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Students are welcome to get in touch with the programme administrator to find out more about volunteer and research opportunities.

Programme Information

The SciMathUS programme, offered by Stellenbosch University under the Stellenbosch University Centre for Pedagogy (SUNCEP), is a one-year bridging programme designed to improve students' National Senior Certificate (NSC) marks in Mathematics and Physical Sciences.

This initiative is specifically targeted at students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds, providing them a second chance to qualify for higher education. Since its inception in 2000, SciMathUS has grown significantly, fully funded by external sources, and offering comprehensive support including accommodation. The curriculum is rigorous, with students engaging in 7 hours of classes daily, covering core subjects and complementary skills like Computer Literacy and

Academic Literacy. This programme is distinct from other university preparation programmes as it focuses on an active learning approach, encouraging student participation and collaboration. Students also benefit from a strong mentoring programme, career guidance, and holistic support tailored to address the unique challenges faced by those transitioning from school to higher education institutions. Language of instruction is primarily English and Afrikaans, but the programme accommodates native languages during group work to enhance learning outcomes. The success of the programme is reflected in the high number of applications and the significant academic achievements of its alumni, with many going on to complete undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, predominantly at Stellenbosch University. SciMathUS continues to play a crucial role in diversifying and enhancing access to quality education in South Africa.