

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

2017 Admission criteria for applicants holding the National Senior Certificate (NSC)

NSC results are the primary guide for admission to the BSc degree. However, all applicants to the Science Faculty are required to write the National Benchmark Tests (Academic Literacy, Quantitative Literacy and Mathematics). Other factors considered include availability of places and educational or social/home background.

Subject entrance requirements

Applicants for the Bachelor of Science degree must meet the following subject requirements:

- Mathematics at 70% or above
- Physical Sciences at 60% or above (see notes 2 and 3 below).
- Where an applicant has not completed Physical Sciences, Information Technology or Life Sciences may be doubled (refer to notes 2 and 3 below).

The Faculty Points Score (FPS) (a score out of 800) is calculated as the sum of the percentages achieved in the best six NSC subjects, including English but excluding Life Orientation, and doubling the percentages achieved in Mathematics and Physical Sciences. Admission to the Faculty of Science requires a FPS of 550 or above.

ELIGIBLE		ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
All applicants	Band A (FPS)	<p>GUARANTEED ADMISSION</p> <p>FPS of 630 or above Mathematics 70% or above and Physical Science 60% or above (see <i>Notes 2 & 3</i>) NBTs in Mathematics, AL & QL to be written</p>
	Band B (WPS)	<p>ADMISSION VERY LIKELY</p> <p><i>(The Weighted Points Score (WPS; only in Band B) will be determined by applying a weighting factor to the FPS, adjusted by a maximum of 10%, to accommodate school or home background)</i></p> <p>WPS of 600 or above Mathematics 70% or above and Physical Science 60% or above (see <i>Notes 2 & 3</i>) NBTs in Mathematics, AL & QL to be written</p>
SA applicants in targeted redress race groups	Band C (FPS)	<p>ADMISSION POSSIBLE</p> <p>FPS of 550 or above Mathematics 70% or above and Physical Science 60% or above (see <i>Notes 2 & 3</i>) NBTs in Mathematics, AL & QL to be written</p>

Note 1: Acceptance into the Science Faculty does not guarantee acceptance into a chosen major because some majors (currently Biochemistry, Genetics, Geology and Human Anatomy & Physiology) have limits on the number of students that can be accommodated. Selection for these is based on academic criteria which will be clearly communicated to students during the first year of study. Students will be advised in their first year to take courses which could lead to several majors.

Note 2: If you have not completed Physical Sciences or Information Technology in your school-leaving examinations, your choice of major will be restricted to Archaeology and Environmental & Geographical Science.

Note 3: For majors in Computer Science, Business Computing, Computer Engineering and Computer Games Development only, the Physical Sciences requirement may be replaced by Information Technology.

Placement

Admission to the Science Faculty will be directly onto the regular, three-year degree programme. All students will be

required to write a set of formal class tests at mid-term of the first semester and on the basis of the results of these tests, together with NSC and NBT results, selected students will be counselled to convert to the four-year Extended Degree Programme (EDP). The EDP is structured such that students entering the programme will receive additional academic and general support to improve the chances of graduating in minimum time. The EDP is run in association with the Academic Development Programme (ADP) and offers students who are struggling the opportunity to establish a sound educational foundation, with an appropriate distribution of their academic load over a four-year period. The minimum time for a student on the EDP to complete the BSc degree is four years.