

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BScHons in Biotechnology (02240393)

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 135

NQF level 08

Programme information

BScHons (Biotechnology) is a unique interdepartmental programme aimed at enabling students to pursue their interest in molecular biotechnology through relevant research areas offered within fields of biochemistry, plant science, microbiology and plant pathology, plant production, as well as genetics. Students within this programme will be registered and will conduct their studies within the department of their choice. A student's choice of research programme will determine which of the respective departments will mentor their honours degree programme.

Admission requirements

1. Relevant Bachelor of Science degree with specialisation in Biochemistry, Genetics, Microbiology or Plant Sciences
2. A weighted average of at least 60% at final-year level

Note: An admission examination may be required

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 135

Core credits: 35

Elective credits: 100

Additional information:

- Students registered in the Division of Biochemistry must take BCM 771, BCM 773 and BCM 774 as electives.
- Students registered in the Division of Genetics must take GTK 702, GTK 703 and GTK 705 as electives.
- Students registered in the Division of Microbiology must take MCP 751, MCP 752 and MCP 754 as electives.
- Students registered in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences must take BOT 705, BOT 746, BOT 782 and BOT 783 as electives.

Core modules

[Biotechnology in the workplace 701](#) (BTW 701) - Credits: 20.00

[Molecular and cellular biology 721](#) (MLB 721) - Credits: 15.00

Elective modules

[Scientific communication 771](#) (BCM 771) - Credits: 15.00

[Research project and report 773](#) (BCM 773) - Credits: 60.00

[Research methods 774](#) (BCM 774) - Credits: 25.00

[Molecular techniques 705](#) (BOT 705) - Credits: 15.00

[Applications in plant biotechnology 746](#) (BOT 746) - Credits: 10.00

[Research report 782](#) (BOT 782) - Credits: 60.00

[Seminar 783](#) (BOT 783) - Credits: 15.00

[Scientific communication 702](#) (GTK 702) - Credits: 15.00

[Research project 703](#) (GTK 703) - Credits: 60.00

[Research methods 705](#) (GTK 705) - Credits: 25.00

[Research methods 751](#) (MCP 751) - Credits: 25.00

[Scientific communication 752](#) (MCP 752) - Credits: 15.00

[Research project and literature study 754](#) (MCP 754) - Credits: 60.00

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.