

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BISHons specialising in Publishing (12240008)

Department Information Science

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 120

NQF level 08

Programme information

Refer also to G16-G29.

Admission requirements

1. Bachelor of Information Science degree
or
Bachelor of Information Science specialising in Multimedia degree
or
Bachelor of Information Science in Publishing degree, with a weighted average of at least 65% for relevant third-year modules
or
relevant bachelor's degree, with a weighted average of at least 65% for relevant third-year modules

Other programme-specific information

Subject to the provisions of G18.3, a full-time student must complete his or her studies for an honours degree within two academic years (four semesters) and a part-time student within three academic years (six semesters) after first registration for the degree. However, the Dean may, on the recommendation of the relevant head of department, extend the period of study in both cases by a maximum of two semesters.

Examinations and pass requirements

Refer also to G18 and G26.

1. The examination in each module for which a student is registered, takes place during the normal examination period after the conclusion of lectures (i.e. usually October/November or May/June).
2. G18(1) applies with the understanding that under exceptional circumstance an extension of a maximum three years may be approved: provided that the Dean, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, may approve a stipulated limited extension of this period.
3. A student must obtain at least 50% in an examination for each module where no semester or year mark is required. A module may only be repeated once.

4. In modules where semester or year marks are awarded, a minimum examination mark of 40% and a final mark of 50% is required.
5. No supplementary or special examinations are granted at postgraduate level.

Pass with distinction

The degree is conferred with distinction if students registered for the degree for the first time, complete the degree within the minimum prescribed time and pass all modules with a weighted average of 75% (not rounded).

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

Select two of the following modules or any other relevant modules in collaboration with the package organiser.

Fundamental modules

Research methodology 711 (INY 711)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Research methodology and the application thereof to resolve research problems and to create new knowledge, is a valued advantage to any student. The module is compiled with the following objectives in mind: to instruct the student in the basic principles of research and to avail them the opportunity to execute research projects in a professional manner. Students are guided from the selection of a problem to the presentation of a complete research report with practical suggestions based on a solid theoretical framework.

Core modules

Publishing management: Management and finance 722 (PUB 722)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module focuses on the theory and practice of publishing management. Issues addressed include the following: personal skills; general management skills; financial skills; new product development; costing; editorial issues.

Publishing management: Organisation and processes 723 (PUB 723)

Module credits	15.00
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NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

This module focuses on the theory and practice of publishing management. Issues addressed include the following: human resources; legal skills; project management; sales and marketing; communication skills; logistics; leadership.

Research project 1: The South African publishing environment 724 (PUB 724)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module is research-based. The focus is on developments and trends impacting on the value chain and supply chain of the local book industry. The research parameters will be determined yearly by a selection of relevant global practices impacting on local developments and trends.

Research project 2: The international publishing environment 725 (PUB 725)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 lecture per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

This module is research-based. The focus is on global developments and trends impacting on book publishing as a cultural industry. The overall objective of the module is to generate research that can contribute to information on the shape and size of this cultural industry.

Editorial practice: Advanced copy-editing and editorial project management 728 (PUB 728)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

This module builds on students' knowledge of and skills in editorial practice, including advanced copy-editing, editorial and production project management, developing budgets and schedules, and managing entire publishing projects through production. The module also focuses on theory of editorial practice, including editorial approaches and policies.

Elective modules

Advanced e-publishing 712 (PUB 712)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 discussion classes per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Information Science
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

The aim of this module is to further familiarise students with the development, economics and delivery of digital publications. Students develop strong e-production skills through hands-on implementation of publication workflows for various electronic publications. Students also implement a business plan for the accessibility, distribution and marketing of these publications.

Editorial practice: List building and acquisition of rights 729 (PUB 729)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	3 lectures per meeting, 8 meetings over 14 weeks
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department Information Science

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

This module builds on students' knowledge of and skills in commissioning and acquisitions, with a particular focus on strategic and financial aspects of publishing list building, and acquisition policies and procedures. The module also addresses copyright and subsidiary rights.

Book history 732 (PUB 732)

Module credits 15.00

NQF Level 08

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 3 lectures per meeting, 8 meetings over 14 weeks

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Information Science

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

This module provides an introduction to the history of the book, examining key themes of book production, distribution, authorship and reading. Attention is also given to the development of a textual and print culture in South Africa.

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.