

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BSc in Computer Science (12134002)

Department Computer Science

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 444

NQF level 07

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

APS

NSC/IEB
5

NSC/IEB
6

30

The suggested second-choice programmes for Bachelor of Science *Computer Science* are Bachelor of Science *Information and Knowledge Systems* and Bachelor of Commerce *Informatics*.

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.

Additional requirements

Please note that additional admission requirements may result from certain electives.

Candidates who do not comply with these requirements are advised to register for BSc IT, depending on whether they comply with the admission requirements the programme.

Promotion to next study year

Refer also to General Academic Regulation G4.

- a. A student must pass all the modules of the first year of study, before he or she is permitted to register for any module of the third year of study. Module prerequisites remain applicable. Exceptions to this rule will be considered by the relevant head of department and the Dean.
- b. A new first-year student, who has failed in all the prescribed modules of the programme at the end of the first semester, will not be permitted to proceed to the second semester in the School of Information Technology.
- c. A student who has not passed at least 70% of the credits of the current year of study after the November examinations will not be re-admitted to the School of Information Technology.
- d. Students who fail a module for a second time, forfeit the privilege of registering for any modules of an advanced year of study.
- e. Students whose academic progress is not acceptable can be suspended from further studies. Refer to the following important regulation: G4 and/or regulations as they appear for the applicable programmes.
- f. A student who is excluded from further studies in terms of the stipulations of the above-mentioned regulations will be notified in writing by the Dean or admissions committee at the end of the relevant semester.
- g. A student who has been excluded from further studies may apply in writing to the admissions committee of the School of Information Technology for readmission on or before 12 January.
- h. Should the student be readmitted by the admissions committee, strict conditions will be set which the student must comply with in order to proceed with studies.

- i. Should the student not be readmitted to further studies by the admissions committee, he/she will be informed in writing.
- j. Students who are not readmitted by the admissions committee have the right to appeal to the Senate Committee for Admission, Evaluation and Academic Support.
- k. Any decision taken by the Senate Committee for Admission, Evaluation and Academic Support is final.

Pass with distinction

A degree (undergraduate) in the School of IT is conferred with distinction on a student who did not repeat any module of his/her final year, obtained a weighted average of at least 75% (not rounded) in all the prescribed modules for the final year, provided that a subminimum of 65% is obtained in each of these modules and provided that the degree is completed in the prescribed minimum period of time. Ad hoc cases will be considered by the Dean, in consultation with the relevant head of department.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 176

Students wishing to continue with Mathematics or Mathematical Statistics on year level 2 or 3 need to take WTW 114, WTW 124 and WTW 162. Students not wishing to continue with Mathematics or Mathematical Statistics on year level 2 or 3, need to take WTW 152, WTW 134, WTW 146 and WTW 148.

Students are required to choose a science elective as part of the BSc Computer Science first year. The choice is dependent on the Grade 12 Physical Science results. A student who achieved a level 5 in Physical Science in Grade 12 may choose between Physics (PHY 114 and PHY 124) and Chemistry (CMY 117 and CMY 127). A level 4 in Physical Science allows the student to choose Biological Science (MLB 111, BOT 161 and MBY 161) and Geology (GLY 155 and GLY 163). A student who does not have Physical Science in Grade 12 has a choice between Physics (PHY 131 and SCI 154) and Geography (ENV 101, GGY 156, GGY 168 and GMC 110).

Students wanting to continue with Data Science electives in second and third year are required to include either Mathematical Statistics (WST 111 and WST 121) or Statistics (STK 110 and STC 122) to fulfil the statistics requirement for the degree programme. All other students require Statistics (STK 110 and STK 120)..

Fundamental modules

[Academic information management 111](#) (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

[Academic information management 121](#) (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

[Academic literacy for Information Technology 121](#) (ALL 121) - Credits: 6.00

[Academic orientation 112](#) (UPO 112) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

[Program design: Introduction 110](#) (COS 110) - Credits: 16.00

[Operating systems 122](#) (COS 122) - Credits: 16.00

[Imperative programming 132](#) (COS 132) - Credits: 16.00

[Introduction to computer science 151](#) (COS 151) - Credits: 8.00

[Calculus 114](#) (WTW 114) - Credits: 16.00

[Discrete structures 115](#) (WTW 115) - Credits: 8.00

[Mathematics 124](#) (WTW 124) - Credits: 16.00

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

[Linear algebra 146](#) (WTW 146) - Credits: 8.00

[Calculus 148](#) (WTW 148) - Credits: 8.00

[Mathematical modelling 152](#) (WTW 152) - Credits: 8.00

[Dynamical processes 162](#) (WTW 162) - Credits: 8.00

Elective modules

[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

[Introduction to environmental sciences 101](#) (ENV 101) - Credits: 8.00

[Aspects of human geography 156](#) (GGY 156) - Credits: 8.00

[Introduction to physical geography 168](#) (GGY 168) - Credits: 12.00

[Introduction to geology 155](#) (GLY 155) - Credits: 16.00

[Earth history 163](#) (GLY 163) - Credits: 16.00



Cartography 110 (GMC 110) - Credits: 10.00
Introduction to microbiology 161 (MBY 161) - Credits: 8.00
Molecular and cell biology 111 (MLB 111) - Credits: 16.00
First course in physics 114 (PHY 114) - Credits: 16.00
First course in physics 124 (PHY 124) - Credits: 16.00
Physics for biology students 131 (PHY 131) - Credits: 16.00
Exploring the universe 154 (SCI 154) - Credits: 16.00
Statistics 122 (STC 122) - Credits: 13.00
Statistics 110 (STK 110) - Credits: 13.00
Statistics 120 (STK 120) - Credits: 13.00
Mathematical statistics 111 (WST 111) - Credits: 16.00
Mathematical statistics 121 (WST 121) - Credits: 16.00



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 124

Students who wish to continue with Data Science in second year are required to include Mathematical Statistics (WST 211, WST 221 and WST 212) or Statistics (STK 210, STK 220 and WST 212) in the second year, depending on the choice of statistics modules taken in the first year.

The modules to continue with Mathematics, Mathematical Statistics or Statistics, Physics and Chemistry in the third year must be done in consultation with the programme organiser and may require second year elective modules to be included in the degree programme.

Fundamental modules

[Community-based project 202](#) (JCP 202) - Credits: 8.00

Core modules

[Theoretical computer science 210](#) (COS 210) - Credits: 8.00

[Data structures and algorithms 212](#) (COS 212) - Credits: 16.00

[Software modelling 214](#) (COS 214) - Credits: 16.00

[Netcentric computer systems 216](#) (COS 216) - Credits: 16.00

[Introduction to database systems 221](#) (COS 221) - Credits: 16.00

[Concurrent systems 226](#) (COS 226) - Credits: 16.00

[Computer organisation and architecture 284](#) (COS 284) - Credits: 16.00

[Discrete structures 285](#) (WTW 285) - Credits: 12.00

Elective modules

[Statistics 210](#) (STK 210) - Credits: 20.00

[Statistics 220](#) (STK 220) - Credits: 20.00

[Mathematical statistics 211](#) (WST 211) - Credits: 24.00

[Applications in data science 212](#) (WST 212) - Credits: 12.00

[Mathematical statistics 221](#) (WST 221) - Credits: 24.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 144

Students have a choice of electives (45 credits) from Computer Science (COS 314, COS 344 and COS 326); Information Science (IMY 310 and IMY 320); Data Science (STK 353 and COS 314), Mathematics; Mathematical Statistics or Statistics; Physics and Chemistry. The module choices for Mathematics, Mathematical Statistics or Statistics, Physics and Chemistry must be done in consultation with the programme organiser and may require second year elective modules to be included in the degree programme.

Core modules

[Software engineering 301](#) (COS 301) - Credits: 27.00
[Computer security and ethics 330](#) (COS 330) - Credits: 18.00
[Computer networks 332](#) (COS 332) - Credits: 18.00
[Programming languages 333](#) (COS 333) - Credits: 18.00
[Compiler construction 341](#) (COS 341) - Credits: 18.00

Elective modules

[Artificial intelligence 314](#) (COS 314) - Credits: 18.00
[Database systems 326](#) (COS 326) - Credits: 18.00
[Computer graphics 344](#) (COS 344) - Credits: 18.00
[Human-computer interaction 310](#) (IMY 310) - Credits: 25.00
[Multimedia 320](#) (IMY 320) - Credits: 25.00
[The science of data analytics 353](#) (STK 353) - Credits: 18.00

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.