the road to



starts here

WHAT AM I GOING TO STUDY?

You are in your final school year and now is the time to make that all important decision: What am I going to study? At the Faculty of Natural Sciences we offer an extensive selection of market related degrees. During your 3 year undergraduate study we will infuse and instill into you the desire for knowledge and the expert application thereof. We strive to maintain a high level of quality in the courses that we offer, thus you can be assured that you are getting only the best!

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CHOOSE YOUR FIELD



SCHOOLS & CENTRES

School for Biological Sciences Botany-Microbiology-Zoology

School for Physical and Chemical Sciences Biochemistry-Chemistry-Physics

School for Geo- and Spatial Sciences Geology-Geography-Soil Science Environmental Management Urban and Regional Planning

School for Computer, Statistical and **Mathematical Sciences**

Computer Science & Information Technology Statistics-Mathematics & Applied Mathematics

Centre for Business Mathematics and Informatics

Actuarial-Data Mining-Financial Mathematics Quantitative Risk Management

faculty of NATURAL SCIENCES

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what do you want to be?

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Hard work is rewarded. You are not alone. We're with you all the way.



Qualification Program	Curriculum	Admission Requirements
BSC Physical and Chemical Sciences (3 Yrs) Full time	Chemistry and Physics Chemistry, Mathematics and Applied Mathematics Physics and Mathematics Physics and Applied Mathematics Chemistry and Biochemistry Physiology and Chemistry	Mathematics 60-69%, Physical Sciences 50-59% APS 26 Interpreted in English
BSc Computer and Mathematical Sciences (3 Yrs) Full time	Physics and Computer Science Computer Science and Statistics Computer Science and Mathematics Statistics and Mathematics Mathematics Computer Science and Economics Mathematics and Economics	Mathematics 60-69%, Physical Sciences 50-59% APS 26 Interpreted in English
BSc Information Technology (3 Yrs) Full time	Information Technology and Computer Science (IT)	Mathematics 50-59%, APS 26 Interpreted in English
BSc Environmental and Biological Sciences (3 Yrs) Full time	Biological Sciences: *Zoology & Biochemistry *Zoology & Chemistry *Microbiology & Chemistry *Microbiology & Chemistry *Botany & Biochemistry *Botany & Chemistry *Geology & Chemistry *Geology & Chemistry Zoology & Microbiology Zoology & Botany Microbiology & Botany Physiology & Zoology Physiology & Microbiology Geo & Spatial Sciences: Geology & Geography Geology & Microbiology Geology & Microbiology Geology & Microbiology Geology & Joology Geography & Zoology Geography & Botany Geography & Botany Geography & Botany Geography & Botany Geography & Botany	*Mathematics 60-69% (where Biochemistry or Chemistry is a major subject) Mathematics 50-59% Physical Sciences 50-59% APS 26 Interpreted in English
BSc Tourism (3 Yrs) Full time	Tourism + Botany & Zoology Geography & Botany Geography & Zoology	Mathematics 50-59% Physical Sciences 50-59% APS 26 Interpreted in English
B. Art. et Scien Planning (4 Yrs) Full time	Urban and Regional Planning with Economy and Geography	Mathematics 60-69% APS 28 Interpreted in English Selection Exam
BSc BMI (3 Yrs) Full time	Actuarial Science Data Mining Financial Mathematics Quantitative Risk Management	Mathematics 70% en higher APS 32 Interpreted in English

What career options do I have with a BSc?

Physical and Chemical Sciences:
A researcher, lab technician, lab
manager at institutions like: CSIR,
NECSA, MITTAL STEEL, ESKOM, SASOL,
DENEL, SABS, MNR, etc. Or you can
tackle the industries in product development eg paper, textiles, plastics,
and petro-chemical. Become a pollution analyst, atmospheric chemist,
compound chemist/analyst, forensic
scientist, astrophysist etc.

Computer, Statistical and Mathematical Sciences

Bill Gates? No, seriously. You can become a system developer and programmer to write/develop software for large corporations. You can also opt for some of these careers: database administrator, computer programmer, database designer/developer, system analyst. You can also aim this at the financial sector and become a quantitative risk analyst, data analyst, credit risk analyst, statistician, operational research analyst, cryptologist, environmental mathematician, SAS programmer etc.

Biological Sciences

You start a career in any of the following: animal scientist, animal behaviourist, plant pathologist, bacteriologist, agronomist, entomologist, environmental chemist, forestry scientist or silviculturist, herpetologist, science teacher, environmental manager, virologist, marine biologist etc.

Geo- and Spatial Sciences

You can follow any of these careers: geo-chemist, professional environmental management consultant/auditor, environmental lawyer, urban planning and development, construction planning entrepreneur, soil analyst, lab technician, archeology, professional environmental assessment pratitioner, climatologist, map-maker, GPS programmer.

Business Mathematics and Informatics

Your career options will fall in the financial sector where you can be a quantitative risk manager, financial product developer, merchant banker, corporate banker, quantitative strategist, actuary, data geologist, investment analyst. You will find work at prominent financial institutions such as ABSA, Sanlam, Liberty, SAS, Old Mutual and Momentum.

I want to know:

How hard is your first year?

During the first few weeks in your first semester, a portion of your Gr12 work is reviewed. From there onwards the rest of the work builds on it. You will learn new things on top of that too. The volume of work is considerably more than in school, but with a good study regiment and regular class attendance it will help to get used to the work tempo and load.

Is mathematics and science in school really that important for a BSc?

YES! This is the basis on which we accept students. Having had these subjects in school will most certainly form part of the foundation of your studies. The subjects taught in University differs a lot from school, but because mathematics is the language of science, all students that have maths as a subject must complete the Maths Refresher Course in the beginning of their 1st year.

What if I don't meet the admission requirement(s)?

You will have to postpone your studies to improve, or choose a different field of study which does not require maths/physical science, but that will still add value to your intended study, whilst you work to improve your marks. Bridging courses for both maths and physical science are of-

fered by MasterMaths and MasterScience: www.mastermaths.co.za Tel: +2718 293 1550

What is our language policy? All first year modules are translated into English.

Are there any selection exams? Urban and Regional Planning is subject to a selection exam. Other majors such as Geography and Geology are subject to selection due to capacity restrictions.

What about study material?

All study material requirements are listed in your study guide in the beginning of a semester. You can purchase textbooks from the book stores, located near the campus. Secondhand books are available from 2HB (F20).

Is the study material provided sufficient?

The text books combined with your class notes and the study materials required, ves.

Hardware

It is not a prerequisite to your classes. Our campus is well equipped to help students 24/7 in our computer laboratories. If you do need to use one for your course, your lecturer will give you the requirements in your study guide or communicate it during the first few classes.

And bursaries?

In your first year you are automatically qualify for a rebate on your class fees depending on your Gr12 results. You can also apply for a bursary via our website. We also list various financial institutions which may help you with a study bursary. It is wise to apply as early as you can, since you have to pay your first tuition fees before classes start.

The cost of studying

The cost of studying is more or less consistent at most institutions, but if you need a clearer estimate you can email at PUK-studyfees@nwu.ac.za. Please remember that the cost of study is only calculated on class fees and other needs are not included.

Can I change my field of study?

Yes you can. It is easier to do so in your first year, but not advisable. There are exceptions where you realise that what you want to do is a little different than what you thought. It is easier to change your field of study within the Faculty. If you change your field of study before classes begin even better, as there is no catch up work to do then.

Am I just a number?

Depends on the size of classes. Large classes make it very difficult for the lecturer to know every person by name, but smaller groups make it easier - unless of course you stand out from the crowd!

How big are the classes?

Some class groups are very large, up to 300+ students! However as you specialize in your field of study, so the size of your classes will become smaller. First year classes in a BSc are very large as this is the foundation year and scientific knowledge is general. After that you will specialize in your major subjects.

How long are classes?

50 minutes. Don't miss them, because class attendance is taken in to account to sit for examination.

Is there any help for students that find their work difficult to comprehend?

YES! Facilitation classes are presented by senior students in specific fields/ subjects. We also have an impressive library. Some older students may offer the role of a mentor (remember they've been there too), academic societies (Scientiae, Ad Vivendum & BSV fall under Natural Sciences) and lecturers. You can make an appointment to see your lecturer. If you are in a residence, you will be assigned an advisor that will also be able to help you. Some students form informal study groups to help each other.

For more information, visit ou website:

http://natural-sciences.nwu.ac.za Tel: +2718 299 2711