



Faculty of Science Special Regulations

The mission of the Faculty of Science is to promote science with particular attention to the development of Botswana. Towards achieving this mission, the Faculty shall promote excellence in teaching and learning, research and service. In teaching and learning the Faculty shall stimulate to acquire and generate knowledge and skills in the various branches of science so that they will be both productive in the workplace and develop attitudes that aim to make them possible members of society. In research the Faculty shall endeavour to conduct both applied and pure research in Science subjects. The members of the Faculty shall aim to provide service in various capacities at both national and international levels.

Introduction

The Faculty of Science comprises seven Departments

- Department of Biological Sciences
- Department of Chemistry
- Department of Computer Science
- Department of Environmental Science
- Department of Geology
- Department of Mathematics
- Department of Physics

Objectives of the Faculty

The objectives of the Faculty are:

- a) To promote excellence in teaching and research service
- b) To develop the critical abilities of students through the Faculty of Science
- c) To help students become responsible members of society through their education and proficiency in the various branches of Science;
- d) To cooperate with other faculties in the training of various professionals. For example, in the Faculty of Education, students registered for the Bed (Science), Bed (Secondary Education) and the Bed (Science Education) Degrees are taught all their Science content by the Faculty of Science. BSc Degree holders do their Postgraduate Diploma in the Faculty of Education. Students registered for BEd(Sc), BNS (Nursing Science), and BEd (Home Economics) are also taught their Science content by the Faculty of Science. In addition, the Faculty's Department of Environmental Science has been responsible for the teaching of Environmental Science to students in the Faculty of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences;
- e) To provide a firm Year 1 foundation in the basic Sciences for those students who transfer to other Faculties, for example, to the Faculty of Agriculture to take the BSc(Agric) Degree, and those who transfer to the Faculty of Engineering and Technology to take the BEng Degree;

- f) To provide a firm intellectual base for those students who are designated for transfer to other institutions to take programmes which are not offered in this University, for example, Medicine, Veterinary Science, Pharmacy;
- g) To prepare its graduates for further study and postgraduate work in various fields of Science;
- h) To conduct research in various fields of Science, especially as they relate to Botswana;
- i) To recommend to the Senate those students who have qualified for the award of the following qualifications: the Diploma in Computer Studies, the Bachelor of Science (BSc) Degree and the Master of Science (MSc) Degree. The MPhil and PhD Degree Programmes are now offered in most of the Departments.

Special Regulations for the Faculty of Science

Subject to the provision of the General Academic Regulation, the following Special Regulations in the Faculty of Science shall apply:

23.1 Programme Titles and Degrees

- Bachelor of Science (Biological Sciences)
- Bachelor of Science (Chemistry)
- Bachelor of Science (Computer Science)
- Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science)
- Bachelor of Science (Geology)
- Bachelor of Science (Mathematics)
- Bachelor of Science (Physics)
- BIS (Computer Information Systems)
- Bachelor of Science (Computing with Finance)
- Bachelor of Science (Information Technology)
- Bachelor of Science (Applied Geophysics)
- Bachelor of Science (Physics with Meteorology)
- Bachelor of Science (Radiation and Health Physics)
- Bachelor of Science (Mathematics of Finance)
- Bachelor of Science (Computer Science)

Graduate Programmes are offered in the Departments of Computer Science, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology, Mathematics and Physics. For Programme Titles, see departmental sections.

23.2 Entrance Requirements

23.2.1 Admission to Level 100 of the Bachelor of Science Degree Programme shall be on the basis of performance in the Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) examination, or its equivalent, in the Science subjects. Cut-off points shall be determined by the Directorate of Academic Services.

23.2.2 Applications who register for the Bachelor of Science Degree Programmes shall fulfil the following requirements:

- a) To have taken at least 5 subjects, including English Language and Mathematics at the Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (BGCSE) examination or a 1 sitting of its equivalent;
- b) To have obtained a minimum grade of Pass in English Language;
- c) To have obtained a minimum grade of Credit, or its equivalent in Mathematics.

23.2.3 In addition to the above basic requirements, applications for the Bachelor of Science Programmes must have the following:

- a) A minimum grade of C, or its equivalent, in at least 2 of the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry, Biology or: b) A minimum grade of BB, or its equivalent, in Science: Double Award or its equivalent, or:
- c) A minimum of A, or it's equivalent in the subject Physical Science and C in Biology.

23.2.4 The other qualifying subject must be one of the following:

- a) Development Studies
- b) Literature in English
- c) Design and Technology
- d) Agriculture
- e) Art
- f) Food and Nutrition
- g) Computer Studies
- h) Fashion and Fabrics
- i) Business Studies
- j) Home Management
- k) Any other subject deemed appropriate by the Faculty of Science.

23.2.5 An applicant who has taken the relevant Advanced (A)-level or equivalent examinations and who has attained a minimum of 1 E and 2 O's in the relevant subjects may be admitted to a Bachelor of Science Degree Programme.

23.2.6 If an applicant has a Grade E or better at the Advanced (A)-level, or equivalent qualifications in Science subjects, he/she may, subject to the recommendation of the relevant Head of Department and approval of the Deputy Dean, be awarded credits and exempted from equivalent course(s) prescribed for a Degree Programme.

23.3 Degree Structure

23.3.1 The single Major Programme shall be composed of core and optional courses from one subject, as well as electives and General Education Courses. In order to partially satisfy the requirement for a Degree, a student must take and pass a minimum of 80 credits in the relevant subject.

23.3.2 The Combined Degree (Major/Minor) Programme shall be composed of core and optional courses from 2 subjects, normally in the ratio of major/minor approximately 70-30, as well as electives and General Education Courses. In order to partially satisfy the requirements for a Degree, a student must take and pass a minimum of 56 credits from the major subject and a minimum of 24 credits from the minor subject.

23.3.3 The Combined Degree (Major/Major) Programme shall be composed of core and optional courses from 2 equally-weighted subjects that are independently studies, as well as electives and General Education Courses. In order to partially satisfy the requirements for a Degree, a student must take and pass a minimum of 40 credits from each of the 2 subjects.

23.3.4 The Combined Degree (Multi-disciplinary) Programme shall be a Faculty-approved programme composed of core and optional courses from more than 2 subjects, as well as electives and General Education Courses.

23.3.5 In Semesters I and 2 of any Degree Programme offered in the Faculty of Science, each student shall take courses in Mathematics as well as courses from 2 or, with the permission of the Deputy Dean, 3 subjects from the following:

Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geology and Statistics (where Statistics is a subject in the Faculty of Social Sciences).

23.3.6 A student registered in the Combined Degree Programme (Major/Major or Major/Minor shall carry out a Project in only one of his/her major subjects of study. The mode of assessment shall be as prescribed under Special Department Regulations.

23.4 Assessment

23.34.1 Assessment shall be as prescribed in General Academic Regulation 00.8.

23.4.2 Performance in each course shall normally be evaluated by the combination of continuous assessment and final examination marks in which continuous assessment shall not exceed 50 percent of the final grade. Any departure from this ratio shall require the approval of the Faculty Board.

23.5 Progression from Semester to Semester

23.5.1 At the end of each semester, a student's progress will depend on his/her pass of the attempted semester credit and any of the recommendations outlined under general regulation 00.9 may be made.

23.6 Award of Degree

23.6.1 To be awarded a Degree, a student must satisfy the appropriate provision of General Academic Regulations 00.851 and 00.852.

23.6.2 The Degree shall be classified in accordance with the provisions of General Academic Regulation 20.4, with the cumulative GPA computed in accordance with General Regulation 00.86.

23.7 Special Regulations for the Master of Science Degree

The Faculty of Science degree offers the Master of Science Degree in Departments for which such programmes have been approved. General Regulation 40.0 and Special Departmental Regulations shall apply.

23.8 Special Regulations for MPhil and PhD Degrees

23.8.1 The Faculty of Science offers the MPhil and PhD Degrees in Departments for which such programmes have been approved. General Regulation 50.0 and Special Department Regulations shall apply.

23.9 Minimum CA to Qualify for Examinations

23.9.1 A minimum continuous assessment mark of 40% is required to sit for final examinations.