



Bachelor of Arts (Politics, Philosophy and Economics)

SAQA ID 120745 NQF Level 7

🕒 Qualification duration

Contact

Full-Time (Campus)

- Minimum: 3 years
- Maximum: 5 years

Part-Time (Online)

- Minimum: 5 years
- Maximum: 7 years

📖 Qualification description

Open the world of the arts. A Bachelor of Arts (General) degree offers a flexible degree structure that is spread over a minimum of three years of full-time study.

Specialising in PPE gives you an understanding of political, philosophical, and economic ideas; the nature of political institutions; political processes and decision-making.

This relates to how economic systems work, understanding the causes of poverty better as well as how to promote development. This is the qualification that can enable students to deal with and understand the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) better.

This qualification enables students, to respond in a sensitive, rational and innovative manner to moral problems and challenges within their politico-economic context.

📄 Qualification accreditation

- Accredited by the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) of the Council on Higher Education (CHE).
- Registered with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA).

This qualification is offered at the following campuses:

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|---------------------------|----------------------|
| • Bedfordview | • Mbombela |
| • Bloemfontein | • Midrand |
| • Cape Town: Mowbray | • Nelson Mandela Bay |
| • Cape Town: Tyger Valley | • Potchefstroom |
| • Durban | • Pretoria |
| • East London | • Vanderbijlpark |

✅ Entry requirements

- South African National Senior Certificate (NSC) with Bachelor's degree pass. *
- Or National Certificate (Vocational) Level 4 issued by the Council of General and Further Education and Training with a Bachelor's degree pass.
- Or letter or certificate confirming an exemption from Universities South Africa (USAf) for any other school-leaving results.
- Or completion of a Bachelor's degree.
- Or completion of the relevant Foundation Programme along with a letter or certificate of exemption from Universities South Africa (USAf).
- Or completion of a relevant Higher Certificate.
- Or completion of the relevant Eduvos Access Programme.

AND

- * 25 Eduvos points or more.
- 50% or above for Grade 12 English or equivalent.

AND

- ** A student with Mathematics Literacy (50% or more) must enrol for and complete Introduction to Mathematics A and Mathematics for Degree Studies B (Commerce).
- ** A student with Mathematics (less than 50% but greater than or equal to 30%) must enrol for Mathematics and complete Degree Studies B (Commerce).

📁 Possible career options

- The Bachelor of Arts (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) degree is very broad and prepares you for many different career options, including:
- Academia
- Civil Service
- Consultancy
- Diplomatic Corps
- Economics
- International Banking or Finance
- Journalism
- NGOs
- Politics
- Research
- Public Administration
- Public Policy
- International Development



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Qualification structure

Year 1

- Business English
- Computer Skills
- Critical Reasoning
- Economics 1A & 1B
- History 1
- Introduction to Law 1A
- Media Studies 1A & 1B
- Philosophy 1
- Political Science 1A & 1B

Year 2

- Economics 2A & 2B
- History 2
- Introduction to Coding for Humanities
- Media Studies 2A & 2B
- Philosophy 2
- Political Science 2A & 2B
- Research Methodology

Year 3

- Economics 3A & 3B
- Entrepreneurship in Humanities
- Law for Psychology Students
- Philosophy 3
- Political Science 3A & 3B
- Research Project
- Work Integrated Learning (BA)



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Module descriptors

Year 1

Business English

The aim of this module is to provide students with an understanding and practical knowledge of the business communication skills essential to any business venture.

Computer Skills

The aim of this module is to provide practical use of computer applications to create, manage and format data by developing word-processing, spreadsheet and presentation skills in a Windows Operating System (OS) environment.

Critical Reasoning

The aim of this module is to facilitate the acquisition of the capabilities needed to think critically. These include identifying and analysing arguments, logical fallacies and the language used. In addition, the module also aims to apply these skills to specific disciplines.

Economics 1A

The primary aim of Economics 1A, which is an introductory module to Microeconomics, is to develop the competency of students to demonstrate analytical skills in different fields of basic economic principles. The module provides a framework within which the student can develop a critical understanding of the workings of a market economy and the way in which it affects individuals and institutions operating within such a system.

Economics 1B

This module introduces students to Macroeconomics, which is a sub-field of Economics. Economics is essentially the study of scarce resources at the national level and at the level of business. As a field of study, macroeconomics focuses on economics at the national level and related matters, such as economic development, the state of a country's economy, gross domestic product (GDP), fiscal and monetary policy, the role of government in the economy, economic objectives, global economic issues and economic growth factors.

History 1

The aim of this module is to introduce you to some of the most significant phenomena in human history and how these phenomena apply to Africa. The module also aims to introduce you to some of the principles of how to study history.

Introduction to Law 1A

The aim of this module is to provide you with the basis for your legal studies by introducing you to the background of our legal system, with an understanding of how legislation is created and introduced as law, the importance of our constitution as well as exposure to the foundations of the law. Within this module, we will discuss the different sources of our legal system and the operation of the law within society.

Media Studies 1A

The aim of this module is to provide you with understanding and skills relating to the fundamental concepts and principles that underpin the media representations on a first-year level.

Media Studies 1B

The aim of this module is to provide you with the understanding and skills relating to the fundamental concepts and principles that underpin the media representations on a first-year level.

Philosophy 1

The aim of this module is to introduce you to the fundamental concepts and theories in the study of philosophy.

Political Science 1A

The aim of this module is to introduce you to the fundamental concepts and theories in the study of political science.

Political Science 1B

The aim of this module is to introduce you to the fundamental concepts and theories in the study of political science in regard to the branches of the government.



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Module descriptors

Year 2

Economics 2A

The aim of this module is to focus on the main topics and components of microeconomics at a second-year level. You will use the fundamentals you were introduced to in your first year and further build on those principles during this block.

Economics 2B

The fundamental principle of financial management is to maximise the wealth of the owners of any business. This module provides the student with the necessary skills and knowledge to make good investment and financing decisions. This will be achieved by understanding financials that are publicly available and, subsequently, theory will be explored to create a wider understanding.

History 2

The aim of this module is to acquire a detailed understanding of African kingdoms prior to the arrival of Europeans in Africa. Additionally, the module seeks to instil the capacity to analyse and question the authenticity of the source material related to African kingdoms.

Introduction to Coding for Humanities

The aim of this module is to help you understand how to design and write computational solutions for given problems.

Media Studies 2B

This module aims to provide you with the understanding and skills relating to the fundamental concepts and principles that underpin the media representations at a second-year level.

Media Studies 2A

This module aims to provide you with the understanding and skills relating to the fundamental concepts and principles that underpin the media representations at a second-year level.

Philosophy 2

The aim of this module is to introduce you to African philosophy, with a focus on the contributions made of renowned African philosophers and the philosophy of Ubuntu.

Political Science 2A

This module aims to provide you with the understanding and skills relevant to the fundamental theory of political science, with a specific focus on the international political economy (IPE).

Political Science 2B

This module aims to provide you with an understanding of, and the skills relative to, the fundamental theory of political science, with a specific focus on the international political economy (IPE).

Research Methodology

The aim of this module is to provide students with the understanding and the ability to describe the research process and the different methodologies that are part of the process.



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Year 3

Economics 3A

The aim of this module is to provide students with an understanding of the economic factors that affect the labour market in South Africa. Students will learn about the concepts of labour economics, such as supply and demand, wages, unemployment, and discrimination. They will also learn about the government policies that affect the labour market, such as minimum wage laws, unemployment insurance, and affirmative action.

Economics 3B

The aim of this module is to introduce students to international economics. Students will gain deep knowledge/skills on major issues that influence international trade. Students will acquire sound knowledge on the economic issues that make a country interact with the rest of the world. A substantial part of the course is dedicated to the examination of efficient trade policies, economic integration as well as the effects and motives of direct foreign investments. Knowledge of this course will broaden students' understanding of events in the world's economy and related policy issues.

Entrepreneurship in Humanities

The aim of the Humanities Entrepreneurial module is to empower students with the essential knowledge, skills, and mindset to initiate, develop, and sustain entrepreneurial ventures rooted in humanities. This involves integrating principles from both the humanities and business domains, illustrating how critical thinking, effective communication, and cultural awareness can drive entrepreneurial success. Through practical instruction, students will gain proficiency in key entrepreneurial practices such as business planning, market analysis, financial management, and networking. Moreover, the module aims to cultivate a spirit of lifelong learning, enabling students to navigate changing market landscapes, emerging technologies, and evolving societal demands with agility and adaptability.

Law for Psychology Students

This module aims to provide a broad perspective of the intersection of psychology and South African law. This overview will be achieved by studying the practical and theoretical intersections of the two fields. In this course, you will be introduced to how psychological principles can be applied to legal issues in the 'real world'. A range of topics will be covered, including crime policing, psychological assessment for the courts, custody of children, evidence given by expert witnesses, the functioning of the South African legal system, and its intersection with psychology.

Political Science 3A

The aim of this module is to provide you with the understanding, insight and skills relevant to the study of international relations. The module provides insight into the relations among states within the international system and issues dominating international politics.

Political Science 3B

The aim of this module is to provide you with the understanding, insight and skills related to the study of international relations. The module provides insight into the relations among states within the international system and issues dominating international politics.

Philosophy 3

The aim of this module is to make you familiar with the idea of ethics and the continuous attempts at trying to determine what it means to live a morally just life in the contemporary world.

Research Project

The overarching aim of this module is to guide you, as final-year students enrolled across various disciplines, through the process of producing an independently generated research project. By implementing a dual programme of teaching and supervision, this module seeks to equip you with the requisite knowledge and skills that will enable you to successfully conceptualise, formulate, design and implement research for the purpose of generating new knowledge.



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Module descriptors

Year 3

Work Integrated Learning (BA)

The aim is to ensure that students develop the ability to integrate their learning through a combination of academic and work-related activities.

NB: Each student will secure her / his own place to do WIL programme within the students' area of specialisation.