

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BScAgric in Applied Plant and Soil Sciences (02133426)

Department	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
Minimum duration of study	4 years
Total credits	575
NQF level	08

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	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	APS
NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	NSC/IEB	
5	5	5	32

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 2026: 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

Compilation of curriculum

Students must register for elective modules in consultation with the head of department who must ensure that the modules do not clash on the set timetable.

The Dean may, in exceptional cases and on recommendation of the relevant head of department, approve deviations from the prescribed curriculum.

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, STC 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, unless the Dean on the recommendation of the relevant head of department decides otherwise. 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.

Progression to the final year of study

Only students who have completed all modules prescribed for the first, second and third year of study will be admitted to the final year of study.

Special examination

1. A student requiring no more than the equivalent of 36 credits in total across the first, second and third year of their BScAgric degree programme, may be admitted to a special examination.
2. If, subject to faculty regulations, there is an indication at the end of an academic year that a student qualifies for a special examination in no more than the equivalent of 36 credits, and that such student can complete his or her third study year if he or she is successful, the faculty may require such student to write a special examination or examinations. If the student declines the offer, this may be taken into consideration with regard to further residence accommodation and financial support by the University.
3. A student only qualifies for a special examination if he or she sat for the prescribed examination in the preceding year of study.
4. In the case of a student who passes the module on the basis of the special examination, the result of the special examination does not replace the failed mark of such a module on a student's academic record and it is recorded as an additional mark.
5. In order to continue with the next (final) year of study, the results of the special examination must be submitted to the relevant faculty's head of student administration. It must be noted that a special examination is a once-off opportunity.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 142

Fundamental = 14

Core = 128

Additional information:

Students intending to apply for the BVSc selection have to enrol for MTL 180(12).

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

[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

[Introductory genetics 161](#) (GTS 161) - Credits: 8.00

[Introduction to microbiology 161](#) (MBY 161) - Credits: 8.00

[Molecular and cell biology 111](#) (MLB 111) - Credits: 16.00

[Physics for biology students 131](#) (PHY 131) - Credits: 16.00

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

[Animal diversity 161](#) (ZEN 161) - Credits: 8.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 135

Core modules

- 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
- Introductory soil science 250 (GKD 250) - Credits: 12.00
- Molecular genetics 251 (GTS 251) - Credits: 12.00
- Genetic diversity and evolution 261 (GTS 261) - Credits: 12.00
- Introduction to agricultural economics 210 (LEK 210) - Credits: 14.00
- Agricultural economics 220 (LEK 220) - Credits: 12.00
- Introduction to crop protection 251 (PLG 251) - Credits: 12.00
- Principles of plant pathology 262 (PLG 262) - Credits: 12.00
- Sustainable crop production and agroclimatology 251 (PPK 251) - Credits: 15.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 148

Core modules

Field crops 361 (AGR 361) - Credits: 14.00

Plant ecophysiology 356 (BOT 356) - Credits: 18.00

Soil chemistry 320 (GKD 320) - Credits: 14.00

Soil formation and classification 350 (GKD 350) - Credits: 14.00

Principles and practices 351 (HSC 351) - Credits: 14.00

Soil-water relationship and irrigation 350 (PGW 350) - Credits: 14.00

Plant disease control 363 (PLG 363) - Credits: 18.00

Principles of veld management 310 (WDE 310) - Credits: 12.00

Planted pastures and fodder crops 320 (WDE 320) - Credits: 12.00

Applied entomology 365 (ZEN 365) - Credits: 18.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 150

Additional Information

Only students who have completed all modules prescribed for the first, second and third year of study will be admitted to the final year of study.

Core modules

- [Vegetable crops 410](#) (AGR 410) - Credits: 15.00
- [Crop physiology 461](#) (APS 461) - Credits: 15.00
- [Statistics for biological sciences 410](#) (BME 410) - Credits: 15.00
- [Soil fertility, soil microbiology and plant nutrition 420](#) (GKD 420) - Credits: 15.00
- [Fruit tree crops 420](#) (HSC 420) - Credits: 15.00
- [Ornamental horticulture 490](#) (HSC 490) - Credits: 15.00
- [Environmental biophysics 450](#) (LKM 450) - Credits: 15.00
- [Weed science 413](#) (OKW 413) - Credits: 15.00
- [Seminar 400](#) (PGW 400) - Credits: 15.00
- [Advanced pasture science 450](#) (WDE 450) - Credits: 15.00

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.