Education
@ Unisa
A complete guide to preparing yourself for career opportunities

Define tomorrow.
## Contents

- How will this information help me? 1
- What is education? 1
- What do educators do? 2
- Where do educators work 3
- Skills and qualities needed as a teacher 3
- Education qualifications at Unisa 4
  - What if you already have a completed qualification (e.g. a Bachelor’s degree, National Diploma)? 5
  - What if you do not meet the admission requirements for the BEd degree? 6
  - Short Learning Programmes in Education 7
- Which qualification should you choose? 9
  - 1 What age group are you interested in teaching? 9
  - 2 Should you complete a dedicated teaching degree (the BEd) or a general Bachelor’s degree (for example, the BA, BCom or BSc and then a teaching qualification)? 11
  - 3 What school subjects should you select? 11
  - What is the practical and how to do it? 14
- Professional registration 15
  - South African Council for Educators (SACE) 15
- Further training for teachers 16
  - Error! Bookmark not defined.
- Frequently-asked questions 16
  - How do I become a teacher? 16
  - How long does it take to become a teacher? 16
How do I choose which age group to teach?  
I want to study teaching but I am worried about how I will pay for my studies  
Where do I start if I have already completed another qualification (e.g. a National diploma or BTech)?  
What if I don’t qualify for a BEd or other Bachelor’s degree?  
What should I study if I am interested in special needs/ inclusive education?  
Does Unisa offer a diploma in education?  
I noticed that Unisa offers short learning programmes in education – is there a short course to be a teacher?  
I applied for the PGCE and was informed that I do not meet the school subject and/or language requirements. What now?  
How do I choose subjects for the BEd degree?  
Which school subjects should I choose?  
I want to know which modules are still outstanding for my degree. Who should I speak to?  
I completed a trade-related qualification (e.g. hairdressing or diesel mechanic and I now want to teach in this field. Where do I start?  
I want to become an educational psychologist. Where do I start?  
What should I study to be a lecturer at a university or university of technology?  
What options do I have if I completed a 3 year teaching diploma and I now want to upgrade my qualification?  
I am currently a history and life orientation teacher and I now want to teach mathematics  
I started with a Higher Diploma in Education 10 years ago but did not complete. Where must I start to upgrade my qualification?  
I am a school teacher but I don’t want to work in a school any more. What other options do I have?  
Can I teach in another country with my South African teaching qualification?  

Counselling and career development services at Unisa  
References
Studying through a large Open Distance Learning (ODL) institution such as Unisa can often be a daunting experience. There are all kinds of uncertainties regarding university procedures and study arrangements that cause for confusion and uncertainty. The aim of this brochure is to help you manage these uncertainties. You may have a lot of questions regarding which qualification to choose, making module choices, and the implications of practical components. Taking time to work through this brochure should help you feel more at ease, more knowledgeable about their studies and better able to manage your career in education.

How will this information help me?

- It will provide you with some insight into what studying education involves.
- It will help you gain more information about the skills needed in being a teacher.
- It will help you point out possible career fields in education.
- It will assist you in finding Education qualifications offered by Unisa.

What is education?

Education studies revolve around individuals’ learning and development throughout their lives. It supports the investigation of a variety of perspectives around the nature of knowledge, knowledge acquisition and comprehension as well as the processes and
approaches within education systems. It also examines the contribution of societal,
cultural, political and historical contexts in our understanding and practice of education.

Even though the largest chunk of South Africa’s annual budget goes to education, it is
for many students still a constant struggle to receive quality schooling due to historical
injustice, socio-economic circumstances of learners, and a lack of necessary
infrastructure and resources.

Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) have had a big impact on
education in recent years. Schools are aware of the importance of producing
technologically able high-school and university graduates that can enter the techno-
reliant workplace with ease. E-learning is becoming the status quo and it is happening
at a pace that is trying to keep up with fast technological development. However, in a
developing country such as South Africa, this is hardly a straightforward task. Educators
play a central role in terms of supporting learners to develop the necessary skills. It is
essential that educators take on the responsibility of rearing skilled, knowledgeable and
able school-leavers that can contribute to society in a meaningful way.

What do educators do?

Educators are employed at schools, training organisations and in business. Primary and
secondary education focuses on teaching in a formal school environment. Adult
education includes adult basic education and training (ABET) and skills training in
corporate environments. In addition to physical teaching and training activities, there are
a number of other opportunities in this field such as e-learning, curriculum and materials
development as well as quality assurance and evaluation activities.
Where do educators work

Possible job titles include:

- Early childhood development and foundation phase teacher (preschool to grade 3)
- Intermediate and senior phase teacher (grade 4-6)
- Senior and further education and training phase teacher (grade 7-12)
- Inclusive Educator
- Principal
- Training facilitator
- ABET facilitator
- Skills development practitioner
- Education, training and development practitioner (ETDP)
- Curriculum specialist
- E-learning facilitator/developer
- Evaluation practitioner
- Lecturer
- School guidance counsellor

Skills and qualities needed as a teacher

According to the Department of Basic Education (2016)

*Teaching is a noble profession that requires passion, commitment, tolerance, perseverance, character and the dedication to make a difference in the lives of a diverse group of young and older children, depending on your choice of phase specialisation. This profession will afford you the opportunity to nurture and mould*
young and growing minds and to develop a variety of vital lifelong skills in children. Contributing to the academic and social development of children is a fulfilling experience that you should embrace (p. 1)

As with any profession there are certain skills and qualities that one would need to succeed in this career, and teaching is no different. Some skills and qualities needed to be an effective educator include:

- Good communication skills
- Interpersonal skills
- Organisational skills
- Group work skills – teamwork
- Conflict resolution skills
- Problem-solving skills
- Motivational skills
- Mentoring/Leadership skills
- Time management skills
- Provide constructive criticism when giving feedback
- Confidence
- Warm and Empathetic
- Patience
- Adaptability
- Imagination – when drawing up lesson plans
- Constant learning – lifelong learning

Education qualifications at Unisa

Unisa offers a number of education-related qualifications. If you want to qualify as a teacher, there are different ways to go about it. One option is to complete a Bachelor of Education degree. The minimum duration for the BEd degree is four years. Another
option is to complete a Bachelor's degree (for example BA, BCom or BSc) first and then to complete a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE). The minimum duration for the PGCE is one year. The BEd degree is available in one of the following specialisation areas: Early Childhood Development and Foundation Phase (Birth-Grade 3), Intermediate & Senior Phase (Grades 4-9) and Senior and Further Education and Training Phase (Grades 7-12). The PGCE is available for the Foundation Phase, Intermediate and Senior Phase and Senior Phase & FET. A summary of the training options to become a teacher:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 1: Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree</th>
<th>Option 2: Bachelor's degree and Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum duration: 4 years</td>
<td>Minimum duration: 3 years plus 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEd (Early Childhood Development: Foundation Phase) OR</td>
<td>Complete a 3 year Bachelor degree (including relevant school subjects)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEd (Intermediate and Senior Phase) (Grades 4-9) OR</td>
<td>Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Foundation Phase or Intermediate and Senior Phase or Senior Phase and FET)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEd (Senior Phase and Further Education and Training Phases) (Grades 8-12)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What if you already have a completed qualification (e.g. a Bachelor's degree, National Diploma)?

When you apply for admission you can apply for admission to three qualifications. You can indicate the Postgraduate Certificate in Education as one option. Also apply for the BEd degree should you not be admitted to the PGCE. During the application process, your previous qualifications are assessed in terms of meeting the minimum requirements for the PGCE, as well as whether you meet the school subject
requirements. It may be that you can be made an offer to complete outstanding requirements for non-degree purposes (e.g. if you do not meet the Language requirement for the PGCE in Foundation Phase). Should you need to start with the BEd degree, you can apply to be exempted from modules based on your previous studies. You will do this once you have received and accepted an offer to study for the BEd).


What if you do not meet the admission requirements for the BEd degree?

You can check whether you meet the admission requirements for the Higher Certificate in Adult Basic Education and Training (http://bit.ly/2944Tob). Completion of this Higher Certificate will enable you to meet the minimum and College-specific requirements for the BEd degree. If you are following the route of completing a Bachelor’s degree and then the PGCE, then you should check the admission requirements for the Higher Certificate related to your intended Bachelor’s degree. For example, if you are starting with a Bachelor of Commerce, you need to check the Higher Certificate qualifications offered by the College of Economic and Management Sciences. Check the Unisa website at http://bit.ly/14XhkWZ for a list of all qualifications.
Short Learning Programmes in Education

Unisa offers a number of short learning programmes related to education. The programmes offered by the Centre for Continuing Education and Training provide specific, practically-oriented training. The duration of these certificates varies from 6 to 24 months and cover a wide range of subjects.

The following programmes are available:

**Education, training and development practices**

- [Short course in the design of integrated assessment for learning programmes](#)
- [Short course for Planning and conducting assessment of learning outcomes](#)
- [Short course in mentoring, guidance and support for teachers and trainers](#)
- [Programme in training practices for educators and trainers](#)

**Environmental education**

- [Course for environmental educators](#)

**In-service teacher education - general**

- [Course for facilitators of persons with hearing loss](#)
- [Short course in the functionality of school governing bodies](#)
- [Programme for Guidance Practitioners](#)
- [Programme for Practitioners in early childhood development](#)
- [Course in dealing with problem behaviour of children](#)
- [Course in sport management](#)
Course in school management

Short course in human rights and healthy lifestyle

Short course in Gifted Child Education

Course in sport psychology

Course in Education Management in Early Childhood Development

Programme in Grade R Teaching

In-service teacher education - learning areas

Course in teaching foundation phase mathematics

Multigrade teaching methodologies and assessment in school

Programme for teachers of language in primary schools

Course in mathematics teaching (intermediate and senior phase)

Course in mathematics teaching (FET band)

Certificate programme for mathematics literacy for FET teachers

Programme in technology education

Counselling

Course in basic counselling

Advanced counselling programme

Course in Christian counselling

Short course in crisis debriefing and basic trauma counselling

Course in dealing with traumatised children

Programme in counselling children and adolescents
Which qualification should you choose?

When you are considering which qualification to choose, you need to think about the following three aspects: the age group you want to teach; the subjects you want to specialise in; and the practical requirements for a particular qualification.

1 What age group are you interested in teaching?

If you are interested in teaching learners at school level, you have to choose which age group you wish to focus on. Teaching qualifications are offered in three areas: Early Childhood Development and Foundation Phase (Birth-Grade 3), Intermediate & Senior Phase (Grades 4-9) and Senior and Further Education and Training Phase (Grades 8-12).

If you are interested in teaching adults basic skills, then the ABET (Adult Basic Education and Training) qualifications would be suitable.

Graduate students interested in teaching at tertiary institutions such as universities and universities of technology could consider the Postgraduate Diploma in Tertiary Education in addition to further postgraduate studies in their field of specialisation.
Which of your life values (things which are important to you) have the best chance to be expressed by the age group you are interested in?

Example 01: Mila may choose to enrol for the Foundation Phase because she enjoys the energy and playfulness of smaller children and has a deep love for how fast children learn in a caring environment. Mila comes from a family of children with learning difficulties and this is the reason why she feels dedicated to educating young ones.

Example 02: Katlego had some difficult years as a teenager. Home circumstances were difficult but he had a language teacher who took interest in him. The teacher inspired him to consider teaching as a career. Kathlego considers himself lucky because some of his classmates dropped out of school and he managed to hold on and matriculate. The lost hopes of his classmates remains one the driving forces for choosing to work with learners in Grades 10-12.

Example 03: Mahier enjoyed his primary school years. While he was growing up he wanted to be like Mr Bali, his headmaster at the time. He is also very clear that he wants to work at a school in an agricultural environment. Mahier has a strong environmental awareness because his family grew their own food on a smallholding. As a prospective teacher he wants to work where he would be able to empower kids to be self-sufficient and teach them how to grow their own food. Mahier is a supporter of the Earthlife Africa and base his life choices on what is best for him and a sustainable environment.

From these examples, you should be able to see how your personality, motivations and goals, are linked to your choice of age group. Considering these aspects will help you make an informed decision that will support your personal needs while also ensuring that the appropriate career skills are developed in a way that will have a positive impact on your learners.
2 Should you complete a dedicated teaching degree (the BEd) or a general Bachelor’s degree (for example, the BA, BCom or BSc and then a teaching qualification)?

If you want to qualify as a teacher through Unisa, there are different ways to go about it. One option is to complete a Bachelor of Education degree (minimum duration is four years). Another option is to complete a Bachelor’s degree (for example BA, BCom or BSc) first and then to complete a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (minimum duration is one year). Make your choice based on what your longer-term career goals as well as short-term needs are, together with some practical considerations such as when you are able to complete compulsory practical work for your qualification.

3 What school subjects should you select?

You will need to make your decision based on your interests and needs in terms of your career. You could also consider the need for specific teachers at the various levels by talking to teachers, schools and contacting your provincial Department of Basic Education for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation Phase (Grades R-3)</th>
<th>Intermediate Phase (Grades 4-6)</th>
<th>Senior Phase (Grades 7-9)</th>
<th>FET Phase (Grades 10-12)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>Arts and Culture</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Economic and Management</td>
<td>Agricultural Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Skills</td>
<td>Arts and Culture</td>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Life Orientation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Agricultural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Phase (Grades R-3)</td>
<td>Intermediate Phase (Grades 4-6)</td>
<td>Senior Phase (Grades 7-9)</td>
<td>FET Phase (Grades 10-12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Specialisations

The following teaching specialisations are listed on the *Occupations in Higher Demand* (Department of Higher Education and Training):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation Phase (Grades R-3)</th>
<th>Intermediate Phase (Grades 4-6)</th>
<th>Senior Phase (Grades 7-9)</th>
<th>FET Phase (Grades 10-12)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Life Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematical Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mechanical Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Religion Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Foundational phase teacher
- Early Childhood Development Practitioner
- Special Needs Teacher
- Adult Education Teacher
- Mathematics Teacher (Grade 4-9)
- Mathematics Teacher (Grades 10-12)
- Mathematical Literacy Teacher (Grades 10-12)
- Natural Science Teacher (Grades 4-9)
• Physical Science Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Accounting Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Economics Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Computer Applications Technology Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Information Technology Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Hospitality Studies Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Language Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• Tourism Teacher (Grades 10-12)
• University Lecturer
• School Principal
• FET College Principal
• Faculty Head
• District Education Manager
• Head of Department (Teacher)

What is the practical and how to do it?

Teaching Practice is a compulsory component of all teaching qualifications. The Unisa Teaching Practice Office is responsible for Unisa students completing teaching practice. A summary of the practical requirements for all the teaching qualifications is available here: http://bit.ly/28Xz8fZ. The Teaching Practice also maintains a list of frequently-asked questions related to teaching practice here: http://bit.ly/2942Gt3. Any enquiries regarding teaching practice must be directed to the Teaching Practice Office. Contact details for staff members are available here: http://bit.ly/28ZPwO3.
Professional registration

South African Council for Educators (SACE)

SACE is the professional council for educators that aims to enhance the status of the teaching profession through appropriate Registration, management of Professional Development and inculcation of a Code of Ethics for all educators.

Section 21 of the South African Council for Educators Act, 2000 requires that:

1.1 every educator contemplated by the Act must register with the Council before appointment to a teaching post; and

1.2 no person may be employed as an educator by an employer unless that person is registered with the Council.

For more information visit the South African Council for Educators official website: http://www.sace.org.za/
Frequently-asked questions

How do I become a teacher?

You will need to complete a Bachelor in Education (BEd) degree or another undergraduate degree and a Post Graduate Certificate (PGCE). Then you need to register with the South African Council for Educators (SACE) as a teacher.

How long does it take to become a teacher?

You will study for a minimum of 4 years to become a teacher. However, if you do not meet the admission requirements for the BEd or other undergraduate qualification you may need to start by first completing a Higher Certificate (e.g. the Higher Certificate in ABET).

How do I choose which age group to teach?

You will choose the age group most appropriate to your interests. Think about the age group that you feel a connection with – where do you think you can make a difference?
I want to study teaching but I am worried about how I will pay for my studies

- If you would need to fund your studies from other sources, then consider applying for the Funza Lushaka bursary. You can read more about this on the Funza Lushaka website (http://www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za/) and in the Unisa Directorate for Student Funding (http://bit.ly/28V7ixm).

- The Education, Training and Development Practices Sector Education and Training Authority provide a number of bursaries for workers and unemployed learners in the ETD sector to gain qualifications in scarce and critical skills at both intermediate and higher levels. Scarce and critical skills include teaching qualifications in Mathematics and Science, Foundation Phase and Computer Studies. For more information, visit the ETDP SETA website or contact 0800 ETDP 73.

- As with all bursary schemes, only limited funding is available. Make sure that you familiarise yourself with the relevant closing dates so that you could apply in time. Start thinking about alternative ways of funding your studies through, for example, micro-loans, stokvel clubs, family and friends, community organisations such as churches as well as entrepreneurial and part-time/ additional work options.

Where do I start if I have already completed another qualification (e.g. a National diploma or BTech)?

When you apply, you can apply for admission to a maximum of three qualifications. Apply for admission to the PGCE and the BEd for the age group you are interested in (e.g. the PGCE Intermediate and Senior Phase and the PGCE Intermediate and Senior Phase). During the application process, your qualification(s) will be evaluated.
What if I don’t qualify for a BEd or other Bachelor’s degree?

Firstly, you should check the admission requirements for the degree you wish to start with. Should you find that you do not qualify, you can apply for a lower level qualification. For the BEd, this lower level qualification is the Higher Certificate in ABET. Should you also not qualify for the Higher Certificate, you will need to explore options of upgrading your senior certificate/ National Senior certificate in order to meet the requirements. Check the admission requirements on the Unisa website at http://bit.ly/28ZUk6a.

I started studying at another higher education institution and I now want to complete my qualification through Unisa

The first step is to apply for admission to your chosen qualification at Unisa. Once you have been made an offer to study and you have accepted, you can apply to be exempted from modules in your degree.

What should I study if I am interested in special needs/ inclusive education?

Unisa offers the Honours Bachelor of Education - with specialisation in Inclusive Education New curriculum, followed by the Master of Education in Inclusive Education and Doctor of Education in Inclusive Education.

Does Unisa offer a diploma in education?

No.
I noticed that Unisa offers short learning programmes in education – is there a short course to be a teacher?

No. You will need to complete a formal education in teaching to become a qualified teacher. The Short Learning programmes are offered to develop skills of teachers or those who work with children.

I applied for the PGCE and was informed that I do not meet the school subject and/or language requirements. What now?

Before you apply, it is important that you familiarise yourself with the admission requirements for the PGCE. Your feedback regarding your application will include information about whether you can complete the outstanding modules for non-degree purposes. Should you not receive this offer, you will need to consider to apply for the BEd degree.

How do I choose subjects for the BEd degree?

Step 1: Download the curriculum for your chosen degree:


Step 2: Scan through the information on the document.

Step 3: Make your own summary of the 40 modules you need to complete for your degree by using the guidelines in the document you downloaded. You will find information regarding the content of specific modules on the Modules and Subjects page (http://bit.ly/291dKGK).
Step 4: Consult with a student advisor at the Student Admission and Registration section (educare@unisa.ac.za) or a regional centre to clarify any questions regarding your qualification.

It is important that you complete this exercise each time before you register for your next set of modules.

Which school subjects should I choose?

Use the information related to the curriculum for your degree in combination with the information in this brochure to help you select your school subjects.

I want to know which modules are still outstanding for my degree. Who should I speak to?

Consult with a student advisor at the Student Admission and Registration section (educare@unisa.ac.za) or a regional centre to clarify any questions regarding your qualification.

I completed a trade-related qualification (e.g. hairdressing or diesel mechanic) and I now want to teach in this field. Where do I start?

Unisa does not offer teaching qualifications for technical subjects. You can explore options with other Universities of Technology (e.g. Tshwane University of Technology).

I want to become an educational psychologist. Where do I start?

The training route for an educational psychologist is as follows:
Important information about training for educational psychologists at Unisa

The purpose of the Hons BEd (School Guidance and Counselling/Psycho-educational support) is to equip you with the required knowledge, skills and competences that will help you to facilitate personal, academic and career growth in educational settings. Forums where such support is based are school-based support teams or institution-level support teams, life orientation and district-based support teams.

A further aim of the Hons BEd (SGC/PeS) is to enable students to apply for selection for a Master’s degree in Educational Psychology* (professional degree) or to apply for the MEd (Psychology of Education) which is an academic degree. The professional M Ed (Educational Psychology) degree leads to registration as educational psychologist at the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) if accredited by the Council.

The Hons BEd (SGC/PeS) specialisation stream is an academic and not a professional qualification. Completion of the honours degree including the two modules (HBEDAAG and HBEDOPW) does not lead to registration as registered counsellor or psychometrist at the HPCSA. In addition to the career path in education, it serves as bridging course to further studies pending your admission to a Master’s degree in Educational Psychology.
Psychology* (professional qualification) or the MEd in Psychology of Education (academic Master’s degree).

The first year (generic) modules of the Hons BEd degree are:

- HBEDTRD: Theory and research in education
- HBEDTL6: Teaching and learning
- HBEDECS: South African teaching in context

The Hons BEd (SGC/PeS) specialisation stream consists of two modules. Please note that the module names are in the process of change. The new names are given last:

- HBEDAAG: Assess and apply psychometry and statistics / Assessment for learning and development (36 credits); and
- HBEDOPW: Orientate psycho-educationally to perform specialised tasks of the counsellor / Facilitating learning and development (24 credits)

In *Assessment for learning and development (HBEDAAG)* you will be guided in the theory and practice of formal and informal assessment. You will be provided with practical information regarding the intellectual, emotional, socio-behavioural and career-based aspects of assessment. A further aim is to facilitate the development of your research skills whereby you will be conducting a research project in psycho-educational support. *Facilitating learning and development (HBEDOPW)* is based on a social constructivist paradigm with an emphasis on self in society and wellness. Facilitation of growth in the learning, emotional and behavioural domains is based on the positive psychology and asset-based discourses. Furthermore, these modules will be presented by following a blended approach. This entails communication via our online learning environment, myUnisa, and printed study material. No contact classes will be presented although video conferences may be scheduled. As a registered Unisa student, you will have access to the myUnisa electronic portal. From there you can access various online resources to assist you in your studies.

**Admission requirements**
The admission requirement for Hons BEd is a three year degree, followed by a teaching qualification, such as the Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) OR a four year teaching degree. The admission requirement for HBEDAAG and HBEDOPW (the specialisation stream) is Psychology II. Please note that Industrial Psychology will not be accepted.

**How to register for HBEDAAG and HBEDOPW**

There are no special admission forms and no selection process for this specialisation stream. Although you are allowed to register for the five modules (the full Hons BEd degree) in one year, you are strongly advised to take the five modules over two years. Keep in mind that admission to any Master’s degree requires an average of 60% for the Hons BEd modules and taking all the modules in one year may detract from a high academic standard.

**Important**

All current and prospective students are required to apply online for a change in qualification in the year PRECEDING the qualification. This means that students must not only apply when they start a new degree, but also when there is a change in the qualification, such as from the first general Hons BEd year to a specialisation stream. This means if you are currently registered for Hons BEd first year and you are planning to register for a specialisation stream such as Hons BEd (SGC/PeS), you will be required to apply online to change your qualification to Hons BEd (SGC/PeS), course code 05363. The deadline is normally in September of every year, but the onus is on the student to access the Unisa website and submit the application on or before the deadline. Except for this communication, lecturers are not authorised to give information regarding, or assist with, this application.

Do not send your qualifications to lecturers to evaluate them. Lecturers do not have the authority to evaluate qualifications from other institutions. This is a specialised task which must be carried out by the specialist subject advisers at Registration.
Assessment

Assessment will take place by means of written assignments and a theoretical examination (two examination papers with the duration of three hours each) in October/November.

Enquiries: Prof D Kruger at kruged@unisa.ac.za.

Master’s in Education (Educational Psychology)

Kindly take note that this qualification is currently under revision and that it will not be available until further notice. This means that after completion of BEd Hons (PeS) you may unfortunately not be able to immediately proceed to apply for selection for the Master’s degree at Unisa. However, you may apply at other universities that offer a professional M Ed in Educational Psychology with the Unisa BEd Hons (PeS). Please direct any further queries regarding this qualification to Prof HE Roets at roetshe@unisa.ac.za.

What should I study to be a lecturer at a university or university of technology?

You do not need a teaching qualification to become a university lecturer. It is more important to be a subject specialist with a Master’s or preferably a Doctorate. However, you may consider the Postgraduate Diploma in Tertiary Education to enhance your teaching skills at a tertiary level.

What options do I have if I completed a 3 year teaching diploma and I now want to upgrade my qualification?

You should be considering one of the Advanced Certificates in Education. On completion you may apply for a BEd Honours degree.
I am currently a history and life orientation teacher and I now want to teach mathematics

Unisa offers the Advanced Certificate in Education (Mathematics: Intermediate and Senior Phase). Should you want to teach at the FET phase, you could consider completing a Mathematics degree, or a BEd Senior Phase and FET with Mathematics as one of your school subjects.

I started with a Higher Diploma in Education 10 years ago but did not complete. Where must I start to upgrade my qualification?

You can apply for admission to a PGCE, or a BEd degree.

I am a school teacher but I don’t want to work in a school any more. What other options do I have?

You need to consider what changes you are imagining for yourself? Are you considering a complete change, as far away as possible from a teaching and/or training environment? Or, would you like to use your skills and apply them in another sector such as a trainer or facilitator in the corporate environment? Contact the Directorate for Counselling and Career Development (counselling@unisa.ac.za) for a further conversation about your career.
Can I teach in another country with my South African teaching qualification?

If you want to teach abroad with your Unisa teaching qualification you need to enquire about the teaching requirements with the education governing body of the country you want to teach in. For example, in South Africa, the Department of Basic Education and the South African Qualifications Authority can be consulted. You could contact the embassy, consulate or High Commission for the country you are interested in teaching in to explore options with the person responsible for education, since the teaching qualifications of the country you want to teach in may be structured differently to the Unisa teaching qualifications.

Counselling and career development services at Unisa

The Unisa Directorate for Counselling and Career Development offers career-, academic- and personal counselling services to Unisa students and the broader community. You can talk to a counsellor about:

- **Career decisions.** I am not sure which career path to follow; I don't know which qualification would be best; I want to change my career direction…
- **Career information.** How can I find out more about a career in …

26  Education @ Unisa
• **Employability.** How do I market myself to employers? How can I look for work? How can I compile an effective CV? How do I go about networking with others? How do I put together my career portfolio? How can I meet potential employers? How can I improve my interview skills?

• **My studies at Unisa.** How can I get started with my studies? How do I plan my studies? How can I study more effectively? I don't feel motivated to continue with my studies… I feel worried about preparing for/ writing the exams. I failed my exams – what now? I need to improve my reading/ writing/ numeracy skills

• **Personal issues.** How can I have better relationships with others? How can I cope more effectively with issues that impact on my studies?

Visit our website at [http://www.unisa.ac.za/counselling](http://www.unisa.ac.za/counselling) to access many self-help resources, or talk to a counsellor by e-mail to [counselling@unisa.ac.za](mailto:counselling@unisa.ac.za).

---

**References**


