



## IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education

Faculty of  
Education

The Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education is accredited by the Council on Higher Education and is registered with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) as a minimum 120 credit qualification on level 8 (SAQA ID No:90646). This challenging yet stimulating qualification will equip teachers and lecturers who wish to further their studies with a deep understanding of the teaching and learning process in the context of higher education. The programme is aimed at subject matter experts who require deeper insight into education theory or its application and will strengthen the ability of lecturers to promote student learning in their own disciplines.

The curriculum of this programme includes a focus on higher education in the contemporary social and political context; education leadership and policy; contemporary learning theories and approaches; transformational curriculum theory and design; education research; and assessment practice. These curricular elements are all focused on students' personal disciplines in the context of South African higher education and as such, assessment activities on this programme centre on the application of these topics to real or scenario-based learning environments. Students will develop their own teaching identity through an exploration of the values and beliefs around higher education, and through an interrogation of their own development in ethical and reflective educational practice.

As an IIE distance student you will receive all your support online from a dedicated team of The IIE's Varsity College Online lecturers.

**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA**

**DISTANCE**



## What entry requirements will I need to study this postgraduate degree?

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

This qualification is set at NQF level 8 and candidates must hold an undergraduate degree (or NQF7 equivalent) to be granted admission.

It is also highly recommended that, given the postgraduate nature of this programme and the emphasis on written assessment, students are proficient in both English academic writing and referencing.

### Admission Requirements

An appropriate HEQSF Level 7 Bachelor's degree;

**OR**

An appropriate Advanced Diploma;

**OR**

An equivalent NQF Level 7 qualification

### Notes

Applicants need to have teaching experience or hold a position in which they have responsibility for the development of teaching and learning in an education sector. A comprehensive CV indicating work experience would need to be provided to determine this.

### International

A SAQA Evaluation Certificate with NQF L7 equivalence in an appropriate field.

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.

### Curriculum

Year 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
APPE8411	Approaches to Education	8	15	CURS8412	Curriculum Studies	8	15
TLHE8411	Teaching and Learning in the Contemporary HE Context A	8	20	TLHE8412	Teaching and Learning in the Contemporary HE Context B	8	20
Year 2							
Semester 3				Semester 4			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits	Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
EDML8429	Educational Management and Leadership	8	20				
HETP8419	Higher Education Teaching Project (Year Long)					8	30

### Articulation Options

The successful completion of the IIE Bachelor of Education in Foundation Phase Teaching & IIE Bachelor of Education in Intermediate Phase Teaching enables you to progress into the IIE Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education, subject to meeting the admission requirements.



## What are the benefits of an IIE Distance (Online) Qualification?

The IIE's distance (online) delivery mode provides you with the agility of studying towards a tertiary qualification asynchronously, at different times from different locations. Distance students need to commit to approximately 20-25 hours a week for distance engagement (most of which is after hours) with material and assessments to succeed.

Here are some of the benefits you can expect:

- A sequenced online learning environment that allows you the ability to manage your learning experiences flexibly and autonomously.
- A learner guide designed to lead you through the module material and learning outcomes, empowering you to effectively pace your learning in preparation for assessments.
- Our Learning Management System is designed to break up your learning units into manageable sections which include various activities to support learning.
- Module expert online lecturers that facilitate module teaching and learning support through various technology enhanced mediums.
- Online Success Navigators provide administrative and operational guidance and support throughout your academic journey.
- A professionally registered Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor available for short-term, primary counselling services. Additionally, the Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor hosts various webinars and virtual talks on topics that promote a balanced lifestyle as you pursue your academic goals.

### Device Specifications:

- The appropriate technology equipment and tools are essential to succeed in distance (online) study.
- A reliable internet connection (we recommend 5-10 GB of data per month), your own device with at least Windows 8 or macOS 10.15 (Microsoft Office 365 is available as a free download for IIE students), and Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge Chromium or Firefox.  
An uninterrupted power supply is also highly recommended.

## Examination centre options for assessments written on campus:

We are planning to potentially enable you to write some of your exams online, which will be invigilated.

- Your device needs to fulfil the minimum requirements as above with internet connectivity, a working webcam and audio recording ability, with battery life sufficient for the exam duration in case of power outage once the exam has started.
- Whilst Android devices and tablets can be used for your studies, they cannot be used for online exams.
- You are responsible for making contingency plans in case of planned power outages.
- You need to be alone in a quiet environment for writing your exams online.
- Selected final semester exams as indicated on your Programme Assessment Schedule (PAS) may be written online, at an IIE campus, or at an approved exam centre where appropriate.

## Where assessments cannot be written online or students do not have access to an appropriate device:

- For students based in South Africa, online students may select any campus of The IIE's Varsity College, Rosebank College, Vega, or IIE MSA as their Examination Centre.
- An alternative examination centre is only permissible for students studying abroad and those located in a province of South Africa where there is no IIE campus. If there is no IIE campus within reach, an alternative venue will need to be sourced by you. For non-IIE venues, there is an alternative venue levy per module



## How will the IIE'S Varsity College support your online learning as a distance (online) student, and how will it help prepare you for the working world?

Our distance teaching and learning approach is designed to allow you the freedom to self-govern your learning experiences according to your individual needs. You are at the centre of your own learning journey, and by offering curated engagement opportunities, we partner with you to:

- Engage with subject material
- Build understanding
- Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- Manage your work, life and studies
- Succeed in your personal, professional and academic goals

THE IIE IS ACCREDITED AS AN INDEPENDENT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION BY THE BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

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. May 2024\_v1