



Distance Qualification

BACHELOR OF ARTS

The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE)

(Distance)

The IIE Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree (distance) is a broad-based Arts degree that focuses on 'the art of learning and critical thinking'. The IIE BA degree provides students with a choice of two of the following three core disciplines namely: English, Psychology and Communication Science. On registration, at the end of the first year, students studying this BA degree will need to select two of the core disciplines which will become the focus of their second and third years of study. The subject combinations on offer are:

- English and Communication Science, or
- English and Psychology, or
- Communication Science and Psychology.

The IIE Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree will qualify its graduates to work in a variety of sectors and organisations. Graduates will be equipped with advanced writing and verbal skills, conceptual and critical thinking skills, as well as general communication skills valued by all employers and needed in all organisations. Students who select Psychology as a subject area will also qualify to articulate into an Honours Degree in Psychology if they meet the entry requirements of such programmes.

What is this Degree's accreditation status?

The IIE Bachelor of Arts degree 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 minimum 360-credit qualification on level 7 (SAQA ID: 94119).

Who is this Degree aimed at?

Distance study is ideal for working adults who prefer not to attend full-time lectures, but still want to pursue a higher education qualification in the above-mentioned disciplines.

What are the benefits of an IIE distance qualification?

The IIE's distance delivery mode provides the student with the opportunity to study in the comfort of their home and to plan their study workload according to their individual pace. The support offered online and through other means ensures that the student is not left feeling alone in this process and can still enjoy high quality support throughout their learning journey.

The IIE's distance delivery has been designed with distance students' needs in mind, and includes the following:

- A structured online learning environment that will take you through the learning process making use of the best of instructional design thinking that will enable you to understand and apply your knowledge as you progress through your studies. The online design will ensure that you do not get lost.
- A learner guide designed to lead you through the textbook. It includes questions and answers for practice and revision.
- As a distance student you will receive all your support online from a dedicated team of IIE VC Online tutors who are subject experts and maintain the human experience of the learning process in each module with you.
- A Programme Success Tutor who supports your learning journey across all your modules.

How will The IIE's Varsity College support your online learning as a distance student, and how will it help prepare you for the 21st century working world?

Our teaching and learning approach is based on active learning which enables us to focus on the skills you need to succeed in the New World. This way, the student is at the centre of learning. Academic life, we believe, should be as relevant and participative as possible – a dynamic, two-way exchange. This enables students to:

- Engage with subject material
- Build understanding
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills for the 21st Century workforce.

This collaborative approach teaches you how to think, and to ask questions; the right questions. We call it New World Thinking.

NOTE:

While you can generally structure your study time as you need to, there are scheduled online sessions through which you can receive mediated support. There are also assignment and examination deadlines that must be adhered to; thus requiring that you manage your time effectively.

A reliable internet connection, own device with (at least) Windows 8 and Google Chrome, are all essential for any student enrolling for this programme

What entry requirements will I need to study this Degree?

To be registered as a candidate you must have satisfied the admission requirements as set out below:

Minimum Admission Requirements		English	Notes
	NSC: Bachelor pass with	60%	
	NC (V): Bachelor pass with	60%	
	SC: Endorsement with	60%	
	SC(a): Bachelor pass with	60%	
	International: An USAf Exemption Certificate with 60% or equivalent for English.		Refer to the International Admission Spreadsheets
	A cognate Higher Certificate OR cognate 240 credit Diploma OR an Advanced Certificate OR 360 credit Diploma may satisfy the minimum admission requirements to degree studies.		If discipline not cognate at least 20% of credits must be academic literacy or numeracy related.
Alternate Admission (Should the English requirement not be met at NSC Grade 12 , then entrance may be granted if the English requirement is met based on the Grade 11 final mark)			
	English	NSC 50-59%	Notes If 60% min in final Grade 11 results was achieved.
Senate Discretionary Admissions			
Mature Age Exemption	Candidates having attained the age of 23 before or during the first year of registration with a Senior Certificate 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. An USAf Exemption Certificate is required.		
Senate Discretionary Mature Age Admission for students with a Senior Certificate with endorsement	Candidates 23 years and older at point of registration, with an endorsed Senior Certificate can be accepted on a senate discretionary mature age admission if they do not meet the additional admission requirements. Their academic progress will be tracked and reported at Senate. An USAf Exemption Certificate is not required.		
Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	Where candidates do not satisfy the formal admission requirements for this qualification, The IIE may consider an admission application in terms of the Credit Accumulation and Transfer, Recognition of Prior Learning and Qualification Completion Policy (IIE010).		
USAf approved cognate foundation programme	Candidates who have completed an USAf approved cognate foundation programme from a registered and accredited provider may be admitted. The additional English criteria falls away. An USAf Exemption Certificate is required - the Office of the Registrar will facilitate, on behalf of the student, an application for degree admission to USAf, once the student has provided proof of payment to USAf.		
Transfer students	Candidates who have successfully completed at least 120 credits on the first year of a cognate degree may be admitted. However, if a student completed less than 120 credits, the admission criteria on the NSC or equivalent apply.		

OQSF qualifications	Candidates with an OQSF Level 5 cognate qualification may be admitted, provided the OQSF qualification has at least 120 credits at NQF Level 5. An USAf Exemption Certificate is required - the Office of the Registrar will facilitate, on behalf of the student, an application for degree admission to USAf, once the student has provided proof of payment to USAf.
General Education Development (GED) - An USA qualification developed by the American Council on Education (ACE)	Candidates with a GED qualification may be admitted if they have an USAf Foreign Conditional Exemption Certificate as well as NBT: AQL results and have obtained a score of at least 51 for Academic Literacy (AL) and a score of at least 40 for Quantitative Literacy (QL).

How is this Degree structured?

Informed by the principle of flexibility, a selection of modules will be offered each semester to accommodate a study journey to suit the personal needs of the student within the qualification progression rules.

The curriculum below is correct at the time of print. Please note that in line with academic practice, The IIE's curriculum is reviewed annually 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 an updated programme curriculum on an annual basis.

The IIE Bachelor of Arts degree consists of 24 modules in total and students have a maximum of 7 years to complete all the modules. A minimum registration of **two modules per semester** and a **recommended** maximum of four modules per semester is encouraged (provided pre-requisite rules are met as a student progresses).

What will I study in this Degree?

CURRICULUM FOR STUDENTS STARTING IN 2021

YEAR ONE	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCE CORE DISCIPLINE	ENGLISH AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE	COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE
ENGL5121w English 1A: Introduction to English Studies	5	15	1	Y	Y	Y
COSC5121w Communication Science 1A: Interpersonal Communication	5	15	1	Y	Y	Y
PSYC5121w Psychology 1A: Introduction to Psychology	5	15	1	Y	Y	Y
ENGL6122w English 1B: Introduction to English Studies	5	15	2	Y	Y	Y
COSC5132w Communication Science 1B: Intercultural Communication	5	15	2	Y	Y	Y
PSYC5122w Psychology 1B : Introduction to Psychology	5	15	2	Y	Y	Y

The following co-requisites apply:

COSC5121w is a co-requisite for COSC5132w

ENGL5121w is a co-requisite for ENGL6122w

PSYC5121w is a co-requisite for PSYC5122w

YEAR TWO	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCE CORE DISCIPLINE	ENGLISH AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE	COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE
ENGL6221w English 2A: South African Literature	6	15	1	Y	Y	
COSC6231w Communication Science 2A: Organisational Communication	6	15	1	Y		Y
PSYC6221w Psychology 2A: Social Psychology	6	15	1		Y	Y
SOCI5121w Sociology 1A	5	15	1	Y	Y	Y
ENGL6222w English 2B: Postcolonialism	6	15	2	Y	Y	
COSC6222w Communication Science 2B: Persuasive Communication	6	15	2	Y		Y
PSYC6222w Psychology 2B: Developmental Psychology	6	15			Y	Y
SOCI5122w Sociology 1B	5	15	2	Y	Y	Y

The following co-requisites apply:

COSC5132w is a co-requisite for COSC6231w

COSC6231w is a co-requisite for COSC6222w

ENGL6122w is a co-requisite for ENGL6221w

ENGL6221w is a co-requisite for ENGL6222w

PSYC5122w is a co-requisite for PSYC6221w

PSYC6221w is a co-requisite for PSYC6222w

PSYC6221w is a co-requisite for PSYC6224w

YEAR THREE	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCE CORE DISCIPLINE	ENGLISH AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE	COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE
ENGL7321w English 3A: Modernism	7	15	1	Y	Y	
COSC7321w Communication Science 3A: Global Communication	7	15	1			Y
JRNS6221w Journalism 1	6	15	1	Y	Y	Y
MELE6221w Media Law and Ethics	6	15	1	Y	Y	Y
ENGL7322w English 3B: Postmodernism	7	15	2	Y	Y	
COSC7322w Communication Science 3B: Mass Communication	7	15	2			Y
MEST6222w Media Studies 1	6	15	2	Y	Y	Y
NCTE6222w New Communication Technology	6	15	2	Y		
PSYC6224w Psychology 2C: Personality Psychology	6	15	2		Y	Y

The following co-requisites apply:

COSC6222w is a co-requisite for COSC7321w

COSC7321w is a co-requisite for COSC7322w

ENGL6222w is a co-requisite for ENGL7321w

ENGL7321w is a co-requisite for ENGL7322w

INRS7321w is a co-requisite for REPR7312w

JRNS6221w is a co-requisite for JRNS7321w

MEST6222w is a co-requisite for MEST7322w

PSYC6222w is a co-requisite for PSYC7313w

PSYC6222w is a co-requisite for PSYC7321w

PSYC7321w is a co-requisite for PSYC7322w

YEAR FOUR	NQF LEVEL	CREDIT VALUE	SEMESTER	ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SCIENCE CORE DISCIPLINE	ENGLISH AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE	COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY CORE DISCIPLINE
COSC7321w Communication Science 3A: Global Communication	7	15	1	Y		
JRNS7321w Journalism 2	7	15	1	Y		
PSYC7321w Psychology 3A: Cognitive Psychology	7	15	1		Y	Y
PSYC7313w Psychology 3C: Community Psychology	7	15	1		Y	Y
INRS7321w Introduction to Research	7	15	1	Y	Y	Y
COSC7322w Communication Science 3B: Mass Communication	7	15	2	Y		
MEST7322w Media Studies 2	7	15	2	Y		
PSYC7322w Psychology 3B: Abnormal Psychology	7	15	2		Y	Y
PSYC7324w Psychology 3D: Research Psychology	7	15	2		Y	Y
REPR7312w Research Practice	7	15	2	Y	Y	Y

NOTE: Students have a MAXIMUM of 7 years in which to complete this qualification

- Curriculum and content are subject to change.
- Students will be required to register per academic year.
- Fees stated are per academic year and not for the full qualification.
- Students who are unsuccessful in a module(s) will need to reregister.

Should you complete your registration beyond the academic commencement of the semester, registration into individual modules cannot be guaranteed. Registration will be dependent on the availability of space within the relevant module group.

Where do I write my exams?

The IIE's Varsity College Exam Centres

Eight IIE Varsity College Campus exam centres are available within South Africa for selection as the exam centre at which you would write exams. You will receive operational support from the Online Centre.

Alternative Venues

An alternative examination centre is only permissible for international students and those located in a province of South Africa where there is no IIE campus. It is your responsibility to identify an examination centre (educational or religious site or embassy or consulate) if you have not already done so. Once you have secured your examination venue, we require a letter confirming availability from the examination centre you have chosen. If a change of examination venue is required – it is again the student's responsibility to locate a new venue and provide the confirmation letter together with the supporting documentation which details the reason for the examination venue change.

Students registered in the distance mode must select an Examination Centre at which to undertake the sit-down summative assessments per module, These are usually scheduled at the close of each semester. A student based in South Africa may select any campus of The IIE’s Varsity College, Rosebank College, Vega, or IIE MSA as their Examination Centre. If there is no IIE campus within reach of the student, an alternative venue will need to be sourced by the student. For these non-IIE venues, there is an alternative venue levy per module.

Please note, once the examination venue is selected and confirmed, it cannot be changed within eight weeks prior to the summative examination.

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.

With what qualification will I graduate?

You will graduate with The IIE Bachelor of Arts degree.

Career opportunities: what career areas can I pursue once I have completed The IIE Bachelor’s degree?

This degree will open up an attractive range of career options; this degree is an ideal stepping stone to a diverse and exciting range of career opportunities that include:

English and Communication Science Core Discipline

• Authoring/Writing	• Proof reading
• Script writing	• Social media communication
• Scribing	• Journalism
• Media relationship management	• Communication accounts administration
• Media consulting	• Communication consulting
• News analysis	• Research communication management
• Teaching (will require postgraduate study)	

English and Psychology Core Discipline:

• Authoring/Writing	• Proof reading
• Script writing	• Psychologist (will require extensive postgraduate study)
• Editing	• Teaching (will require postgraduate study)
• Scribing	• Counselling (will require postgraduate study)

Communication Science and Psychology Core Discipline:

• Communication accounts administration	• Media consulting
• Media relationship management	• Psychologist (will require extensive postgraduate study)
• Research communication management	• Teaching (will require postgraduate study)
• Social media communication	• Counselling (will require postgraduate study)
• Communication consulting	

Would it be possible to study further to obtain a postgraduate qualification once I have completed The IIE Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree?

The IIE Bachelor of Arts degree 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) 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 The IIE, any South African university or higher education institution exists subject to meeting specific programme entrance requirements.

It is important to remember that your academic results remain a key factor when applying for further studies

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Disclaimer: Please note that this fact sheet is accurate at the time of publication. The Independent Institute of Education (The IIE) reserves the right to alter any of the content prior to commencement of registration due to changes in regulation, policy, market requirements or any other valid reason.



British Accreditation Council

The IIE is not only accredited in South Africa but its dedication to providing quality education also led to it being accredited by the British Accreditation Council (BAC) in 2014. The British Accreditation Council is an independent authority in the United Kingdom that accredits private providers globally, including Greece, Switzerland, Singapore, India, Mauritius and the United Arab Emirates. In 2017 The IIE had its accreditation status confirmed by the BAC as an Independent Higher Education Institution confirming our confidence in the international comparability of our standards.

“South African students need to know, when they select a private higher education institution, that the standards offered are equivalent to those of a public University. Our students get this from our extensive local accreditation and registration. The students also benefit from knowing that we meet international standards too. The IIE is accredited as an Independent Higher Education Institution by the British Accreditation Council. Locally and internationally we have demonstrated the quality of what we offer,” said Dr Coughlan, Director, The Independent Institute of Education.

The IIE’s Varsity College students can be confident that their IIE learning experience meets international best practice standards.