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A Comparative Study of the Preparedness for Undergraduate Studies of Students entering the University with South African Matriculation Examination results and Zimbabwe ZIMSEC Examination results.

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**Abstract content (Max 300 words)
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The preparedness of South African matriculants for university studies in comparison to students entering university through Zimbabwe's ZIMSEC system has been highly debated at different levels within society. Physical Science, Mathematics and English matriculation and ZIMSEC results are commonly used as a measure of science students' preparedness for university study. This research compares the performance of first-year undergraduate students in physics modules in relation to their matriculation and ZIMSEC results for a number of science subjects and English. Results generally show a marked difference in the performance of students holding ZIMSEC results compared to students holding matriculation results. Factors that may contribute significantly to this disparity were also considered.

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