

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

BEngHons specialising in Transportation Engineering (12240112)

Department Civil Engineering

Minimum duration of study 1 year

Total credits 128

NQF level 08

Programme information

Refer also to G16-G29.

The curriculum is determined in consultation with the relevant heads of departments. A student is required to pass modules to the value of at least 128 credits.

The degree is awarded on the basis of examinations only.

Admission requirements

1. Bachelor of Engineering degree awarded by the University of Pretoria **or** relevant four-year bachelor's degree in engineering that the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA) regards as acceptable for registration as a candidate engineer and for eventual registration as a professional engineer
2. A weighted average of at least 60% for the final year of the Bachelor of Engineering degree
3. Comprehensive intellectual CV

An entrance examination may be required

Examinations and pass requirements

Refer also to G18 and G26.

- i. 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. October/November or May/June).
- ii. G18(1) applies with the understanding that under exceptional circumstances an extension of a maximum of 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.
- iii. 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.
- iv. In modules where semester or year marks are awarded, a minimum examination mark of 40% and a final mark of 50% is required.
- v. No supplementary or special examinations are granted at postgraduate level.

Pass with distinction

A student passes with distinction if he or she obtains a weighted average of at least 75% (not rounded) in the first 128 credits for which he or she has registered (excluding modules which were discontinued timeously). The degree is not awarded with distinction if a student fails any one module (excluding modules which were discontinued timeously). The degree must be completed within the prescribed study period.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 128

SSC 780 compulsory module / verpligte module

Core modules

Applied statistical methods and optimisation 798 (SHC 798)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

The course will apply some of the basics theories and methodologies in statistics and operations research to solve common civil engineering problems. The course seeks to demonstrate the use and application in the civil engineering field. Each of the applications seeks to determine how best to design and operate a system, usually under conditions requiring the allocation of scarce resources. Emphasis will be on the applications of these methods in common civil engineering practice. Some of the applications will include; optimum network design, maximum flow problem, project scheduling, queuing theory, probabilistic analysis, Markov chain applications, etc.

Civil research 780 (SSC 780)

Module credits	32.00
NQF Level	08
Contact time	8 contact hours per year
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

*This is a compulsory module.

The course will require all honours students to conduct research in an appropriate field of civil engineering, linked to the main discipline in which the student specializes for their honours degree.

Elective modules

Pavement design 793 (SGC 793)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Design philosophy in First and Third World environments; characterising and use of pavement materials; drainage; systems approach to layout, geometric and pavement design; stresses and strains in pavements; mechanistic design methods and elasto-plastic behaviour; economic analysis; designing pavements for streets, gravel and paved roads, runways, and industrial areas. Report writing.

Concrete technology 794 (SGC 794)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Properties of concrete and concrete mixes. Characteristics of Portland cement and supplementary cementitious materials. Aggregates, admixtures and practical design of mixes. Manufacture, curing and testing, including non-destructive methods. Statistical approach to quality control. Time-dependent behaviour and durability of concrete. The principles for appropriate selection of materials and techniques for repair, maintenance and strengthening of civil engineering structures. Investigation and diagnosis. Corrosion of reinforcement. Alkali-aggregate reaction, sulphate attack. Physical degradation. Repair materials. Protective systems. Systems for repair.

Road rehabilitation technology 797 (SGC 797)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.



Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Development of road management systems and application to existing street and road networks. Evaluation of, and measurements on existing facilities. Maintenance management. Recycling of materials. Design methods for upgrading, re-construction and strengthening of the existing road infrastructure. Prerequisite: Pavement Design SGC 793.

Numerical methods and finite element applications for Civil Engineers 790 (SIK 790)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Contact time	40 contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

In the first part of this course, numerical procedures and some underlying theory for solving systems of equations, eigenvalue problems, integration, approximation and boundary value problems will be discussed. The second part of the course covers general finite element theory, discretization aspects related to geometry, nodes and numbering, element type and shape, interpolation functions, formulation of element characteristic matrices and vectors for elasticity problems, assembly and solution of the finite element equations, modelling procedures and results processing. The student will use Finite Element software to apply the theory that was covered in the course for solving typical Civil Engineering problems.

Infrastructure management 790 (SSI 790)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

This module will cover the following topics: Asset Management principles, Maintenance Management principles, Maintenance strategies and philosophies, Condition based Maintenance, Reliability Centred Maintenance (RCM), Resource Management, Maintenance Management Systems, Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) and Risk Management. Maintenance management of the following disciplines will be studied in detail: Road infrastructure, Railway infrastructure, Airport infrastructure, Buildings and other structures, Water resources and water supply.

Transportation studies 790 (SVC 790)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Basic transportation relationships, land use, data collection and surveys. Four step transportation model, trip generation, trip distribution, modal split, trip assignment, advanced modelling approaches. Introduction to discrete choice models, econometrics, and stated preference analysis. Role of transport modelling in developmental context.

Transportation special 791 (SVC 791)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Module specially compiled to satisfy specific needs.

Traffic engineering 792 (SVC 792)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08

Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Part 1: Traffic flow theory: Traffic and vehicle characteristics. Traffic flow studies. Traffic interactions. Traffic flow analysis and queuing theory. Traffic flow models. Traffic control theory. Part 2: Traffic studies and facility design: Transportation and land use. Traffic impact studies. Site planning and design. Determination of demand. Traffic control investigations. Intersection design. Internal circulation. Parking areas.

Multimodal transport 788 (SVV 788)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

The role of public transport in cities; theory and principles of public transport network design, scheduling and operations; terminals; public transport modes; costs, fares and subsidies; contemporary issues and approaches to public transport restructuring and formalisation in South Africa, including Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). Planning and designing for non-motorised transport, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and animal-drawn transport.

Geometric design and safety 791 (SVV 791)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	08
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	40 Contact hours
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Civil Engineering
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

A research term paper will be prepared.

Rural/Peri-urban road networks: transportation policy, standards and safety, environmental quality, capacity, design, interchanges. Urban street networks: functional classes, town planning considerations, capacities, environment, safety, standards design, evaluation of road networks.

Traffic safety in global and national content, Road Safety Engineering and the assessment and interpretation of accident information, reactive and proactive identification of remedial measures, traffic safety strategies: 3E model and Haddon matrix.

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.