

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BAHons specialising in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (01243028)

Department Humanities

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 120

NQF level 08

Admission requirements

1. Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics
or
a relevant bachelor's degree with specialisation in Philosophy, Politics and Economics
2. A weighted average of at least 70% in each of Philosophy, Political Science and Economics, at final-year level
or
A weighted average of at least 65% in each of Philosophy, Political Science and Economics, at final-year level.
In this case, conditional admission will be allowed until Ethics and Social Philosophy module (FIL 711) is passed with at least 65%
If 65% is not achieved for FIL 711: The student may be offered the option of transferring to the BAHons (Philosophy) degree

Other programme-specific information

Apart from the core modules, one module each should be selected from the current honours curriculum of the departments of Philosophy and Political Sciences and two modules should be selected from the current honours curriculum in the Department of Economics.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core

A student must complete FIL 711 and choose ONE of the following modules:

FIL 770, EKN 795, STL 770, IPL 770

Electives

Choose ONE module from the discipline: **Philosophy**

FIL 710, FIL 712, FIL 713

Choose ONE module from the discipline: **Political Science**

PTO 751, PTO 752, PTO 753

STL 752, STL 753, STL 754

Choose TWO modules from the discipline: **Economics**

EKT 713, EKT 723, MEK 780, MEK 781, MIE 780, MIE 781

Core modules

Research essay 795 (EKN 795)

Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	Only for Honours Economics students
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Economics
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

This module will present the underlying principles of research methodology, as well as the principles of writing, referencing, and research ethics. The module will be evaluated based on an economics research proposal, a research ethics submission and a research paper focussing on the analysis of economic issues or policies.

Social philosophical debates 711 (FIL 711)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Philosophy
Period of presentation	Semester 1



Module content

The focus is on key issues or themes in moral and political philosophy, including themes in the philosophy of economics. The content of the module may vary from year to year and will be announced at the beginning of each year. Please see the department's website for more information.

Research report: Philosophy 770 (FIL 770)

Module credits	40.00
NQF Level	08
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Philosophy
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Research essay on an appropriate topic in Philosophy as approved by the head of department.

Research report: International relations 770 (IPL 770)

Module credits	40.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

The student in a specialised field of international relations, is written under the guidance of a supervisor. This is preceded by an introduction to advanced political research in the discipline with the inclusion of appropriate research methodology, research ethics, and the planning and documentation of research.

Research report: Political science 770 (STL 770)

Module credits	40.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A limited research report of 8 000-10 000 words, based on independent research done by the student in a specialised field of political science, is written under the guidance of a supervisor. This is preceded by an introduction to advanced political research in the discipline with the inclusion of appropriate research methodology, research ethics, and the planning and documentation of research.

Elective modules

Econometrics 713 (EKT 713)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Service modules	Faculty of Humanities
Prerequisites	Only for BComHons: Agricultural Economics, Econometrics or Economics students
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Economics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

An introductory yet comprehensive course in econometrics, encompassing an in-depth examination of elementary statistics and regression analysis. This includes the fundamentals of simple and multiple regression analyses, as well as estimation, inference and hypothesis testing. Considerable attention is devoted to practical applications on current economic issues and examples drawn from the applied economic literature.

Econometrics 723 (EKT 723)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	Only for Hons Econometrics or Economics students: EKT 713
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Economics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

An advanced course in econometrics that goes beyond elementary statistics and regression analysis. This includes in-depth analyses of the theory and application of stationarity, unit roots and co-integration in single equations. In addition to this, the concepts of qualitative analysis, cross-sectional modelling and simultaneous-equation modelling are dealt with.

History of philosophy 710 (FIL 710)



Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Philosophy
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

A study of selected texts and/or themes from the history of philosophy. The content of the module may vary from year to year and will be announced at the beginning of each year. Please see the department's website for more information.

Contemporary philosophy 712 (FIL 712)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Philosophy
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Critical investigation of the work of key authors or themes in recent philosophy, with some likely emphasis on metaphysics, epistemology, the philosophy of science or a related field. The contents of the module may vary from year to year and will be announced at the beginning of each year. Please see the department's website for more information.

Current theme/debate 713 (FIL 713)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 discussion class per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Philosophy
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Critical investigation of current debates in philosophy. The content of the module may vary from year to year and will be announced at the beginning of each year. Please see the department's website for more information.

International political economy 751 (IPL 751)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Contemporary political and economic trends that impact on the political economy of the developing world are studied. The focus is in particular on the influence of international financial institutions and regimes on the political economy of the developing world, and on the responses of developing countries.

Foreign policy 753 (IPL 753)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

This advanced module makes an in-depth study of the most important theoretical issues in the analysis of foreign policy. It deals with the development of foreign policy theory, the concept "foreign policy" and the related issues of the role of the state and the agency-structure debate. It also makes an in-depth study of a variety of approaches to the study of foreign policy and in so doing attempts to prepare the student for a possible master's dissertation on a topic related to the study of foreign policy.

Macroeconomics 780 (MEK 780)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Service modules	Faculty of Humanities
Prerequisites	Admission into relevant programme



Contact time 1 seminar per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Economics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

This module will cover the core theoretical concepts of macroeconomics focussing specifically on labour and goods markets as well as intertemporal issues, such as capital markets. Topics will include economic growth, exogenous and endogenous, business cycles, monetary economics, stabilization policies and structural policies.

Macroeconomics 781 (MEK 781)

Module credits 15.00

NQF Level 08

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 1 lecture per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Economics

Period of presentation Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

As a follow-on to the first semester of macroeconomics MEK 780, this module will cover more advanced topics in macroeconomics, especially international finance and political economy. The role of money will also receive attention.

Microeconomics 780 (MIE 780)

Module credits 15.00

NQF Level 08

Service modules Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites Admission into relevant programme

Contact time 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Economics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

The core concepts of microeconomic theory will be the focus of the module, including: demand and supply, consumer theory, firm theory, markets and market structure, general equilibrium, information economics and behavioural economics. Applications of this theory will feature prominently.

Microeconomics 781 (MIE 781)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Economics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

As a follow-on to the first semester of microeconomics MIE 780, this module will enable the students to analyse relevant real-world situations by means of formal models which have become standard in Economic Theory. To this end, newsworthy economic events, e.g., bail-out decisions, speculative attacks etc., will be discussed. The theoretical focus of this module will be on concepts from general equilibrium theory, game theory, and information economics.

African and regional politics 751 (PTO 751)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

The module focuses on African political systems, the position and role of Africa in the international system and aspects of regionalism and regionalisation. An analysis and evaluation is made of the major issues, challenges, trends and transformations concerning the domestic politics and the regional and international relations of African states, including pan-Africanism.

Political policy studies 752 (STL 752)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

An advanced study of policy analysis. Policy analysis is an approach to public policy that aims to integrate and contextualise models and research. Special attention is given to meta-analysis (methods and approaches), meso-analysis and decision-making analysis.

South African politics 753 (STL 753)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

The study of South African politics with reference to political institutions, the political process, political issues and policy. The emphasis is on recent events and developments in the national and international political environment. Emphasis is placed on political parties, organisations and institutions, the political system, the development of the political system, system adaptation, transformation and legitimacy, influences on the political environment, elections, political leadership, policy and the development of policy.

Comparative politics 754 (STL 754)

Module credits	20.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Political Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Emphasis is placed on the development of comparative politics; problems in the comparative study of political objects and in the evaluation of approaches and principles underlying comparative analysis; as well as the identification and evaluation of new approaches. This knowledge is applied to specific case studies.

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.