

3.1.2.4 BEdHons (Foundation Phase Education)

Specific admission requirements

The specific admission requirements for this programme focus on foundation phase education:

- 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 qualification, including a *professional Foundation Phase Education qualification*.

Additional to the requirements above:

- At least 60% for Foundation Phase Literacy Education as well as Foundation Phase Mathematics Education in your final year of study above
- A minimum average of 65% in the final year of undergraduate study

Selection

This is a programme where selection takes place:

- 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.

Programme content

This programme focuses on further studies in Foundation Phase Education. The aim is to develop your capacity to be an education leader in both Literacy Education and Mathematics Education in the Foundation Phase.

If you enrol to complete this programme in one year:

Anchor module

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Foundation Phase | 778(120) |
|------------------|----------|

Compulsory year modules

| | |
|--|---------|
| Research Project (Foundation Phase) | 773(30) |
| Critical Perspectives for Foundation Phase Studies | 775(20) |
| Literacy Education and Leadership (Foundation Phase) | 772(20) |
| Mathematics Education (Foundation Phase) | 771(20) |

Compulsory first-semester modules

| | |
|---|---------|
| Educational Research | 711(10) |
| Research Methodology (Foundation Phase) | 711(5) |
| Knowing, Acting and Being: Framing the Study of Education | 711(15) |

Elective modules

There are *no* electives for this programme.

If you enrol to complete this programme in two years:

Anchor module

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Foundation Phase | 778(120) |
|------------------|----------|

FIRST YEAR OF STUDY

Compulsory first-semester modules

| | |
|---|---------|
| Knowing, Acting and Being: Framing the Study of Education | 711(15) |
|---|---------|

Compulsory year modules

| | |
|--|---------|
| Critical Perspectives for Foundation Phase Studies | 775(20) |
| Literacy Education and Leadership (Foundation Phase) | 772(20) |
| Mathematics Education (Foundation Phase) | 771(20) |

SECOND YEAR OF STUDY

Compulsory year modules

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Research Project (Foundation Phase) | 773(30) |
|-------------------------------------|---------|

Compulsory first-semester modules

| | |
|---|---------|
| Educational Research | 711(10) |
| Research Methodology (Foundation Phase) | 711(5) |

Elective modules

There are *no* electives for this programme.

3. Honours degree programmes

For matters like the statutory requirements for the BEdHons degree, the rules for continuation of registration and the maximum periods of registration for postgraduate programmes, as well as the code of conduct for the supervisor and student, see the chapter “Postgraduate Qualifications” of Part 1 (General Rules) of the University Yearbook.

3.1 BEdHons

The new BEdHons programmes aim at enriching and deepening your knowledge within a chosen specialist field to enable you to contribute meaningfully towards strengthening and improving education in South Africa. These programmes also prepare you for further postgraduate research-based studies by introducing you to the research methodology and techniques of your chosen field.

So, for instance, the programme in Educational Support aims to offer effective support to all learners with diverse needs in an inclusive education system. For this you need knowledge of educational psychology in order to contribute to community education and learning support.

Please note:

- If there are not enough enrolments for a particular programme in a given year, that programme will not be offered in that year. The Faculty will inform students who are affected by this in advance.

3.1.1 Admission requirements and information applicable to all BEdHons programmes

Admission requirements and further provisions regarding admission

Admission requirements

Please note that for some programmes there are additional admission requirements that apply specifically to that programme. You can find these additional requirements in the description of the specific programme.

You may be admitted to the BEdHons programme if you have:

- a relevant university degree and a secondary education diploma or certificate (e.g. SED, HDE, PGCE, UED, LSED);

or

- a relevant university degree and a primary education diploma (e.g. PES, PGDE, HPED, etc.);

or

- a relevant university degree and an education qualification deemed adequate for such purpose by Senate;

or

- a four-year integrated Education degree;

or

- (where the applicability and academic relevance of your job experience warrants it) some other relevant combination of studies, both academic and professional which, for purposes of admission, is deemed by Senate to be equivalent to an integrated four-year bachelor's degree or a bachelor's degree (supplementary Education studies may be required of such candidates prior to admission);

or

- recognised four-year post-school training, including a professional education qualification.

Further provisions regarding admission to the BEdHons programmes

- You must have obtained an average of at least 65% in the final year of your relevant undergraduate study.
- The Faculty expects you to at least have access to a computer and the internet to be able to perform the following activities:
 - accessing SUNLearn modules and participating in the various learning activities
 - using the electronic resources of SU's library
 - sending and receiving e-mail
 - generating assignments and submitting them electronically

Application procedure and closing date

Application procedure

You must apply in writing for admission to the BEdHons programme of your choice. Admission will be decided by Senate or by the Executive Committee acting on behalf of Senate. You must give particulars of your qualifications when you apply. If you obtained any of your qualifications at a university other than Stellenbosch University, you must include official academic transcripts from the universities where you obtained those qualifications.

No student will be permitted to join the programme after it has started.

You can apply online at Stellenbosch University's webpage for postgraduate students: www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies (choose "Telematic Programmes" under "What can I study?").

You can get more information about the administrative aspects of the programme from the Faculty of

Education:

Office of the Vice Deans (room 1029 B)

Tel: (021) 808 2122

E-mail: nswartz@sun.ac.za

Closing dates

You can apply from 1 March of the year before admission. The closing dates 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 (Curriculum Inquiry) | 30 September | 31 August |
| BEdHons (Educational Development and Democracy) | 30 September | 31 August |
| BEdHons (Language Education) | 30 September | 31 August |

Provisions relating to promotion

- For all the specialisations you must obtain a pass mark of at least 50% in each of eight modules with a total credit value of 120.
- To pass the degree with distinction (*cum laude*), you must obtain an overall average of 75%, as well as 75% in each of at least four separate modules.

Enquiries

| Specialisation | Contact person | Telephone number | E-mail address |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| BEdHons programmes | | | |
| General enquiries | Ms N Swartz | 021 808 2122 | nswartz@sun.ac.za |
| Curriculum Inquiry | Dr ML Botha | 021 808 2293 | lbot@sun.ac.za |
| Education Development and Democracy | Dr JP Joorst | 021 808 2419/ 2398 | jpjoorst@sun.ac.za |
| Educational Support | Prof LM Dreyer | 021 808 3502 | lornadreyer@sun.ac.za |
| Foundation Phase Education | This information is not available | This information is not available | This information is not available |
| Language Education | Dr AS Xeketwana | 021 808 3935 | asx@sun.ac.za |

Website for more information:

www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies

3.1.2 BEdHons programmes

The Faculty of Education offers the following honours programmes, which will be offered through blended learning or mixed-mode instruction.

- Curriculum Inquiry
- Educational Support
- Education Development and Democracy
- Foundation Phase Education
- Language Education

Duration of programmes

You can enrol to complete these programmes in **one year** or over **two years**. If you choose to do your chosen programme over two years, some of the modules, as well as the research project, will be completed in the second year.

Presentation structure

Blended-learning or mixed-mode instruction means that the programme entails a combination of:

- Face-to-face contact sessions on campus
- Telematics broadcasts (streaming live online) and MS Teams sessions
- Electronic learning by using SUNLearn (the learning management system of Stellenbosch University), which includes modern teaching techniques, online discussion groups with fellow students and lecturers and electronic assignments.

Contact sessions on campus

There are two compulsory week-long contact sessions. These sessions happen in the March/April school holidays and in the June/July school holidays to make it possible for employed education specialists and for students who do not stay in or near Stellenbosch to attend. The dates of these contact sessions will be adjusted every year to accommodate the school and university calendars.

It is **compulsory** to attend both contact sessions. If you miss one or both of these sessions in a given academic year, you will not be allowed to continue your studies. If you are registered to complete the programme over two years, you must attend the contact sessions of the modules you are registered for in that year. A programme for the contact sessions will be included in the programme guide and the module framework and will be distributed electronically at the beginning of each academic year.

Contact session 1: March-April school holidays (depending on the school calendar)

Contact session 2: June-July school holidays

Exams

You do not have to write exams on the Stellenbosch campus. The University's external exams office arranges for exams to be written in specified places in South Africa or abroad.

Programme structure

Each programme is represented by an anchor module with a credit value of at least 120 credits and includes the following:

- a compulsory core module (Knowing, Acting and Being: Framing the Study of Education)
- a compulsory module in general education research methodology
- a compulsory module in field-specific research methodology
- a compulsory research project
- four other modules (with electives in some programmes)

No module is a prerequisite for a next module. The modules for each specialisation area are listed below, and more information on each module is given in alphabetical order of subjects in the chapter "Subjects, modules and module content".

Postgraduate programmes

1. Summary of postgraduate programmes

Below you will find a schematic summary of the postgraduate programmes offered in the Faculty of Education.

| Postgraduate qualification | Programme | Distinctions within a programme |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| Postgraduate certificate | Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) | |
| Postgraduate diplomas | Postgraduate Diploma in | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education in Teaching and Learning Mathematics Education Science Education |
| Honours degrees | BEdHons | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Inquiry Education Development and Democracy Educational Support Foundation Phase Education Language Education |
| Master's degrees | MEd | MEd (Research) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Studies Educational Support Education Policy Studies |
| | | MEd (Structured) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Studies Educational Support Psychology Educational Psychology |
| | MPhil | MPhil (Structured) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education Studies Lifelong Learning |
| | | MPhil (Research) |
| Doctoral Degrees | DEd | |
| | PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparative Education Curriculum Studies Educational Psychology Educational Support Education and Training and Lifelong Learning Education Management Education Policy Studies Environmental Education Higher Education History of Education Language Education Philosophy of Education |

Disclaimer:

The content above comes from the 2025 Education Yearbook. Make sure to consult the full **Education Yearbook** to see this extract in context and to check if there have been any changes. Take special note of additional information in the yearbook under section **1. Summary of postgraduate programmes.**