

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BAHons in Augmentative and Alternative Communication (01242133)

Department	Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communication
Minimum duration of study	1 year
Total credits	120
NQF level	08

Programme information

This programme is offered over a period of one year through a technology-enhanced mode with a number of meetings on campus.

Students applying for the programme need to have a relevant three-year bachelor's degree to qualify for admission.

All students need to be working in the field of severe disability.

All students need to have consistent email and internet access from the place of their residence.

Closing date for applications: 30 November annually.

Admission requirements

1. Relevant bachelor's degree
2. A weighed average of 65% at final-year level of the Bachelor's degree
3. Work experience in the field of severe disability

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

AAC assessment procedures 702 (AAK 702)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	5 other contact sessions per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communicat
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Training of observation skills with the use of an assessment schedule. A practical component is included in this module. At the end of this module the student must be able to understand the process of communication evaluation of people with severe disabilities by describing the assessment principles, as well as the assessment of opportunity and access barriers and of specific capabilities.

Communication technology 703 (AAK 703)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	5 other contact sessions per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communicat
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Implementation of assistive devices by the communicatively disabled population. At the end of this module the student must be able to understand the different types of assistive communication technology ranging from low to high technology in order to assist clients with little or no functional speech to select the most suitable device.

Implementation of Augmentative and Alternative Communication in children 715 (AAK 715)

Module credits	25.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	5 other contact sessions per week

Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communicat
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

AAC intervention for the child with severe disabilities will be followed in this module. A practical component is included in this module. At the end of this module the student must be able to describe and implement appropriate AAC strategies for children with a variety of abilities, and integrate AAC implementation within contexts such as adapted play, integrated early intervention- and educational settings.

Research report: AAC 717 (AAK 717)

Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communicat
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The module covers planning for data collection, field work, analysing data collected and writing up the results and discussion of the results in the form of a complete research report. On completion of the module, the student will be expected to complete a research report on an approved topic in the field of augmentative and alternative communication.

Introduction to severe disabilities and AAC symbol systems 718 (AAK 718)

Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	5 other contact sessions per week once a year
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communicat
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Introduction to augmentative and alternative communication (AAC), definition of AAC, identification and discussion of key issues in AAC implementation and description of candidates who may benefit from AAC; their basic rights to communication, education and to work; as well as Communication for people with severe disabilities and the use of unaided (dynamic and/or manual) and aided (static) systems. At the end of this module, the student must be able to define concepts in AAC and identify and discuss key issues in AAC implementation and describe candidates who can benefit from AAC, and understand AAC symbol systems and the impact of using them with a person with little or no functional speech. A practical component is included.

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.