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

Define tomorrow.
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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
The information in this document was correct as on 27 February 2018. Visit the Directorate for Counselling and Career Development website (http://bit.ly/2ux94B5) for the latest version of this document.
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 technoreliant 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 (pre-school 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 and Leadership skills
- Time management skills
- Confidence
- Patience
- Adaptability
- 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum duration: 4 years</td>
<td>Minimum duration: 3 years plus 1 year</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEd (Early Childhood Development: Foundation Phase) OR</th>
<th>Complete a 3 year Bachelor degree (including relevant school subjects)</th>
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<tbody>
<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>
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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 two qualifications. You can indicate the Postgraduate Certificate in Education as one option. Also, apply for the BEd or another Bachelor’s degree (depending on the training route you have chosen). 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 a Bachelor’s 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). More information about the admission requirements for the PGCE and BEd qualifications, and the application process is available on the
What if you do not meet the admission requirements for a degree?

You can consider applying for admission to a Higher Certificate at Unisa. Completion of a Higher Certificate will enable you to meet the minimum and College-specific requirements for a degree.

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://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Apply-for-admission/Undergraduate-qualifications/Qualifications/All-qualifications?cw_category=HIGHER%20CERTIFICATES for a list of all Higher Certificate offered by Unisa.

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 six 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

Visit the Centre for Continuing Education and Training website for more information.

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 Which 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) qualification 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. Katlego 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. The following is a list of school subjects for each learning phase:

**Foundation Phase (Grades R-3):** Literacy, Numeracy, and Life Skills

**Intermediate Phase (Grades 4-6):** Languages, Mathematics, Arts and Culture, Life Orientation, Natural Sciences, Technology, and Social Sciences

**Senior Phase (Grades 7-9):** Arts and Culture, Economic and Management Sciences, Languages, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, and Technology

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

- 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)

## Teaching Practice

Teaching Practice is a compulsory component of all teaching qualifications. The Unisa Teaching Practice Office is responsible for Unisa students completing teaching practice. All professional teaching qualifications have teaching practice as a compulsory component of the curriculum. All students are required to submit the
following forms to the Teaching Practice Office in order for their placement to be processed and finalised.

- **DSAR25**- Practical teaching placement form for students practising in South Africa

- **DSAR27**- Practical teaching placement form for students practising outside RSA

**NB:** Students living outside the Republic of South Africa are allowed to do their teaching practice in their country of residence during their studies.

No registration for any professional teaching qualification will be accepted for students unless the DSAR25/27 forms are included with the registration form.

Whether a student is registering at a Unisa Regional Office or at home online, a student must have the filled in DSAR25/27 form with them since they will need the information in order to populate the registration form. After registering, please email or fax the school stamped DSAR25/27 form to the relevant placement office.

Practice modules must be done either together with or after you have completed the subject didactic module and not before (Senior Phase/ FET).

The university may appoint supervisors to assess your teaching practice, or it may liaise with the relevant school to carry out your assessment during these compulsory teaching practice sessions.

Should you have any problem with their selected school of choice or any placement related enquiries; the teaching practice office must be contacted for alternative placement and assistance. Please refer to the Teaching Practice Contact Details.
Students who have appropriate experience of teaching within the relevant phase may apply to be exempted from the teaching practical module by applying for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Students who wish to apply for RPL should do so well in advance. They will need to supply sufficient evidence of relevant experience. Such applications should be referred to morokvt@unisa.ac.za.

**GUIDELINES FOR TEACHING PRACTICE MODULES**

Please ensure that you read and understand the guidelines applicable to your teaching practice module. When selecting a school, please make sure that the school of your choice offers your registered teaching practice subject/s in the relevant phase/s.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module CODE</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Guidelines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PGCE Foundation Phase</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PCF410X</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to do a total of 10 weeks (50 days) of teaching practice. These may run consecutively or in two periods in either one or two schools with Grade R-3 pupils. For this module you are required to complete 3 weeks (15 days) of observation at an ECD Centre and 7 weeks (35 days) at a primary school within Grades 1-3 pupils. You will be required to complete both Sections A and B of the DSAR25 / DSAR27 if you do your teaching practice in two different schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PGCE Intermediate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PFC104T</td>
<td>10 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to do 10 weeks (50 days) of teaching practice. These may run consecutively or in two periods on either one or two schools which have Grades 4-9 pupils. You will be required to complete both Sections A and B of the DSAR25 / DSAR27 if you do your teaching practice in two different schools.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module CODE</td>
<td>Duration</td>
<td>Guidelines</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PGCE Senior Phase and FET</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PTEAC1X</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice either in an FET College or school with Grades 10-12 pupils.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PTEAC2Y</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 7-9 pupils.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BEd Foundation Phase</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PRS1045</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to complete 2 weeks (10 days) of observation AND 3 weeks (15 days) at an ECD centre with 3-5 year old children (Grade R included). Please note that you will need to arrange for your own observation at an ECD Centre. You will be required to complete both Sections A and B of the DSAR25 / DSAR27 if you do your teaching practice at two different schools. During your observation period, you will be required to do various activities as outlined in your workbooks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRS2049</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with 3-5 year old children (Grade R included).</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRS304C</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For these modules you are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades R, 1-3 pupils.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BEd Intermediate Phase</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>PST104F</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>You are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 4-9 pupils.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PST204J</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>You are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 4-9 pupils.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module CODE</td>
<td>Duration</td>
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<tr>
<td>PST304M</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>You are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 4-9 pupils.</td>
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<td>PST402N</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>You are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 4-9 pupils.</td>
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<td>BEd Senior Phase and FET</td>
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<tr>
<td>TPR100C</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 10-12 pupils.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TPR200F</td>
<td>5 weeks</td>
<td>For this module you are required to complete 5 weeks (25 days) of teaching practice at a school with Grades 7-9 pupils.</td>
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</table>

Note:

- Each module has its own specified number of weeks and you cannot do two modules concurrently.
- You should do your teaching practice modules together with the subject didactic module/s or after you have completed the didactic module/s, but not before you have completed them (Senior Phase/ FET).

Teaching Practice Office Contact Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Skype name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EASTERN CAPE , FREE-STATE &amp; NORTH WEST</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr P Ramoba</td>
<td>012 481 2805</td>
<td>Teacprac1</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teachec@unisa.ac.za">teachec@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
<td>0866190505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss EN Maluleka</td>
<td>012 481 2885</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KWAZULU-NATAL NORTH</strong></td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss Z Thole</td>
<td>012 481 2929</td>
<td>Teacprac2</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teachkzn@unisa.ac.za">teachkzn@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
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<td>012 484 2841</td>
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<td>012 484 1164</td>
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<td>KWAZULU-NATAL SOUTH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr AL Mangwato</td>
<td>012 481 2736</td>
<td>Teacprac2 A</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teachkzn@unisa.ac.za">teachkzn@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
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<td>012 481 2800</td>
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<td>WESTERN CAPE &amp; NORTHERN CAPE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr R Setshedi</td>
<td>012 484 1152</td>
<td>Teacprac4</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teachnfw@unisa.ac.za">teachnfw@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
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<td>GAUTENG</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs L Mahanyele</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:teachgp@unisa.ac.za">teachgp@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
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<td>LIMPOPO &amp; MPUMALANGA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miss N Ndhlovu</td>
<td>012 481 2730</td>
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<td>SADC &amp; INTERNATIONAL</td>
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<td>Mr M Makhetha</td>
<td>012 484 1048</td>
<td>Teachinternational</td>
<td><a href="mailto:teachsi@unisa.ac.za">teachsi@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
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<td>TEACHER CENTRES COORDINATOR</td>
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<td>Mr GT Marebane</td>
<td>012 481 2852</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marebgt@unisa.ac.za">marebgt@unisa.ac.za</a></td>
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Unisa Teacher Centres

Unisa in partnership with the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Higher Education and Training have deployed ICT infrastructure at the 34 teacher centres across the country to provide Unisa students and teachers working at public schools with online access. The teacher centres will also be used to improve the quality of managing teaching practice arrangements and enable Unisa education students to become tech-savvy teachers.

For more information go to www.unisa.ac.za/TC.

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.

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?

You will need to complete a formal education in teaching to become a qualified teacher. Practitioners in preschools don’t necessary need a formal teaching degree. The following short learning programmes will allow you to teach in a preschool:

Programme for Practitioners in Early Childhood Development

Programme in Grade R teaching

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 applying for the BEd degree, or follow the route of completing a Bachelor’s degree, followed by the Postgraduate Certificate in Education.
How do I choose subjects for the BEd degree?

Step 1: Download the curriculum for your chosen degree:

- BEd ECD and Foundation Phase
- BEd Intermediate and Senior Phase
- BEd Senior Phase and FET

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://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Register-to-study-through-Unisa/Subjects-&-modules/All-subjects).

Step 4: Consult with a student advisor at the Student Admission and Registration section (educare@unisa.ac.za) or a regional centre (http://www.unisa.ac.za/sites/corporate/default/Contact-us/Regional-Centres) 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 MEd (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* (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 psychoeducational 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 consider applying for a BEd degree and apply to be exempted from modules based on your completed qualification.

**I am currently a history and life orientation teacher and I now want to teach mathematics**

You should consider applying for a BEd degree 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 …
- **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.