



Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Open Source)

SAQA ID 102780 NQF level 5

🕒 Qualification duration

Part-Time (Campus)

Minimum: 2.5 years

Maximum: 5 years

☰ Qualification description

Future-proof your IT skills. The Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Open Source) is a rigorous, comprehensive and career-focused qualification that prepares you for working across the software environment as an open source database developer or administrator.

Given that many IT companies are now using open source software, this higher certificate is highly relevant to the information technology space.

The Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Open Source) provides you with a solid theoretical and intensive practical foundation in the basics of two programming languages and one database language, where the emphasis is on application. The core subject areas are: development and administration of the open source database MySQL, and developing programming skills in the two languages: Choice of PHP / Java and Python. You also cover topics such as Computer Literacy and Database Design, Personal Skills Development, Processing and Logic, and using the Linux Operating System.

We attribute much of the success of our Higher Certificate programmes in Information Systems (IS), to our unique Mastery Learning Methodology (MLM). This modular self-directed learning approach gives you the flexibility to start and progress through the programme at a pace that best suits you. This learning methodology, together with our cutting-edge facilities such as computer labs, IS open learning areas and smart pods, will prepare you for the real IT work environment of the future.

Over and above this, you will develop essential skills for the world of work, such as analysing and solving real problems, exploring new ideas, being adaptable and self-disciplined, working in teams and communicating for results.

☑️ Entry requirements

- South African National Senior Certificate (NSC) with Bachelor's degree, Diploma or Higher Certificate endorsement.

Or

- A National Certificate (Vocational) level 4 issued by the Council of General and Further Education and Training with Bachelor's degree, Diploma or Higher Certificate endorsement.

Or

- A Certificate of evaluation on a minimum NQF level 4 for foreign qualification confirmed by SAQA.

Or

- A letter or certificate confirming an exemption from Universities South Africa (USAF) for any other school-leaving results.

Or

- Completion of a Bachelor's degree, Diploma, Higher Certificate or equivalent.

📁 Possible career options

Do you think in code?

The career choices for you, as a Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Open Source) graduate, include junior positions in:

- Programming
- Database Administration
- Linux Administration

📄 Qualification accreditation

- Accredited by the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) of the Council on Higher Education (CHE)
- Registered with the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)



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This qualification is offered at the
following campuses:

- Bedfordview
- Bloemfontein
- Claremont
- Durban
- East London
- Mbombela
- Nelson Mandela Bay
- Potchefstroom
- Pretoria
- Tyger Valley
- Vanderbijlpark

Qualification structure

Year 1

- Computer Literacy (Open Source)
- Personal Skills Development
- Processing and Logic Concepts
- Program Design
- Software Engineering
- Database Design Concepts
- Database Management (MySQL)
- Basic Programming Language Choice of: Java or PHP
- Linux Operating System
- Linux Administration
- Linux Server Administration
- Python Programming
- Final - Information Systems (Open Source)