

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

PhD specialising in Biotechnology (02261021)

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Minimum duration of study 2 years

Total credits 360

NQF level 10

Programme information

This is an interdepartmental programme.

The curriculum is to be determined by the heads of the participating departments. Please consult with Prof P Bloomer, Tel: 012 420 3259, for further details.

Admission requirements

1. Relevant master's degree
2. A weighted average of at least 60% for the master's degree
3. An admission examination may be required



Curriculum: Year 1

Core modules

Thesis: Agronomy 990 (AGR 990)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Department of Plant and Soil Sciences |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Module content

This module involves the development, presentation and approval of a research proposal, the execution of the research project, and the writing up and presenting of the research results. In addition to the thesis, the student is also expected to publish at least one research paper in a peer-reviewed, UP accredited scientific journal. An oral examination covering Pasture Science and other fields related to the thesis will be conducted after the thesis has been accepted by examiners. A candidate needs to pass both the written thesis and oral examination to qualify for the degree.

Project and thesis 990 (BCM 990)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Thesis: Plant science 990 (BOT 990)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Department of Plant and Soil Sciences |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Thesis: Genetics 990 (GTK 990)

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology |
| Period of presentation | Year |



Curriculum: Final year

Core modules

Thesis: Agronomy 990 (AGR 990)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Department of Plant and Soil Sciences |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Module content

This module involves the development, presentation and approval of a research proposal, the execution of the research project, and the writing up and presenting of the research results. In addition to the thesis, the student is also expected to publish at least one research paper in a peer-reviewed, UP accredited scientific journal. An oral examination covering Pasture Science and other fields related to the thesis will be conducted after the thesis has been accepted by examiners. A candidate needs to pass both the written thesis and oral examination to qualify for the degree.

Project and thesis 990 (BCM 990)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Thesis: Plant science 990 (BOT 990)

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Department of Plant and Soil Sciences |
| Period of presentation | Year |

Thesis: Genetics 990 (GTK 990)

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Module credits | 360.00 |
| NQF Level | 10 |



| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Prerequisites | No prerequisites. |
| Language of tuition | Module is presented in English |
| Department | Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology |
| Period of presentation | Year |

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.