

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION AND AIM:

The Postgraduate Diploma (Higher Theological Education) (PG Dip HTE) is a part-time, online course, aimed at providing a professional qualification for lecturers and academic administrators in theological colleges and Christian universities across the continent of Africa and beyond. The aim of the programme is to equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed for leadership in theological and Christian education as higher education. This is achieved by integrating the Christian faith with current educational practice and research to identify and solve educational issues that arise in their contexts.

PROGRAMME OUTCOMES:

The programme has been constructed to meet the following needs.

- The need for cognitively contextualised theological education to address the particular needs of teaching and learning from an African perspective.
- The need for theological education to articulate faith, leadership and mission in the context of the church.
- The need for Christian educators to advocate for a Christian approach to learning that is consistent with the nature and purpose of theological education and provides an alternative to theological education being driven by secular or Western agendas.
- The need for theological institutions to be able to articulate their needs in a globalised higher education environment of accountability to State accrediting bodies and to navigate effectively in this new reality.
- The need for continuous professional development enabling leaders in theological education to keep abreast of developments in higher education, contribute to good institutional administration and governance, and contribute to institutional sustainability.

Graduates of the PG Dip HTE will be able to:

1. Synthesise concepts from the disciplines of theology and education as practiced in theological colleges to further their professional and institutional practice.
2. Apply a critically reflective habit to develop their professionalism in a philosophy and practice of teaching and learning, and administrative competence.
3. Demonstrate proficiency in utilizing the main conceptual frameworks and practical skills needed to provide theological education at a higher education level to their particular theological subject/administrative area.
4. Conduct and apply research to current practice and theory of higher education in their institutional and cultural context to meet its specific mission goals.
5. Lead change in the provision of theological education by identifying issues of concern and providing solutions in a coherent, theological, ethical and educational manner.
6. Work effectively as a team member within a theological institution setting to support institutional efforts to improve student learning in theological education.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Appropriate NQF Level 7 Bachelor's degree in theology or a discipline related to the curriculum needs of higher theological education, as determined by the Research Committee / Programme Coordinator
- Advanced Diploma in Theology at NQF Level 7.
- International applicants require an [evaluation of your highest qualification](#) from the SA Qualifications Authority which can take 3-6 months to acquire from SAQA **OR** proof of a qualification completed at an ACTEA accredited institution; as well as proof of English language proficiency through the IELTS test (6.5 overall and 6.0 for the written element) or TOEFL (computerised 232/575; internet based 90/91). Applications for exemption from the testing can be made (with appropriate motivation) to the Faculty Board, whose decision is final. Further details may be obtained from the Assistant Registrar.

- Admission through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is permitted for a maximum of 10% of the enrolment for any year. See the RPL Policy or *Student Handbook* for details of RPL procedures.

DURATION OF STUDY:

The programme is offered on a part-time basis over two years.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING (RPL):

The qualification can be achieved in part (no more than 50%) through recognition of prior learning in a similar area, providing evidence of achievement of outcomes can be demonstrated. This falls under the GWC RPL Policy.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS/ARTICULATION:

This qualification comprises 5 compulsory courses on NQF Level 8 (90 credits) and 3 electives (45 credits) in NQF Level 8, of which learners chose 2. The minimum number of credits needed for graduation: **120 Credits**.

Articulation possibilities from this programme are both horizontal and vertical:

Articulation Horizontal

This qualification might articulate with the following qualifications

- Bachelor of Arts Honours in Mission Studies - NQF Level 8
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education Leadership - NQF Level 8
- Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education - NQF Level 8

Articulation Vertical

Completion of a Postgraduate Diploma meets the minimum entry requirement for admission to a cognate Master's Degree in the following possible areas.

- Master of Theology (Mission) - NQF Level 9
- Master of Education (Theological Education) - NQF Level 9
- Master of Higher Education - NQF Level 9

STUDY GUIDES:

At the commencement of each module, you will receive a study guide which sets out, *inter alia*, the following information:

- the aim of the module, showing how it contributes to the overall programme outcomes.
- the module outcomes
- an outline of the lecture programme
- required and recommended reading
- the assessment requirements

ASSESSMENT:

Assessment Tasks

A variety of tasks are used for assessment. These may include, essays, podcasts, lesson and learning material, action research reports, and lesson demonstrations, case studies, reflective diaries and a portfolio.

Assessment Criteria

The assessment tasks are mapped to the programme outcomes and the course intended learning outcomes. The course outcomes for each course are contained in the course descriptions below.

All summative assessments are subject to internal and external moderation.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE:

The programme comprises 5 compulsory courses which include a research paper and 3 electives out of which 2 must be completed. This programme is offered in online mode.

Postgraduate Diploma (Higher Theological Education) (NQF 8)	
Compulsory courses (5)	Credits
HTEDS401 Theology of Theological Education	15
HTETL402 Learning and Teaching in Higher Theological Education	15
HTEAL403 Learning and Assessment in Higher Education	15
HTECUR404 Curriculum Development in Theological Education	15
HTEMD410 Research paper	30
TOTAL COMPULSORY CREDITS	90
Elective courses (3)	Credits
Choose 2 Electives out of 3	30
HTEAL405 Academic Leadership in Theological Education	15
HTEMP406 Management and Planning for Theological Education	15
HTEONL407 Distance and Online Education	15
TOTAL ELECTIVE CREDITS	30
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED	120

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS – POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HIGHER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION (NQF 8):

HTEDS401 THEOLOGY OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

15cp

The purpose of the course is to enable participants to cultivate a philosophy of theological education from an evangelical perspective, that will enable them to give direction to their theory of teaching, and teaching practice in evangelical theological institutions.

HTETL402 LEARNING AND TEACHING IN HIGHER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

15cp

The course seeks to provide participants with a basis for developing their teaching skills in line with current best practice for student learning and the requirements of theology. This course introduces the student to the present state of theory and practice of learning and teaching in Higher Education. It places theological education within the context of student learning and explores the ways participants can improve their practice by applying the theory to their personal and institutional practice.

HTEAL403 LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT IN HIGHER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

15cp

This course is intended to equip the participants with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to construct, conduct and evaluate student learning both as assessment and as a tool for learning. This is a core course which builds on your learning from HTETL402: Learning and Teaching in Higher Theological Education. It is therefore a prerequisite for this course.

HTECUR404 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT IN HIGHER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

15cp

The aim of this course is to equip the participants with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to construct, conduct and evaluate theological curricula that are designed to achieve specified stated theological and educational objectives. This course introduces the student to the present state of theory and practice of assessment and curriculum development in Higher Education. It places assessment within the context of student learning

objectives and curriculum development and needs of Quality Assurance. It explores the ways participants can improve their educational practice by applying the theory to their personal and institutional practice.

The following core units are pre-requisite for this course:

HTEDS401: Theology of Theological Education

HTETL402: Learning and Teaching in Higher Theological Education

HTEAL403: Assessing Learning in Higher Theological Education

HTEAL405 ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP IN HIGHER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION **15cp**

This course aims to enhance the skills-set of academic leaders in theological colleges and Christian universities. It does this by providing the participants with the practical and theoretical bases needed to offer leadership for developing the quality of learning in an institution of higher theological education. This is an elective course that is designed for leaders of academic programmes at the level of dean, head of department or subject head. It is also appropriate for senior lecturers with responsibilities for the assurance of the quality of teaching and learning in an institution. The following core units are pre-requisite for this course:

HTEDS401: Theology of Theological Education

HTETL402: Learning and Teaching in Higher Theological Education

HTEAL403: Assessing Learning in Higher Theological Education

HTEMP406 MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING FOR HIGHER THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION **15cp**

This course aims to enhance participants' leadership skills and provide them with the practical and theoretical basis needed to lead organizational change in theological education. This course introduces the student to appropriate styles of leadership, patterns of governance in theological education and basic financial administration. Particular attention is given to leading institutional innovation and change, the support and motivation of staff and engagement with relevant stakeholders in the context of decision making. This is an elective course that is designed for participants in management and leadership positions as principals or vice principals of theological colleges, or for those in academic leadership positions who work with principals and vice principals. The following core courses are pre-requisite for this course:

HTEDS401: Theology of Theological Education

HTETL402: Learning and Teaching in Higher Theological Education

HTEAL403: Assessing Learning in Higher Theological Education

HTEONL407 DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION **15cp**

This course aims to equip participants with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to construct, conduct and evaluate student learning in online mode by utilising the principles and practices of distance and online education while creating online learning programmes in theological and Christian education. This is an elective course which builds on core pre-requisite courses:

HTEDS401: Theology of Theological Education

HTETL402: Learning and Teaching in Higher Theological Education

HTEAL403: Assessing Learning in Higher Theological Education

HTEMD 410 MINI-RESEARCH PAPER **30cp**

The Mini-Research Project course is intended to equip participants with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to use educational research as a developmental tool in the practice of teaching and learning in an institutional context. It equips participants with an introduction to the research methods needed for action research and provides them an opportunity to conduct small scale research and report on their findings. This is a core course that engages with all the learning in the core and elective components. It is therefore the final course of the Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Theological Education.