Emeris

Bachelor of Social Science

Faculty of Humanities

3 Years Full-Time Degree | NQF Level 7
360 Credits | SAQA ID: 122517 | BSSC0701

- Durban North
- Sandton
- Pretoria
- Newlands, Cape Town
- Nelson Mandela Bay
- Ruimsig

Qualification Description

The field of Social Science relates to the understanding of people, society and culture. This field of study enables people to make decisions as informed citizens of a culturally diverse inter- connected world. Social sciences are a group of disciplines that focus on how the mind works, how people behave in society, and the impact their behaviour has on one another, other societies and the environment.

Employers seek flexible, well-informed graduates who are sophisticated communicators and analytical thinkers. The Bachelor of Social Science degree offered at Emeris is designed to enable students to develop such qualities. The world of work is changing rapidly, and students need to take a global outlook and be adaptable in order to succeed.

This programme provides a rich basis of skills and knowledge for graduates to apply directly within the workplace, or to build on through further studies in Honours or a postgraduate programme.

The Bachelor of Social Science degree provides students with a choice of ONE of the following core discipline combinations:

- International Studies and Political Studies, or
- Geography & Environmental Science and Development Studies, or
- Psychology and Criminology & Criminal Justice, or
- Criminology & Criminal Justice and Sociology, or
- Psychology and Sociology

Who Is This Qualification Aimed At?

The Bachelor of Social Science degree is aimed at students who are interested in understanding and analysing human behaviour, society, and global issues. This qualification is ideal for individuals seeking careers in areas such as Public Policy, Psychology, Communication, or Development Studies, or for those planning to pursue postgraduate studies in the Social Sciences.

CONTACT FULL-TIME

Admission Requirements

Minimum Admission Requirements		English	Notes
	NSC: Bachelor's Degree pass with	50%	
	NC(V): Bachelor's Degree pass with	50%	
	SC: Endorsement with	50%	
	SC(a): Bachelor pass with	50%	
	International	An USAf Exemption Certificate is required meeting the minimum of 50% for English OR requisite English test.	
	A cognate Higher Certificate or cognate 240 credit Diploma OR an Advanced Certificate OR 360 credit Diploma OR Degree may satisfy the minimum admission requirements to degree studies.		If discipline not cognate at least 20% of credits must be academic literacy or numeracy related.

Alternate Admission (Should the English requirement not be met at NSC Grade 12 then entrance may be granted if the requirement is met based on the Grade 11 final English mark)		NSC	Notes
	English	40 - 49%	If 50% min in final Grade 11 results was achieved.

Should you have any other school leaving qualification not mentioned above, please reach out to a Student Advisor.

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Alternate Admission requirements for:
RPL | Mature Age Exemptions | USAf International Students | One module outstanding from a Higher Certificate

Curriculum Outline

This qualification is made of five core disciplines with unique and generic modules depending on your core discipline selected. The following are the core disciplines for this qualification:

Core Discipline	Major Subjects
International Studies and Political Studies	DIAL5111, COSC5131, SOCI5121, INTA5121, SOCI5122, INTB5122, FUPS5122, FUIR5122, HMGA6211, DEDW6221, POID6221, TPPS6221, POPO6222, EMOW6222, COPO6222, PUPM6222, IRHU7311, FPIN7321, WPIS7321, AFMW7321, RPHU7312, SADD7322, DCIR7322, PPJU7322
Geography & Environmental Science and Development Studies	DIAL5111, COSC5131, SOCI5121, IPGE5121, SOCI5122, IHGE5122, COSC5142, IDES5122, HMGA6211, DEDW6221, EPRM6221, SODE6221, POPO6222, PUPM6222, GISF7222, BSNC6232, IRHU7311, CLIM7321, ENAS7321, MPCP7311, RPHU7312, SADD7322, GISP7322, UPDS7322
Psychology And Criminology & Criminal Justice	DIAL5111, COSC5131, SOCI5121, PSYC5131, SOCI5122, PSYC5132, CICO5122, ICJS5122, TPPS6221, PSYC6221, WOCR7221, VISA6221, PSYC6222, PSYC6224, YCLA6222, ISCI6212, IRHU7311, PSYC7321, PSYC7313, CBSA7321, RPHU7312, PSYC7322, PSYC7324, FCVP7322
Criminology & Criminal Justice and Sociology	DIAL5111, COSC5131, SOCI5121, PSYC5131, SOCI5122, PSYC5132, CICO5122, ICJS5122, TPPS6221, WOCR7221, VISA6221, GECS6221, BSNC6232, YCLA6222, ISCI6212, MEDS6222, IRHU7311, CBSA7321, SPYC7321, BERS7321, RPHU7312, PPJU7322, FCVP7322, SAAJ7322
Psychology and Sociology	DIAL5111, COSC5131, SOCI5121, PSYC5131, SOCI5122, PSYC5132, CICO5122, ICJS5122, TPPS6221, WOCR7221, GECS6221, BSNC6232, PSYC6222, PSYC6224, YCLA6222, MEDS6222, IRHU7311, PSYC7321, PSYC7313, SPYC7321, RPHU7312, PSYC7322, PSYC7324, SAAJ7322

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Curriculum Structure

International Studies and Political Studies:

Explores global political dynamics, diplomacy, international relations, and governance systems, equipping students to understand and engage with both domestic and global political challenges.

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DIAL5111	Digital and Academic Literacy	5	15	SOCI5122	Sociology 1B	5	15
COSC5131	Interpersonal Communication	5	15	INTB5122	International Studies 2	5	15
SOCI5121	Sociology 1A	5	15	FUPS5122	Fundamentals of Political Science	5	15
INTA5121	International Studies 1	5	15	FUIR5122	Fundamentals of International Relations	5	15
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
HMGA6211	Human Migration in the Global Age	6	15	POPO6222	Poverty and Power: The Uneven World	6	15
DEDW6221	Development and the Developing World	6	15	EMOW6222	Ethics and the Modern World	6	15
POID6221	Political Ideologies	6	15	COPO6222	Comparative Politics	6	15
TPPS6221	Theoretical Perspectives in Political and Social Thought	6	15	PUPM6222	Public Policymaking	6	15
Year 3							
Semester 5				Semester 6			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
IRHU7311	Introduction to Research for the Human Sciences	7	15	RPHU7312	Research Practice for the Human Sciences	7	15
FPIN7321	Foreign Policy: Introduction	7	15	SADD7322	South Africa Democracy and Development	7	15
WPIS7321	War, Peace and International Security	7	15	DCIR7322	Diplomacy in Contemporary International Relations	7	15
AFMW7321	Africa in the Modern World	7	15	PPJU7322	Political Philosophy and Justice	7	15

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Geography & Environmental Science and Development Studies:

Examines the interaction between physical environments and human development, with emphasis on sustainable development, spatial planning, environmental change, and socio-economic transformation.

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DIAL5111	Digital and Academic Literacy	5	15	SOCI5122	Sociology 1B	5	15
COSC5131	Interpersonal Communication	5	15	IHGE5122	Introduction to Human Geography	5	15
SOCI5121	Sociology 1A	5	15	COSC5142	Intercultural Communication	5	15
IPGE5121	Introduction to Physical Geography	5	15	IDES5122	Introduction to Development Studies	5	15
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
HMGA6211	Human Migration in the Global Age	6	15	POPO6222	Poverty and Power: The Uneven World	6	15
DEDW6221	Development and the Developing World	6	15	PUPM6222	Public Policymaking	6	15
EPRM6221	Environmental Policy and Resource Management	6	15	GISF7222	Geographical Information Systems: FOSS Geo-Informatics	6	15
SODE6221	Sociology of Development	6	15	BSNC6232	Building Support Networks in Communities	6	15
Year 3							
Semester 5				Semester 6			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
IRHU7311	Introduction to Research for the Human Sciences	7	15	RPHU7312	Research Practice for the Human Sciences	7	15
CLIM7321	Climatology	7	15	SADD7322	South Africa Democracy and Development	7	15
ENAS7321	Environmental Impact Assessment	7	15	GISP7322	Geographical Information Systems: Planning and Decision Making	7	15
MPCP7311	Managing Preventative Community Projects	7	15	UPDS7322	Urban Planning, Development and Sustainability	7	15

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Psychology & Criminology and Criminal Justice:

Integrates the understanding of human behavior and mental processes with the study of crime, criminal behavior, and justice systems, preparing students for roles in mental health, rehabilitation, or forensic settings.

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DIAL5111	Digital and Academic Literacy	5	15	SOCI5122	Sociology 1B	5	15
COSC5131	Interpersonal Communication	5	15	PSYC5132	Introduction to Psychology B	5	15
SOCI5121	Sociology 1A	5	15	CICO5122	Crime in Context	5	15
PSYC5131	Introduction to Psychology A	5	15	ICJS5122	Introduction to South African Criminal Justice System	5	15
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
TPPS6221	Theoretical Perspectives in Political and Social Thought	6	15	PSYC6222	Psychology 2B: Developmental Psychology	6	15
PSYC6221	Psychology 2A: Social Psychology	6	15	PSYC6224	Psychology 2C: Personality Psychology	6	15
WOCR7221	Women in Crime	6	15	YCLA6222	Youth in Conflict with the Law	6	15
VISA6221	Victimology in South Africa	6	15	ISCI6212	Selected Contemporary Crime Issues	6	15
Year 3							
Semester 5				Semester 6			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
IRHU7311	Introduction to Research for the Human Sciences	7	15	RPHU7312	Research Practice for the Human Sciences	7	15
PSYC7321	Psychology 3A: Cognitive Psychology	7	15	PSYC7322	Psychology 3B: Abnormal Psychology	7	15
PSYC7313	Psychology 3C: Community Psychology	7	15	PSYC7324	Psychology 3D: Research Psychology	7	15
CBSA7321	Criminal Behaviour in South Africa: A Psychosocial Approach	7	15	FCVP7322	Forensic Criminology: Victim and Offender Profiling	7	15

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Criminology & Criminal Justice and Sociology

Focuses on the social dimensions of crime and justice, analysing how societal structures, inequality, and social norms influence criminal behavior and the functioning of justice systems.

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DIAL5111	Digital and Academic Literacy	5	15	SOCI5122	Sociology 1B	5	15
COSC5131	Interpersonal Communication	5	15	PSYC5132	Introduction to Psychology B	5	15
SOCI5121	Sociology 1A	5	15	CICO5122	Crime in Context	5	15
PSYC5131	Introduction to Psychology A	5	15	ICJS5122	Introduction to South African Criminal Justice System	5	15
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
TPPS6221	Theoretical Perspectives in Political and Social Thought	6	15	BSNC6232	Building Support Networks in Communities	6	15
WOCR7221	Women in Crime	6	15	YCLA6222	Youth in Conflict with the Law	6	15
VISA6221	Victimology in South Africa	6	15	ISCI6212	Selected Contemporary Crime Issues	6	15
GECS6221	Gender, Culture and Society	6	15	MEDS6222	Medical Sociology	6	15
Year 3							
Semester 5				Semester 6			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
IRHU7311	Introduction to Research for the Human Sciences	7	15	RPHU7312	Research Practice for the Human Sciences	7	15
CBSA7321	Criminal Behaviour in South Africa: A Psychosocial Approach	7	15	PPJU7322	Political Philosophy and Justice	7	15
SPYC7321	Sociological Perspectives on Youth Culture and Social Change	7	15	FCVP7322	Forensic Criminology: Victim and Offender Profiling	7	15
BERS7321	Beliefs, Religion and Spirituality	7	15	SAAJ7322	South African and African Social Justice	7	15

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Psychology and Sociology:

Combines the study of individual psychological processes with broader social structures and relationships, offering insights into how personal development and behavior are shaped by social environments.

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
DIAL5111	Digital and Academic Literacy	5	15	SOCI5122	Sociology 1B	5	15
COSC5131	Interpersonal Communication	5	15	PSYC5132	Introduction to Psychology B	5	15
SOCI5121	Sociology 1A	5	15	CICO5122	Crime in Context	5	15
PSYC5131	Introduction to Psychology A	5	15	ICJS5122	Introduction to South African Criminal Justice System	5	15
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
TPPS6221	Theoretical Perspectives in Political and Social Thought	6	15	PSYC6222	Psychology 2B: Developmental Psychology	6	15
WOCR7221	Women in Crime	6	15	PSYC6224	Psychology 2C: Personality Psychology	6	15
GECS6221	Gender, Culture and Society	6	15	BSNC6232	Building Support Networks in Communities	6	15
PSYC6221	Psychology 2A: Social Psychology	6	15	MEDS6222	Medical Sociology	6	15
Year 3							
Semester 5				Semester 6			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
IRHU7311	Introduction to Research for the Human Sciences	7	15	RPHU7312	Research Practice for the Human Sciences	7	15
PSYC7321	Psychology 3A: Cognitive Psychology	7	15	PSYC7322	Psychology 3B: Abnormal Psychology	7	15
PSYC7313	Psychology 3C: Community Psychology	7	15	PSYC7324	Psychology 3D: Research Psychology	7	15
SPYC7321	Sociological Perspectives on Youth Culture and Social Change	7	15	SAAJ7322	South African and African Social Justice	7	15

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Further Study Pathways

The successful completion of the Bachelor of Social Science qualification (BSSC0701) enables you to progress into the following qualification/s subject to meeting the admission requirements:

- Bachelor of Arts Honours in Psychology qualification (HPSY0801)
- Bachelor of Social Science Honours qualification (HOSS0801)

Career Opportunities

With the skills and knowledge developed through their degree, graduates will be equipped to apply for positions in a diverse range of fields such as:

- Research and Analysis
- Public or Civil Services
- Diplomacy
- Public Policy-making
- Social and Community Services

Graduates may gain employment in institutions such as:

- Government Departments
- Universities
- Department of Justice
- Department of International Relations and Cooperation
- Development agencies and non-governmental organisations
- SANParks

Graduation and Completion Requirements for This Qualification

In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for all 24 modules in the curriculum - this is discipline specific.

As a contact student, this qualification is structured to be completed over 3 years. The maximum time for completing a qualification full-time is double the minimum time associated with the qualification, and for part-time an additional year is allowed.

Apply Online

After your application is submitted, we will review your documentation and provide an outcome regarding your chosen study.

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