

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Bachelor of Town and Regional Planning [BTRP] (12132026)

Department	Town and Regional Planning
Minimum duration of study	4 years
Total credits	536
NQF level	08

Programme information

Town and regional planning is primarily concerned with the planning, design, implementation and management of public interventions in the development and use of land from site to supranational level so as to widen choice, promote equity and ensure sustainable development. The guiding motive of the profession is the generation of viable alternatives to present settlement types. At the current juncture in South Africa's history, town and regional planning is a key profession in the rectification of the spatial and other imbalances in both urban and rural areas, as well as the improvement of inefficient and under-performing living environments.

The ideal town and regional planner is a creative person who is able to put forward innovative solutions to complex problems, a mediator who is able to reconcile diverse points of view, a strategic thinker and a good manager. Given the enormous backlogs in the fields of housing and social services and the misery in which many South Africans find themselves, planners also need a strongly developed sense of social and environmental justice and be committed to human development. While the majority of town and regional planners act as private consultants to the public and the private sector, they are also employed by all three spheres of government, research agencies such as the CSIR and the HSRC, non-governmental organisations, community-based organisations, major financial institutions and property development groups.

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

NSC/IEB
5

Mathematics

NSC/IEB
4

APS

27

For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za.

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 2025: 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.

Promotion to next study year

i. Promotion to the second semester of the first year and to the second year of study

- a. A new first-year student who fails all the prescribed modules for the programme at the end of the first semester shall not be readmitted to the School for the Built Environment in the second semester.
- b. A student is promoted to the second year provided the student (1) has obtained at least 100 credits; and (2) is not repeating more than one first-year Town and Regional Planning module per semester; and (3) has obtained a final mark of at least 40 – 49% in the respective Town and Regional Planning module(s) being

repeated.

- c. A student who is not promoted to the second year of study in terms of (b) may not register for second-year Town and Regional Planning modules.
- d. Students who have not obtained at least 100 credits of the first year of study after the November examinations must apply for re-admission should they intend to proceed with their studies. Written application must be submitted to the Student Administration for the School for the Built Environment no later than 12 January. Late applications will only be accepted under exceptional circumstances and with approval by the Dean. If first-year students are readmitted, conditions of readmission will be set by the Admissions Committee.
- e. Students who have not passed all the prescribed modules of the first year of study, as well as students who are readmitted in terms of (d) must register for the outstanding modules of the first year.

ii. **Promotion to the third year of study**

- a. A student is promoted to the third year provided the student (1) has obtained at least 200 credits; (2) is not repeating any first- or second-year Town and Regional Planning module.
- b. A student who is not promoted to the third year of study in terms of (a) may not register for third-year Town and Regional Planning modules.

iii. **Promotion to the fourth year of study**

- a. A student is promoted to the fourth year provided the student (1) has obtained at least 300 credits; and (2) is not repeating any third-year Town and Regional Planning module.
- b. A student who is not promoted to the fourth year of study in terms of (a) may not register for fourth-year Town and Regional Planning modules.
- c. A student who complies with all the requirements for the degree with the exception of one year module or two semester modules, in which a final mark of at least 40% has been obtained, may be admitted to a Chancellor's examination in the module(s) concerned at the start of the ensuing semester.
- d. The degree is awarded if all the prescribed modules have been passed.

Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred with distinction on a student who, at first registration passes all modules of the final year with a weighted average of 75% (not rounded). The degree must have been completed within the minimum prescribed time. Exceptional cases will be considered by the Dean.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 164

Fundamental modules

Academic information management 111 (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

Academic information management 121 (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

Academic literacy for Town and Regional Planning 123 (ALL 123) - Credits: 6.00

Academic orientation 112 (UPO 112) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

Economics 110 (EKN 110) - Credits: 10.00

Economics 120 (EKN 120) - Credits: 10.00

Sociology 110 (SOC 110) - Credits: 12.00

Sociology 120 (SOC 120) - Credits: 12.00

Statistics 110 (STK 110) - Credits: 13.00

Statistics 120 (STK 120) - Credits: 13.00

Site analysis and assessment 110 (TPA 110) - Credits: 16.00

Settlement analysis and assessment 120 (TPA 120) - Credits: 16.00

Planning and settlement histories before the Industrial Revolution 110 (TPH 110) - Credits: 12.00

Planning and settlement histories since the Industrial Revolution 120 (TPH 120) - Credits: 12.00

Principles of settlement design 120 (TPS 120) - Credits: 12.00

Introduction to planning 110 (TRP 110) - Credits: 12.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 132

Core modules

Community-based project 201 (JCP 201) - Credits: 8.00

Plan and policy analysis and assessment 210 (TPA 210) - Credits: 12.00

Introduction to development planning 210 (TPD 210) - Credits: 12.00

Municipal development planning 220 (TPD 220) - Credits: 12.00

Settlement design concepts 210 (TPS 210) - Credits: 16.00

Settlement establishment planning and housing delivery 220 (TPS 220) - Credits: 16.00

Theory and practice of land-use management 211 (TPU 211) - Credits: 12.00

Urban land development economics 221 (TPU 221) - Credits: 12.00

Elective modules

Economics 214 (EKN 214) - Credits: 16.00

Economics 234 (EKN 234) - Credits: 16.00

Sociology 211 (SOC 211) - Credits: 20.00

Sociology 221 (SOC 221) - Credits: 20.00



Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Regional development planning 310 (TPD 310) - Credits: 12.00

Rural development planning 320 (TPD 320) - Credits: 12.00

Spatial concepts 310 (TPS 310) - Credits: 16.00

Transport planning 321 (TPS 321) - Credits: 8.00

Municipal services provision 322 (TPS 322) - Credits: 8.00

Institutional and legal structures for planning 310 (TPW 310) - Credits: 12.00

Planning prospects 320 (TRP 320) - Credits: 12.00

Elective modules

Economics 310 (EKN 310) - Credits: 20.00

Economics 320 (EKN 320) - Credits: 20.00

Sociology 310 (SOC 310) - Credits: 30.00

Sociology 321 (SOC 321) - Credits: 30.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Core modules

Research methodology 410 (TPE 410) - Credits: 12.00

Research report 420 (TPE 420) - Credits: 30.00

Planning interventions: Precinct scale 451 (TPI 451) - Credits: 18.00

Planning interventions: Peri-urban and rural scale 452 (TPI 452) - Credits: 18.00

Planning interventions: Metropolitan scale 453 (TPI 453) - Credits: 18.00

Planning interventions: Supranational, national and provincial scale 454 (TPI 454) - Credits: 18.00

Professional practice 412 (TRP 412) - Credits: 6.00

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.