

GEOLOGY



SCAN ME

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Geology is the science of the Earth's origin, structure and composition. Geology is the basis for understanding the Earth: how it evolved; what forces

have shaped its oceans, mountains, rivers and lakes; how and where its resources are stored; how it first became a pleasant place for humans to live, and, more recently, how to manage and keep it so. The geology of South Africa is world-renowned and, in addition to some of the most important mineral deposits yet discovered, has many examples of rocks of extraordinary scientific importance. Geology has a long history of being studied at South African universities and Geology graduates from South Africa have a very good reputation worldwide.

Geology offers a professional scientific career for people who are interested in discovering, developing and managing the Earth's resources. It is a wealth-generating occupation essential to the economies of modern nations. Geology is a multi-faceted science, offering a wide variety of employment opportunities, working environments and the chance to visit unusual places. Many geologists are attracted into the subject through a love of the outdoors but there are equal opportunities for those who enjoy laboratory work.

WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THIS MAJOR?

Geology is for those who would like to be scientifically stimulated and become familiar with the most advanced analytical techniques, and at the same time appeals to those who enjoy an outdoor life. The salary and promotion prospects for geologists are good and at the same time often involve a combination of outside (field) and office work. This field work often takes place in remote parts of the world. The work done by geologists contributes significantly to the economy of Southern Africa and the upliftment of all of its people, but at the same time many geologists are involved in projects and research aimed at conserving our magnificent natural environment.

WHAT COURSES WILL YOU TAKE?

The compulsory courses listed below must be included in your selection of courses for a major in Geology.

1ST YEAR LEVEL COURSES

- Introduction to Earth & Environmental Sciences (or equivalent)
- Introduction to Minerals, Rocks & Structure
- Chemistry 1000
- Mathematics 1004/1000
- Introductory Statistics
- Physics 1031F

2ND YEAR LEVEL COURSES

- Mineralogy & Crystallography
- Physical Geology
- Field Geology & Geological Mapping

3RD YEAR LEVEL COURSES

- Petrology & Structural Geology
- Stratigraphy & Economic Geology
- Field Geology & Geological Mapping

**Field work course to be taken over second and third years of study*

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES

In recent years, geologists have been highly sought after by employers, both in South Africa and overseas. Geologists are employed by large mining or oil companies, by small private firms of geologists, within the civil service, or for quasi-governmental research institutions, or are self-employed as consultants. Many geologists are involved with engineering and/or environmental projects, including the search for water.

MINIMUM ADMISSION AND SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

FPS of 550 (but admission only guaranteed at FPS above 660)

Mathematics 70% & Physical Science 60%
NBT in Mathematics, AL & QL to be written

