 1

- For beginners: PTG 101
- Portuguese language and culture (for students who have passed Portuguese in Gr 12): PTG 113, 123

Year level 2

PTG 211, 221

Year level 3

PTG 311, 321

Academic literacy

Students with an achievement level of 5 or 6 or 7 for English Home Language or an achievement level of 6 or 7 for English First Additional Language, or the foreign qualification equivalence as per the conversion table, may apply for an exemption from ALL 110 and ALL 125.

Students who are deemed NOT to be at risk of their level of academic literacy are compelled to take language modules to the value of 12 credits from the other departments.

Students with an achievement level of 4 and below for English Home Language or an achievement level of 5 and below for English First Additional Language or the foreign qualification equivalence must register for ALL 110 and ALL 125.

Department of English

ENG 110 Introduction to literature in English (I)

ENG 120 Introduction to literature in English (II)

ENG 118 English for specific purposes

Departement Afrikaans



AFR 110 Afrikaanse taalkunde en letterkunde
AFR 120 Afrikaanse taalkunde en letterkunde
AFR 114 Afrikaans vir sprekers van ander tale (I)

Department of African Languages

NDE 110 Introduction to isiNdebele grammar – Capita selecta

* Students who want to take isiNdebele in the second semester, should also register for AFT 121 (African languages literature: Capita selecta)

ZUL 110 IsiZulu for beginners

ZUL 111 Introduction to isiZulu grammar – Capita selecta

* Students who want to take isiZulu in the second semester, should also register for AFT 121 (African languages literature: Capita selecta)

SEP 110 Sepedi for beginners

SEP 111 Introduction to Sepedi Grammar – Capita selecta

* Students who want to take Sepedi in the second semester, should also register for AFT 121 (African languages literature: Capita selecta)

STW 110 Setswana for beginners

STW 111 Introduction to Setswana Grammar – Capita selecta

*Students who want to take Setswana in the second semester, should also register for AFT 121 (African languages literature: Capita selecta)

Department of Ancient and Modern Languages and Cultures

DTS 104 German for beginners

DTS 113 German: Cultural-professional (1) *Prerequisite: Grade 12 German

FRN 104 French for beginners

FRN 113 French: Cultural-professional (1) *Prerequisite: Grade 12 French

GRK 110 Greek

HEB 110 Hebrew

LAT 110 Latin

PTG 101 Portuguese for beginners

SPN 101 Spanish for beginners

SPN 102 Spanish for beginners



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 132

Fundamental modules

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

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

[Academic literacy 110](#) (ALL 110) - Credits: 6.00

[Academic literacy for Humanities 125](#) (ALL 125) - Credits: 6.00

[Academic orientation 101](#) (UPO 101) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

[Politics 101](#) (PTO 101) - Credits: 24.00

Elective modules

[Afrikaans 120](#) (AFR 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Archaeology 110](#) (AGL 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Archaeology 120](#) (AGL 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Ancient culture studies 110](#) (AKG 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Ancient culture studies 120](#) (AKG 120) - Credits: 12.00

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

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

[Economics 110](#) (EKN 110) - Credits: 10.00

[Economics 120](#) (EKN 120) - Credits: 10.00

[English 110](#) (ENG 110) - Credits: 12.00

[English 120](#) (ENG 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Philosophy 110](#) (FIL 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Philosophy 120](#) (FIL 120) - Credits: 12.00

[History 110](#) (GES 110) - Credits: 12.00

[History 120](#) (GES 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Greek 110](#) (GRK 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Greek 120](#) (GRK 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Hebrew 110](#) (HEB 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Hebrew 120](#) (HEB 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Information science 110](#) (INL 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Information science 120](#) (INL 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Information science 130](#) (INL 130) - Credits: 12.00

[Information science 140](#) (INL 140) - Credits: 12.00

[Latin 110](#) (LAT 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Latin 120](#) (LAT 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Introduction to isiNdebele Grammar – Capita selecta 110](#) (NDE 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Public administration 112](#) (PAD 112) - Credits: 10.00

[Public administration 122](#) (PAD 122) - Credits: 10.00

[Sepedi for beginners 110](#) (SEP 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Sepedi 120](#) (SEP 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Sociology 110](#) (SOC 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Sociology 120](#) (SOC 120) - Credits: 12.00



[Setswana for beginners 110](#) (STW 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Setswana 120](#) (STW 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Visual culture studies 111](#) (VKK 111) - Credits: 12.00

[Visual culture studies 121](#) (VKK 121) - Credits: 12.00

[isiZulu for beginners 110](#) (ZUL 110) - Credits: 12.00

[isiZulu 120](#) (ZUL 120) - Credits: 12.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

International relations theory and international organisation(s) 210 (IPL 210) - Credits: 20.00
Foreign policy analysis and diplomacy 220 (IPL 220) - Credits: 20.00
Political science 210 (STL 210) - Credits: 20.00
Political science 220 (STL 220) - Credits: 20.00

Elective modules

Afrikaans 210 (AFR 210) - Credits: 20.00
Afrikaans 214 (AFR 214) - Credits: 20.00
Afrikaans 220 (AFR 220) - Credits: 20.00
African languages literature: *Capita selecta* 220 (AFT 220) - Credits: 20.00
Ancient culture studies 210 (AKG 210) - Credits: 20.00
Ancient culture studies 220 (AKG 220) - Credits: 20.00
Sex, culture and society 210 (APL 210) - Credits: 20.00
Anthropology 220 (APL 220) - Credits: 20.00
Economics 214 (EKN 214) - Credits: 16.00
Economics 224 (EKN 224) - Credits: 16.00
Modern English literature and English studies 210 (ENG 210) - Credits: 20.00
English 220 (ENG 220) - Credits: 20.00
Contesting modernities 210 (FIL 210) - Credits: 20.00
Philosophy in context 220 (FIL 220) - Credits: 20.00
Aspects of African history 210 (GES 210) - Credits: 20.00
The shaping of a modern South Africa 220 (GES 220) - Credits: 20.00
Greek 210 (GRK 210) - Credits: 16.00
Greek 220 (GRK 220) - Credits: 16.00
Hebrew 210 (HEB 210) - Credits: 16.00
Hebrew 220 (HEB 220) - Credits: 16.00
Information science 210 (INL 210) - Credits: 16.00
Information science 220 (INL 220) - Credits: 16.00
Information science 230 (INL 230) - Credits: 16.00
Information science 240 (INL 240) - Credits: 16.00
Information science 260 (INL 260) - Credits: 16.00
Information science 270 (INL 270) - Credits: 16.00
Latin 210 (LAT 210) - Credits: 20.00
Latin 220 (LAT 220) - Credits: 20.00
isiNdebele 210 (NDE 210) - Credits: 20.00
Public administration 212 (PAD 212) - Credits: 16.00
Public administration 222 (PAD 222) - Credits: 16.00
Dynamics of religion 210 (REL 210) - Credits: 20.00
Ancient religions and health 220 (REL 220) - Credits: 20.00
Religion and culture 221 (REL 221) - Credits: 20.00
Sepedi 210 (SEP 210) - Credits: 20.00
Sepedi grammar – *Capita selecta* 211 (SEP 211) - Credits: 20.00



[Sepedi 220](#) (SEP 220) - Credits: 20.00
[Sociology 210](#) (SOC 210) - Credits: 20.00
[Sociology 211](#) (SOC 211) - Credits: 20.00
[Sociology 220](#) (SOC 220) - Credits: 20.00
[Sociology 221](#) (SOC 221) - Credits: 20.00
[Visual culture studies 211](#) (VKK 211) - Credits: 20.00
[Visual culture studies 221](#) (VKK 221) - Credits: 20.00
[isiZulu 210](#) (ZUL 210) - Credits: 20.00
[isiZulu grammar – Capita selecta 211](#) (ZUL 211) - Credits: 20.00
[isiZulu 220](#) (ZUL 220) - Credits: 20.00



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Political science 310 (STL 310) - Credits: 30.00

Political science 320 (STL 320) - Credits: 30.00

Elective modules

Afrikaans 311 (AFR 311) - Credits: 30.00

Afrikaans 321 (AFR 321) - Credits: 30.00

Ancient culture studies 310 (AKG 310) - Credits: 30.00

Ancient culture studies 320 (AKG 320) - Credits: 30.00

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

Anthropology 320 (APL 320) - Credits: 30.00

Biblical languages 310 (BYT 310) - Credits: 30.00

Biblical languages 320 (BYT 320) - Credits: 30.00

Economics 310 (EKN 310) - Credits: 20.00

Development economics 315 (EKN 315) - Credits: 20.00

Economics 320 (EKN 320) - Credits: 20.00

Economics 325 (EKN 325) - Credits: 20.00

English 310 (ENG 310) - Credits: 30.00

English 320 (ENG 320) - Credits: 30.00

Self and subjectivity 310 (FIL 310) - Credits: 30.00

Philosophy in context 320 (FIL 320) - Credits: 30.00

History 310 (GES 310) - Credits: 30.00

Globalisation, diversity and change 320 (GES 320) - Credits: 30.00

Information science 310 (INL 310) - Credits: 20.00

Information science 320 (INL 320) - Credits: 20.00

Information science 340 (INL 340) - Credits: 20.00

Information science 360 (INL 360) - Credits: 20.00

Information science 380 (INL 380) - Credits: 20.00

International political economy 310 (IPL 310) - Credits: 30.00

Security and strategic studies 320 (IPL 320) - Credits: 30.00

Latin 310 (LAT 310) - Credits: 30.00

Latin 320 (LAT 320) - Credits: 30.00

isiNdebele 310 (NDE 310) - Credits: 30.00

Public administration 312 (PAD 312) - Credits: 20.00

Public administration 322 (PAD 322) - Credits: 20.00

Material religion 310 (REL 310) - Credits: 30.00

Sociology of religion 320 (REL 320) - Credits: 30.00

Sepedi 310 (SEP 310) - Credits: 30.00

Sociology 310 (SOC 310) - Credits: 30.00

Sociology 321 (SOC 321) - Credits: 30.00

isiZulu 310 (ZUL 310) - Credits: 30.00

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.