If you’re a creative thinker and enjoy problem solving then this cutting-edge Diploma is for you, and will place you on the fast track to the mind-blowing world of Information Technology. Modules which include programming, web development, systems analysis and database design will ensure that you are equipped with versatile skills and knowledge to take your steps into an environment of programme and solution development, thereby creating a wealth of opportunities for yourself. The Diploma in Information Technology in Software Development provides a combination of fundamental business-related skills and IT programming-specific competencies, equipping the learner with the baseline knowledge to function effectively in the IT programming environment.

Who is this Diploma aimed at?

Individuals who are suited to the software development industry should fit the following profile in terms of personality traits, interests and abilities: interested in computer programming and development of solutions, have a strength in problem-solving, be a clear and logical thinker, have a technical and mathematical inclination, an ability to concentrate, be methodical and persistent, and an ability to put information into a logical sequence. If you have these analytical skills then this qualification will speak to you. This Diploma provides a combination of sound academic knowledge and practical skills required to be able to enter the dynamic world of software development. The qualification offers the student a comprehensive understanding of systems and programming focusing on extensive application of skills and knowledge in computerised and programming environments. Ingenuity and creativity are particularly important as well as the ability to work with abstract concepts and technical analysis.
What is this Diploma’s accreditation status?

The IIE Diploma in Information Technology in Software Development 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) as a 368-credit qualification on level 6 (SAQA ID: 74651).

What entry requirements will I need to study this Diploma?

- A National Senior Certificate (NSC) with Diploma admission- A minimum of 30 % for English coupled with a minimum of 40% for four x 20 credit subjects is required; OR
- A National Certificate (Vocational) NC(V) with Diploma admission – A minimum of 50 % in English on either First Additional Language or Home Language level AND Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy AND Life Orientation – a minimum of 60% in the three compulsory vocational subjects is required; OR
- A Senior Certificate (SC) (without endorsement) or equivalent – A minimum of five subjects must be passed; OR
- Alternatively, a Higher Certificate (or equivalent) or Advanced Certificate in a cognate field may satisfy the minimum admission requirements to diploma studies.

If you are an international student, you must ensure that:
- you have an equivalent qualification to the aforementioned;
- your equivalent qualification is evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA);
- you have a valid study visa issued in the name of The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE) that covers the duration of your studies.

Other considerations
Mature Age Exemption:
- Candidates must have attempted the Senior Certificate, attained the age of 23 before or during the first year of registration with three years’ work experience and proven ability relating to the proposed programme as well as adequate communication skills; 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.
How is this Diploma structured at Varsity College?

The IIE Diploma in Information Technology in Software Development is run over three years, consists of 28 modules and includes Work Integrated Learning and the Work Readiness Programme. The academic year runs from February to November. The modules are delivered on a full-time basis with lectures Monday to Friday. In addition to attending lectures you will be expected to spend time conducting your own research and working on assignments.

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 duration of this qualification.

What must I pass in order to graduate with this Diploma?

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.

What qualification will I obtain?

When you graduate, you will receive a Diploma in Information Technology in Software Development conferred by The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE).

Career opportunities: what careers areas can I pursue after I have completed this Diploma?

- Software Development
- Mobile App Developer
- Computer System Analysis
- Mobile application development
- Database Information System Support
- Database Administration
- Web Development
- Project Management

Websites for you to visit:
www.softwareengineer.org.za
www.comptia.co.za
http://www.itweb.co.za/
www.itbusinessedge.com
What will I study in this Diploma?

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.
Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

You will be provided with an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding in a simulated environment.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) 2

You will be provided with an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding in a simulated environment. This Work Integrated Learning component aims to increase your knowledge and develop your skills using the action and reflection processes of work integrated learning. You will be required to complete a simulation based project based on concepts learned in core subjects. Students will be expected to present the planning, the analysis, the design and the implementation of the project. The project will include the consideration of your client’s needs and their goals and objectives. You will be compelled to adopt analytical and creative thinking and logical problem-solving skills. The culmination of the project requires you to submit a portfolio of evidence. You must complete the Work Integrated Learning component to achieve the graduate requirements of this programme.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) 3

You will be provided with an opportunity to demonstrate your understanding in a real-life work environment. You will be required to complete project management processes and procedures and to offer your services to a Non-Profit organisation. You will be expected to present the planning, the analysis, the design and the implementation of the project. The project will include the consideration of your client’s needs and their goals and objectives. You will need to adopt analytical and creative thinking and logical problem-solving skills. On conclusion of the project you will be required to submit a portfolio of evidence. You must complete the Work Integrated Learning component to achieve the graduate requirements of this programme.

Work Readiness Programme (WRP)

In order to qualify for Work-Integrated Learning in the 2nd year and 3rd year, you will be required to successfully complete the IIE Work Readiness Programme (WRP). The IIE Work Readiness Programme (WRP) has been designed to prepare you for the job market and consists of six modules that will be completed during your 1st year. You must complete the Work Readiness Programme and both the Work-Integrated Learning components to achieve the graduate requirements of this programme.
Call your nearest Varsity College campus to discuss your career options with one of our Student Advisors.

DISD 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 Independent Institute of Education - 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/