Stellenbosch
UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT

**Education
EyezeMfundo
Opvoedkunde**

BEd HONOURS
2026

Curriculum
Inquiry

Development &
Democracy

Educational
Support

Foundation
Phase

Language
Education

The Faculty of Education's BEdHons programmes are based on a mixed or blended learning mode. Students can register to complete their programme in either one year or over two years of study.

PLEASE NOTE:

If the programme is followed over one year, all the modules mentioned (under First Year of Study and Second Year of Study) need to be completed in this one year of study. If the programme is followed over two years, the modules are divided over the two years as indicated in the various programmes.

The blended learning mode of offering is an appropriate mix of:
- **Compulsory** face-to-face contact sessions on campus.
- Telematics broadcasts and MSTeams sessions can be streamed online (live).
- Electronic learning by using SUNLearn (Stellenbosch University's online learning management system) which includes modern teaching techniques, online discussion groups, electronic assignments, etc.

The dates for the compusory on-campus contact sessions will change annually as it is based on the Western Cape Education Department school holiday calendar.
(Contact session 1: March / April school holiday)
(Contact session 2: June / July school holiday)

Since students only have to attend two weeks of compulsory contact sessions on campus, students from anywhere can participate in this programme and have regular contact with their lecturers. Furthermore all learning material is provided online and is easily accessible.

Admission requirements

A student may be admitted to the BEdHons programme if she/he has:
1. A relevant university degree and a secondary education diploma or certificate (e.g. SED, HDE, PGCE, UED, LSED); or
2. A relevant university degree and a primary education diploma (e.g. PES, PGDE, HPED, etc.); or
3. A relevant university degree and an education qualification deemed adequate for such purpose by Senate; or
4. A four-year integrated education degree (e.g. BEd); or
5. Where warranted by the applicability and academic relevance of your career experience, some other relevant combination of studies both academic and professional which for purposes of admission is deemed by the SU Senate to be equivalent to an integrated four-year Bachelor's degree or a Bachelor's degree (supplementary studies in Education may be required of such candidates prior to admission); or
6. Recognised four-year post-school training, including a professional education qualification.

In addition to the above:
7. An average of at least 65% in the final year of the relevant undergraduate study is required for admission.
8. Internet access and computer literacy. Take note that some of the programmes have programme specific admission requirements as well and that these programme specific requirements are subject to possible change.

How and when to apply

Students can apply online from 1 March at the Stellenbosch University Postgraduate website at: **http://www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies/** (choose 'What can I study' and thereafter 'Education'). Please take note that not all programmes will necessarily have an intake of students each year. However if that is the case, students will be informed before registration commences.

The closing dates for applications for the respective programmes are as follows:

Programme	Closing date for South African students	Closing date for international students
BEdHons Educational Support	31 July	30 June
BEdHons Foundation Phase Education	31 August	31 July
BEdHons Development and Democracy	30 September	31 August
BEdHons Curriculum Inquiry	30 September	31 August
BEdHons Language Education	30 September	31 August

For more information with regards to the content of the programmes, please visit our yearbook on the Faculty's website.

Contact details

For general or administrative enquiries:
Natasha Swartz: +27 (0)21 808 2122 / nswartz@sun.ac.za

For programme related/academic enquiries:
Please contact the relevant programme coordinator.

For more information please consult our yearbook available at:
Afrikaans:
https://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/education/Documents/2025-Opvoedkunde.pdf
English:
https://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/education/Documents/2025-Education.pdf

Curriculum Inquiry

This programme aims to develop and to familiarize students with Curriculum Inquiry as a field of study. The programme will provide students with a broad base to develop a better understanding of curriculum debates internationally and how those debates impact the South African context.

Programme specific admission requirements for this programme:
- For entry into one of the discipline-focused modules (with the exception of Environmental Education), please take note of the following:
  - For students who completed a BEd-degree: you must have completed the subject discipline as a major teaching subject until your final year of studies. If you completed your BEd degree at another institution, you must show that you completed the subject discipline as a major subject according to the requirements of your programme.
  - For students who completed another university degree followed by a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (or similar): you should have the subject discipline at at least second year level and completed the curriculum focus for the subject during your PGCE studies (i.e. as a Teaching module).
- For entry into Environmental Education or Curriculum Change, the general
- entry requirements for the BEdHons pertain
- Prior teaching experience is recommended but is not compulsory

FIRST YEAR OF STUDY
Compulsory year module:
Curriculum studies: Key Moments, Concepts and Debates
Compulsory first semester module:
Knowing, Acting and Being: Framing the Study of Education

Elective year modules (students choose one of the following):
Please take note that not all electives will be offered every year and that specific admission requirements are applicable to all of the marked (*) modules.
Curriculum Change
Economic and Business Sciences Education*
Environmental Education
History Education*
Mathematics Education*
Physical Education*
Science Education*

SECOND YEAR OF STUDY
Compulsory year module:
Research Project (Curriculum Inquiry)
Compulsory first semester module:
Educational Research

Programme coordinator:
Dr Marie-Louise Botha (lbot@sun.ac.za)

Development & Democracy

This programme allows you to make and explain conceptual links between the theoretical perspectives and professional environment and to develop a critical understanding of the current policy context and the signifiers of change. The focus is on the theoretical perspective and the professional environment of education policies and education management.

FIRST YEAR OF STUDY

First semester modules:
Knowing, Acting and Being
Education in Democracy
Development, Organisations and Education Policy

Second semester modules:
Educational Leadership and Management
Education and Society

SECOND YEAR OF STUDY

Year module:
Research Project (Educational Development and Democracy)

First semester modules:
Educational Research
Introduction to Research Methods

Programme coordinator:
Dr P Simba (psimba@sun.ac.za)

Educational Support

The programme aims to endow students with recent theoretical knowledge, assumptions and strategies as well as research skills to effectively teach, assess and support increasingly diverse learner populations in schools and other educational settings in South Africa. More specifically, it aims to offer meaningful participation to all learners in inclusive education systems and communities. Please note that this programme is not equivalent to a BEd Hons in Educational Psychology which is a requirement to apply for a Masters in Educational Psychology.

PROGRAMME SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROGRAMME:
- A minimum of at least one continuous year of formal teaching experience.
- A minimum average of 65% in the final year of teaching studies is required.

SELECTION:
- Selection takes place annually after the closing date.
- Take note that the closing date for this programme precedes the other programmes, therefore you must select this programme as your first choice to be included in the selection process.
- Selection is done on the basis of prior academic performance and relevant teaching experience.
- A limited number of students are admitted to the programme each year.
- Should more than the limited number of students qualify; qualifying students will complete an academic writing assignment to identify the top students.

FIRST YEAR OF STUDY
First semester modules:
Knowing, Acting and Being
Adult Learning and Support
Learning and Cognition

Second semester modules:
Learning Challenges
Learning Support

SECOND YEAR OF STUDY
Year modules:
Research Project (Educational Support)

First semester modules:
Educational Research
Interpretive Research

Programme coordinator:
Dr LN Damons (ldamons@sun.ac.za)

Foundation Phase

The aim of the programme is to empower students with subject-specific content knowledge and pedagogical content knowledge, which will develop their ability to act as leaders in an academic and professional capacity in Literacy Education and Mathematics Education in the Foundation Phase.

PROGRAMME SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROGRAMME:
- A relevant university degree and a Foundation Phase education diploma (e.g. PES, PGDE, HPED, etc.); or
- A relevant university degree and a Foundation Phase education qualification deemed adequate for such purpose by Senate; or
- A recognised four-year post-school training, including a professional Foundation Phase education qualification.

ADDITIONAL TO THE GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:
- An average of 60% for the final year level Literacy Education as well as Mathematics Education modules.
- Teaching experience is a recommendation, but not compulsory.

SELECTION:
- Selection takes place annually after the closing date.
- Selection is done on the basis of prior academic performance and relevant teaching experience.
- A limited number of students are admitted to the programme each year.

FIRST YEAR OF STUDY
First semester modules:
Knowing, Acting and Being

Compulsory year modules:
Critical Perspectives for Foundation Phase Studies
Literacy Education and Leadership (Foundation Phase)
Mathematics Education (Foundation Phase)

SECOND YEAR OF STUDY
Compulsory year modules:
Research Project (Foundation Phase)

First semester modules:
Educational Research
Research Methodology (Foundation Phase)

Programme coordinator:
Dr L Bosman (lindabosman@sun.ac.za)

Language Education

The purpose of the Honours degree in language education is to enrich and deepen undergraduate training by developing research-based language teaching practice. This Honours degree emphasises the theoretical and research base of language education. In addition, the programme includes a focus on multilingual education, creative writing and lexicography.

PROGRAMME SPECIFIC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS PROGRAMME:
In addition to the general BEdHons admission requirements, students are required to have attained a high level of achievement (60% +) in the language modules of their undergraduate study. These modules must have been followed at third or final year level.

FIRST YEAR OF STUDY
First semester modules:
Knowing, Acting and Being
Language Policy and Multilingual Education

First semester electives (choose 1):
Group A
Afrikaans Kurrikulumstudie
English Curriculum Studies
IsiXhosa Curriculum Studies

Second semester electives (choose 2):
Group B
Teaching Creative Writing
Pedagogical Lexicography
Digital Pedagogy for Language Learning

SECOND YEAR OF STUDY
Year modules:
Research Project (Language Education)

First semester modules:
Educational Research
Language Teaching Research

Programme coordinator:
Dr S Bishop-Swart (sbishop@sun.ac.za)