



University of Pretoria Yearbook 2023

BSc (Chemistry) (02133173)

Department Chemistry

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 430

NQF level 07

Programme information

Those students registered for the BSc (Chemistry) programme and who have opted to select any of the dual major fields of study offered within this programme must take note of the following:

- Their [Academic Record](#) will list all the modules that they have completed towards a second major field of study (based on final year modules completed).
- Their [Degree certificate](#) will only print the officially approved programme name:

Bachelor of Science
Chemistry

Admission requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2023

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

5

Physical Sciences

NSC/IEB

5

APS

34

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

You will be considered for final admission to degree studies if space allows, and if you have a National Senior Certificate (NSC) or equivalent qualification with admission to bachelor's degree studies, and comply with the minimum subject requirements as well as the APS requirements of your chosen programme.

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the Brochure: Undergraduate Programme Information 2023: Qualifications other than the NSC and IEB, 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.

Candidates who do not comply with the minimum admission requirements for BSc (Chemistry), may be considered for admission to the BSc – Extended programme – Physical Sciences, which requires an additional year of study.

BSc - Extended Programme - Physical Sciences

Minimum requirements

Achievement level

English Home

Language or

English First

Additional

Language

NSC/IEB

4

Mathematics

NSC/IEB

4

Physical Sciences

NSC/IEB

4

APS

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Note:

*The BSc – Extended programmes are not available for students who meet all the requirements for the corresponding mainstream programme.

*Please note that only students who apply in their final NSC or equivalent qualification year will be considered for admission into any of the BSc – Extended programmes. Students who are upgrading or taking a gap year will not be considered.

Other programme-specific information

1.1 Requirements for specific modules

A candidate who:

- a. does not qualify for STK 110, must enrol for STK 113 and STK 123;
- b. registers for Mathematical Statistics (WST) and Statistics (STK) modules must take note that WST and STK modules, except for STK 281, may not be taken simultaneously in a programme; a student must take one and only one of the following options:
 - WST 111, WST 121, WST 212, WST 211, WST 221, WST 311, WST 312, WST 322, WST 321, and STK 353
or
 - WST 111, WST 121, WST 212, WST 211, WST 221, WST 311, WST 312, WST 322, STK 320, STK 353.
or
 - STK 110, STK 122, STK 210, STK 220, WST 212, STK 310, STK 320, STK 353.
- c. registers for a module presented by another faculty must take note of the timetable clashes, prerequisites for that module, subminimum required in examination papers, supplementary examinations, etc.

1.2 Fundamental modules

- a. It is compulsory for all new first-year students to satisfactorily complete the Academic orientation (UPO 102) and to take Academic information management modules (AIM 111 and AIM 121) and Language and study skills (LST 110). Please see curricula for details.
- b. Students who intend to apply for admission to MBChB or BChD in the second semester, when places become available in those programmes, may be permitted to register for up to 80 module credits and 4 core modules in the first semester during the first year provided that they obtained a final mark of no less than 70% for Grade 12 Mathematics and achieved an APS of 34 or more in the NSC.

Promotion to next study year

A student will be promoted to the following year of study if he or she passed 100 credits of the prescribed credits for a year of study, unless the Dean on the recommendation of the relevant head of department decides otherwise. A student who does not comply with the requirements for promotion to the following year of study, retains the credit for the modules already passed and may be admitted by the Dean, on recommendation of the relevant head of department, to modules of the following year of study to a maximum of 48 credits, provided that it will fit in with both the lecture and examination timetable.

General promotion requirements in the faculty

All students whose academic progress is not acceptable can be suspended from further studies.

- A student who is excluded from further studies in terms of the stipulations of the abovementioned regulations, will be notified in writing by the Dean or Admissions Committee at the end of the relevant semester.
- A student who has been excluded from further studies may apply in writing to the Admissions Committee of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences for re-admission.
- Should the student be re-admitted by the Admissions Committee, strict conditions will be set which the student must comply with in order to proceed with his/her studies.
- Should the student not be re-admitted to further studies by the Admissions Committee, he/she will be informed in writing.
- Students who are not re-admitted by the Admissions Committee have the right to appeal to the Senate Appeals Committee.
- Any decision taken by the Senate Appeals Committee is final.



General 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 (HEQF) 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.



Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 142

Fundamental = 14

Core = 96

Elective = 32

Elective Modules

Students must select elective modules with a total number of at least 32 credits.

Depending on a student's second major and other interests, the following combinations of modules are recommended (deviations allowed with permission from the head of department):

- Second major in biochemistry: MLB 111, GTS 161, and MBY 161 (32 credits)
- Second major in plant science: MLB 111, BOT 161, and MBY 161 (32 credits)
- Second major in geology: GLY 155, GLY 163 (32 credits)
- Second major in physics with an interest in applied mathematics: WTW 115, WTW 152, WTW 162, WTW 123 (32 credits)
- Second major in physics with an interest in statistics: WST 111, WST 121 (32 credits)
- Second major in physics with an interest in biology: MLB 111, BME 120 (32 credits)
- Second major in geography: ENV 101, GGY 156, GGY 166, GMC 110 (34 credits)
- Second major in mathematics: WTW 115, WTW 123, WTW 152, WTW 162 (32 credits)
- Second major in statistics: WST 111, WST 121 (32 credits)

Additional Information:

- Students who intend to take mathematics or mathematical statistics or physics to the 200-level, have to take the combination of WTW 114 and WTW 124 instead of WTW 114, WTW 146 and WTW 148.
- If a student does not intend to take second-year mathematics or mathematical statistics, then WTW 124 may be replaced with the combination of both of the following modules: WTW 146 and WTW 148

Fundamental modules

Academic information management 111 (AIM 111)

Module credits	4.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences Faculty of Humanities Faculty of Law Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences Faculty of Theology and Religion
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

Find, evaluate, process, manage and present information resources for academic purposes using appropriate technology.

Academic information management 121 (AIM 121)

Module credits 4.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules

Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Law
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Theology and Religion
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Informatics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Apply effective search strategies in different technological environments. Demonstrate the ethical and fair use of information resources. Integrate 21st-century communications into the management of academic information.

Language and study skills 110 (LST 110)

Module credits 6.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules

Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Unit for Academic Literacy

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

The module aims to equip students with the ability to cope with the reading and writing demands of scientific disciplines.



Academic orientation 102 (UPO 102)

Module credits	0.00
NQF Level	00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Natural and Agricultural Sciences Deans Office
Period of presentation	Year

Core modules

General chemistry 117 (CMY 117)

Module credits	16.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty of Veterinary Science
Prerequisites	A candidate must have Mathematics for at least 60% and 60% for Physical Sciences.
Contact time	1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

General introduction to inorganic, analytical and physical chemistry. Atomic structure and periodicity. Molecular structure and chemical bonding using the VSEOR model. Nomenclature of inorganic ions and compounds. Classification of reactions: precipitation, acid-base, redox reactions and gas-forming reactions. Mole concept and stoichiometric calculations concerning chemical formulas and chemical reactions. Principles of reactivity: energy and chemical reactions. Physical behaviour gases, liquids, solids and solutions and the role of intermolecular forces. Rate of reactions: Introduction to chemical kinetics.

General chemistry 127 (CMY 127)

Module credits	16.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty of Veterinary Science
Prerequisites	Natural and Agricultural Sciences students: CMY 117 GS or CMY 154 GS Health Sciences students: none
Contact time	1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Chemistry

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Theory: General physical-analytical chemistry: Chemical equilibrium, acids and bases, buffers, solubility equilibrium, entropy and free energy, electrochemistry. Organic chemistry: Structure (bonding), nomenclature, isomerism, introductory stereochemistry, introduction to chemical reactions and chemical properties of organic compounds and biological compounds, i.e. carbohydrates and aminoacids. Practical: Molecular structure (model building), synthesis and properties of simple organic compounds.

First course in physics 114 (PHY 114)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education

Prerequisites A candidate must have passed Mathematics and Physical Science with at least 60% in the Grade 12 examination

Contact time 1 discussion class per week, 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Physics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

SI-units. Significant figures. Waves: intensity, superposition, interference, standing waves, resonance, beats, Doppler. Geometrical optics: Reflection, refraction, mirrors, thin lenses, instruments. Physical optics: Young-interference, coherence, diffraction, polarisation. Hydrostatics and dynamics: density, pressure, Archimedes' principle, continuity, Bernoulli. Heat: temperature, specific heat, expansion, heat transfer. Vectors. Kinematics of a point: Relative, projectile, and circular motion. Dynamics: Newton's laws, friction. Work: point masses, gasses (ideal gas law), gravitation, spring, power. Kinetic energy: Conservative forces, gravitation, spring. Conservation of energy. Conservation of momentum. Impulse and collisions. System of particles: Centre of mass, Newton's laws. Rotation: torque, conservation of angular momentum, equilibrium, centre of gravity.

First course in physics 124 (PHY 124)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education

Prerequisites WTW 114 GS and PHY 114 GS

Contact time 1 discussion class per week, 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English



Department Physics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Simple harmonic motion and pendulums. Coulomb's law. Electric field: dipoles, Gauss' law. Electric potential. Capacitance. Electric currents: resistance, resistivity, Ohm's law, energy, power, emf, RC-circuits. Magnetic Field: Hall-effect, Bio-Savart. Faraday's and Lenz's laws. Oscillations: LR-circuits. Alternating current: RLC-circuits, power, transformers. Introductory concepts to modern physics. Nuclear physics: Radioactivity.

Calculus 114 (WTW 114)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites 60% for Mathematics in Grade 12

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

*This module serves as preparation for students majoring in Mathematics (including all students who intend to enrol for WTW 218 and WTW 220). Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree: WTW 114, WTW 158, WTW 134, WTW 165.

Functions, limits and continuity. Differential calculus of single variable functions, rate of change, graph sketching, applications. The mean value theorem, the rule of L'Hospital. Definite and indefinite integrals, evaluating definite integrals using anti-derivatives, the substitution rule.

Mathematics 124 (WTW 124)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 114

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics



Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

*Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree: WTW 124, WTW 146, WTW 148 and WTW 164. This module serves as preparation for students majoring in Mathematics (including all students who intend to enrol for WTW 218, WTW 211 and WTW 220).

The vector space R^n , vector algebra with applications to lines and planes, matrix algebra, systems of linear equations, determinants. Complex numbers and factorisation of polynomials. Integration techniques and applications of integration. The formal definition of a limit. The fundamental theorem of Calculus and applications. Vector functions and quadratic curves.

Linear algebra 146 (WTW 146)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites 50% for Mathematics in Grade 12

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

*Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree: WTW 124, WTW 146 and WTW 164. The module WTW 146 is designed for students who require Mathematics at 100 level only and does not lead to admission to Mathematics at 200 level.

Vector algebra, lines and planes, matrix algebra, solution of systems of equations, determinants. Complex numbers and polynomial equations. All topics are studied in the context of applications.

Calculus 148 (WTW 148)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 114 GS or WTW 134 GS or WTW 154 GS or WTW 153 GS

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics



Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

*Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree:

WTW 124, WTW 148 and WTW 164. The module WTW 148 is designed for students who require Mathematics at 100 level only and does not lead to admission to Mathematics at 200 level.

Integration techniques. Modelling with differential equations. Functions of several variables, partial derivatives, optimisation. Numerical techniques. All topics are studied in the context of applications.

Elective modules

Biometry 120 (BME 120)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules

Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites

At least 4 (50-59%) in Mathematics in the Grade 12 examination, or at least 50% in both Statistics 113, 123

Contact time

1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition

Module is presented in English

Department

Statistics

Period of presentation

Semester 2

Module content

Simple statistical analysis: Data collection and analysis: Samples, tabulation, graphical representation, describing location, spread and skewness. Introductory probability and distribution theory. Sampling distributions and the central limit theorem. Statistical inference: Basic principles, estimation and testing in the one- and two-sample cases (parametric and non-parametric). Introduction to experimental design. One- and two-way designs, randomised blocks. Multiple statistical analysis: Bivariate data sets: Curve fitting (linear and non-linear), growth curves. Statistical inference in the simple regression case. Categorical analysis: Testing goodness of fit and contingency tables. Multiple regression and correlation: Fitting and testing of models. Residual analysis. Computer literacy: Use of computer packages in data analysis and report writing.

Plants and society 161 (BOT 161)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules

Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education

Prerequisites

MLB 111 GS

Contact time

2 lectures per week, fortnightly practicals



Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Botanical principles of structure and function; diversity of plants; introductory plant systematics and evolution; role of plants in agriculture and food security; principles and applications of plant biotechnology; economical and valuable medicinal products derived from plants; basic principles of plant ecology and their application in conservation and biodiversity management.

This content aligns with the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals of No Poverty, Good Health and Well-being, Climate Action, Responsible Consumption and Production, and Life on Land.

Introduction to environmental sciences 101 (ENV 101)

Module credits	8.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology
Period of presentation	Quarter 1

Module content

Introducing the basic concepts and interrelationships required to understand the complexity of natural environmental problems, covering an introduction to environmental science and biogeography; including a first introduction to SDGs and Aichi targets.

Aspects of human geography 156 (GGY 156)

Module credits	8.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Humanities Faculty of Health Sciences

Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology



Period of presentation Quarter 2

Module content

This module begins by fostering an understanding of human geography. Then follows with the political ordering of space; cultural diversity as well as ethnic geography globally and locally; population geography of the world and South Africa: and four economic levels of development. The purpose is to place South Africa in a world setting and to understand the future of the country.

Southern African geomorphology 166 (GGY 166)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Health Sciences

Prerequisites A candidate must have passed Mathematics and Physical Science with at least 60% in the Grade 12 examination OR a candidate must have passed PHY 143 and WTW 143.

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Quarter 3

Module content

Note: Students cannot register for both GGY 166 and GGY 168.

Investigating southern African landscapes and placing them in a theoretical and global context. The geomorphological evolution of southern Africa. Introduction to the concepts of Geomorphology and its relationships with other physical sciences (e.g. meteorology, climatology, geology, hydrology and biology). The processes and controls of landform and landscape evolution. Tutorial exercises cover basic techniques of geomorphological analysis, and topical issues in Geomorphology.

Introduction to geology 155 (GLY 155)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites A candidate must have passed Mathematics with at least 60% in the Grade 12 examination.

Contact time 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Semester 1



Module content

Solar system; structure of solid matter; minerals and rocks; introduction to symmetry and crystallography; important minerals and solid solutions; rock cycle; classification of rocks. External geological processes (gravity, water, wind, sea, ice) and their products (including geomorphology). Internal structure of the earth. The dynamic earth - volcanism, earthquakes, mountain building - the theory of plate tectonics. Geological processes (magmatism, metamorphism, sedimentology, structural geology) in a plate tectonic context. Geological maps and mineral and rock specimens. Interaction between man and the environment, and nature of anthropogenic climate change.

Earth history 163 (GLY 163)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Prerequisites GLY 155

Contact time 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

This module will give an overview of earth history, from the Archaean to the present. Important concepts such as the principles of stratigraphy and stratigraphic nomenclature, geological dating and international and South African time scales will be introduced. A brief introduction to the principles of palaeontology will be given, along with short descriptions of major fossil groups, fossil forms, ecology and geological meaning. In the South African context, the major stratigraphic units, intrusions and tectonic/metamorphic events will be detailed, along with related rock types, fossil contents, genesis and economic commodities. Anthropogenic effects on the environment and their mitigation. Practical work will focus on the interpretation of geological maps and profiles.

Cartography 110 (GMC 110)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

History, present and future of cartography. Introductory geodesy: shape of the earth, graticule and grids, datum definition, elementary map projection theory, spherical calculations. Representation of geographical data on maps: Cartographic design, cartographic abstraction, levels of measurement and visual variables. Semiotics for cartography: signs, sign systems, map semantics and syntactics, explicit and implicit meaning of maps (map pragmatics). Critique maps of indicators to measure United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in South Africa.

Introductory genetics 161 (GTS 161)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites MLB 111 GS

Contact time 2 lectures per week, fortnightly tutorials

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Chromosomes and cell division. Principles of Mendelian inheritance: locus and alleles, dominance interactions, extensions and modifications of basic principles.. Probability studies. Sex determination and sex linked traits. Pedigree analysis. Genetic linkage and chromosome mapping. Chromosome variation.

Introduction to microbiology 161 (MBY 161)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week, fortnightly tutorials

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

The module will introduce the student to the field of Microbiology. Basic Microbiological aspects that will be covered include introduction into the diversity of the microbial world (bacteria, archaea, eukaryotic microorganisms and viruses), basic principles of cell structure and function, microbial nutrition and microbial growth and growth control. Applications in Microbiology will be illustrated by specific examples i.e. bioremediation, animal-microbial symbiosis, plant-microbial symbiosis and the use of microorganisms in industrial microbiology. Wastewater treatment, microbial diseases and food will be introduced using specific examples.

Molecular and cell biology 111 (MLB 111)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites A candidate who has passed Mathematics with at least 60% in the Grade 12 examination

Contact time 1 practical/tutorial per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to the molecular structure and function of the cell. Basic chemistry of the cell. Structure and composition of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. Ultrastructure and function of cellular organelles, membranes and the cytoskeleton. General principles of energy, enzymes and cell metabolism. Selected processes, e.g. glycolysis, respiration and/or photosynthesis. Introduction to molecular genetics: DNA structure and replication, transcription, translation. Cell growth and cell division.

Atmospheric structure and processes 155 (WKD 155)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Prerequisites At least 50% for mathematics in grade 12.

Contact time 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Semester 1



Module content

Introduction to weather and climate. Climate of South Africa. Urban and rural climate. Meteorological instruments. Motion of the earth. Atmospheric mass and pressure. Energy and heat budget. Moisture in the atmosphere. Cloud development. Climate change. ENSO. Electromagnetic spectrum and remote sensing in meteorology. Synoptic weather systems of South Africa.

Mathematical statistics 111 (WST 111)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites At least 5 (60-69%) in Mathematics in the Grade 12 examination

Contact time 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Characterisation of a set of measurements: Graphical and numerical methods. Random sampling. Probability theory. Discrete and continuous random variables. Probability distributions. Generating functions and moments.

Mathematical statistics 121 (WST 121)

Module credits 16.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 111 or WST 133, 143 and 153

Contact time 1 practical per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Sampling distributions and the central limit theorem. Statistical inference: Point and interval estimation. Hypothesis testing with applications in one and two-sample cases. Introductory methods for: Linear regression and correlation, analysis of variance, categorical data analysis and non-parametric statistics. Identification, use, evaluation and interpretation of statistical computer packages and statistical techniques.



Discrete structures 115 (WTW 115)

Module credits	8.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	50% for Mathematics in Grade 12
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Propositional logic: truth tables, logical equivalence, implication, arguments. Mathematical induction and well-ordering principle. Introduction to set theory. Counting techniques: elementary probability, multiplication and addition rules, permutations and combinations, binomial theorem, inclusion-exclusion rule.

Numerical analysis 123 (WTW 123)

Module credits	8.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Prerequisites	WTW 114
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Non-linear equations, numerical integration, initial value problems for differential equations, systems of linear equations. Algorithms for elementary numerical techniques are derived and implemented in computer programmes. Error estimates and convergence results are treated.

Mathematical modelling 152 (WTW 152)

Module credits	8.00
NQF Level	05
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Prerequisites	50% for Mathematics in Grade 12
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English



Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

The module serves as an introduction to computer programming as used in science. Modelling of dynamical processes using difference equations; curve fitting and linear programming are studied. Applications are drawn from real-life situations in, among others, finance, economics and ecology.

Dynamical processes 162 (WTW 162)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites WTW 114

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

*Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree: WTW 162 and WTW 264.

Introduction to the modelling of dynamical processes using elementary differential equations. Solution methods for first order differential equations and analysis of properties of solutions (graphs). Applications to real life situations.

Animal diversity 161 (ZEN 161)

Module credits 8.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week, fortnightly practicals

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Zoology and Entomology

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

Animal classification, phylogeny organisation and terminology. Evolution of the various animal phyla, morphological characteristics and life cycles of parasitic and non-parasitic animals. Structure and function of reproductive, respiratory, excretory, circulatory and digestive systems in various animal phyla. In-class discussion will address the sustainable development goals #3, 12, 13, 14 and 15 (Good Health and Well-being, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land).



Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 144

Core = 48

Elective = 96

Additional information:

Elective Modules (Credits = 96)

Students who do not intend to continue with Mathematics on third year level may replace WTW 220 with WTW 224

Students must select elective modules with a total number of at least 96 credits.

Depending on a student's second major and other interests, the following modules are recommended (deviations allowed with permission from the head of department):

- Second major in biochemistry: BCM 251, BCM 252, BCM 257, BCM 261, GTS 251, GTS 261, MBY 251 and MBY 261 (96 credits)
- Second major in plant science: BOT 251, BOT 261, MBY 251, MBY 261, BCM 251, BCM 257, BCM 261 and BCM 252 (96 credits)
- Second major in physics: PHY 255, PHY 263, WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220, WTW 248 (96 credits)
- Second major in geology: GLY 253, GLY 255, GLY 263, GLY 266, GGY 252, GKD 250, GIS 221 (GMC is a prerequisite)
- Second major in geography: GGY 252, GGY 283, GGY 201, ENV 201, GKD 250, GIS 220, and either GLY 253 or GLY 255 (88 credits)
- Second major in mathematics with an interest in physics: WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220, WTW 221, PHY 255, PHY 263 (96 credits)
- Second major in mathematics or applied mathematics: WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220, WTW 221, WTW 285, WTW 286, WTW 248 (84 credits – select another 12 credits)
- Second major in statistics: WST 211, WST 221, WTW 211, WTW 218, WTW 220 or WTW 224, WTW 221 (96 credits)

Core modules

Physical chemistry 282 (CMY 282)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	CMY 117 and CMY 127
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Quarter 2



Module content

Theory: Classical chemical thermodynamics, gases, first and second law and applications, physical changes of pure materials and simple compounds. Phase rule: Chemical reactions, chemical kinetics, rates of reactions.

Analytical chemistry 283 (CMY 283)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites CMY 117 and CMY 127

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Chemistry

Period of presentation Quarter 3

Module content

Statistical evaluation of data in line with ethical practice, gravimetric analysis, aqueous solution chemistry, chemical equilibrium, precipitation-, neutralisation- and complex formation titrations, redox titrations, potentiometric methods, introduction to electrochemistry. Examples throughout the course demonstrate the relevance of the theory to meeting the sustainable development goals of clean water and clean, affordable energy.

Organic chemistry 284 (CMY 284)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites CMY 117 and CMY 127

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Chemistry

Period of presentation Quarter 1

Module content

Resonance, conjugation and aromaticity. Acidity and basicity. Introduction to ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy. Electrophilic addition: alkenes. Nucleophilic substitution, elimination, addition: alkyl halides, alcohols, ethers, epoxides, carbonyl compounds: ketones, aldehydes, carboxylic acids and their derivatives. Training in an ethical approach to safety that protects self, others and the environment is integral to the practical component of the course.

Inorganic chemistry 285 (CMY 285)

Module credits 12.00



NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	CMY 117 and CMY 127
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Quarter 4

Module content

Atomic structure, structure of solids (ionic model). Coordination chemistry of transition metals: Oxidation states of transition metals, ligands, stereochemistry, crystal field theory, consequences of d-orbital splitting, chemistry of the main group elements, electrochemical properties of transition metals in aqueous solution, industrial applications of transition metals. Fundamentals of spectroscopy and introduction to IR spectroscopy. During practical training students learn to acquire and report data ethically. Practical training also deals with the misuse of chemicals and appropriate waste disposal to protect the environment and meet the UN sustainable development goals.

Elective modules

Introduction to proteins and enzymes 251 (BCM 251)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Health Sciences
Prerequisites	CMY 117 GS and CMY 127 GS and MLB 111 GS
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Structural and ionic properties of amino acids. Peptides, the peptide bond, primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary structure of proteins. Interactions that stabilise protein structure, denaturation and renaturation of proteins. Introduction to methods for the purification of proteins, amino acid composition, and sequence determinations. Enzyme kinetics and enzyme inhibition. Allosteric enzymes, regulation of enzyme activity, active centres and mechanisms of enzyme catalysis. Examples of industrial applications of enzymes and in clinical pathology as biomarkers of diseases. Online activities include introduction to practical laboratory techniques and Good Laboratory Practice; techniques for the quantitative and qualitative analysis of biological molecules; enzyme activity measurements; processing and presentation of scientific data.

Carbohydrate metabolism 252 (BCM 252)

Module credits	12.00
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NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Education Faculty of Health Sciences
Prerequisites	BCM 251 GS and BCM 257 GS.
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Carbohydrate structure and function. Blood glucose measurement in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes. Bioenergetics and biochemical reaction types. Glycolysis, gluconeogenesis, glycogen metabolism, pentose phosphate pathway, citric acid cycle and electron transport. Total ATP yield from the complete oxidation of glucose. A comparison of cellular respiration and photosynthesis. Online activities include techniques for the study and analysis of metabolic pathways and enzymes; PO ratio of mitochondria, electrophoresis, extraction, solubility and gel permeation techniques; scientific method and design.

Introductory biochemistry 257 (BCM 257)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	CMY 117 GS and CMY 127 GS and MLB 111 GS
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Chemical foundations. Weak interactions in aqueous systems. Ionisation of water, weak acids and weak bases. Buffering against pH changes in biological systems. Water as a reactant and function of water. Carbohydrate structure and function. Biochemistry of lipids and membrane structure. Nucleotides and nucleic acids. Other functions of nucleotides: energy carriers, components of enzyme cofactors and chemical messengers. Introduction to metabolism. Bioenergetics and biochemical reaction types. Online activities include introduction to laboratory safety and Good Laboratory Practice; basic biochemical calculations; experimental method design and scientific controls, processing and presentation of scientific data.

Lipid and nitrogen metabolism 261 (BCM 261)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Health Sciences
Prerequisites	BCM 251 GS and BCM 257 GS.



Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Biochemistry of lipids, membrane structure, anabolism and catabolism of lipids. Total ATP yield from the complete catabolism of lipids. Electron transport chain and energy production through oxidative phosphorylation. Nitrogen metabolism, amino acid biosynthesis and catabolism. Biosynthesis of neurotransmitters, pigments, hormones and nucleotides from amino acids. Catabolism of purines and pyrimidines. Therapeutic agents directed against nucleotide metabolism. Examples of inborn errors of metabolism of nitrogen containing compounds. The urea cycle, nitrogen excretion. Online activities include training in scientific reading skills; evaluation of a scientific report; techniques for separation analysis and visualisation of biological molecules; hypothesis design and testing, method design and scientific controls.

South African flora and vegetation 251 (BOT 251)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites BOT 161

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Origin and affinity of South African flora and vegetation types; principles of plant geography; plant diversity in southern Africa; characteristics, environments and vegetation of South African biomes and associated key ecological processes; centre of plant endemism; rare and threatened plant species; biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management; invasion biology; conservation status of South African vegetation types.

Plant physiology and biotechnology 261 (BOT 261)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites BOT 161 and CMY 127 GS.

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences



Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Nitrogen metabolism in plants; nitrogen fixation in Agriculture; plant secondary metabolism and natural products; photosynthesis and carbohydrate metabolism in plants; applications in solar energy; plant growth regulation and the Green Revolution; plant responses to the environment; developing abiotic stress tolerant and disease resistant plants. Practicals: Basic laboratory skills in plant physiology; techniques used to investigate nitrogen metabolism, carbohydrate metabolism, pigment analysis, water transport in plant tissue and response of plants to hormone treatments.

Environmental sciences 201 (ENV 201)

Module credits 14.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites ENV 101 or WKD 155 or BOT 161 or ZEN 161.

Contact time 1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Quarter 2

Module content

Introduces basic concepts and interrelationships required to understand our atmosphere, with a strong focus on an introduction to weather and climate. A key component of the course is an introduction to climate change, including the science of climate change, introducing climate change projections, and climate change impacts. A key focus of the second part of the course will be climate change implications for the attainment of SDGs and Aichi targets on the African continent, under a range of plausible scenarios.

City, structure, environment and society 201 (GGY 201)

Module credits 14.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites GGY 156

Contact time 1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Quarter 3

Module content

The module introduces students to urban settlement patterns, processes and structures. Using a series of case studies, it aims to develop an understanding of the challenges facing urban areas both in South Africa and globally.



Process geomorphology 252 (GGY 252)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Education Faculty of Humanities
Prerequisites	GGY 166 or GLY 155
Contact time	2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology
Period of presentation	Quarter 2

Module content

Physical processes that influence the earth's surface and management. Specific processes and their interaction in themes such as weathering; soil erosion; slope, mass movement and periglacial processes. Practical laboratory exercises and assignments are based on the themes covered in the module theory component.

Introductory geographic information systems 283 (GGY 283)

Module credits	14.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Humanities
Prerequisites	GMC 110
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS), theoretical concepts and applications of GIS. The focus will be on the GIS process of data input, data analysis, data output and associated technologies. This module provides the foundations for more advanced GIS and Geoinformatics topics. Practical assessments and a mini-project make use of South African and African examples and foster learning and application of concepts aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Geographic data analysis 220 (GIS 220)

Module credits	14.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology



Prerequisites	GMC 110 and (STK 110 OR BME 120)
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

The nature of geographical data and measurement. Application of statistics in the geographical domain. Probability, probability distributions and densities, expected values and variances, Central Limit theorem. Sampling techniques. Exploratory data analysis, descriptive statistics, statistical estimation, hypothesis testing, correlation analysis and regression analysis. Examples used throughout the course are drawn from South African and African case studies and taught within the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Geographic information systems introduction 221 (GIS 221)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	Prohibited combination GGY 283
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Note: Enrolment is limited. Preference will be given based on choice of majors. Students should enquire at the department if they wish to register for the module, but are unable to do so.

*GIS 221 does not lead to admission to any module at 300 level.

Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS), theoretical concepts and applications of GIS. The focus will be on the GIS process of data input, data analysis, data output and associated technologies. This module teaches students to use GIS as a tool. Examples used throughout the course are drawn from South African case studies.

Introductory soil science 250 (GKD 250)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Prerequisites	CMY 117 GS
Contact time	1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Department of Plant and Soil Sciences



Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Soil is a finite resource and with the global challenges we are facing, it is more important than ever to understand and sustainably manage soil. Our daily lives are impacted by soil in several ways, including the food we eat, the water we drink, and the environment we live in. In this Introductory Soils module, we will look at how basic and more advanced abiotic and biotic soil properties impact us and the larger environment. We will also examine the fundamental principles behind sustainable soil use management.

Sedimentology 253 (GLY 253)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites CMY 117, CMY 127, GLY 155, GLY 163, WTW 114/WTW 158 and PHY 114

Contact time 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Quarter 2

Module content

Introduction to sedimentology; grain studies; composition and textures of sedimentary rocks; flow dynamics and behaviour of sediment particles in transport systems; description and genesis of sedimentary structures; diagenesis; depositional environments and their deposits, modern and ancient; chemical sedimentary rocks; economic sedimentology; field data acquisition from sedimentary rocks and writing of reports; sieve analysis; Markov analysis; analysis of palaeocurrent trends; interpretation of sedimentary profiles.

Fundamental and applied mineralogy 255 (GLY 255)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites CMY 117, CMY 127, GLY 155, GLY 163, (WTW 158 or WTW 114) and PHY 114

Contact time 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Quarter 1

Module content

Fundamental concepts in mineralogy, and practical applications of mineralogy, including: the basics of crystal structure; the crystallographic groups; the rules of atomic substitution; phase transitions and phase diagrams; the structure and uses of olivine, pyroxene, feldspar, amphibole, mica, aluminosilicates, garnet, cordierite, and more uncommon mineral groups such as oxides, sulphides and carbonates; the calculation of mineral formulae from chemical analyses using various methods. Practical sessions: the basics of optical mineralogy and the use of transmitted light microscopy for thin section examination of minerals and rocks; the practicals will develop mineral identification skills for the minerals covered in the lectures, and cover basic textural identification.



Igneous and metamorphic petrology 263 (GLY 263)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	GLY 255
Contact time	2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Classification and nomenclature of igneous rocks. The nature of silicate melts; physical and chemical factors influencing crystallisation and textures of igneous rocks. Phase diagrams, fractional crystallisation and partial melting. Trace elements and isotopes, and their use in petrogenetic studies. Global distribution of magmatism and its origin. Mid-oceanic ridges, active continental margins, intraplate magmatism. Classification of metamorphic rocks. Anatexis, migmatite and granite; eclogite. Metamorphic textures. PT-time loops. Metamorphism in various plate tectonic environments.

Geological field mapping 266 (GLY 266)

Module credits	6.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	GLY 253
Contact time	7 days full-time block week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geology
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Introduction to field mapping techniques.

Molecular genetics 251 (GTS 251)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	GTS 161 GS
Contact time	2 lectures per week, fortnightly tutorials
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology



Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

The chemical nature of DNA. The processes of DNA replication, transcription, RNA processing, translation. Control of gene expression in prokaryotes and eukaryotes. Recombinant DNA technology and its applications in gene analysis and manipulation.

Genetic diversity and evolution 261 (GTS 261)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education

Prerequisites GTS 251 GS

Contact time 2 lectures per week, fortnightly tutorials

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Chromosome structure and transposable elements. Mutation and DNA repair. Genomics and proteomics. Organelle genomes. Introduction to genetic analysis of populations: allele and genotypic frequencies, Hardy Weinberg Law, its extensions and implications for different mating systems. Introduction to quantitative and evolutionary genetics.

Bacteriology 251 (MBY 251)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites MBY 161 GS

Contact time 2 lectures per week, fortnightly practicals

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Growth, replication and survival of bacteria, Energy sources, harvesting from light versus oxidation, regulation of catabolic pathways, chemotaxis. Nitrogen metabolism, iron-scavenging. Alternative electron acceptors: denitrification, sulphate reduction, methanogenesis. Bacterial evolution, systematic and genomics. Biodiversity; bacteria occurring in the natural environment (soil, water and air), associated with humans, animals, plants, and those of importance in foods and in the water industry.



Mycology 261 (MBY 261)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Prerequisites	MBY 161 GS
Contact time	2 lectures per week, Fortnightly practicals/tutorials
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Organisation and molecular architecture of fungal thalli, chemistry of the fungal cell. Chemical and physiological requirements for growth and nutrient acquisition. Mating and meiosis; spore development; spore dormancy, dispersal and germination. Fungi as saprobes in soil, air, plant, aquatic and marine ecosystems; role of fungi as decomposers and in the deterioration of materials; fungi as predators and parasites; mycoses, mycetisms and mycotoxicoses; fungi as symbionts of plants, insects and animals. Applications of fungi in biotechnology.

Waves, thermodynamics and modern physics 255 (PHY 255)

Module credits	24.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	[PHY114 and PHY124] or [PHY171] or [PHY143 and PHY153 and PHY163] and [WTW211#] and [WTW218#]
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 discussion classes per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Physics
Period of presentation	Semester 1



Module content

Vibrating systems and waves (14 lectures)

Simple harmonic motion (SHM). Superposition (different frequencies, equal frequencies). Perpendicular vibrations (Lissajous figures). Damped SHM. Forced oscillations. Resonance. Q-value. Transverse wave motion. Plane wave solution using method of separation of variables. Reflection and transmission at a boundary. Normal and eigenmodes. Wave packets. Group velocity.

Modern physics (30 lectures)

Special relativity: Galilean and Lorentz transformations. Postulates. Momentum and energy. 4 vectors and tensors. General relativity. Quantum physics. Failure of classical physics. Bohr model. Particle-wave duality. Schrödinger equation. Piece-wise constant potentials. Tunneling. X-rays. Laser. Nuclear physics: Fission. Fusion. Radioactivity.

Heat and thermodynamics (12 lectures)

Heat. First Law. Kinetic theory of gases. Mean free path. Ideal, Clausius, Van der Waals and virial gases. Entropy. Second Law. Engines and refrigerators. Third Law. Thermodynamic potentials: Enthalpy Helmholtz and Gibbs free energies, Chemical potential. Legendre transformations (Maxwell relations). Phase equilibrium. Gibbs phase rule.

Modelling and simulation (7 practical sessions)

Introduction to programming in a high level system: Concept of an algorithm and the basic logic of a computer programme. Symbolic manipulations, graphics, numerical computations. Applications: Selected illustrative examples.

Error Analysis (7 practical sessions)

Experimental uncertainties. Propagation of uncertainties. Statistical analysis of random uncertainties. Normal distribution. Rejection of data. Least-squares fitting. Covariance and correlation.

General physics 263 (PHY 263)

Module credits 24.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites PHY 255 GS and WTW 218 GS and WTW 220# and WTW 248#

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 discussion classes per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Physics

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

Classical mechanics (28 lectures)

Fundamental concepts, energy and angular momentum, calculus of variations and Lagrangian mechanics, conservative central forces and two body problems, scattering, mechanics in rotating reference frames, many body systems.

Physical Optics (14 lectures)

Maxwell's equations, wave equation and plane wave solution, coherence, interference, diffraction, polarisation.

Physics of Materials (14 lectures)

Classification of materials. Atomic bonding. Crystallography. Defects. Material strength.

Phase diagram's, Ceramics. Polymers. Composites. Fracture. Electrical and magnetic properties. Semiconductors. Smart materials Nanotechnology.

Experiments (14 sessions)

Mathematical statistics 211 (WST 211)

Module credits 24.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 111, WST 121, WTW 114 GS and WTW 124 GS

Contact time 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Set theory. Probability measure functions. Random variables. Distribution functions. Probability mass functions. Density functions. Expected values. Moments. Moment generating functions. Special probability distributions: Bernoulli, binomial, hypergeometric, geometric, negative binomial, Poisson, Poisson process, discrete uniform, uniform, gamma, exponential, Weibull, Pareto, normal. Joint distributions: Multinomial, extended hypergeometric, joint continuous distributions. Marginal distributions. Independent random variables. Conditional distributions. Covariance, correlation. Conditional expected values. Transformation of random variables: Convolution formula. Order statistics. Stochastic convergence: Convergence in distribution. Central limit theorem. Practical applications. Practical statistical modelling and analysis using statistical computer packages and the interpretation of the output.

Mathematical statistics 221 (WST 221)

Module credits 24.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Prerequisites WST 211



Contact time 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Statistics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Stochastic convergence: Asymptotic normal distributions, convergence in probability. Statistics and sampling distributions: Chi-squared distribution. Distribution of the sample mean and sample variance for random samples from a normal population. T-distribution. F-distribution. Beta distribution. Point estimation: Method of moments. Maximum likelihood estimation. Unbiased estimators. Uniform minimum variance unbiased estimators. Cramer-Rao inequality. Efficiency. Consistency. Asymptotic relative efficiency. Bayes estimators. Sufficient statistics. Completeness. The exponential class. Confidence intervals. Test of statistical hypotheses. Reliability and survival distributions. Practical applications. Practical statistical modelling and analysis using statistical computer packages and the interpretation of the output.

Linear algebra 211 (WTW 211)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 124

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

This is an introduction to linear algebra on \mathbb{R}^n . Matrices and linear equations, linear combinations and spans, linear independence, subspaces, basis and dimension, eigenvalues, eigenvectors, similarity and diagonalisation of matrices, linear transformations.

Calculus 218 (WTW 218)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 114 and WTW 124

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Calculus of multivariable functions, directional derivatives. Extrema and Lagrange multipliers. Multiple integrals, polar, cylindrical and spherical coordinates.

Analysis 220 (WTW 220)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 114 and WTW 124, WTW 211 and WTW 218

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

*This module is recommended as an elective only for students who intend to enrol for WTW 310 and/or WTW 320. Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree: WTW 220 and WTW 224.

Properties of real numbers. Analysis of sequences and series of real numbers. Power series and theorems of convergence. The Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem. The intermediate value theorem and analysis of real-valued functions on an interval. The Riemann integral: Existence and properties of the interval.

Linear algebra 221 (WTW 221)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 211 and WTW 218

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

Abstract vector spaces, change of basis, matrix representation of linear transformations, orthogonality, diagonalisability of symmetric matrices, some applications.

Techniques of analysis 224 (WTW 224)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites WTW 124 and WTW 211 GS and WTW 218 GS

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

*This module does not lead to admission to WTW 310 or WTW 320. Students will not be credited for more than one of the following modules for their degree: WTW 220 and WTW 224.

Sequences of real numbers: convergence and monotone sequences. Series of real numbers: convergence, integral test, comparison tests, alternating series, absolute convergence, ratio and root tests. Power series: representation of functions as power series, Taylor and Maclaurin series. Application to series solutions of differential equations.

Vector analysis 248 (WTW 248)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education

Prerequisites WTW 218

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Vectors and geometry. Calculus of vector functions with applications to differential geometry, kinematics and dynamics. Vector analysis, including vector fields, line integrals of scalar and vector fields, conservative vector fields, surfaces and surface integrals, the Theorems of Green, Gauss and Stokes with applications.

Discrete structures 285 (WTW 285)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 06



Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Prerequisites	WTW 115
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Setting up and solving recurrence relations. Equivalence and partial order relations. Graphs: paths, cycles, trees, isomorphism. Graph algorithms: Kruskal, Prim, Fleury. Finite state automata.

Differential equations 286 (WTW 286)

Module credits	12.00
NQF Level	06
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Prerequisites	WTW 114, WTW 124, WTW 162, WTW 211#
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

*Students will not be credited for more than one of the modules for their degree: WTW 264, WTW 286
Theory and solution methods for ordinary differential equations and initial value problems: separable and linear first-order equations, linear equations of higher order, systems of linear equations. Application to mathematical models. Numerical methods applied to nonlinear systems. Qualitative analysis of linear systems.



Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 144

Core = 72

Elective = 72

Students must select elective modules with a total number of at least 72 credits.

Depending on a student's second major and other interests, the following modules are recommended (deviations allowed with permission from the head of department):

- Second major in biochemistry: BCM 356, BCM 357, BCM 367, BCM 368 (72 credits)
- Second major in plant science: BOT 356, BOT 358, BOT 365 and BOT 366 (72 credits).
- Second major in physics: PHY 356, PHY 364 (72 credits).
- Second major in geology: GLY365, GLY366, GLY367, GLY 368 (78 credits).
- Second major in geography: ENV 301, GGY 301, GGY 361 (**54 credits - 18 credits short**). Note that in order to qualify for BSc Honours in Geography, students need to change their registration to BSc Geography at the start of the third year to replace compulsory chemistry modules with additional Geography modules.
- Second major in mathematics: WTW 310, WTW 320, WTW 381 and WTW 389 (72 credits).
- Second major in applied mathematics: WTW 310, WTW 382, WTW 383, WTW 386 and WTW 387 (90 credits – 18 credits extra).
- Second major in statistics: WST 311, WST 312, WST 321, STK 353 (79 credits)

Core modules

Physical chemistry 382 (CMY 382)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites CMY 282, CMY 283, CMY 284 and CMY 285

Contact time 1 discussion class per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Chemistry

Period of presentation Quarter 4

Module content

Theory: Molecular quantum mechanics. Introduction: Shortcomings of classical physics, dynamics of microscopic systems, quantum mechanical principles, translational, vibrational and rotational movement. Atomic structure and spectra: Atomic hydrogen, multiple electron systems, spectra of complex atoms, molecular structure, the hydrogen molecule ion, diatomic and polyatomic molecules, structure and properties of molecules. Molecules in motion: Viscosity, diffusion, mobility. Surface chemistry: Physisorption and chemisorption, adsorption isotherms, surface tension, heterogeneous catalytic rate reactions, capillarity.

Analytical chemistry 383 (CMY 383)

Module credits 18.00



NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	CMY 282, CMY 283, CMY 284 and CMY 285
Contact time	1 discussion class per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Quarter 1

Module content

Separation methods: Extraction, multiple extraction, chromatographic systems. Spectroscopy: Construction of instruments, atomic absorption and atomic emission spectrometry, surface analysis techniques. Mass spectrometry. These techniques are discussed in terms of their use in environmental analysis and the value they contribute to meeting the UN sustainable development goals (#3,6 & 11). Instrumental electrochemistry. The relevance of electrochemistry to providing affordable and clean energy (UN SDG#7) is addressed.

Organic chemistry 384 (CMY 384)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	CMY 282, CMY 283, CMY 284 and CMY 285
Contact time	1 discussion class per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Quarter 3

Module content

Theory: NMR spectroscopy: applications. Aromatic chemistry, Synthetic methodology in organic chemistry. Carbon-carbon bond formation: alkylation at nucleophilic carbon sites, aldol and related condensations, Wittig and related reactions, acylation of carbanions (Claisen condensation). Practical: Laboratory sessions are designed to develop the rational thinking behind the design of organic chemistry experiments. An industrial project specifically prepares students for work in SA industry context and honours projects. As part of this practical programme the UN sustainable development goals must be considered in evaluating the best industrial process.

Inorganic chemistry 385 (CMY 385)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	CMY 282, CMY 283, CMY 284 and CMY 285



Contact time	1 discussion class per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Chemistry
Period of presentation	Quarter 2

Module content

Theory: Structure and bonding in inorganic chemistry. Molecular orbital approach, diatomic and polyatomic molecules, three-centre bonds, metal-metal bonds, transition metal complexes, magnetic properties, electronic spectra, reactivity and reaction mechanisms, reaction types, acid-base concepts, non-aqueous solvents, special topics.

Elective modules

Macromolecules of life: structure-function and bioinformatics 356 (BCM 356)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Prerequisites	BCM 251 GS and BCM 257 GS and BCM 261 GS and BCM 252 GS.
Contact time	1 practical/tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Structure, function, bioinformatics and biochemical analysis of (oligo)nucleotides, amino acids, proteins and ligands – and their organisation into hierarchical, higher order, interdependent structures. Principles of structure-function relationships, protein folding, sequence motifs and domains, higher order and supramolecular structure, self-assembly, conjugated proteins, post-translational modifications. Molecular recognition between proteins, ligands, DNA and RNA or any combinations. The RNA structural world, RNAi, miRNA and ribosomes. Cellular functions of coding and non-coding nucleic acids. Basic principles of mass spectrometry, nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy, X-ray crystallography and proteomics. Protein purification and characterisation including, pI, molecular mass, amino acid composition and sequence. Mechanistic aspects and regulation of information flow from DNA via RNA to proteins and back. Practical training includes hands-on nucleic acid purification and sequencing, protein production and purification, analysis by SDS-PAGE or mass spectrometry, protein structure analysis and 3D protein modelling.

Biocatalysis and integration of metabolism 357 (BCM 357)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Prerequisites	BCM 251 GS and BCM 257 GS and BCM 261 GS and BCM 252 GS.
Contact time	1 practical/tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English



Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Regulation of metabolic pathways. Analysis of metabolic control. Elucidation of metabolic pathways with isotopes. Metabolomics. Coordinated regulation of glycolysis/gluconeogenesis and glycogen breakdown/synthesis. Overview of hormone action. Metabolism of xenobiotics. Hormonal regulation of feul metabolism. Metabolic adaptations during diabetes. Obesity and the regulation of body mass. Obesity, metabolic syndrome and Type 2 diabetes (T2D). Management of T2D with diet, exercise and medication. Practical sessions cover tutorials on case studies and biochemical calculations, and hands-on isolation of an enzyme, determination of pH and temperature optima, determination of K_m and V_{max} , enzyme activation and enzyme inhibition.

Cell structure and function 367 (BCM 367)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Prerequisites BCM 251 and BCM 257 and BCM 261 GS and BCM 252 GS.

Contact time 1 practical/tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Visualising cell structure and localisation of proteins within cells. Cell ultrastructure. Purification of subcellular organelles. Culturing of cells. Biomembrane structure. Transmembrane transport of ions and small molecules and the role of these processes in disease. Moving proteins into membranes and organelles. Vesicular traffic, secretion, exocytosis and endocytosis. Cell organisation and movement motility based on the three types of cytoskeletal structures including microfilaments, microtubules and intermediate filaments as well as their associated motor proteins. Cell-cell and cell-matrix adhesion through corresponding proteins and morphological structures. Practical training includes tutorials on cytometry and microscopy, mini-research projects where students are introduced and guided through aspects of research methodology, experimental planning techniques associated with cellular assays, buffer preparation, active transport studies in yeast cells, structure-function analyses of actin and binding partners.

Molecular basis of disease 368 (BCM 368)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Prerequisites BCM 251 and BCM 257 and BCM 261 GS BCM 252 GS.

Contact time 1 practical/tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology



Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Molecular mechanisms behind exogenous and endogenous diseases. Foundational knowledge of the immune system, with innate-, adaptive- and auto-immunity (molecular mechanisms of the maintenance and failure of the recognition of foreign in the context of self in the mammalian body) being some of the key concepts. Molecular pathology and immunobiochemistry of exogenous diseases against viral, bacterial and parasitic pathogens with a focus on the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis (TB) and malaria. Endogenous disease will describe the biochemistry of normal cell cycle proliferation, quiescence, senescence, differentiation and apoptosis, and abnormal events as illustrated by cancer. Tutorials will focus on immunoassays, vaccines, diagnostic tests for diseases and drug discovery towards therapeutics.

Plant ecophysiology 356 (BOT 356)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites BOT 161

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to plant ecophysiology and plants response to environmental stress. Understanding how various biotic and abiotic factors affect plant metabolic processes, including photosynthesis and respiration. Emphasis is placed on the efficiency of the mechanisms whereby C₃-, C₄ and CAM-plants bind CO₂ and how they are impacted by the environment. To understand the functioning of plants in diverse environments, the relevant structural properties of plants, the impact of soil composition, water flow in the soil-plant air continuum and long distance transport of assimilates will be discussed. Students will research a topic relevant to plant ecophysiology and present this in the form of an oral presentation. Students will conduct a practical project to study the effects of environmental factors on C₃ and C₄ plant growth and physiology. Students will present the report in a written format according to the guidelines of a relevant scientific journal. Relevant readings will be used to highlight the alignment of the module with the Sustainable Development Goals, with emphasis placed on climate action.

Plant ecology 358 (BOT 358)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Prerequisites BOT 161 and BOT 251.

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 days field-based practical, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences



Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Theory of plant community concepts, floristic and structural composition, plant diversity, ecological succession, landscape ecology. Data processing techniques. Species interactions and an evaluation of their effects on interacting species. Fundamentals of plant population biology: life tables; plant breeding systems and pollination; population dynamics; life history strategies; intraspecific competition; interspecific competition and co-existence. There is a compulsory field-based practical run over a weekend in the first month of the first semester.

Phytomedicine 365 (BOT 365)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites BOT 161

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

The module will include a review on the discovery and use of plant medicines and phyto-therapeutically important molecules obtained from plants. Certain aspects of natural product chemistry i.e. the biosynthesis, ecological role and toxicity of the three main classes of secondary compounds; terpenoids, phenolics, and alkaloids are discussed. An introduction to the principles and applications of metabolomics is presented. The role of these natural products in defense against microorganisms and herbivores is reviewed during the module. The importance of ethnobotany and phylogenetics in modern drug discovery from biodiversity will be presented along with legal and ethical considerations surrounding bioprospecting. This will follow on with modern theories and practices regarding sustainable utilisation and conservation of medicinal plants. The basics of alternative medicines, with an emphasis on traditional African and Chinese medicines, are also discussed as well as current evidence-based research and product development derived from these. Biotechnological approaches to medicinal natural product production, 'farmer to pharma', will be covered, including plant cell culture and bioreactors. Practical sessions on drug discovery approaches using chromatographic techniques for phytochemical analysis of secondary metabolites such as tannins, alkaloids, and saponins are conducted. Bioassays on micro-organisms are also done during the practical sessions in order to develop the skills for the potential discovery of new antibiotics.

Plant diversity 366 (BOT 366)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites BOT 161



Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Department of Plant and Soil Sciences

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Basic principles and methods of plant classification. Sources of plant variation. Modern methods to ascertain evolutionary relationships among plants. The extent and significance of vascular plant diversity. General structural and biological characteristics of evolutionary and ecologically important plant groups. Botanical nomenclature. Plant identification in practice; identification methods, keys, herbaria and botanical gardens. Diagnostic characters for the field identification of trees, wild flowers and grasses. Family recognition of southern African plants. Available literature for plant identification. Methods to conduct floristic surveys. Nature and significance of voucher specimens.

Human environmental interactions 301 (ENV 301)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites ENV 201

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Quarter 2

Module content

The module serves as an introduction to human-environment relations, on contemporary environmental issues in Africa.

The module begins with different theories and schools of thought in human-environment relations, followed by recent and future impacts of human pressures on natural resources, the state of the environment in South Africa, management of critical resources, population trends, biodiversity loss, pollution, water scarcity, desertification, climate change, waste accumulation and management, environmental management tools, environmental education and environmental management legislation. A key focus here is future scenarios for the African continent in terms of SDGs and Aichi targets; given current and projected driving forces.

Theories and applications of human geography 301 (GGY 301)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Prerequisites GGY 201

Contact time 1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Quarter 3

Module content

Classic economic development theories and frameworks. Spatial development history and legacy in South Africa. Rural and agricultural reconstruction. Land reform. Urban development and strategy. Urban spatial reconstruction. National spatial development frameworks. Integration of environmental, economic, and social components of sustainable development, including challenges, actors and actions in sustainable development.

Environmental geomorphology 361 (GGY 361)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites GGY 252 and only for students studying BSc (Geography) or BSc (Environmental Sciences).

Contact time 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Quarter 4

Module content

*Note: The module is available for BSc (Geography) and BSc (Environmental Sciences) students only. The theory content of this module is the same as GGY 363 and students are not allowed to earn credits for both GGY 361 and GGY 363.

Interactions of geomorphic processes within the physical and built environments; themes such as geomorphology and environmental change, slope processes and the environment, geomorphic risks and hazards, soil erosion and conservation, geomorphology in environmental management, applied weathering. Practicals involve fieldwork including sampling and mapping and subsequent laboratory analysis.

Geographic information systems 310 (GIS 310)

Module credits 22.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites GGY 283

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology



Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Advanced theory and practice of Geographic Information Systems; GIS applications; design and implementation of GIS applications. A project or assignments of at least 64 notional hours. Diverse South African examples will be used to expose the students to various data sources, geospatial analyses, and data representation to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Spatial analysis 320 (GIS 320)

Module credits 22.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology

Prerequisites GIS 220 and GGY 283

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geography Geoinformatics and Meteorology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Construction of Raster Geovisualisations, spatial model construction and use, multi-criteria decision analysis. Factor analysis: Principle component analysis. Geostatistics: Spatial dependence modelling, ordinary kriging. Markov chains and cellular Automata, combined models. Examples using data from South Africa are implemented. A project or assignment of at least 64 notional hours.

Structural geology 365 (GLY 365)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Prerequisites GLY 263

Contact time 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Quarter 1

Module content

Integrated theoretical and practical course dealing with the principles of rock deformation and analysis of deformed rocks. Stress, strain and rheology, joints, experimental rock deformation, fault systems and Anderson's theory of faulting. Folds and interference folding, tectonic fabrics, shear zone, progressive deformation. Stereographic projection and structural analysis.

Groundwater 366 (GLY 366)

Module credits 18.00



NQF Level	07
Prerequisites	GLY 263
Contact time	2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geology
Period of presentation	Quarter 2

Module content

The hydrological cycle, water resources and water usage; porosity and permeability, heterogeneity and isotropy; the occurrence of groundwater, vadose and phreatic zones; aquifer types, relations and groundwater flow; hydrostratigraphy, surface water and groundwater interaction, springs; water balance, water flow, recharge and baseflow; Darcy's Law, hydraulic conductivity and subsurface flow; capillarity, hydraulics, Bernoulli's equation and the continuity principle; hydraulic parameters and their derivation from aquifer pumping tests, including Theis, Cooper-Jacob and other modifications; water quality, solubility, natural waters, ionic balance and plotting water chemistry data; groundwater mining, aquifer compaction and subsidence; saline intrusion, dryland salinity, pollution, NAPLs; site remediation and toxicology.

Economic geology 367 (GLY 367)

Module credits	36.00
NQF Level	07
Prerequisites	GLY 365
Contact time	2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Geology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

This module details the genesis and exploitation of major ore deposits, with an emphasis on South African examples. The processes through which ore deposits are formed and modified will be discussed, highlighting the relevance of sedimentary, metamorphic and igneous processes in the genesis of world-class ore bodies. The module will also address the methods of mining commonly used, and the international commodity market, including a brief introduction to ore reserve estimation and the evaluation of potential ore deposits. The section of the module involving mineral exploration and mining will emphasize the need of pursuing a sustainable mineral resources development mindset, by addressing and sharing ideas on the impact that mining has on environmental, social and economic issues including community welfare, impact of mining on land use, and rehabilitation post mining.

Advanced Geological field mapping 368 (GLY 368)

Module credits	6.00
NQF Level	07
Prerequisites	GLY 263



Contact time 7 days full-time block week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Geology

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Advanced field mapping techniques.

Electronics, electromagnetism and quantum mechanics 356 (PHY 356)

Module credits 36.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites PHY 255 GS and PHY 263 GS and WTW 211 GS and WTW 218 GS and WTW 248 GS

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 discussion classes per week, 4 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Physics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Electronics (14 lectures)

Thévenin and Norton equivalent circuits, superposition principle, RC, LC and LRC circuits. Semiconductor diode. Bipolar transistor. Operational amplifiers. Computer controlled instrumentation.

Electromagnetism (21 lectures)

Electrostatics: Coulomb's law, divergence and curl of E, Gauss' law, Laplace's equation, image charge problems, multipole expansion.

Magnetostatics: Lorenz force, Biot-Savart law, divergence and curl of magnetic field strength, Ampère's law, magnetic vector potential, multipole expansion, boundary conditions.

Electrodynamics: Electromotive force, electromagnetic induction, Maxwell's equations, wave equation.

Electric and magnetic fields in matter: Polarisation, electric displacement and Gauss's law in dielectrics, linear dielectrics. Magnetisation (diamagnets, paramagnets, ferromagnets), auxiliary field H and Ampère's law in magnetised materials, linear and nonlinear media.

Quantum mechanics (28 lectures)

The Schrödinger equation, the statistical interpretation of the wave function, momentum, the uncertainty principle, the time-independent Schrödinger equation, stationary states, the infinite square well potential, the harmonic oscillator, the free particle, the Delta-Function potential, the finite square well potential, Hilbert spaces, observables, eigen functions of a Hermitian operator, Dirac notation, the Schrödinger equation in spherical coordinates, the hydrogen atom, angular momentum spin.

Statistical mechanics, solid state physics and modelling 364 (PHY 364)

Module credits 36.00

NQF Level 07



Service modules	Faculty of Education
Prerequisites	PHY 356 and WTW 211 and WTW 218 and WTW 248 GS
Contact time	2 discussion classes per week, 2 practicals per week, 4 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Physics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Statistical mechanics (28 lectures)

Isolated systems in thermodynamical equilibrium. Systems in equilibrium with a heat bath: the canonical ensemble, Gibbs' entropic formula, classical statistical mechanics, energy equipartition theorem, thermodynamic potentials, paramagnetism.

The classical limit of perfect gases: non-distinguishable character of quantum particles, the equation of state of the classical ideal gas. Quantum perfect gases: Black body radiation, the grand canonical ensemble, Fermi-Dirac distribution, the free electron gas in metals, the Bose-Einstein distribution, Bose-Einstein condensation.

Solid state physics (28 lectures)

Crystal structures, the reciprocal lattice, x-ray diffraction, lattice vibration, the Debye model, characteristics of solids, the free electron model, Pauli paramagnetism, electronic heat capacity, the relaxation time, electrical conduction, the classical Hall effect, thermal conduction in metals, failures of the free electron model, the independent electron model, band theory of solids.

Computational Physics and modelling. Assessment will be done through a portfolio of project reports. The topics for the projects will be selected from various sub-disciplines of Physics.

The science of data analytics 353 (STK 353)

Module credits	25.00
NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Prerequisites	WST 212
Contact time	1 practical per week, 3 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Statistics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Data exploration. Data wrangling. Statistical coding. Algorithmic thinking. Sampling: basic techniques in probability, non-probability, and resampling methods. Text mining and analytics. Machine learning: classification and clustering. Statistical concepts are demonstrated and interpreted through practical coding and simulation within a data science framework.

Multivariate analysis 311 (WST 311)

Module credits	18.00
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NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Prerequisites	WST 211, WST 221, WTW 211 GS and WTW 218 GS
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Statistics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Multivariate statistical distributions: Moments of a distribution, moment generating functions, independence. Multivariate normal distribution: Conditional distributions, partial and multiple correlations. Distribution of quadratic forms in normal variables. Multivariate normal samples: Estimation of the mean vector and covariance matrix, estimation of correlation coefficients, distribution of the sample mean, sample covariance matrix. Principal component analysis. The linear model: Models of full rank, least squares estimators, test of hypotheses. The generalised linear model: Exponential family mean and variance, link functions, deviance and residual analysis, test statistics, log-linear and logit models. Practical applications: Practical statistical modelling and analysis using statistical computer packages and interpretation of the output.

Stochastic processes 312 (WST 312)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Prerequisites	WST 211, WST 221, WTW 211 GS and WTW 218 GS
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Statistics
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Definition of a stochastic process. Stationarity. Covariance stationary. Markov property. Random walk. Brownian motion. Markov chains. Chapman-Kolmogorov equations. Recurrent and transient states. First passage time. Occupation times. Markov jump processes. Poisson process. Birth and death processes. Structures of processes. Structure of the time-homogeneous Markov jump process. Applications in insurance. Practical statistical modelling, analysis and simulation using statistical computer packages and the interpretation of the output.

Time-series analysis 321 (WST 321)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07



Service modules	Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Prerequisites	WST 211, WST 221, WTW 211 GS and WTW 218 GS
Contact time	1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Statistics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Note: Only one of the modules WST 321 or STK 320 may be included in any study programme.

Stationary and non-stationary univariate time-series. Properties of autoregressive moving average (ARMA) and autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) processes. Identification, estimation and diagnostic testing of a time-series model. Forecasting. Multivariate time-series. Practical statistical modelling and analysis using statistical computer packages, including that of social responsibility phenomena.

Analysis 310 (WTW 310)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites WTW 220

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Topology of finite dimensional spaces: Open and closed sets, compactness, connectedness and completeness. Theorems of Bolzano-Weierstrass and Heine-Borel. Properties of continuous functions and applications. Integration theory for functions of one real variable. Sequences of functions.

Complex analysis 320 (WTW 320)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Education

Prerequisites WTW 218 and WTW 220

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English



Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Series of functions, power series and Taylor series. Complex functions, Cauchy- Riemann equations, Cauchy's theorem and integral formulas. Laurent series, residue theorem and calculation of real integrals using residues.

Algebra 381 (WTW 381)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites WTW 114 and WTW 211

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Group theory: Definition, examples, elementary properties, subgroups, permutation groups, isomorphism, order, cyclic groups, homomorphisms, factor groups. Ring theory: Definition, examples, elementary properties, ideals, homomorphisms, factor rings, polynomial rings, factorisation of polynomials. Field extensions, applications to straight-edge and compass constructions.

Dynamical systems 382 (WTW 382)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences

Prerequisites WTW 218 and WTW 286/264

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1



Module content

Matrix exponential function: homogeneous and non-homogeneous linear systems of differential equations. Qualitative analysis of systems: phase portraits, stability, linearisation, energy method and Liapunov's method. Introduction to chaotic systems. Application to real life problems.

Numerical analysis 383 (WTW 383)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites WTW 114, WTW 123 WTW 124 and WTW 211

Contact time 1 practical per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Direct methods for the numerical solution of systems of linear equations, pivoting strategies. Iterative methods for solving systems of linear equations and eigenvalue problems. Iterative methods for solving systems of nonlinear equations. Introduction to optimization. Algorithms for the considered numerical methods are derived and implemented in computer programmes. Complexity of computation is investigated. Error estimates and convergence results are proved.

Partial differential equations 386 (WTW 386)

Module credits 18.00

NQF Level 07

Service modules Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education

Prerequisites WTW 248 and WTW 286/264

Contact time 1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Conservation laws and modelling. Fourier analysis. Heat equation, wave equation and Laplace's equation. Solution methods including Fourier series. Energy and other qualitative methods.

Continuum mechanics 387 (WTW 387)



Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Prerequisites	WTW 248 and WTW 286/264
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Kinematics of a continuum: Configurations, spatial and material description of motion. Conservation laws. Analysis of stress, strain and rate of deformation. Linear constitutive equations. Applications: Vibration of beams, equilibrium problems in elasticity and special cases of fluid motion.

Geometry 389 (WTW 389)

Module credits	18.00
NQF Level	07
Service modules	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology Faculty of Education Faculty of Humanities
Prerequisites	WTW 211
Contact time	1 tutorial per week, 2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Mathematics and Applied Mathematics
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Axiomatic development of neutral, Euclidean and hyperbolic geometry. Using models of geometries to show that the parallel postulate is independent of the other postulates of Euclid.

Regulations and rules

The regulations and rules for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

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.

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 (HEQF) 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.