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Finding courses at Stellenbosch University

For course inquiries and clarifications, send an email to interchange@sun.ac.za or exchange@sun.ac.za

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© The content of this presentation is confidential.

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- Stellenbosch University has two course offerings available to international students: Global Education Programmes (GEP)
- International students can choose either GEP or Mainstream courses or a combination of the two
- Academic departments at Stellenbosch University reserve the right to determine whether students meet with their requirements for admission to mainstream courses within their department and their decision is final. The department(s) can take up to 14 days and sometimes even longer to review applications and provide feedback
- It is a student's own responsibility to make sure that they apply for mainstream and GEP courses that are on the correct level as requested by their home university (i.e. postgraduate or undergraduate – please note that all GEP courses are undergraduate courses). Students may also choose a combination of undergraduate and postgraduate courses if approved by both home and host university
- Please do not contact departments directly. All enquiries and concerns regarding courses should be sent to the coordinator at SU International who in turn liaises with the relevant departments.

The mainstream courses are open for application to international semester students on undergraduate, as well as postgraduate level. These course can be found in the yearbooks of the respective faculties.

The official yearbooks of Stellenbosch University are found at:

<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/Pages/Calendar.aspx>

Students should ensure that the courses they select correspond to their exchange period at the University of Stellenbosch. This information can be found on the subsequent slides.

Courses should also be chosen based on the Agreement Stellenbosch University has with their home institution. These agreements could be one of the following:

- Institutional – courses can be selected from any faculty and department, provided they meet the prerequisites.
- Faculty – courses can only be selected from a specific faculty e.g. Economic and Management Science
- Departmental – courses can only be selected from a specific department within the faculty.

<http://www0.sun.ac.za/international/prospective-students/nondegree-seeking--short-term-students-/i-want-to-enrol-at-sun/exchange-programmes/course-information-1.html>

Please note that the GEP booklet may be updated during the year but GEP courses are usually repeated every semester. If you are unsure about the availability of an GEP course, do not hesitate to send an email to interchange@sun.ac.za.

Semester Codes Defined

Each course is represented by a three-digit code, in which the academic level of study (first, second or third year level) and semester of presentation are combined.

Undergraduate:

The following guideline applies to all undergraduate courses on offer at SU

- **First digit:** 1, 2, 3 or 4 – refers to the progress level of study in which the module is presented;
- **Second digit:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 – is a number to differentiate between modules of the same Subject (course) in the same year of study and refers to the semester, according to the following pattern:
 - 1, 2 or 3: modules offered in the first semester;
 - 4, 5 or 6: modules offered in the second semester;
 - 7, 8 or 9: modules offered over two semesters, i.e. a year module.

(Take note that if you apply for the first semester (January/February), the course may be approved to allow for registration of the full year course for half the credits only, provided the academic department agrees to such special arrangement.)

- **Third digit:** has no meaning or relevance
- *The Department/Division code is a 5-digit number, e.g. **57584** Wood Product Science
- *A full Course code would look like this: **57584 224** (16) Wood Anatomy and Identification

Semester Codes Defined

Postgraduate:

The course codes for Postgraduate courses does not have the same code meaning as set out above for the Undergraduate courses. Courses on Honours Level (NQF Level 8) codes start with a 7, e.g. 714. Masters Level (NQF Level 9) codes start with an 8, e.g. 896; More information on the NQF Levels can be found at the following link:

<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/policy/Documents/Definitions%20of%20NQF%20levels,%20notional%20hours%20and%20credits.pdf>.

The semester of offering is indicated in the yearbooks, however, students have to check with the International Office or the Department Secretary whether or not a specific course will be on offer in the semester for which they are applying.

The availability of postgraduate courses are influenced by factors (limits to international students per module – depending on the Department; selection processes, dates for block modules etc.) to which the international office does not always have the insight well in advance to the start of the Semester.

NB!! It is your responsibility to make sure that you apply for courses on the correct level and in the correct semester.

Language and Course Details

Stellenbosch University Policy – Mainstream courses:

The following indicates the medium of instruction

- (A) – Only Afrikaans
- (E) – Only English
- (T) – T option: 50/50
- (A/E) – parallel: two class streams

**Take note that all academic material will be made available in English

- Each of the following abbreviations is used throughout the University to denote the stated combination of (i) type of instruction and (ii) length of time:
- L lecture of 50 minutes;
- P practical period of 50 minutes [for instance: 2P and 10P stand for totals of two practical periods and ten practical periods, respectively]; 3P a practical of maximally 170 minutes [this maximum is made up of 3 x 50 minutes, plus the two intervals of 10 minutes each];
- S seminar of 50 minutes;
- T tutorial of 50 minutes; 2T tutorial of maximally 110 minutes [this maximum is made up of 2 x 50 minutes, plus the interval of 10 minutes].

Visual Examples

39020 BUILDING MATERIALS

254 Basic Building Materials Practice (15)

A & E (Interpreting) (3.00 l, 2.00 p, 1.00 t, 0.00 s per week)

Composition, manufacturing, mechanical behaviour and durability of construction materials in civil engineering, including concrete, masonry, polymers, steel and timber, test methods for control and characterisation.

Home department: CIVIL ENGINEERING

Method of Assessment: Flexible Assessment

Required modules:

P-Engineering Chemistry 123

This indicates the amount of credits for the course:
2 South African credits = 1 ECTS
4 South African credits = 1 USA credit

The code consists of three digits. The first indicates the year-level of the course, the second indicates which semester the course is offered in (1, 2 and 3 indicates a course taught in the first semester; 4, 5 and 6 indicates a second semester course. 7 or 8 indicates a course that runs over a whole year). The third digit is irrelevant for your purposes.

This indicates the specific name of the module

Indicates type of instruction and length of time (indicated per week)

The following indicates the medium of instruction
(A) – Only Afrikaans
(E) – Only English
(T) – T option: 50/50
(A/E) – parallel: two class streams
* Take note that all academic material will be made available in English

Provides short description of course

Visual Examples

711	16	Aquaculture production and management systems I		
Management practice of aquaculture production in relation to production systems: production planning; production management: applied biology, nutrition, water quality; including intensive and extensive systems, with reference to marine and freshwater species.				
Home department: ANIMAL SCIENCES				

if the first digit is a 7 or 8, you know it is a postgraduate course. The second digit can still indicate whether it is on offer in a specific semester (1, 2 and 3 indicates a course taught in the first semester; 4, 5 and 6 indicates a second semester course. 7 or 8 indicates a course that runs over a whole year). The third digit is irrelevant for your purposes.

This indicates the amount of credits for the course:
2 South African credits = 1 ECTS
4 South African credits = 1 USA credit

This indicates the specific name of the module

Provides short description of course