

4.1.3.4 MEd (Educational Psychology) (First intake 2025)

The MEd (Educational Psychology) serves as requirement for registration as psychologist (in the category Educational Psychology) with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

The Board for Psychology of the HPCSA has implemented revised requirements for the educational psychology programme. To comply with these changes, we have incorporated a full one-year internship into the curriculum, which has implications for the minimum duration of the programme. You will be required to complete the entire coursework component of the programme and obtain faculty approval for your research proposal before commencing the internship. The internship and research components of the programme can be completed concurrently within the same academic year.

Specific admission requirements

- a) The following qualification:
 - A BEdHons (Educational Psychology) or
 - A BEd (Psych) degree or
 - an approved honours degree in Psychology in combination with an approved professional education qualification or
 - any other combination of academic and professional studies deemed suitable for admission to the programme by Senate. In this case, additional studies may be prescribed.
- b) A minimum of 65% for Educational Psychology or psychology-orientated subjects passed on NQF level 8.

Additional recommendations

Since this is a selection programme which attracts many applicants, formal continuous experience of at least two years within any contiguous field (e.g. education, social work, medicine, health therapies and counselling) may be advantageous to your application.

Selection

- This is a selection programme.
- Selection takes place annually after July.

Internship

- **Admission requirements for internship:**
 - Registration as an intern psychologist with the HPCSA *and*
 - Completion of the entire coursework component of the programme, as well as obtainment of faculty approval for your research proposal.
- **Duration and presentation structure of internship:**
 - A minimum of one year's continuous full-time internship.
 - Consult Form 160 on the HPCSA website for latest regulations.
- Internships are approved by the HPCSA and fall under the supervision of the Department of Educational Psychology. You must submit your internship programme to the Department at least five months before you plan to start your internship. After this, it is sent to the Health Professions Council of South Africa for approval.
- You are responsible, in consultation with the Department, to arrange to do your internships at an accredited institution.

Closing date for applications

The closing date for applications is **30 June** in the year before admission.

Duration and presentation structure of the programme

- The programme consists of coursework, which will be offered full-time over one year, and an accredited, continuous twelve-month prescribed internship.
- You must complete your studies in the time period allowed by the HPCSA. Your studies for the qualification, inclusive of the internship, must both be completed within three years.

Assessment and examination

- Assessment consists of formative and summative assessment opportunities in each module as explained in the module frameworks.
- If there is clear evidence that you are insufficiently prepared in certain module content, the programme committee may delay your professional practice.
- Students' performance is monitored and assessed continuously throughout the year. Staff members involved in training meet regularly to discuss students' progress.

- Continuous support strategies are stipulated in the work programmes of the respective modules and form part of the teaching and learning curriculum. Should a student experience challenges with certain aspects of the programme, they will be required to participate in a formal mentoring process. In some cases, mentoring and/or professional support may be a condition of continued programme participation.
- You must attain a minimum of 50% in the integrated oral exam before you will be allowed to proceed with the internship. The integrated exam forms part of the assessment of the practicum module.
- You must have a pass mark of at least 50% in each of the modules, including the research thesis, for the degree to be awarded to you.

Enquiries

Department of Educational Psychology

Programme coordinator: Dr C Jacobs

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Website for more detailed information: www.sun.ac.za/education

Programme contents

The aim of this programme in Educational Psychology is to develop the research capacity, theoretically grounded knowledge, skills and attitudes, which will equip you to practice as an educational psychologist in the South African context.

Anchor module

Educational Psychology	8xx(180)
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Compulsory modules

Child and Adult Psychopathology	843(10)
Pathways to Psychological Wellbeing	814(30)
Educational and Psychological Assessment	814(12)
Learning Support	814(20)
Professional practice prescribed by the Health Professions Council of SA	871(33)
Research Methodology	814(15)
Research Thesis	871(60)
Internship	874 (non-credit-bearing)

Practicum

The practicum is done at the Practicum Unit in the Department of Educational Psychology as well as in approved sites in the community.

You must pass the practicum.

4.1 MEd

The MEd programme consists of a full-thesis option in different fields of study in Education, as well as structured MEd options.

4.1.1 Admission requirements, selection and other information for all MEd-programmes

Admission requirements

Qualification

To be admitted to the MEd programme, you must:

- have a BEdHons degree from this University, *or* another four-year bachelor's degree in Education approved for this purpose by Senate;
- or*
- have obtained an honours degree at level 8 approved for this purpose by Senate, and an approved education diploma/certificate (additional studies in Education may be required of you);
- or*
- have obtained a pass in another combination of studies both academic and professional, deemed appropriate by Senate for the purpose of joining the intended programme, including the combination of a four-year professional degree that has no Education component and an education diploma/certificate (supplementary study in Education will be required of you);
- or*
- in some manner have attained in your particular field of study a standard of competence deemed adequate by Senate (supplementary studies in Education will be required of you).

Conditions for admission

You will be considered for admission based on your above qualification on the following two conditions:

- You must have obtained an overall average of 60% in your BEdHons or equivalent study
- The relevant department must have the capacity to offer the programme.

Research methodology at honours level

- A module in research methodology at honours level is compulsory if you are enrolling for the full-thesis master's degree.
- For the structured MEd programmes, you must preferably have passed a module in research methodology at honours level.

Specific admission requirements for individual programmes

See the individual structured MEd programmes for their specific admission requirements.

Selection

You must be selected to be admitted to MEd studies.

Requirements for obtaining the MEd degree

If you have a BEdHons degree from this University, or another four-year bachelor's degree in Education approved for this purpose by Senate (see bullet 1 under "Qualification" above), you must have been registered at the University as a student in the MEd programme for at least **one academic year** to be awarded the MEd degree. In all other cases (bullets 2-4 above) it is **two years**.

If you are doing an MEd programme, you also have to do related work on the subject area as may be prescribed by the lecturers concerned.

Duration of the programme

The maximum number of years that a student can be registered for the MEd programme is 3 years.

Application procedure and closing date

- You must apply in writing to do an MEd programme.
- The structured programmes are presented only if at least **five** students are admitted.
- The closing date for applications is **30 September** of the year before admission, but *please note*: in the case of the programmes MEd (Psych) and MEd (Educational Support) it is **30 June** (of the year before admission).
- New applicants apply online on the following webpage: www.sun.ac.za/pgstudies.
- If you are currently registered as a student at the University of Stellenbosch, you may apply to the Faculty Administrator by e-mail:

Ms EE Louwrens

E-mail: eel@sun.ac.za

Programme structure and content

You will find more on the structure and content of the different MEd programmes below. The programme content is described in alphabetical order of subjects in the chapter "Subjects, Modules and Module Content". See the table of contents and the alphabetical list of subjects in the back of the book for page numbers.

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.**