



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Bachelor of Social Work [BSW] (01130144)

Department Social Work and Criminology

Minimum duration of study 4 years

Total credits 523

NQF level 08

Programme information

The purpose of this integrated programme is to provide qualifiers with professional training for a career in social work. The theoretical training goes hand in hand with appropriate practical skills training.

A police clearance certificate (PCC) is required to study social work. In accordance with the Children's Act (2005), all registered student social workers have to complete Form 30 in Part B of the National Child Protection Register (NCPR).

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.

* A police clearance certificate (PCC) is required to study social work. In terms of the Children's Act (2005), all registered student social workers have to complete Form 30 in Part B of the National Child Protection Register (NCPR).

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

- 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. ENG 118 or SEP 110 or ZUL 110 is suggested as a substitute for ALL 110 and ALL 125.
- Students who are deemed to be at risk 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.
- In order to qualify for selection into the second year of the BSW programme, students need to obtain a general average mark of at least 60% for all the social work first-year modules respectively, and a weighted average of 60% for the rest of the required modules in the BSW programme. Students are selected according to academic achievement (i.e. GPA = 60%), Shadowmatch profile, and a discussion which carry an equal weight.
- No student will be allowed to commence with the fourth year of BSW before the successful completion of all the social work modules up to the third-year level..

Pass with distinction

A student has to obtain a grade point average (GPA) of at least 75% (not rounded) for the final-year modules in the BSW programme (i.e., MWT 452, MWT 454, MWT 455 and MWP 400) in order to pass the degree with distinction.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 122

Core modules-special note

Select either APL 110 and APL 120 or Soc 110 and 120

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

English for specific purposes 118 (ENG 118) - Credits: 12.00

Sepedi for beginners 110 (SEP 110) - Credits: 12.00

Academic orientation 101 (UPO 101) - Credits: 0.00

isiZulu for beginners 110 (ZUL 110) - Credits: 12.00

Core modules

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

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

Criminology 110 (KRM 110) - Credits: 12.00

Criminology 120 (KRM 120) - Credits: 12.00

Social work in practice 161 (MWP 161) - Credits: 6.00

Social work theory 110 (MWT 110) - Credits: 12.00

Social work theory 120 (MWT 120) - Credits: 12.00

Psychology 110 (SLK 110) - Credits: 12.00

Psychology 120 (SLK 120) - Credits: 12.00

Sociology 110 (SOC 110) - Credits: 12.00

Sociology 120 (SOC 120) - Credits: 12.00

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 156

Core modules- special note

- If Criminology is selected up to third-year level, students also have to select SLK 210 and SOC 220 or APL 210.
- If Psychology is selected up to third-year level, students also have to select KRM 220 and SOC 220 or APL 210.
- If Sociology is selected up to third-year level, students also have to select KRM 220 and SLK 210 .
- If Anthropology is selected up to third-year level, students also have to select KRM 220 and SLK 210.

Elective modules- special note:

Select one of the following: KRM 210 (20) or SLK 220 (20) or SOC 210 (20) or APL 220 (20).

Core modules

- [Sex, culture and society 210](#) (APL 210) - Credits: 20.00
- [Criminology 220](#) (KRM 220) - Credits: 20.00
- [Social work in practice 261](#) (MWP 261) - Credits: 12.00
- [Social work theory 210](#) (MWT 210) - Credits: 15.00
- [Social work theory 220](#) (MWT 220) - Credits: 15.00
- [Business management 114](#) (OBS 114) - Credits: 10.00
- [Business management 124](#) (OBS 124) - Credits: 10.00
- [Psychology 210](#) (SLK 210) - Credits: 20.00
- [Sociology 220](#) (SOC 220) - Credits: 20.00
- [Social welfare law 110](#) (WRG 110) - Credits: 7.00
- [Social welfare law 120](#) (WRG 120) - Credits: 7.00

Elective modules

- [Anthropology 220](#) (APL 220) - Credits: 20.00
- [Criminology 210](#) (KRM 210) - Credits: 20.00
- [Psychology 220](#) (SLK 220) - Credits: 20.00
- [Sociology 210](#) (SOC 210) - Credits: 20.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 125

Elective modules-special note

Select one of the following module pairs to the credit value of 60: KRM 310 and KRM 320; or SOC 310 and SOC 321; or SLK 310 and SLK 320; or APL 310 and APL 320.

Core modules

[Social work in practice 361](#) (MWP 361) - Credits: 25.00

[Social work theory 311](#) (MWT 311) - Credits: 20.00

[Social work theory 321](#) (MWT 321) - Credits: 20.00

Elective modules

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

[Anthropology 320](#) (APL 320) - Credits: 30.00

[Criminology 310](#) (KRM 310) - Credits: 30.00

[Criminology 320](#) (KRM 320) - Credits: 30.00

[Psychology 310](#) (SLK 310) - Credits: 30.00

[Psychology 320](#) (SLK 320) - Credits: 30.00

[Sociology 310](#) (SOC 310) - Credits: 30.00

[Sociology 321](#) (SOC 321) - Credits: 30.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

[Social work in practice 400](#) (MWP 400) - Credits: 50.00

[Social work management and social policy 452](#) (MWT 452) - Credits: 20.00

[Social development 454](#) (MWT 454) - Credits: 20.00

[Social work research 455](#) (MWT 455) - 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.