

# FACULTY RULES

## FACULTY OF COMMERCE

### General Information

#### **Bachelor of Business Science**

The degree of Bachelor of Business Science is a four-year career-focused degree premised on the application of quantitative methods. The curriculum for this degree aims to provide a thorough grounding in the principles of the candidate's chosen field of expertise to the postgraduate level, supported by ancillary subjects which will equip candidates for the professional and managerial requirements of their chosen field at the highest level. To this end, Rule C.14 provides for five specialised curricula, enabling a student to specialise in one or more of the following fields: Economics, Information Systems, Management, Quantitative Management, and Computer Science. Entry into the second and fourth years of study for the degree is by permission of the Faculty Board.

#### **Bachelor of Commerce**

This is a three-year degree aimed at providing the graduate with a good academic grounding in the major subject areas of Commerce. The curricula provide for specialisation up to third year level in two or more of any of the following fields : Accounting, Commercial Law, Economics, Information Systems, Law, Management, Science, Social Science and Statistics, in any of four curricula as follows :

**The General Curriculum** allows for a wide combination of subjects in second and third year including at least two major subjects. Provided the appropriate combination of courses is chosen, the curriculum enables students to qualify as members of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrators with the minimum of additional examinations. Further particulars are available from the Student Adviser. Extensive exemption is also available from the examinations for the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). Further particulars may be obtained from the Head of the Department of Accounting.

**The Accounting Curriculum** is intended for students wishing to enter the accounting profession or to take the BCom degree with an accounting emphasis. If this curriculum is followed, the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy can be completed in one further year of study after credit is also obtained for Auditing 1, Management Accounting and Finance 1,

and Taxation 1. Students who obtain a BCom degree with this curriculum will qualify for admission to the qualifying examination of the Associate General Accountant programme of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants. Such students will also qualify for membership of the Institute of Commercial and Financial Accountants after a period of practical experience.

Such students will also qualify for exemption from the entire Foundation Stage of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA) examinations together with papers 5 and 8 in the Certificate stage. Extensive exemption is also available from the examinations for the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). Further particulars may be obtained from the Head of the Department of Accounting.

**The Law Curriculum** is intended for students wishing to enter the legal profession, or to take a BCom degree with a legal emphasis. Following this curriculum, a candidate can obtain enough exemptions from LLB degree subjects to complete the LLB requirements in two further years of study.

**The Inter-Faculty curriculum** enables students to include a major subject in the Social Sciences in their BCom degree, and, depending on the subjects chosen, is suitable for candidates interested in personnel management or industrial relations. This curriculum also enables students to include a Science major or any Humanities major in their degree.

#### **Bachelor of Economics**

This degree is designed for students who wish to include the maximum number of Economics courses and related subjects in their curriculum. The BEcon degree offers a suitable preparation for candidates interested in economic forecasting and analysis and economic planning, in both the public and private sectors. The following specialised curricula are offered:

**The Bachelor of Economics (Environmental Science)** is intended for students wishing to pursue careers in the economic aspects of environmental studies. The curriculum is designed to train students in the application of economic principles to environmental studies, and combines courses from the Faculties of Science and Commerce.

**The Bachelor of Economics (Mineral Economics)** is intended for students who wish to become

economists with a geological background. The curriculum is designed to apply economic principles to the exploitation of mineral resources, and combines courses from the Faculties of Science and Commerce. Because of timetable constraints this degree cannot be completed in the minimum period of three years.

### **Master of Business Administration**

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) offered by the Rhodes University Investec Business School is a course-work degree together with a dissertation of 15 000 words. The dissertation accounts for 30% of the total credits. The degree is offered on a part-time, modular basis over two and a half years. In the first two years, candidates are required to attend three three-week teaching blocks in Grahamstown each year and to complete work-based assignments in the periods between the teaching blocks. The final six months is dedicated to the completion of the dissertation. The Rhodes Business School's essence is "Leadership for Sustainability" and hence leadership and sustainability principles underline all subjects in the MBA curriculum. Emphasis is placed on business continuity, as well as achieving a balance between economic, social and environmental sustainability (the Triple Bottom Line). The Business School has committed itself to abide by the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME). Normally candidates will only be admitted to the programme if they hold at least a three year bachelor's degree in any discipline, are fluent in English, have passed Mathematics at the school leavers' level, and have had at least three years relevant practical experience.

### **Master's Degree in Financial Markets (by coursework and thesis)**

The degree is aimed specifically at a specialised career in the financial/banking sector. Exposure is given in the coursework to banking and monetary policy, debt and foreign exchange markets, equity and derivative markets, and portfolio theory and management. The coursework component is usually examined during the first year of academic study and the dissertation of approximately 30000 words is expected to be submitted by the end of the second year of study.

The coursework component constitutes 50% of the mark, with the balance being awarded to the dissertation. Admission requirements are those normally applicable to the Master of Commerce degree.

### **Master's of Commerce Degree in Taxation (by coursework and thesis)**

The coursework component consists of twelve modules covering important aspects of taxation and tax planning at an advanced level, from which eight essay assignments are submitted for assessment. Two three-hour examinations are written on the coursework component. The dissertation on an appropriate topic would normally not exceed 30000 words.

The duration of the coursework component is approximately fourteen months with examinations written on completion of the coursework component. The coursework and examinations together represent 50% of the total mark and the dissertation 50%. Admission requirements are those normally applicable to the Master of Commerce degree.

### **Commerce Extended Studies Programme**

This programme is intended to upgrade the academic and life skills of under-prepared candidates and specifically those whose first language is not English.

Successful completion of the programme is recognised by the award of a certificate. Candidates earn six degree credits during the programme (which extends over one year of full-time study) and may then proceed to a normal degree programme.

### **Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy**

This diploma is accredited by the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants as fulfilling part of the requirements for admission to Part I of the South African Institute's qualifying examination. However the diploma does not confer any professional rights. Graduates are entitled to complete their training contracts in three years instead of five and graduates with the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy are entitled to write Part I of the South African Institute's qualifying examination at the first opportunity after being awarded the Diploma.

### **Postgraduate Diploma in Enterprise Management**

The diploma equips graduate students who have not majored in Management or its equivalent with knowledge and expertise to start their own businesses and/or to enhance their entry into employment in business.

### **Postgraduate Diploma in Taxation**

The diploma builds upon the knowledge level of

taxation achieved in any Bachelor of Commerce degree which includes taxation as one of its courses. It equips these graduate students with the specialised taxation knowledge and expertise to consult and advise clients in dealing with their tax affairs.

**Bachelor of Science (Information Systems)**

The degree of Bachelor of Science (Information Systems) is offered for students wishing to become computer specialists in a commercial environment. This degree combines courses from the Faculties of Science and Commerce, and is administered by the Faculty of Science. See Faculty of Science Rule S.13.

**RULES FOR DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES**

*See the General Rules applicable to all Faculties.*

The following Rules apply to the Faculty of Commerce only. Rules C.3 to C.11 apply to all Bachelors degrees in the Faculty. Except as provided in Rules G.44 to G.46 of the General Rules no candidate shall be admitted to any of the degrees of Bachelor in the Faculty unless they have attended approved courses subsequent to their first registration for degree study for at least the minimum time specified for each degree.

**C.1**

The following degrees and diplomas may be awarded in the Faculty of Commerce:

| <i>Name</i>  | <i>To be denoted by the letters</i> |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Bachelor of Business Science</b><br>NQF Level 8 (480 credits)   | <b>BBS</b>                          |
| <b>Bachelor of Commerce</b><br>NQF Level 7 (360 credits)   | <b>BCOM</b>                         |
| <b>Bachelor of Economics</b><br>NQF Level 7 (360 credits)  | <b>BECO</b>                         |
| <b>Bachelor of Commerce with Honours</b><br>NQF Level 8 (120 credits)  | <b>BCOH</b>                         |
| <b>May be taken in the following subjects:</b><br>Accounting, Auditing,<br>Computer Science, Economics, Industrial<br>Sociology, Information Systems,<br>Management, Management Accounting and<br>Financial Accounting,<br>Mathematical Statistics, Mathematics,<br>Applied Statistics, Applied Mathematics,<br>Organizational Psychology, Taxation. |                                     |

**Bachelor of Economics**

**with Honours** **BECH**

NQF Level 8 (120 credits)

**May be taken in the following subjects:**

Accounting, Anthropology,  
Auditing, Computer Science, Economics,  
Financial Accounting, Industrial Sociology,  
Information Systems, Management, Management  
Accounting and Financial Management,  
Mathematical Statistics, Mathematics,  
Applied Statistics, Applied Mathematics,  
Organizational Psychology, Politics,  
Psychology, Sociology, Taxation, Environmental  
Science, History, Philosophy, Geology.

**Master of Commerce (by full thesis) MCOM**

NQF Level 9 (180 credits)

**May be taken in the following subjects:**

Accounting, Applied Statistics, Auditing,  
Computer Science, Economics, Financial  
Accounting, Industrial Sociology,  
Information Systems, Management  
Accounting and Finance,  
Mathematical Statistics, Mathematics,  
Organizational Psychology, Taxation.

**Master of Commerce (by coursework and thesis)**

NQF Level 9 (180 credits) **MCOM 1, 2, 4**

**May be taken in the following subjects:**

Financial Markets, Taxation

**Master of Economics** **MECO**

NQF Level 9 (180 credits)

**Master of Business**

**Administration** **MBA**

NQF Level 9 (180 credits)

**Doctor of Philosophy** **PHD3**

NQF Level 10 (360 credits)

**May be taken in the following subjects:**

Accounting, Auditing,  
Computer Science, Economics, Financial  
Accounting, Industrial Sociology,  
Information Systems, Management,  
Management Accounting and Finance,  
Mathematical Statistics, Mathematics,  
Applied Mathematics,  
Organizational Psychology, Taxation.

**Postgraduate Diploma**

**in Accountancy** **HDAC**

NQF Level 8 (120 credits)

**Postgraduate Diploma**

**in Enterprise Management** **PDEM**

NQF Level 8 (120 credits)

**Postgraduate Diploma in Taxation**

**PGTAX**

NQF Level 8 (120 credits)

**C.2**

Candidates for Bachelors degrees in the Faculty may present themselves for examination in the following courses; unless otherwise indicated each course listed is equivalent to two credits:

**C.2.1**

- Accounting 1,2,3
- Anthropology 1,2,3
- Applied Statistics 3
- Auditing 1
- Commercial Law 1,2
- Computer Science 1,2,3
- \*Computer Science 101
- \*Computer Science 102
- Economics 1,2,3 and 3B
- Industrial Sociology 2,3
- Information Systems 2,3
- Introduction to Philosophy
- Latin 1A or 1B
- Legal Theory 1,2,3
- English Language & Linguistics 1,2,3
- \*Logic
- Management 1,2,3
- Management Accounting and Financial Management
- Mathematical Statistics 2,3
- \*Theory of Finance and \*Statistics 1D
- \*Statistics 101, 102
- Mathematics 1,2,3
- Organizational Psychology 2,3
- Politics 1,2,3
- \$ Professional Communication
- Psychology 1,2,3
- Sociology 1,2,3
- Taxation 1
- A course in a modern language

*\*Each of these is a one-credit course.*

*\$This is a compulsory one-credit course offered by the Department of English Language and Linguistics. It is normally taken in the second year of study.*

*For major subjects in the Faculty see Rule C.11.*

**C.2.2** Any approved course offered in the Faculties of Humanities or Science.

**C.2.3** Any approved sequence of three courses leading to a major in the Faculty of Humanities or in the Faculty of Science.

**C.2.4** Students registering for the degree will be allowed to choose as an elective a course not offered at Rhodes University, provided a strong case can be made for its inclusion. Permission will be granted at the discretion of the Dean.

**C.3**

For the purpose of the BCom, BEcon and BSc(InfSystems) degrees, credit in both Accounting 1F and 1G will be deemed to be equivalent to credit in Accounting 1.

**C.4**

For the purpose of these Rules, and in Rule G.7 as it applies to Commerce, unless otherwise indicated or clear from the context, "course" will mean a course which is equivalent to two credits, a one-semester course being equivalent to one credit.

**C.5**

The onus is on students to ensure that they register for a curriculum which will lead to a degree or diploma as the case may be. The Dean's approval of a curriculum does not imply permission to obtain a degree or diploma following a curriculum different from those contained in these Rules. Choices of subjects offered for a degree or certificate may be limited by the University timetable. Students who wish to take a degree over more than the minimum period of time are urged to consult the Dean or Deputy Dean to ensure that their choice of curriculum is feasible on the University timetable.

**C.6**

Credit shall not be given for:

- Afrikaans-Nederlands 1 and 2 and also Afrikaans 1 and 2
- Commercial Law 1 and Legal Theory 1
- Commercial Law 2 and any course in Legal Theory
- Psychology 2 and also Organizational Psychology 2
- Psychology 3 and also Organizational Psychology 3
- Sociology 2 and also Industrial Sociology 2
- Sociology 3 and also Industrial Sociology 3
- More than one of Statistics 1D, and Statistics 1

**C.7**

**7.1** Subject to any exceptions approved by Senate, candidates may not proceed to any course listed in Group I below unless they have obtained credit in, or have been exempted from, the corresponding prerequisite course listed in Group II.

Group I  
Applied Statistics 3

Group II  
Mathematics 1 and Mathematical Statistics 2

Auditing 1  
Computer Science 3

Accounting 2  
Computer Science 2 and Mathematics 102

## FACULTY OF COMMERCE

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|   |  |
|---|--|
| Industrial Sociology 2                            | Sociology 1  |
| Information Systems 2                             | Computer Science 101   |
| Legal Theory 3                                    | Legal Theory 2   |
| Management 3                                      | Accounting 1 and Mathematics 1<br>or Theory of Finance and<br>Statistics 1D                  |
| Management Accounting<br>and Financial Management | Accounting 2 and one of Theory of<br>Finance or Mathematics 1                                |
| Mathematical Statistics 2                         | Mathematics 1 and/or at least 2<br>semester credits of MAT 1C1, MAT 1P,<br>STA 1D or STA 101 |
| Mathematical Statistics 3                         | Mathematics 1 and Mathematical<br>Statistics 2   |
| Organizational Psychology 3                       | Organizational Psychology 2  |
| Taxation 1  | Accounting 2   |

**7.2** Candidates shall not be admitted to the courses Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D unless they have obtained at least an Admission Points Score (APS) in Mathematics of 4 or higher in the National Senior Certificate or a pass in Mathematics at another examination deemed to be equivalent thereto. Candidates seeking admission to the BBS Degree require Mathematics at a rating 6 or above.

**7.3** Candidates who have credit in Management 1 may register for Management 2 only if they have credit in, or are concurrently registered for, Accounting 1.

**7.4** Candidates who obtain credit in Latin 1B may proceed to Latin 2 only with the permission of the Head of the School of Languages.

**7.5** Candidates who have passed Organizational Psychology 2 may be permitted by Senate on the recommendation of the Head of the Department to take Psychology 3. Candidates who have completed Psychology 2 may not proceed to Organizational Psychology 3 except with the permission of the Head of the Department, in which case additional coursework assignments will normally be set, in which a specified level of performance must be achieved. In the event that candidates do not attain the specified level of performance by the end of the first term their registration will revert to Psychology 3.

**7.6** A student deemed to be in the first year of study may not register for Information Systems 2.

**7.7** Owing to physical constraints, it may be necessary to limit the numbers of students admitted to Information Systems 2 and 3. Should this become necessary, candidates may be required either to have completed the first year towards a degree or to have obtained at least ten credits before being admitted to Information Systems 2. Should the number of candidates qualifying for admission to Information

Systems 2 and 3 exceed the number that can be admitted, admission will be on merit, and those who fail to be thus admitted will be given priority for the following year.

**7.8** Save with the permission of the Head of the Department of English Language and Linguistics, a student deemed to be in the first year of study may not register for the course Professional Communication.

### **C.8**

Candidates taking a course in the Faculty of Humanities shall be governed by the provisions of Rules H.3, H.4, H.5, H.6, H.13, H.14.

### **C.9**

Candidates taking Mathematics or a course given only in the Faculties of Science and Pharmacy shall be governed by the provisions of the Rules S.4 and S.23.

### **C.10**

**10.1** Candidates may not present themselves for examination in courses amounting to more than twelve credits in the first academic year and ten credits in the second academic year.

**10.2** Subject to any exceptions approved by Senate, candidates may not present themselves for examination in courses amounting to more than seven semester credits in any year of study in which they are engaged on the final course of a major subject (normally no more than three in any semester, plus Professional Communication). The exception approved by the Senate being Accounting 3 when taken with Auditing 1, Management Accounting and Finance 1, Taxation 1 and Professional Communication.

**10.3** For all Bachelors degrees, candidates with fewer than six credits shall be deemed to be in the first year of study for the degree. Candidates with six or more credits, but with fewer than sixteen credits, shall be deemed to be in the second year of study unless they are registered for the final courses of at least two major subjects for the degree. Candidates who have at least sixteen credits towards the degree, or who are registered for the final courses in at least two major subjects shall be deemed to be in the third year of study.

**10.4** Subject to any exceptions approved by the Senate, candidates must have obtained credit in at least two courses before they may enter on the second course in any subject.

**10.5** Last Outstanding Credit - Supplementary Examinations:

a) Last outstanding credits will be allowed only for

the last semester credit outstanding for the degree, provided this applies to one discipline only, and to a course written in the final calendar year of study; and

b) Provided the student has a Duly Performed Certificate for the course concerned.

### C.11

The degree certificates of candidates for three-year Bachelor's degrees who pass in Class I in the third-year course of any subject listed in C.2.1 and C.2.3, shall be endorsed with distinction in that subject. These subjects shall be regarded as major subjects within the Faculty. For the purpose of this Rule the final mark in these courses shall, where applicable, be taken as the average mark of their component semester courses.

*NB Auditing 1, Taxation 1 and Management Accounting and Finance 1 are not regarded as third-year courses for the purpose of this Rule.*

### C.12

Aggregation Rules:

a) Aggregation is permitted between semester papers written in the same academic year and with the supplementary papers written in February of the following year. Where the February result is invoked the supplementary mark is recorded on the transcript as "P" in the event of a pass and "ACR" where the mark results in an overall aggregated pass.

b) In Accounting 1 students obtaining between 40-49% in Accounting 101, together with a corresponding mark of 51% and above for Accounting 102, and an aggregate mark of 50% or more, are awarded a continuing credit to Accounting 2. Where the student passes Accounting 101 but fails 102 with a mark of between 40-49%, and aggregates to 50% or more a non-continuing credit is awarded.

c) In Accounting 2 students obtaining between 45-49% in Accounting 201, together with a corresponding mark of 55% and above for Accounting 202, and an aggregate mark of 50% or more, are awarded a continuing credit to Accounting 3. Where the student passes Accounting 201 with a mark of between 50-60%, together with a corresponding mark of 45% and above for Accounting 202, and an aggregate of 50% or more, a non-continuing credit is awarded.

d) A credit for Management Accounting and Financial Management will only be awarded where students have successfully completed both MAF 101 and MAF 102.

e) For other subjects administered by the Commerce

Faculty (Economics, Information Systems and Management) aggregation is permitted where one semester has been failed at the 45-49% level, provided that the overall average mark for the two semester marks is 50% or more.

f) Where a course consists of 4 modules aggregation is permitted where 3 modules (papers) are passed and the fourth failed with a mark of 40% or more, provided that the overall average mark for the 4 modules is 50% or more.

g) Where a course consists of 4 modules aggregation is permitted where 2 modules (papers) are passed and two failed with marks between 45 and 49%, provided that the overall average mark for the 4 modules is 50% or more.

h) Subminima for other subjects taken by Commerce students may differ from this rule but aggregation always conforms to (a) above.

### C.13

All students registered for a degree in the Faculty are required to pass Economics 1 and 2.

## DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF BUSINESS SCIENCE

### C.14

14.1 The curriculum for the degree of Bachelor of Business Science shall extend over not less than four years of full-time study.

14.2 Candidates who do not pass all the courses for the Degree in the first year of study will be automatically reregistered in the second year as Bachelor of Commerce / Economics students with the approval of the Board of the Faculty.

14.3 Admission to the fourth year of study for the degree is subject to approval by the Board of the Faculty.

14.4 Candidates will not be admitted to any fourth-year course for the degree if they have not obtained credit in or been exempted from all the courses prescribed for the first three years of study for the degree.

14.5 Candidates normally require a minimum of 60% in their third year of study in the subject they wish to continue with in their fourth year.

14.6 Candidates wishing to be admitted to the fourth year of study in any discipline must note that the course can only be offered to a limited number of students. Departments reserve the right to select the best students regardless of the degree being studied.

14.7 Candidates who complete the third year of

study for the degree and who fail the fourth year will, depending on courses passed, be awarded the degree of Bachelor of Commerce or the degree of Bachelor of Economics.

**14.8** Candidates who complete the third year of study for the degree and who have the required credits, may elect to be awarded the BCom or BEcon degree. Such candidates may not subsequently be admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Business Science, but may be admitted to an Honours degree.

**14.9** A paper in Strategic Management in the fourth year is compulsory for all students reading for full Management Honours, as well as those joint-honours students where Management is the dominant component. Other fourth year students may elect to read a paper in Strategic Management, which will count as 20% of their final fourth year mark. The weighting of the Strategic Management course for joint-honours students not reading Management as the dominant component, and in which Management is either a minor component or not taken at the fourth year level, will be split equally (10%) between the two Departments in which the student is studying.

**14.10** All candidates are required to submit a research essay/project in partial fulfilment of the fourth year of study. Where the candidate is taking the 60/40 split between two subjects, the research essay is normally supervised and examined by the dominant department. This paper will represent a maximum of 20% of the course content of the fourth year of study.

*Candidates for the degree should note that they may, subject to the constraints imposed by Rules G.17, C.7, C.10, C.14, and those imposed by the lecture timetable, offer courses in a curriculum in a different order to that set out in this Rule.*

*NB It is important that candidates plan their curricula fully in advance to ensure feasibility on the lecture timetable.*

### **CURRICULUM 1 (Economics)**

#### **Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Computer Science 101 & Statistics 1D
3. Economics 1
4. Management 1
5. Mathematics 1

#### **Year 2**

1. Economics 2

2. Commercial Law 1
3. Mathematics 2 or Mathematical Statistics 2
4. Management 2
5. Professional Communication

#### **Year 3**

1. Economics 3 and 3B
2. One of: Management 3; Mathematics 3; Mathematical Statistics 3

#### **Year 4**

1. Economics Honours
2. Strategic Management (C.14.9)

### **CURRICULUM 2 (Information Systems)**

#### **Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Computer Science 101 and Statistics 1D
3. Economics 1
4. Management 1
5. Mathematics 1

#### **Year 2**

1. Information Systems 2
2. Economics 2
3. Mathematical Statistics 2 or Mathematics 2
4. Management 2 or Accounting 2
5. Commercial Law 1

#### **Year 3**

1. Information Systems 3
2. One of: Economics 3; Mathematical Statistics 3; Mathematics 3; Management 3; Accounting 3
3. Professional Communication

#### **Year 4**

1. Information Systems Honours or Joint Honours. (as prescribed in Rule C.16)
2. Strategic Management (C.14.9)

### **CURRICULUM 3 (Management)**

#### **Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Computer Science 101 & Statistics 1D
3. Economics 1
4. Management 1
5. Mathematics 1

#### **Year 2**

1. Management 2
2. Economics 2
3. Accounting 2 or Information Systems 2
4. Mathematics 2 or Mathematical Statistics 2
5. Commercial Law 1

**Year 3**

1. Management 3
2. One of: Accounting 3; Economics 3; Information Systems 3; Mathematics 3; Mathematical Statistics 3
3. Professional Communication

**Year 4**

1. Management Honours, or Joint Honours (as prescribed in Rules C.16 and C.17.2)
2. Strategic Management (C.14.9)

**CURRICULUM 4 (Quantitative Management)**

**Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Computer Science 101 and Statistics 1D
3. Economics 1
4. Management 1
5. Mathematics 1

**Year 2**

1. Mathematical Statistics 2
2. Economics 2
3. Two of: Management 2; Information Systems 2; Accounting 2; Mathematics 2
4. Commercial Law 1
5. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. Mathematical Statistics 3
2. One of: Economics 3; Management 3; Information Systems 3; Accounting 3; Mathematics 3

**Year 4**

1. Mathematical Statistics Honours, or Joint Honours (as prescribed in Rules C.16 and C.17.2).
2. Strategic Management. (C.14.9)

**CURRICULUM 5 (Computer Science)**

**Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Computer Science 1
3. Economics 1
4. Management 1
5. Mathematics 1
6. Statistics 1D

**Year 2**

1. Computer Science 2
2. Economics 2
3. Mathematics 2 or Mathematical Statistics 2
4. Management 2 or Information Systems 2
5. Commercial Law 1

**Year 3**

1. Computer Science 3
2. One of: Economics 3; Information Systems 3;

- Management 3; Mathematics 3; Mathematical Statistics 3
3. Professional Communication

**Year 4**

1. Computer Science Honours or Joint Honours (as prescribed in Rules C.16 and C.17.2).
2. Strategic Management (C.14.9)

**DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF COMMERCE**

The degree of Bachelor of Commerce may be awarded either as an ordinary degree or as an honours degree.

**A. THE ORDINARY DEGREE**

**C.15**

**15.1** Candidates for the ordinary degree must obtain at least twenty-three credits in the courses contained in one of the curricula set out below.

**15.2** Candidates offering more than the minimum number of courses for the degree must select the additional courses from those listed in C.2.1.

**15.3** Candidates for the degree may, subject to the constraints imposed by Rules G.17, C.7, C.10, C.14.3, and those imposed by the lecture timetable, offer courses in a curriculum in a different order to that set out in this Rule. Thus, for example, a candidate wishing to include Computer Science 2 in Curriculum 1 must take Computer Science 1 as the option in item 4 of Year 2, but must take the course in Year 1, and the course it displaces in Year 1, in Year 2. Similarly a candidate wishing to take Information Systems 2 in Year 2 must take Computer Science 101 in Year 1 and any semester course in Year 1 omitted as a consequence, in Year 2 or thereafter.

**CURRICULUM 1 (General)**

*This curriculum is intended for candidates who wish to specialise in one or more of the following fields: Economics, Information Systems, Management, Statistics.*

**Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Commercial Law 1
3. Economics 1
4. Management 1
5. Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D or Mathematics 1

*NB See Rule C.15.3 above. Candidates are reminded that they shall not be permitted to register for Management 3 until they have obtained a pass in*

*Accounting 1 and Theory of Finance or Mathematics 101, and Statistics 1D.*

*They should register for Computer Science 101 should they intend to take Information Systems 2 in the second year.*

**Year 2**

1. Economics 2
2. One of: Accounting 2; Information Systems 2; Management 2
3. One of: A course listed in (2) above not already taken; Computer Science 2; Mathematical Statistics 2; Commercial Law 2
4. Any other two-credit course, or two one-credit courses, from C.2.1 or C.2.2 (*Attention is drawn to Rule C.6*)
5. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. One of the following: Accounting 3; Economics 3; Information Systems 3; Management 3
2. One of: A course listed in (1) above not already taken; Applied Statistics 3; Computer Science 3; Mathematical Statistics 3; Mathematics 3

**CURRICULUM 2 (Accounting)**

**Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Commercial Law 1
3. Computer Science 101
4. Economics 1
5. Management 1
6. Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D

**Year 2**

1. Accounting 2
2. Commercial Law 2
3. Economics 2
4. Information Systems 2
5. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. Accounting 3
2. Two\* of: Auditing 1; Management Accounting and Finance 1; Taxation 1
3. Ethics

*\* Candidates who intend to take the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy must include all three of these subjects in their curriculum.*

**CURRICULUM 3 (Law)**

**Year 1**

1. Legal Theory 1
2. Accounting 1
3. Economics 1

4. Management 1

5. One of the following: A course in a modern language; Latin 1A or Latin 1B; Mathematics 1 or 1E, or Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D

*NB See Rule C.15.3. Candidates are reminded that they shall not be permitted to register for Management 3 until they have obtained a pass in Accounting 1 and Theory of Finance or Mathematics 101, and Statistics 1D.*

**Year 2**

1. Legal Theory 2
2. Economics 2
3. One of: Accounting 2; Information Systems 2; Management 2
4. Any other two-course, or two one-credit courses, from C.2.1, or C.2.2
5. Professional Communication  
*Attention is drawn to Rule C.6*

**Year 3**

1. Legal Theory 3
2. One of: Accounting 3; Economics 3; Information Systems 3; Management 3

**CURRICULUM 4 (Inter-Faculty)\***

*NB Candidates are reminded of the need to plan any proposed curriculum with regard to its viability in terms of the University lecture timetable.*

**Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Economics 1
3. Management 1
4. A first-year course leading to a major in the Faculty of Humanities or the Faculty of Science.
5. One of the following: Commercial Law 1; Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D, or Mathematics 1

*NB See Rule C.15.3. Candidates are reminded that they shall not be permitted to register for Management 3 until they have obtained a pass in Accounting 1 and Theory of Finance or Mathematics 101, and Statistics 1D.*

**Year 2**

1. A second-year course of a major subject offered in the Faculty of Humanities or the Faculty of Science.
2. Economics 2
3. One of the following: Accounting 2; Commercial Law 2; Information Systems 2; Management 2
4. Commercial Law 1; if already taken: any two-credit course or two one-credit courses from C.2.1 or C.2.2 (*Attention is drawn to Rule C.6*)
5. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. The final course of a major subject offered in the Faculty of Humanities or the Faculty of Science.
2. One of the following: Accounting 3; Economics 3; Information Systems 3; Management 3

*\* For the purpose of this curriculum a major in the Faculties of Humanities and Science will be any major subject which can be taken for the BA, BSocSc and BSc degrees, excluding Accounting, Commercial Law, Economics, Information Systems, Legal Theory and Management.*

**B. THE HONOURS DEGREE**

**C.16**

The degree of Bachelor of Commerce with Honours may be taken in any major subject for the degree (excepting Legal Theory), or in any subject or combination of subjects approved by the Senate.

**C.17**

**17.1** Candidates shall not be admitted to any course in the honours degree unless they have obtained the permission of the Board of the Faculty on the recommendation of the Head of the Department concerned. Normally candidates will not be admitted to the honours course unless they have obtained a good second class pass in the final undergraduate year in the subject in which they wish to take honours.

**17.2** Candidates may present themselves for examination in more than one subject, provided that:

**17.2.1** they satisfy for each subject involved the normal criteria for admission to Honours in that subject;

**17.2.2** the Heads of the relevant Departments have agreed upon the contents of the course and the structure of the examination, and

**17.2.3** the Heads of the Departments concerned and the Dean of the Faculty approve such arrangements.

**17.2.4** Accounting Honours may not be taken jointly with any other subject.

**C.18**

Candidates shall attend the University for not less than one academic year after being admitted to the ordinary degree or to the status of that degree and shall pursue a course of advanced study in the chosen subject.

**C.19**

The honours degree normally requires a period of one year's full-time study. Such candidates may not take up any full-time employment while engaged on the course. They may, however, on the recommendation of the Head of the Department

concerned and with the approval of Senate, take up part-time employment. Candidates may, on the recommendation of the Head of the Department concerned and with the permission of Senate attend and write the examination in a course in the same or another department concurrently with their honours degree.

**C.20**

Subject to the approval of the Board of the Faculty, on the recommendation of the Head of the Department of Economics and Economic History, a full-time candidate who has been awarded the ordinary degree may be permitted to take the Honours and Master's degree in Economics concurrently. The candidate shall write the full Honours examination in no more than two years, and if successful may submit the Master's thesis at any subsequent date without further attendance requirements, provided the candidate remains a registered student.

**C.21**

Senate may, on the recommendation of the Head of the Department concerned, permit a student to take an honours course as a part-time student: Provided that:

**21.1** the honours classes are attended within the normal timetable of the Department; and

**21.2** the honours course is spread over two years, but, except with the special permission of Senate, not more than two years.

**C.22**

Candidates taking the honours degree may be required to satisfy the examiners that they have an adequate reading knowledge of an approved language other than the official languages.

**C.23**

Subject to any exceptions approved by the Senate, candidates shall not be permitted to present themselves for the examinations for the degree more than once in the same subject.

**C.24**

Subject to any exceptions approved by the Senate candidates must write all parts of the examination at one time, and they shall not be exempted from any part of the examination, provided that a part-time candidate, or a candidate taking the degree over two years, may, on the recommendation of the Head of the Department and with the permission of Senate, write part of the examination at the end of the first year of study and part at the end of the second year of study.

**C.25**

Exceptions have been approved by Senate for the following subjects, and in these subjects parts of the Honours examination may be written at the discretion of the Head of the Department at any official examination session of the University pertaining to the period of study prescribed in Rules 6 and 8:

Computer Science,  
Economics,  
Information Systems,  
Management,  
Mathematics,  
Statistics.

**C.26**

Candidates will not be admitted to the Honours degree in Accounting (Financial Accounting) unless they have achieved at least the minimum requirements for admission to the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy set out in Rules C.32 and C.33. This implies the minimum achievement of a pass mark of at least 50% in each of the six papers, normally a minimum mark of 60% in Financial Accounting 3, and to satisfy the requirements of Rule C.23.

**C.27**

Candidates will not be admitted to the Honours degree in Accounting (Financial Management) unless they have achieved the requirements for admission to the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy set out in Rules C.32. This implies the requirement to pass papers 1 to 6 in aggregate and to satisfy the requirements of Rule C.23.

**DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF ECONOMICS**

**C.28**

The degree of Bachelor of Economics may be awarded either as an ordinary degree or as an honours degree.

**A. THE ORDINARY DEGREE**

**C.29**

Candidates must obtain at least twenty-three credits as set out in the following curricula.

**CURRICULUM 1 (Business Sciences)**

**Year 1**

1. Economics 1

2. Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D, or Mathematics 1
3. Two from: Accounting 1; Commercial Law 1; Computer Science 1; Management 1; Statistics 1; an approved course.

*See Rules C.6 and C.7.1.*

**Year 2**

1. Economics 2
2. Two from: Accounting 2; Computer Science 2; Information Systems 2; Management 2; Mathematical Statistics 2; Mathematics 2; one other approved non-initial course.
3. Any two-credit course, or two one-credit courses from C.2.1 or C.2.2.
4. Professional Communication

*See Rule C.2.*

**Year 3**

1. Economics 3 and 3B
2. One from: Accounting 3; Applied Statistics 3; Computer Science 3; Information Systems 3; Management 3; Mathematical Statistics 3; Mathematics 3; the final course of an approved major subject.

**CURRICULUM 2 (Environmental Science)**

**Year 1**

1. Economics 1
2. Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D; or Mathematics 1
3. Earth Science 101 and Geography 102, plus one from: Anthropology 1; Botany 1; Geology 102; Zoology 1
4. Management 1

**Year 2**

1. Economics 2
2. Environmental Science 2
3. One of: Management 2; Information Systems 2 (if Computer Science 101 passed in Year 1)
4. One of: Accounting 1; Botany 2; Geography 2; Zoology 2; Computer Science 101 and any one-credit course
5. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. Economics 3
2. Environmental Science 3.

**CURRICULUM 3 (Social Sciences)**

**Year 1**

1. Economics 1
2. Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D, or Mathematics 1

3. Two from: Anthropology 1; History 1; Introduction to Philosophy; Management 1; Politics 1; Psychology 1; Sociology 1; one other approved course.

**Year 2**

1. Economics 2
2. Two from: Anthropology 2; History 2; Industrial Sociology 2; Management 2; Mathematical Statistics 2; Mathematics 2; Organizational Psychology 2; Philosophy 2; Politics 2; Psychology 2; Sociology 2; one other approved non-initial course.
3. Any two-credit course, or two one-credit courses, from C.2.1 or C.2.2.
4. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. Economics 3 and 3B
2. One of: Anthropology 3; History 3; Industrial Sociology 3; Management 3; Mathematical Statistics 3; Mathematics 3; Organizational Psychology 3; Philosophy 3; Politics 3; Psychology 3; Sociology 3; the final course of an approved major subject.

**CURRICULUM 4 (Mineral Economics)**

*This degree may be required to be taken over more than three years because of timetable clashes which cannot be resolved.*

**Year 1**

1. Accounting 1
2. Chemistry 1
3. Economics 1
4. Geology 1
5. Management 1

**Year 2**

1. Economics 2
2. Geology 2
3. Management 2
4. Theory of Finance and Statistics 1D
5. Professional Communication

**Year 3**

1. Economics 3
2. Geology 301

**B. THE HONOURS DEGREE**

**C.30**

The degree of Bachelor of Economics with Honours may be taken in any major subject for the degree, or in Operations Research, or in a combination of any two of these subjects.

**C.31**

Rules C.17 to C.25 above shall also apply to the degree of Bachelor of Economics with Honours.

**DEGREE OF**

**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) offered by the Rhodes Business School is a course-work degree together with a dissertation of 15 000 words. The dissertation accounts for 30% of the total credits. The degree is offered on a part-time, modular basis over two and a half years. Candidates are required to attend three three-week teaching blocks in Grahamstown each year and to complete work-based assignments in the periods between the teaching blocks. The final six months is dedicated to the completion of the dissertation. The Rhodes Business School essence is “Leadership for Sustainability” and hence leadership and sustainability principles underline all subjects in the MBA curriculum. Emphasis is placed on business continuity, as well as achieving a balance between economic, social and environmental sustainability (the Triple Bottom Line). The Business School has committed itself to abide by the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME). Normally candidates will only be admitted to the programme if they hold at least a three year bachelor’s degree in any discipline, are fluent in English, have passed Mathematics at the school leavers’ level, and have had at least three years relevant practical experience.

**DEGREE OF**

**MASTER OF COMMERCE IN FINANCIAL MARKETS**

**CURRICULUM:**

|                                       |             |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Dissertation                          | 0.50 credit |
| Coursework as follows:                |             |
| Financial Institutions and Regulation | 0.10 credit |
| Money, Banking and Monetary Policy    | 0.10        |
| Debt and Foreign Exchange Markets     | 0.10        |
| Equity and Derivative Markets         | 0.10        |
| Portfolio Theory and Management       | 0.10        |

In terms of Financial Services Board’s requirements for traders and advisors, candidates are required to sit industry examinations set by the South African Institute of Financial Markets and the Johannesburg Securities Exchange. These examinations count 20% towards the assessment mark allocated for

the coursework component of the course, the balance being constituted of internal University examinations.

## DEGREE OF MASTER OF COMMERCE IN TAXATION

The course consists of the following components:

### A:

1. Income tax - aspects of the “gross income” definition
2. Income tax - further aspects of the “gross income” definition
3. Capital gains taxation
4. Income tax - aspects of the “general deduction formula”
5. Income tax - further aspects of “the general deduction formula
6. Income tax - special deductions and allowances
7. Tax planning and anti-avoidance measures
8. Employee benefits and retirement planning
9. Tax strategy
10. Estate planning
11. Taxation of special classes of taxpayer
12. Research methodology and design

### B:

On completion of the coursework component, two three-hour examination papers are written; these can be written in Grahamstown or, subject to special arrangements, at UNISA in Pretoria.

### C:

A dissertation of limited scope.

*The weighting of the two components is:*

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| <i>Coursework component</i>          |     |
| <i>(including final examination)</i> | 50% |
| <i>Thesis of limited scope</i>       | 50% |

## COMMERCE EXTENDED STUDIES PROGRAMME

### Curriculum

Only English second-language speakers are eligible for admission to this programme which extends over one year of full-time study. Because of the nature of the programme, the number of students admitted to it in any year will be limited. Candidates who complete the Extended Studies Programme will not normally be admitted to the BCom or BAcc programmes unless they have passed English Language Skills and obtained an aggregate mark of at least 60%.

### Courses

#### First Semester

Accounting 1F  
English Language Skills  
Theory of Finance (Extended Studies)  
Business & Life Skills  
Computer Skills 1C

#### Second Semester

Accounting 1F  
English Language Skills  
Theory of Finance (Extended Studies)  
Economics 102  
Computer Skills 1C

## POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTANCY

### C.32

Candidates for the Diploma shall not be admitted to the course unless:

**32.1** they have a Bachelor’s degree or have been admitted to the status of bachelor and

**32.2** they have obtained the permission of the Board of the Faculty on the recommendation of the head of the Department of Accounting. *The Department of Accounting reserves the right to limit the number of students accepted into the programme.*

### C.33

**33.1** Candidates who have been admitted to the degree or status of bachelor and who subsequently wish to obtain the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy must obtain or have credit in Information Systems 2, Theory of Finance and Statistics, Economics 1, Commercial Law 1 and 2, Accounting 3, Auditing 1, Management Accounting and Finance 1, Taxation 1, and such other courses as directed by the Board of the Faculty before being admitted to study for the Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy. The distribution of outstanding courses over a further year or years of study shall be at the discretion of the Board of the Faculty, provided that not more than five courses may be taken in any one year.

**33.2** Where candidates have passed in courses covering portions of the syllabus of pre-requisite courses they may be exempted from those courses provided they attend such courses and/or pass such papers or half papers as may be required by Senate on the recommendation of the Board of the Faculty.

### C.34

A pass mark of 50% is required in each of the four courses. Candidates must pass all courses simultaneously.

## POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT

### C.35

Candidates for the Diploma shall not be admitted to the course unless :

**35.1** they have a Bachelor's degree or have been admitted to the status of bachelor, and

**35.2** they have obtained the permission of the Board of the Faculty on the recommendation of the Head of the Department of Management.

### C.36

Candidates who have credit in Management 2 and 3 (or its equivalent) are not eligible for admission to the Diploma.

### C.37

To qualify for the Diploma, candidates must attain at least 50% for the Alpha Project, 50% or more for at least six of the remaining seven papers listed below and an overall aggregate of at least 50%. In addition, a sub-minimum requirement of 45% applies to each paper. It is possible, however, subject to a maximum of two papers in semester one, and a maximum of one paper in semester two, for a candidate to be exempted from writing the examination for a course, with a credit being awarded for the course, if the candidate obtains at least 70% for all assignments and for all tests for the course, with two internal moderators concurring regarding the marks awarded for both forms of assessment and a review of the written work by the external examiner.

Paper 1: Strategic Marketing

Paper 2: Financial Management

Paper 3: People Management

Paper 4: Supply Chain and Project Management

Paper 5: Entrepreneurial Law

Paper 6: Computerised Accounting for Small  
Business

Paper 7: Entrepreneurship

## POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN TAXATION

### C.38

Candidates for the Diploma shall normally not be admitted to the course unless:

**38.1** they have a Bachelor's degree or have been admitted to the status of bachelor and completed an appropriate undergraduate taxation course and normally achieved a mark of 65%; and

**38.2** they have obtained the permission of the Board of the Faculty on the recommendation of the head of the Department of Accounting.

**38.3** Where candidates have passed in courses covering portions of the syllabus of pre-requisite papers they may be exempted from those papers provided they attend such courses and/or pass such papers or half papers as may be required by Senate on the recommendation of the Board of the Faculty

### C.39

Candidates must pass all papers simultaneously in the aggregate. A sub-minimum of 45% is required in any individual paper.

## HONOURS DEGREE IN ACCOUNTING

The Honours degree in Accounting can be presented in any one of the following specialisation areas:

- Accounting
- Auditing
- Finance
- Management Accounting

In each case papers forming part of the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting will form the basis of the degree, together with a paper in an Introduction to Research Methodology and Design and a research essay. In each specialisation area one or more additional papers are prescribed. Candidates for the Honours Degree shall normally not be admitted to the course unless:

- they have a Bachelor's degree in the Accounting curriculum and have completed the appropriate undergraduate course majors and normally achieved a mark of 60% in each of the major subjects relevant to the Honours degree;
- they have obtained the permission of the Board of the Faculty on the recommendation of the Head of the Department of Accounting.

*The Department of Accounting reserves the right to limit the number of students accepted into the programme.*

## HIGHER DEGREES

The Faculty's Rules for the Degree of Master of Commerce, Degree of Master of Economics, Degree of Doctor of Economics, Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, are identical to those set out for Master's and Doctoral degrees in the General Rules.