

BSc Earth Science

The programme combines observational and field skills with the necessary scientific background in geology, geo-environmental science, computing, and modelling. Our students develop critical thinking skills and improve their problem-solving toolkit. You will be taught essential skills to understand the earth and its related processes as a system. Teamwork and presentation skills that enable the earth scientist to communicate across different fields of expertise – engineering, the finance and legal sector – are essential.

Focal areas	Majors
Applied Earth Science	Geology & Geographical Information Technology
Geo-environmental Science	Geology, Geochemistry, Geography and Environmental Studies & Geographical Information Technology

Consult the latest Faculty of Science Yearbook (Part 5) for information on subjects and modules.

Do I qualify?

Minimum admission requirements to apply

- A NSC aggregate of **65%** (excluding Life Orientation)
- English OR Afrikaans (Home Language or First Additional Language) **50%**
- Mathematics **60% OR 70%** (depending on subject choice)
- Physical Sciences **50%**



TAKE NOTE: The selection criteria used for admission are higher than this.

Focal areas explained

Applied Earth Science:

South Africa is a mineral-rich country with a unique geological history that spans over three billion years. It is the ideal work environment and training ground for any geologist. Our hands-on and theoretical training ensures that students are sought after by industry.

Geo-environmental Science:

South Africa faces unique geo-environmental challenges such as climate change, air pollution, water scarcity, acid mine draining and hazardous waste sites. Our field laboratory and classroom-based learning allow students to develop their understanding of causes and consequences of these challenges and apply their minds to find innovative strategies for mitigation.

All BSc Earth Sciences students acquire key knowledge in both areas, regardless of which focal area they chose. In both focal areas, a comprehensive foundation of earth and basic sciences, combined with computing, analytical and critical problem-solving skills, equip our students for a wide range of careers in diverse fields such as mining and exploration, research laboratories or environmental consultancies.

Both focal areas lead to a BSc Honours in Earth Science programme, which is the minimum requirement for registration as a professional geologist. After the Honours year, students can pursue an MSc and a PhD degree in Earth Sciences in research fields such as structural and economic geology, petrology, palaeontology, air quality, marine biogeochemistry, or hydrogeology.



Why study Earth Sciences?

- Are you curious about natural processes and how the Earth (geosphere, hydrosphere, microbiosphere, and/or atmosphere) work and interlinks?
- Do you enjoy practical experiences and the integration of different applications, whether it is outdoors, the research laboratory or computer lab?
- Do you seek to integrate transferable skills in your training, such as communication, IT, problem solving, numerical skills, and project management?
- Do you enjoy opportunities to travel and work in different environments?
- Earth science is listed as a "scarce skill", as we need experts to develop green metals, cleaner energy, sustainable water resources and sustainable environmental management, especially in South Africa.



Why study Earth Sciences at Stellenbosch University?

- We have a closely knit student body and undertake many field trips and activities.
- We are one of the top and award-winning Earth Science departments in the country, with world-class analytical facilities and highly sought after graduates.
- Our degrees are internationally recognised.
- Our researchers work worldwide, from Antarctica to Greenland, Brazil, Mongolia, and Saldanha.
- We work closely with various industry partners and therefore offer many bursary opportunities for postgraduate studies.



What can I do with a degree in Earth Sciences?

Air quality assessor
Atmospheric modeler
Cartographer
Diamond placer exploration
Earth observation analyst
Environmental consultant
Exploration geologist
Geochemist
Geological consultant

Geophysicist
Geospatial software engineer
Geotechnical geologist
GIS consultant
Government policy advisor team
Groundwater specialist and/or consultant
Hydrogeologist
Land-use rehabilitator

Marine environmental assessor
Remote sensing specialist
Software developer
Soil scientist
Spatial information officer
Structural geologist
Sustainability specialist
Water quality assessor

Our graduates are also sought after in other career fields such as investment and insurance environments.

Contact details

Tel: 021 808 3219

E-mail: gstrydom@sun.ac.za

Website: <https://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/science/earthsciences>

Contact our recruitment officer

science@sun.ac.za

Deadline: Apply with your grade 11 marks by 31 July

General selection and application criteria

<https://www.sun.ac.za/english/maties>

BSc Aardwetenskap

Hierdie program kombineer waarnemings- en veldvaardighede met die nodige wetenskaplike agtergrond in geologie, geo-omgewingswetenskap, rekenaars en modellering. Ons studente ontwikkel kritiese denkvvaardighede en verbeter hul probleemoplossings gereedskapskis. Jy sal noodsaaklike vaardighede aanleer om die aarde en sy verwante prosesse as 'n sisteem te verstaan. Spanwerk en aanbiedingsvaardighede wat die aardwetenskaplike in staat stel om oor verskillende kundigheidsvelde te kommunikeer – ingenieurswese, die finansiële en regssektore – is noodsaaklik.

Fokusareas	Hoofvakke
Toegepaste Aardwetenskap	Geologie & Geografiese Inligtingstegnologie
Geo-omgewingswetenskap	Geologie, Geochemie, Geografie en Omgewingstudie, & Geografiese Inligtingstegnologie

Raadpleeg die nuutste Jaarboek van die Fakulteit Natuurwetenskappe (Deel 5) vir inligting oor vakke en modules.

Voldoen ek aan die vereistes?

Minimum toelatingsvereistes om aansoek te doen

- 'n NSS-gemiddeld van **65%** (Lewensoriëntering uitgesluit)
- Engels **OF** Afrikaans (Huistaal of Eerste Addisionele Taal) **50%**
- Wiskunde **60% OF 70%** (na gelang van jou vakkeuse)
- Fisiese Wetenskappe **50%**



NEEM KENNIS: Die keuringskriteria wat vir toelating gebruik word, is hoër.

Fokusareas uiteengesit

Toegepaste Aardwetenskap:

Suid-Afrika is 'n mineraalryke land met 'n unieke geologiese geskiedenis wat oor drie biljoen jaar strek. Dit is die ideale werksomgewing en opleidingsterrein vir enige geoloog. Ons praktiese en teoretiese opleiding verseker dat studente gesog is in die industrie.

Geo-omgewingswetenskap:

Suid-Afrika staar unieke geo-omgewingsuitdagings soos klimaatsverandering, lugbesoedeling, waterskaarste, suurmyndreinerig en gevaarlike afvalterreine in die gesig. Ons veldlaboratorium- en klaskamergebaseerde leer stel studente in staat om hul begrip van oorsake en gevolge van hierdie uitdagings te ontwikkel en hul kennis toe te pas om innoverende strategieë te vind vir die tempering daarvan.

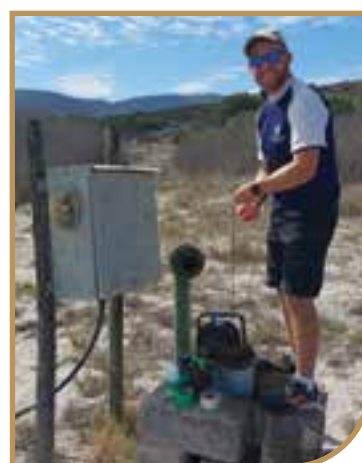
Alle BSc Aardwetenskap-studente verkry sleutelkennis in beide gebiede, ongeag watter fokusarea hulle kies. In beide fokusareas rus 'n omvattende grondslag van aard- en basiese wetenskapskennis, gekombineer met rekenaar-, analitiese en kritiese probleemoplossingsvaardighede, ons studente toe vir 'n wye verskeidendheid loopbane in diverse velde soos mynbou en eksplorasië, navorsingslaboratoriums of as omgewingskonsultante.

Beide fokusareas lei tot 'n Honneurs-BSc-program in Aardwetenskappe, wat die minimum vereiste is vir registrasie as 'n professionele geoloog. Ná die suksesvolle voltooiing van die honneursjaar, kan studente 'n MSc- en dan 'n PhD-graad in Aardwetenskappe volg in navorsingsvelde soos strukturele en ekonomiese geologie, petrologie, paleontologie, luggehalte, mariene biogeochemie, of hidrogeologie.



Waarom Aardwetenskappe studeer?

- Is jy nuuskierig oor natuurlike prosesse en hoe die aarde (geosfeer, hidrosfeer, mikrobiosfeer, en/of atmosfeer) werk en onderling verband hou?
- Geniet jy praktiese ervarings en die integrasie van verskillende toepassings, hetsy in die buitelug, die navorsingslaboratorium of rekenaarlaboratorium?
- Wil jy graag oordraagbare vaardighede soos kommunikasie, IT probleemoplossing, syfervaardighede en projektebestuur in jou opleiding integreer?
- Geniet jy geleenthede om te reis en in verskillende omgewings te kan werk?
- Aardwetenskap word as 'n "skaars vaardigheid" gelys, aangesien ons kundiges nodig het om groen metale, skoner energie en volhoubare waterbronne te ontwikkel en volhoubare omgewingsbestuur toe te pas, veral in Suid-Afrika.



Waarom Aardwetenskappe by die Universiteit Stellenbosch studeer?

- Ons het 'n hegte studentekorps en onderneem baie veldekskursies en aktiwiteite.
- Ons is een van die top, en bekroonde Aardwetenskapsdepartemente in die land, met wêreldklas analitiese fasiliteite en baie gesogte gegradueerdes.
- Ons grade word internasionaal erken.
- Ons navorsers werk oor die hele wêreld, van Antarktika tot Groenland, Brasilië, Mongolië, en Saldanha.
- Ons werk nou saam met verskeie industrievenote en bied dus baie beursgeleenthede vir nagraadse studies.



Wat kan ek doen met 'n BSc Aardwetenskap-graad van Stellenbosch doen?

Aardwaarnemingsontleder	Geo-ruimtelike sagteware-ingenieur	Mariene omgewingsassessor
Afstandswaarnemingspesialis	Geotegniese geoloog	Omgewingskonsultant
Atmosferiese modelleerder	Grondgebruikrehabiliteerder	Regeringsbeleidsadviseurspan
Eksplorasiëgeoloog	Grondkundige	Sagteware-ontwikkelaar
Geochemikus	Grondwaterspesialis en/of konsultant	Ruimtelike inligtingsbeampte
Geofisikus	Hidrogeoloog	Strukturele geoloog
Geografiese Inligtingstegnologie (GIT)-konsultant	Kartograaf	Volhoubaarheidskundige
Geologiese konsultant	Luggehalte assessor	Watergehalte-assessor

Ons gegradueerdes is ook gesog in ander beroepsrigtings soos die beleggings- en versekeringsomgewings.

Kontak ons

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Webwerf: <https://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/science/earthsciences>

Kontak ons werwingsbeampte

science@sun.ac.za

Sperdatum: Doen aansoek met jou graad 11-punte voor 31 Julie

Algemene toelatings- en keuringskriteria

<https://www.sun.ac.za/afrikaans/maties>