# **The Faculty of Science’s Language Implementation Plan 2017**

The Faculty of Science (FoS) uses English and Afrikaans as languages of instruction at undergraduate level in its endeavour to promote multilingualism. In addition to lectures, tutorials and practicals are facilitated learning opportunities where students are exposed to an informal multi-language environment.

The FoS recognises English as international academic language and a medium through which science can be communicated. It is thus our endeavour to ensure that each and every one of our students are proficient in English in order to communicate effectively through this medium. We are, however, committed to managing our Afrikaans academic offering so as to sustain access to the faculty for students who prefer to study in Afrikaans, as well as to develop Afrikaans as a language of tuition where reasonably practicable.

The language arrangements of a particular undergraduate module will be published in the relevant module framework on SUNLearn.

The following language options will be implemented:

**Option 1** (*refers to par. 7.1.3 in the Language Policy of the University*): **English and Afrikaans in separate class groups (Parallel medium)**

A class is divided into separate English and Afrikaans groups. Students indicate their preferred language of teaching at registration. Additional learning opportunities involving students from both language groups will be used to promote integration.

**Option 2** (*refers to par. 7.1.4 in the Language Policy of the University*): **English and Afrikaans in the same class group**

During each lecture, all information is conveyed at least in English. Summaries and/or explanation of the core concepts will also be given in Afrikaans at the start or end of a lecture or when the core concept is introduced. (These may be in the form of a verbal summary presented in Afrikaans by the lecturer or a PowerPoint summary in Afrikaans while the lecturer is speaking Afrikaans). Questions in Afrikaans and English will, at the least, be answered in the language of the question. Students will be supported in Afrikaans and English during a combination of appropriate facilitated learning opportunities.

**Option 3** (*refers to par. 7.1.5 in the Language Policy of the University*): **Single language (English or Afrikaans) only for a module**

This option will only be used (as stipulated in the language policy) if:

* the lecturer(s) and the teaching assistants assigned to the module are not proficient in English or Afrikaans and therefore not able to answer questions asked in English or Afrikaans, or to give a summary or explanation of the key concepts in English or Afrikaans; or
* if all the students in the class group have been invited to vote by means of a secret ballot and those students who have voted, agree unanimously to the lectures being presented in either English or Afrikaans only; and
* provided that the lecturer(s) and teaching assistants have the necessary English or Afrikaans proficiency, and agree to do so.

## **Language offering in the first-year modules**

The Faculty is committed to giving first-year students the opportunity of education in English or Afrikaans, depending on their preferred academic language. In most cases it is possible to have separate lecture groups based on language. However, facilities and timetable constraints make it impossible to offer separate tutorial or practical groups based on language. Therefore,

* For first-year modules, lectures will be offered using **Option 1: English and Afrikaans in separate class groups**, unless
* the class size is too small for separate groups, in which case **Option 2** will be implemented: **English and Afrikaans in the same class group**; real-time interpreting to Afrikaans will be provided;

or

* the nature of the module does not allow any of the options above, such as Earth Science Field Skills 172, which entails field work and the lecturer can only speak English; and Computer Skills 171, which is mainly a computer-based online course offered to as many as 13 class groups; or
* it is a service module to students from another Faculty, in which case the module will then be offered according to the language plan of the Faculty in question.
* In first-year tutorials and practicals, where one-on-one communication is used to a great extent, English or Afrikaans will be used, depending on the student’s preferred academic language, as well as the lecturer’s and teaching assistants’ proficiency in Afrikaans and English. If there is a pedagogical need, real-time interpreting will be provided.

## **Language offering in the second-year and third-year modules**

The Faculty’s preferred teaching mode for second- and third-year students involves to a larger extent independent learning and discussion groups, facilitated by lecturers, where students have the opportunity to participate in their preferred academic language (English and/or Afrikaans). Therefore,

* For second-year and third-year modules, lectures will be offered using **Option 2:** **English and Afrikaans in the same class group**, unless
* there is a pedagogical need to offer real-time interpreting;
* the conditions for Option 3 are met, in which case the lectures will be offered in **Option 3a: English only with real-time interpreting to Afrikaans if feasible;** or
* the lectures will be offered in **Option 3b: Afrikaans only with real-time interpreting to English.**
* In second-year and third-year tutorials and practicals, where one-on-one communication is used to a great extent, English or Afrikaans will be used, depending on the student’s preferred academic language, as well as the lecturer(s) and teaching assistants’ proficiency in Afrikaans and English.

## **Language offering in Postgraduate Programmes**

A growing number of national and international students join the Faculty of Science on postgraduate level. Therefore, structured postgraduate modules are taught in English. The student does, however, have the choice to use Afrikaans for assessment purposes. Postgraduate students are, however, encouraged to present their research projects, thesis or dissertation in English because it must be submitted to an external examiner, who is usually an international expert and may not be able to assess the work if it is presented in Afrikaans. One-on-one communication is used to a great extent in the postgraduate academic offering. This will be mainly in English.

## **Language of teaching and learning materials**

The teaching and learning materials will be made available as follows:

1. All compulsory reading material will be provided in English. Compulsory reading material (excluding published material) will also be provided in Afrikaans, unless it is not reasonably practicable to do so.
2. Module frameworks and study guides will be available in English and Afrikaans.
3. Question papers for tests, examinations and other summative assessments will be available in English and Afrikaans. Students may complete all assessments and submit all written work in either English or Afrikaans.

## **Language practice in administration**

Communication will be conducted in both English and Afrikaans. This means that:

Official communication with all students will be in both English and Afrikaans where reasonably practicable (e.g. correspondence from the Dean’s office and departments, information on websites, the Faculty Calendar and promotional material);

Correspondence with and from the Dean’s Office and Faculty Committees will be in either English or Afrikaans, subject to the principle that all participants must have access to all the information.

## **Language Feedback in the Faculty** (*refers to par. 7.4.3 in the Language Policy of the University)*

Student feedback will be obtained by including specific questions regarding the implementation of, and their experience of the language offering as part of the student module feedback system. This feedback will be available to lecturers, departmental chairpersons and the Dean.

Lecturer feedback will be obtained by means of discussion of, and reflection on language of instruction. This feedback process will be led by the departmental chairpersons.

Concerns about language practice will be addressed in the following manner:

Students must report the matter to the Class Representative who will take it up with the lecturer(s). Should a satisfactory outcome not be reached, the matter should be taken further: first to the Module coordinator, then to the Departmental Chair and finally to the Dean’s office.

Departmental Chairpersons are to:

* report quarterly to the Dean regarding language matters in order for discussions at the Faculty Management Committee;
* report to the Dean about their best practices and challenges within the framework of their annual departmental strategic plans.

The Dean has to:

* report in writing to the Vice-Rector: Learning and Teaching at the end of each semester on the Faculty’s compliance with its Language Implementation Plan during the relevant semester.

## **Revision of the Faculty’s Language Implementation Plan**

The Faculty’s Language Implementation Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis in conjunction with the Faculty’s Strategic Plan.

**Appendix**

**Language offering 2017**

**Option 1: English and Afrikaans in separate class groups (Parallel medium)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Module** | **Module-credits** | **Language offering 2017** | **Module Enrolment 2016** |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 124 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 908 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 144 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 869 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 176 | 32 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 129 |
| Physics | Physics (Bio) 134 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 763 |
| Physics | Physics (Bio) 154 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 763 |
| Physics | Physics 176 | 32 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 128 |
| Physics | Engineering Physics 113 | 8 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 709 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biology 124 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 827 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biology 144 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 390 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biology 146 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 79 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biology 154 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 818 |
| Computer Science | Computer Literacy 176 | 8 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 128 |
| Computer Science | University Practice in the Natural Sciences 176 | 8 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 128 |
| Applied Mathematics | Numerical Methods 262 | 8 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 372 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics144 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 170 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics B 124 | 15 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 761 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics B 154 | 15 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 764 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics B 224 | 15 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 775 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics B 242 | 8 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 237 |
| Applied Mathematics | Probability Studies and Statistics 114 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 183 |
| Mathematics | Engineering Mathematics 115 | 15 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 782 |
| Mathematics | Engineering Mathematics 145 | 15 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 821 |
| Mathematics | Engineering Mathematics 214 | 15 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 672 |
| Mathematics | Engineering Mathematics 242 | 8 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 528 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics (Bio) 124 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 863 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics (Bio) 176 | 32 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 68 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 114 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 505 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 144 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 575 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 186 | 32 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 60 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 214 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 227 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 244 | 16 | Parallel English and Afrikaans classes | 255 |

**Option 2: English and Afrikaans in the same class group**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Module** | **Module-credits** | **Language offering 2017** | **Module Enrolment 2016** |
| Earth Sciences | Geo-Environmental Science 154 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 299 |
| Earth Sciences | Engineering Geology 214 | 15 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 109 |
| Biochemistry | Biochemistry 214 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 659 |
| Biochemistry | Biochemistry 244 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 660 |
| Biochemistry | Biochemistry 315 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 174 |
| Biochemistry | Biochemistry 324 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 125 |
| Biochemistry | Biochemistry 345 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 145 |
| Biochemistry | Biochemistry 365 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 122 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 254 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 56 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 264 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 164 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 324 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 48 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry C 152 | 6 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 105 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Textile Science 254 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 17 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Textile Science 314 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 22 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Textile Science 344 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 18 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Applied Chemistry 324 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 21 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Applied Chemistry 344 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 28 |
| Physics | Physics 114 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 204 |
| Physics | Physics 144 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 216 |
| Physics | Physics 224 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 17 |
| Physics | Physics 244 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 5 |
| Physics | Physics 254 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 16 |
| Physics | Physics 314 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 12 |
| Physics | Physics 342 | 8 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 13 |
| Physics | Physics 344 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 12 |
| Physics | Physics 352 | 8 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 10 |
| Physics | Physics 372 | 8 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 5 |
| Physics | Physics 384 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 10 |
| Physics | Engineering Physics 152 | 6 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 142 |
| Physics | Special Physics 142 | 8 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 97 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 114 | 12 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time interpreting to Afrikaans | 86 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 144 | 12 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 83 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 214 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 298 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 244 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 296 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 314 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 182 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 334 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 181 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 344 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 179 |
| Physiological Sciences | Physiology 364 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 172 |
| Microbiology | Microbiology 214 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 346 |
| Microbiology | Microbiology 244 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 319 |
| Microbiology | Microbiology 314 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 110 |
| Microbiology | Microbiology 324 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 112 |
| Microbiology | Microbiology 354 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 121 |
| Microbiology | Microbiology 364 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 107 |
| Computer Science | Computer Literacy 171 | 4 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 981 |
| Computer Science | Computer Literacy 272 | 5 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 129 |
| Computer Science | Computer Literacy 372 | 5 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 75 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 113 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | x |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 114 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 245 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 144 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 207 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 214 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 47 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 244 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 49 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 314 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 59 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 315 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 52 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 334 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 82 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 344 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 52 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 354 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 54 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science 364 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 29 |
| Computer Science | Computer Science E 214 | 15 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 180 |
| Computer Science | Scientific Computing 272 | 5 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 133 |
| Computer Science | Scientific Computing 372 | 5 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 110 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics 214 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 88 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics 314 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 71 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics 354 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 42 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics364 | 16 | Both English and Afrikaans in the same class | 68 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics B 252 | 8 | Both English and Afrikaans: English lecture with real-time **interpreting** to Afrikaans | 102 |

**Option 3: Single language (English or Afrikaans) only for a module**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Module** | **Module-credits** | **Language offering 2017** | **Module Enrolment 2016** |
| Earth Sciences | Earth science Field Skills 172 | 8 | Single language: English | 54 |
| Earth Sciences | Earth science Field Skills 272 | 16 | Single language: English | 47 |
| Earth Sciences | Earth science Field Skills 374 | 16 | Single language: English | 40 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 224 | 16 | Single language: English | 48 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 244 | 16 | Single language: English | 57 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 254 | 16 | Single language: English | 53 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 314 | 16 | Single language: English | 55 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 324 | 16 | Single language: English | 40 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 344 | 16 | Single language: English | 44 |
| Earth Sciences | Geology 354 | 16 | Single language: English | 43 |
| Earth Sciences | Environmental Geochemistry 214 | 16 | Single language: English | 53 |
| Earth Sciences | Environmental Geochemistry 314 | 16 | Single language: English | 18 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry (Medicine) 197 (EDP tutorial support) | 12 | Single language: English | 58 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 214 | 16 | Single language: English | 216 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 234 | 16 | Single language: English | 102 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 314 | 16 | Single language: English | 75 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 344 | 16 | Single language: English | 67 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry 364 | 16 | Single language: English | 57 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry C 224 | 15 | Single language: English lecture **interpreted** to Afrikaans | 94 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry C 254 | 15 | Single language: English lecture **interpreted** to Afrikaans | 94 |
| Chemistry and Polymer Science | Chemistry for Health Sciences 111 | 17 | Single language: English | 357 |
| Physics | Physics 214 | 16 | Single language: English | 6 |
| Physics | Physics 334 | 16 | Single language: English | 18 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 212 | 16 | Single language: English | 76 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 214 | 16 | Single language: English | 81 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 224 | 16 | Single language: English | 80 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 244 | 16 | Single language: English | 46 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 254 | 16 | Single language: English | 80 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 264 | 16 | Single language: English | 72 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology315 | 16 | Single language: English | 27 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 324 | 16 | Single language: English | 53 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 334 | 16 | Single language: English | 59 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 344 | 16 | Single language: English | 25 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 345 | 16 | Single language: English | 51 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology354 | 16 | Single language: English | 25 |
| Botany and Zoology | Biodiversity and Ecology 364 | 16 | Single language: English | 56 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics 244 | 16 | Single language: English | 86 |
| Applied Mathematics | Applied Mathematics 324 | 16 | Single language: English | 53 |
| Mathematics | Biomathematics 214 | 16 | Single language: English | 27 |
| Mathematics | Biomathematics 314 | 16 | Single language: English | 2 |
| Mathematics | Biomathematics 344 | 16 | Single language: English | 2 |
| Mathematics | Biomathematics 374 | 16 | Single language: English | 2 |
| Mathematics | Financial Mathematics 378 | 32 | Single language: English | 18 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 278 | 32 | Single language: English | 36 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 314 | 16 | Single language: English | 21 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 324 | 16 | Single language: English | 22 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 325 | 16 | Single language: English | 6 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 344 | 16 | Single language: English | 16 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 345 | 16 | Single language: English | 7 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 365 | 16 | Single language: English | 16 |
| Mathematics | Mathematics 378 | 32 | Single language: English | 2 |