Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Application Development
The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE)

The IIE Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Application Development provides candidates with a thorough theoretical grounding and knowledge base in the key principles of information technology (IT), programming, mobile application development across platforms, web development, database design, troubleshooting, testing, connectivity, customisation and project management. Graduates will develop meaningful software development acumen grounded in a deep understanding of holistic application programming and development. This qualification has been designed to develop graduates’ abilities to design, implement and manage solution-focused, systemic thinkers who can develop software solutions for any device or platform in the South African economy.

The outcomes for this qualification were identified as critical to drive a successful career in software development providing competent desktop and mobile application developers in the private and the public sectors. By understanding business processes in the context of business rules, graduates will be able to solve business problems and meet business needs through software application development. Graduates will be suitably prepared to demonstrate competencies in application development, and to contribute to the economic well-being of their organisation in a responsible manner.

What is this Degree’s accreditation status?
The IIE’s Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Application Development (BCAD) is accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and is registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) as a 365-credit qualification on level 7 (SAQA ID: 97600).
Who is the Bachelor’s degree aimed at?
This Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Application Development (BCAD) degree is aimed at students who are interested in the emergence of Cloud Computing as a technology, mobile application as well as web development processes. This degree addresses both the need for mobile application development and the need for Cloud Computing development on both the server- and the client-side.

What entry requirements will I need to study this Bachelor’s degree?

• A National Senior Certificate (NSC) with Degree admission - with a minimum of 50% for Mathematics or a minimum of 80% for Mathematical Literacy. For those students who have Mathematics at level 3 (40-49%) or Mathematical Literacy at levels 4-6 (50- 79%), an intermediate level (38 or above) in the NBT QL-AQL assessment is required. Students who have Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy at levels lower than the above would not be considered; OR

• A National Certificate (Vocational) (NC(V)) with Degree admission – A minimum of 60 % in English on either First Additional Language or Home Language level AND Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy AND Life Orientation, with a minimum of 70% in the four vocational subjects is required; OR

• A Senior Certificate (SC) (with endorsement/complete/conditional exemption) or equivalent with a minimum of 40% for Mathematics HG; OR at least 50% for Mathematics SG. For those not meeting the requirements as set out above, a minimum of an intermediate (38 or above) level in the NBT QL- AQL assessment is required; OR

• Alternatively, a Higher Certificate, an Advanced Certificate or 240 or 360 credit Diploma in a cognate field may satisfy the minimum admission requirements to degree studies.

If you are an international student, you must ensure that:

• you have an equivalent qualification to the aforementioned which has been evaluated by Universities South Africa;

• you have a valid study visa issued in the name of The IIE that covers the duration of your studies.

Other considerations

Mature Age Exemption:

• Candidates having attained the age of 23 before or during the first year of registration with a senior certificate or equivalent with a minimum of 40% in at least four higher or standard grade subjects, at least three of which shall have been passed simultaneously and one of which shall be a recognised higher grade subject; OR

• Candidates must have attained the age of 45 before or during the first year of registration.

Recognition of prior learning (RPL)
Candidates can demonstrate suitability for admission in terms of Senate’s resolution 6.6 of 20 October 2005 which allows for Senate’s discretionary conditional admission (if applicable).

Please note, requirements for entry to this qualification are correct at the time of printing, however, these may change. At the time of registration, please check that the entry requirements have not changed.

What must I pass in order to graduate with this Bachelor’s degree?
In order to be awarded this qualification, you must have achieved a minimum final year mark of fifty percent (50%) for each module of the programme; and have met all the Work Integrated Learning requirements, where applicable.
With what qualification will I graduate?
You will graduate with The IIE Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Application Development degree.

Career opportunities: what career areas can I pursue once I have completed this Bachelor’s degree?
This degree will open up an attractive range of career options; this degree is a perfect stepping stone to a diverse and exciting range of career opportunities.

- Application Developer for non-mobile platforms
- Mobile Application Developer for platforms
- Cloud Computing Developer
- Cloud Computing Consultant
- Cloud Integrator
- Dynamic Web Developer
- Database Developer
- Data Analyst
- Software Developer
- Software Development Project Manager
- Software Development Program Manager
- Software Engineer

Would it be possible to study further to obtain a postgraduate qualification once I have completed The IIE Bachelor of Computer and Information Sciences in Application Development degree?
The IIE’s BCAD degree is accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and is registered with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) at level 7 - the same level as other equivalent undergraduate degrees at South African universities. The opportunity to apply for a postgraduate certificate/diploma or honours degree at any South African university exists subject to meeting specific programme entrance requirements.

How do I find out more about these further study opportunities?
As a registered student at Varsity College, we will support you to explore the possible postgraduate options that align to your chosen career area. Each year we also provide our students with a postgraduate information pack. It is important to remember that your academic results remain a key factor when applying for further studies.

How is this Bachelor’s degree structured at Varsity College?
The IIE BCAD degree is a three-year degree. The academic year runs from February to November. The modules are delivered on a full-time basis with lectures and tutorials being scheduled during the day from Monday to Friday.

In addition to attending lectures, you will be expected to spend time conducting your own study plan as well as research and work on assignments. Learning material is of the highest quality and offers students a blended learning experience where the face-to-face teaching sessions are supplemented with specific online learning activities, digital content/study material, relevant current textbooks and assessments.

To gain the most from the blended learning experience and VC’s Wireless classrooms and campuses, students are required to BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology) mobile device – netbook, laptop or tablet – to develop the necessary academic and digital literacies over the three years of this degree.
The curriculum below is correct at the time of print. Please note that in line with academic practice, The IIE’s curriculum is annually reviewed thus changes may occur in module structure and sequence in order to ensure that the qualification remains relevant. The exit level outcomes of the programme do not change. Registered students receive updated programme curriculum on an annual basis.

Documents detailing specific module outcomes are available from the campus should you require these details.

What will I study in this Bachelor Degree?

CURRICULUM – FOR STUDENTS STARTING IN 2018

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What about timetables?

Our full-time programmes are aimed at students wishing to dedicate themselves to full-time face-to-face studies for the duration of their qualification. This means that students are expected to be available for classes during the morning and/or afternoon throughout the academic year depending on how the timetable is structured. Unfortunately, students are not necessarily able to select a morning or afternoon format to suit their personal circumstances.

We absolutely encourage students to take up part-time employment outside of class time, weekends and in the evenings, but full-time students must prioritise their studies and avoid committing to work schedules until after they have received their timetables and academic calendar from the institution. Students must understand that timetables remain subject to change throughout the year.

While we strive to offer time efficient timetables (where classes are grouped together into the morning or the afternoon), we cannot guarantee that either format will necessarily be available for all programmes every semester. Where students are repeating modules, these modules may be offered in the evenings or weekends. Students are required to attend classes or, should the module be offered online or via distance, workshops may be provided. Students may also be required to write assessments or submit coursework or assignments outside of normal class-time.
Call your nearest Varsity College campus to discuss your career options with one of our Student Advisors.

BCAD 2018 V2 22 AUGUST 2017

Disclaimer: This factsheet is valid for the 2018 intake of students only. All programme information is correct at the time of printing and is subject to change.

The IIE - accredited by The British Accreditation Council
The IIE is internationally recognised and accredited by The British Accreditation Council (BAC). The BAC has been responsible for setting standards within the independent further and higher education sector for 25 years. Their accreditation is held by hundreds of colleges in the UK and overseas. They provide the leading mark of educational quality for the sector, which is used by students, parents, agencies and beyond as a guarantee of standards.
For more information please visit http://www.the-bac.org/