

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

Will I only have Soil Science as a major subject when I register for a degree in Soil Science?

No, within the Plant and Soil Sciences programme you always have two majors. Along with Soil Science, you can choose between Agronomy; Horticulture or Grapevine Sciences (Viticulture) as your second major.

What are the admission requirements (i.e., school subjects and relevant grades) to register for a degree in Soil Science?

The admission requirements to register for the BSc Agric programme in Plant and Soil Sciences are as follows:

With Agronomy, Horticulture or Grapevine Sciences as a second major:

An average performance level of 60% in the NSC or the IEB's school-leaving certificate (excluding Life Orientation), or other school qualifications.

English or Afrikaans (Home Language or First Additional Language) – 4 (50%);

Mathematics – 5 (60%); and

Physical Sciences (Physics and Chemistry) – 4 (50%).

Can I study Soil Science if I only have Math Literacy?

No, unfortunately, you need pure Mathematics. You may, however, consider studying at the Elsenburg Agricultural College which is situated 10km outside Stellenbosch.

How many years does it take to complete a degree in Soil Science?

Four (4) years.

Are there good job opportunities for someone who holds a Soil Science degree?

Yes. Since you will graduate with two majors (soil sciences and a subject in a crop production field) you will have the edge on candidates that apply for job opportunities.

What kind of jobs are there as a Soil Scientist?

- Soil Scientists can pursue (but are not limited to) the following careers:
- Work as a farm manager or technical consultant in Agronomic- Fruit- or Grape industries.
- Do soil classification, mapping and suitability assessments.
- Do soil analyses and/or make fertilizer recommendations.
- Make soil preparation (tillage) recommendations for specific crop cultivations.
- Work in the irrigation industry.
- Work as a researcher in government parastatals and non-governmental organizations.
- Work on soil remediation (i.e. polluted and/or mining soils).
- Do development and training of small-scale farmers in rural areas.
- Join academia to teach and do research.