



### Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSci) – Students registered from 2021

| Programme Description  |                    | Minimum Admission Requirements |                         |                  |                                    |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Programme  | Academic Plan Code | AP                             | Language of instruction | Minimum duration | Compulsory National Benchmark Test |
| BSocSci Extended Curriculum Programme ( <b>BFN Campus</b> )    | BC1301E2           | 25 - 29                        | 4 (50%)                 | 4 years          | N/A                                |
| BSocSci ( <b>BFN Campus</b> )                                  | BC138000           | 30 +                           | 4 (50%)                 | 3 years          | AL, QL                             |
| BSocSci Extended Curriculum Programme ( <b>QwaQwa Campus</b> ) | QC1301E2           | 25 - 29                        | 4 (50%)                 | 4 years          | N/A                                |
| BSocSci ( <b>QwaQwa Campus</b> )                               | QC138000           | 30 +                           | 4 (50%)                 | 3 years          | AL, QL                             |

#### Career prospects

The aim of the BSocSci degree is to develop social scientists who are experts in, and scholars of, human society and social relationships. This degree is thus valuable in careers where knowledge of people, relationships and societies is important, typically in urban and rural planning, human resources management, the diplomatic services, community development, the police service, correctional services, the public sector, non-governmental organisations, social services, analyst services, recruitment, and social and market research.

#### Major Modules

BSocSci major modules on the **Bloemfontein campus** are:

- Anthropology
- Criminology
- Industrial Psychology
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

BSocSci major modules on the **QwaQwa campus** are:

- Communication Science
- Industrial Psychology
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Sociology

## Anthropology (BFN campus only)

Anthropology, the study of humankind across time and space, seeks to understand that which makes us human both as individuals and as a collective. Anthropologists undertake research about phenomena such as relationships, economics, politics, citizenship, ecological systems, racism and social injustice, popular resistance movements, migration and many others that embody the human condition. Through research, we demonstrate the complexity and diversity of humanity's life worlds. Anthropology is, therefore, a uniquely humanizing discipline, teaching its students to attend to the complexity of seemingly simple social encounters and to the diversity and unity of human life.

Focus areas in Anthropology:

- Anthropology: The Study of Humanity
- Family and relational groupings
- Understanding ourselves and others as diverse cultural beings
- Identity (race, ethnic, cultural, gender, etc)
- Symbolism
- Anthropology in action – A participatory research based project
- Processes of cultural change as seen in for example globalization
- How to do ethnographic research

## Communication (QwaQwa campus only)

The ability to communicate effectively and responsibly is what will set you apart in the 21st century. Whether you are on social media, in a one-on-one conversation, in front of a large audience or even communicating to a mass audience through various platforms, the basic ability to deliver a powerful message in an efficient way is crucial.

Focus areas in Communication Science:

- Interpersonal communication
- Applied interpersonal communication
- Visual communication
- Persuasive communication
- Communication theory
- Communication ethics
- Communication research
- Development and health communication

## Criminology (BFN campus only)

This discipline area provides expert knowledge to deal effectively with crime, victimisation and conflict and to promote a democratic and just society with a human rights ethos as set out in the South African Constitution and Bill of Rights and other relevant international legal frameworks and treaties. It introduces students to biological, psychological and social dimensions of criminal behaviour and explores the application of these approaches to an understanding of the diversity of criminal behaviour.

Focus areas in Criminology:

- Criminal Justice
- Penology
- Victimology
- Research Methodology for Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Criminal Behaviour – Biopsychosocial Perspectives
- Understanding Child Justice
- Forensic Criminology

## Industrial Psychology (Both BFN and QwaQwa)

Industrial Psychology is the scientific study of the relationship between man and the world of work as to improve the productivity and quality of life of people at work, applying techniques and principles of psychology.

Focus areas in Industrial Psychology:

- Recruit, develop and train Human Resources in the organization
- Design Learning and Development Interventions
- Influence individual and team behaviour within an organization
- Classify the complexity of Labour Relationships between individuals, organisations, unions and the state
- Conduct Qualitative and Quantitative research
- Manage Performance effectively
- Conduct effective Career Planning and Development

## Political Science (Both BFN and QwaQwa)

Political Science encompasses the study of the rules, institutions, processes and ideas that govern and impact our daily lives. It further concerns the study of actors such as political parties, human rights groups, terrorist organisations, labour unions, religious bodies and other role-players that play significant roles in politics and international relations. Pressing issues in world politics such as power, poverty, development, globalisation and inequality

Focus areas in Political Science:

- Political Dynamics

Political theory and ideology; government systems, processes and regimes; governance; electoral politics; local government and service delivery; co-operative government; political development and transformation; democratisation; political economy; gender politics; strategic political planning; and political risk analysis.

- International Relations

International Relations theory; globalisation and world politics; foreign policy and diplomacy; international organisations; international law; international political economy; African politics; and international conflict, security and strategic studies.

## Psychology (Both BFN and QwaQwa)

Psychology is the scientific study of human behaviour. It focuses on the ways in which individuals' thoughts; emotions and behaviour develop and change over a lifetime. Although the study of individual functioning is central to this field, the systems relevant to both normal and abnormal behaviour is also included.

Focus areas in Psychology:

- Developmental Psychology
- Social Psychology
- Health Psychology
- Psychopathology
- Research Methodology
- Personology
- Psychotherapy and Ethics

## Sociology (Both BFN and QwaQwa)

Sociology is the study of human behaviour in society. It focuses primarily on how various institutions (for example, family, education, religion, and politics) and culture influence shape what people do and think. .

The study of Sociology offers you the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the society we live in and will enable you to make better informed decisions concerning societal issues. Knowledge of sociology can help us to recover our own immediate past and also to look to the future of society; appreciate diversity of human existence in society; deal with current societal problems; and strive for the creation of a better society for all

### **Focus areas in Sociology:**

- General sociology
- The sociology of social institutions and change
- Sociology of consumerism and consumption
- Population dynamics and environmental issues
- The sociology of developing societies
- The sociology of the family and domestic life
- Social Movements
- Industrial sociology
- Sociological theory
- Research sociology