

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

LANGUAGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE 2020

ACADEMIC YEAR

DATE: AUGUST 2019

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1. Context

One of the principles of the Language Policy is that language should promote access and not be a barrier for students or staff to be successful whether it is the academic-, professional or social environment. Within a diverse student community, language is critical for individuals to engage, participate and contribute intellectually in a social, economic, political and cultural environment. The Faculty of Science uses English and Afrikaans as languages of instruction and to promote multilingualism. In addition to lectures, practicals and tutorials are facilitated learning opportunities where students are exposed to an informal multi-language environment.

The Faculty recognises English as an international academic language and a medium through which science can be communicated. Many students that enter the undergraduate programmes of the Faculty are not adequately skilled or proficient in the languages of instruction and the Faculty strives to ensure that all students are equipped to intellectually communicate in this language. We are, however, committed to managing our Afrikaans academic offering to sustain access to the faculty for students who prefer to study in Afrikaans and to develop Afrikaans as a language of tuition where reasonably practical.

Consultation to obtain information

Heads of Departments, Module- and Programme Coordinators are requested to provide input via email correspondence. The Director: Faculty Management is also consulted for input on the plan.

2. Aims of the Language Implementation Plan and promotion of multilingualism.

This implementation plan acknowledges the diverse range of backgrounds in terms of languages of staff and students and values this within the faculty. The Faculty aims to create an environment where all students and staff feel comfortable, welcomed and a sense of belonging. The plan also aims to promote inclusiveness and social cohesion to guard against marginalisation and exclusivity by creating an environment with access to knowledge and resources. This Language Implementation Plan will be practical and sustainable according to the financial resources and human capital of the faculty.

3. Language use in Teaching and Learning

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 in at least 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 (**Single medium**). Real-time interpreting will be provided in terms of option 3 a and b when it is feasible.

Option 3 a: English with real-time interpreting to Afrikaans;

Option 3 b: Afrikaans with real-time interpreting to English.

This option will only be used if:

- i. 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
- ii. 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

- iii. provided that the lecturer(s) and teaching assistants have the necessary English or Afrikaans proficiency, and agree to do so.

a) Options per year group

The Faculty is committed to give 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,

FIRST YEARS

Lectures will be offered using **Option 1**: English and Afrikaans in separate class groups **(Parallel medium)** unless

- (i) the class size is too small for separate groups, in which case **Option 2**: English and Afrikaans in the same class group will be used with real-time interpreting to Afrikaans;
- (ii) 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
- (iii) 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.

SECOND- 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,

Lectures will be offered using **Option 2** (refers to par. 7.1.4 in the Language Policy of the University): English and Afrikaans in the same class group unless

- (i) there is a pedagogical need to offer real-time interpreting;
- (ii) the conditions for Option 3 are met, in which case the lectures will be offered in **Option 3 a: English only with real-time interpreting to Afrikaans if feasible**; or
- (iii) **Option 3 b: 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.

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:

- (i) 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 practical to do so.
- (ii) Module frameworks and study guides will be available in English and Afrikaans.
- (iii) Formative- and summative assessments will be available in English and Afrikaans. Students may complete all assessments and submit all written work in English or Afrikaans.

4. *Language in Administration*

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

- (i) Official communication with all students will be in both English and Afrikaans where reasonably practical (e.g. correspondence from the Dean's office and departments, information on websites, the Faculty Calendar and promotional material);
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) The official language of Faculty meetings, such as the Faculty Board meetings, inaugural lectures etc. will be English, with the provision of real-time interpreting in Afrikaans if requested.

5. *Feedback mechanisms on implementation (good practice and complaints)*

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, Head of Departments 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 Head of the Department.

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

- (i) Students must report the matter to the Class Representative who will take it up with the lecturer(s) concerned.
- (ii) If a satisfactory outcome could not be reached, the matter should be escalated to the Module coordinator.
- (iii) An unsatisfactory outcome at this level (Module Coordinator) justify referral to the Head of the Department.
- (iv) If the matter cannot be resolved at any of these levels, it can be referred to the Dean's office. This can only be the resort if all other levels have failed to resolve the complaint.

The Head of the Department will:

- (i) report quarterly to the Dean regarding language matters that will be discussed at the Faculty Management Committee;

- (ii) report to the Dean about their best practices and challenges within the framework of their annual departmental strategic plans.

The Dean has to:

- (iii) 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.

6. Conclusion

The Faculty's Language Implementation Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis in conjunction with the Faculty's Strategic Plan. The implementation plan is communicated with all staff at the start of the academic year and they have to ensure that i) they adhere to it and ii) that the language option of the module is included in the Module Frameworks/Study guides. The Language Implementation will be added as a fixed item to the Agenda of the Faculty Board meetings. Addendum A contains the Individual module language specifications.

Addendum A

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

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 124	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	930
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 144	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	1061
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 164	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	83
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 176	32	PARALLEL MEDIUM	142
Physics	Physics 176	32	PARALLEL MEDIUM	142
Physics	Physics (bio) 134	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	703
Physics	Physics (bio) 154	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	651
Physics	Engineering Physics 113	8	PARALLEL MEDIUM	731
Science Teaching	Science in context 178	12	PARALLEL MEDIUM	789
Science Teaching	Univ prac in the natural scien 176	8	PARALLEL MEDIUM	142

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Botany And Zoology	Biology 124	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	869
Botany And Zoology	Biology 144	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	397
Botany And Zoology	Biology 146	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	62
Botany And Zoology	Biology 154	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	769
Computer Science	Computer skills 176	8	PARALLEL MEDIUM	142
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 144	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	232
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics B 124	15	PARALLEL MEDIUM	798
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics B 154	15	PARALLEL MEDIUM	877
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics B 224	15	PARALLEL MEDIUM	719
Applied Mathematics	Numerical methods 262	8	PARALLEL MEDIUM	427
Applied Mathematics	Probability theory and stats 114	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	230
Mathematics	Mathematics 114	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	579
Mathematics	Mathematics 144	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	603
Mathematics	Mathematics 154	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	
Mathematics	Mathematics 186	32	PARALLEL MEDIUM	92
Mathematics	Mathematics 214	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	288
Mathematics	Mathematics 244	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	365
Mathematics	Mathematics (bio) 124	16	PARALLEL MEDIUM	854
Mathematics	Mathematics (bio) 176	32	PARALLEL MEDIUM	50
Mathematics	Engineering mathematics 115	15	PARALLEL MEDIUM	823
Mathematics	Engineering mathematics 145	15	PARALLEL MEDIUM	840
Mathematics	Engineering mathematics 214	15	PARALLEL MEDIUM	689
Mathematics	Engineering mathematics 242	8	PARALLEL MEDIUM	561

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

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Earth Sciences	Engineering geology 214	15	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	103
Earth Sciences	Environmental geochemistry 214	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	36
Earth Sciences	Geo-Environmental Science 154	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	266
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 214	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	560
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 244	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	527
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 315	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	128
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 324	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	118
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 345	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	138
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 353	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	49
Biochemistry	Biochemistry 365	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	113
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 254	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	56
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 264	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	161
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 324	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	36
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Textile science 254	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	10
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Textile science 314	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	9
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Textile science 344	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	8
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Applied chemistry 324	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	9
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Applied chemistry 344	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	10
Physics	Physics 114	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	241
Physics	Physics 144	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	257
Physics	Physics 224	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	39

¹ Real-time interpreting to Afrikaans

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Physics	Physics 254	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	39
Physics	Physics 314	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	15
Physics	Physics 342	8	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	15
Physics	Physics 344	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	12
Physics	Physics 352	8	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	15
Physics	Physics 372	8	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	1
Physics	Physics 384	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	8
Physics	Special physics 142	8	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	102
Physics	Engineering Physics 152	6	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	148
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 114	12	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	87
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 144	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	83
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 214	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	248
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 244	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	253
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 314	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	223
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 334	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	217
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 344	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	220
Physiological Sciences	Physiology 364	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	232
Microbiology	Microbiology 214	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	276
Microbiology	Microbiology 244	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	248
Microbiology	Microbiology 314	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	123
Microbiology	Microbiology 324	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	119
Microbiology	Microbiology 354	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	111
Microbiology	Microbiology 364	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	97
Computer Science	Scientific computing 272	5	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	194
Computer Science	Scientific computing 372	5	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	114
Computer Science	Computer Science 113	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	135
Computer Science	Computer Science 114	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	259
Computer Science	Computer Science 144	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	260

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Computer Science	Computer Science 214	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	113
Computer Science	Computer Science 244	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	114
Computer Science	Computer Science 314	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	70
Computer Science	Computer Science 315	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	51
Computer Science	Computer Science 334	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	94
Computer Science	Computer Science 344	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	71
Computer Science	Computer Science 345	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	
Computer Science	Computer Science 354	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	73
Computer Science	Computer skills 171	4	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	314
Computer Science	Computer skills 272	5	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	112
Computer Science	Computer skills 372	5	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	57
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 214	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	118
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 314	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	93
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 354	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	51
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 364	16	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	76
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics B 242	8	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS	219
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics B 252	8	AFR & ENG IN SAME CLASS ¹	101

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

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Biochemistry	Bioinformatics 312	8	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	
Biochemistry	Bioinformatics 322	8	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	
Botany & Zoology	Botany 354	16	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	f
Earth Sciences	Earth science field skills 172	28	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	8
Earth Sciences	Earth science field skills 272	20	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Earth science field skills 374	24	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 224	30	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 244	29	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 254	22	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 314	34	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 324	28	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 344	32	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 354	28	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geology 364	28	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Geographical Information Systems 214		SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Earth Sciences	Environmental Field Skills 271	10	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	8
Earth Sciences	Environmental Field Skills 372	5	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	8
Earth Sciences	Environmental geochemistry 314	3	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 214	164	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 234	91	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 314	33	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 344	37	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry 364	34	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry C 152	101	SINGLE MEDIUM	6
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry C 224	74	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH ²	15
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry C 254	84	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH ²	15
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Applied chemistry 334	53	SINGLE MEDIUM	16
Chemistry And Polymer Science	Chemistry for the health scien 111	360	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	17
Physics	Physics 334	14	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 212	70	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 214	79	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 224	71	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 244	48	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 254	63	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 264	71	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 315	24	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 324	57	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 334	62	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 344	19	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 345	54	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 354	25	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Biodiversity and ecology 364	41	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Botany And Zoology	Diversity of plant form and function 354		SINGLE MEDIUM	16
Computer Science	Computer science E 214	136	SINGLE MEDIUM ²	15
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 244	110	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Applied Mathematics	Applied mathematics 324	79	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Mathematics	Mathematics 278	95	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	32
Mathematics	Mathematics 314	28	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16

² Interpreted to Afrikaans

Department	Module Name	Credits 2020	Language offering 2020	2019 Enrolment
Mathematics	Mathematics 324	26	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Mathematics	Mathematics 325	10	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Mathematics	Mathematics 344	18	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Mathematics	Mathematics 345	10	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Mathematics	Mathematics 365	22	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16
Mathematics	Mathematics 378	12	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	32
Mathematics	Financial mathematics 378	36	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	32
Mathematics	Biomathematics 374	6	SINGLE MEDIUM: ENGLISH	16