



NOTICE TO ALL SCIENCE AND COMPUTING STUDENTS

DEAR STUDENTS

In order to assist its students to succeed in their studies, the College of Science, Engineering and Technology will be moving some of its qualifications to a year module system.

This move will affect students registered for the BSc degrees and Information Technology diploma within the School of Science and School of Computing, as well as students from other colleges whose qualifications include modules from Science or Computing. Engineering qualifications will not be affected by these changes.

The move to the year system will happen in stages as follows:

- **From 2021**, the **first year** School of Science and School of Computing modules will be offered as year modules. This excludes modules that are offered as service modules to Engineering or other colleges. (See the end of this document for the full list of affected modules.)
- Students who are due to write these modules in October/November 2020 will write their supplementary or aegrotat examination, should they qualify for one, in January/February 2021. This will enable them to register for the module as year module in 2021 if they do not pass the module in 2020.
- **From year 2022**, the **year two** and **three modules** from the School of Science and School of Computing will be offered as year modules. Again, students due to write examinations in October/November 2021 will write their supplementary or aegrotat examination, should they qualify for one, in January/February 2022.

WHICH QUALIFICATIONS ARE AFFECTED?

The following qualifications will be moved to the year module system in 2021 and 2022:

- Bachelor of Science in Computing (98906-COM)
- Bachelor of Science in Informatics (98907-INF)
- Diploma in Information Technology (98806-ITE)
- Higher certificate in Mathematics and Statistics (90129)
- Bachelor of Science - General and various streams (98801-AMC, 98801-AMP, 98801-AMS, 98801-CAM, 98801-CCS, 98801-CIS, 98801-CAP, 98801-CAS, 98801-GEN, 98801-MAM, 98801-MAC, 98801-MCS, 98801-MIS, 98801-MAP, 98801-MAS, 98801-STP)

ARE ALL MODULES IN THESE DEGREES GOING TO BE CHANGED TO YEAR MODULES?

Only the modules from the Science and Computing disciplines will be changed to year modules. These are modules with codes starting with APM, AST, COS, INF, CHE, ICT, MAT, PHY or STA, with the exception of certain service modules. Modules from other colleges, as well as the EUP1501 module, will remain semester modules.

WHICH MODULES ARE AFFECTED FROM 2021?

The following modules will be offered as year modules from 2021:

- Applied Mathematics: APM1513, APM1514, APM1612
- Astronomy: AST1534, AST1631
- Chemistry: CHE1501, CHE1502, CHE1503
- Computer Science: COS1501, COS1511, COS1512, COS1521, EUC1501
- Information systems: INF1505, INF1511, INF1520
- Information technology: ICT1511, ICT1512, ICT1513, ICT1521, ICT1531, ICT1532, ICT1541
- Mathematics: MAT1503, MAT1511, MAT1512, MAT1613
- Physics: PHY1505, PHY1506, PHY1604
- Statistics: STA1501, STA1502, STA1503, STA1505, STA1506, STA1507, STA1510, STA1610

The following service modules will stay as Semester modules:

- FIC181C, CHE181T, CHE1PRA, SMI181Q, PHY1501, PHY1502, EUP1501.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SEMESTER MODULES AND YEAR MODULES?

Year modules are offered over a longer time, with the study period from March to October. They have an examination in October/November and a supplementary examination in January/February. The content of the modules stays the same, but offering them as year modules gives students more time to master the content.

WHY DOES CSET WISH TO MOVE TO YEAR MODULES?

Science subjects differ from many other disciplines in that mastering content takes time, and full understanding of previous concepts is required before continuing to new topics. Offering the modules as year modules will ensure sufficient time for deep learning and understanding of the necessary abstract concepts, as learning process will be spread over a longer period.

WILL IT TAKE LONGER FOR ME TO FINISH MY QUALIFICATION?

No, it is still possible to complete the qualification within the same number of years. The pre and co requisites of most modules have been changed in order to ensure that the move to year modules does not disadvantage the students concerned or extend the duration of the qualification. In addition, to make it easier for near-completion students to finish their studies, NQF level 6 and 7 (that is, second and third-year) modules will be offered as semester modules for one more year, and will be converted to year modules only in 2022. The year system also provides students with a chance to write a supplementary or aegrotat examination before registration closes for the next registration period.

Sincerely yours,

College of Science, Engineering and Technology

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For more information about the move to year modules and the affected qualifications, please send an email to cset@unisa.ac.za or visit www.unisa.ac.za/cset