

Information to prospective MEd and PhD applicants of the Faculty of Education

1. You must apply for admission to the MEd/PhD programme. You can apply online by using the following link: <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies> (Please take note that you have to choose "Contact" on the first page where they ask the "Presentation Method".)

Or the application form can be downloaded from:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/postgrad/2020.Application-admission-form-2.pdf>

If you do not apply online, please submit the completed form, with all the necessary documents, at one of the following offices:

Potchefstroom Campus: MEd & PhD Admissions Office, Building F1, room 257, or you can send it by e-mail to HigherDegree-Enquiries@nwu.ac.za.

Mahikeng Campus: Building A1, office 119, or you can send it by e-mail to MC-HigherDegrees@nwu.ac.za.

Vanderbijlpark Campus: Administration Building 24, room G12 and G34, or you can send it by e-mail to VTC-HigherDegrees@nwu.ac.za.

The Postgraduate Yearbook of the Faculty can be found at the following link:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/yearbooks/2021/2021-Education-PGv2.pdf>

For more information, visit the Higher Degrees website:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies/higher-degree-admissions>

2. Applications for admission to the MEd/PhD programme for next year open in May and close on **1 September** of this year (**1 September of the current year for enrolment for next year**). Please ensure that your application is complete before 1 September. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
3. You have time until the end of April next year to register if your application is successful.
4. The minimum admission requirement is an average of 60% for your previous qualification as well as a minimum pass mark of 60% for the research modules in the BEdHons degree if you apply for the MEd programme. You need a relevant BEdHons degree in the discipline for which you wish to register for the MEd degree and a MEd degree in the discipline for which you wish to register for the PhD degree.

Should you not have a relevant BEdHons degree for the MEd degree, or a relevant M degree for the PhD degree, further conditions for admissions will be set by the Faculty.

Without an applicable BEd Hons, you can still proceed with a MEd or PhD (if you are selected), but you have to do an oral examination in two selected BEd Honours modules before you can officially start with your research proposal. The applicable Research Director will select the modules based on your previous qualification, but normally it will be Honours modules in education and didactics or the Honours modules of the programme you want to change to. Those modules will not be on any academic record and you will not pay registration fees for those modules. You are only going to study it on your own and when ready, ask for an oral examination. If you pass the oral, you can proceed. This can be done while you are registered for your MEd / PhD degree.

5. Your completed application will be evaluated by the relevant research entity or subject group and you will be informed of the outcome by the MEd/PhD Office during November. **If your application is successful, the relevant Scientific Committee will assign you a supervisor / promoter. It is not necessary for you to seek for a supervisor / promoter .**
6. **It is also important to note that although you may meet all the admission requirements, your application may not be considered as successful due to other reasons, such as the Faculty's limited capacity to render effective supervision.**
7. Applicants must demonstrate acceptable levels of proficiency in computer and academic literacy and have adequate Internet access.
8. Training sessions will be presented during the year to empower and support you in your studies. We strongly recommend that these sessions be attended.
9. A student who has been admitted to the MEd/PhD programme must submit a research proposal to a Scientific Committee for approval within six (6) months after registration. The approved academic processes and administrative deadlines for submission must be adhered to.

10. An MEd degree should be completed in a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of three (3) years for full-time students and four (4) years for part-time students, and a PhD degree should be completed in a minimum of two (2) years and a maximum of four (4) years for full-time students and five (5) years for part-time students. These are research degrees (no classes to attend and no examinations): you must write a dissertation/thesis, which will be examined at the end of your studies. The communication between you and your supervisor/promoter can either be in person and/or via electronic media, therefore these degrees can be done by distance. Please note that you should have adequate Internet access.

11. If you are working more than 40 hours a month you should register as a part-time student.

12. If you have obtained your qualification(s) from a non-South African higher education Institution, your qualification(s) must be evaluated by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). Visit the SAQA website for more information. **International students should** contact:

Potchefstroom campus: Ms Annelishé van der Spoel from the International Office for more information about the required documents: +27 18 299 2919 or Annelishe.VanDerSpoel@nwu.ac.za.

Mahikeng Campus: Mr Peter Monyelo, Building A3, Block A, Office 247, Mahikeng campus, phone number +27 18 389 2575, and email Peter.Monyelo@nwu.ac.za

Vanderbijlpark Campus: 25459848@nwu.ac.za

13. For information about other financial support (Bursary and Loans) or online applications, visit the website:

<http://studies.nwu.ac.za/financial-support-services/nwu-postgraduate-bursary-scheme>

E-mail address: Mahikeng: MC-PostGradBurs@nwu.ac.za
Potchefstroom: NWU-PostGradBurs@nwu.ac.za
Vanderbijlpark: VC-PostGradBurs@nwu.ac.za

14. For a quotation regarding the costs of the degree, you can contact:

Mahikeng Campus:

Building: Administration Building A1
Tel: (018) 389 2503 / (018) 389 2478
E-mail: MC-Studyfees@nwu.ac.za

Potchefstroom Campus:

Building: Joon van Rooy Building F1, Building ground floor
Tel: (018) 299 2666 / (018) 299 2673
E-mail: PC-Studyfees@nwu.ac.za.

Vanderbijlpark Campus:

Building: Administration Building 24
Tel: (016) 910 3234 / (016) 910 3456 / (016) 910 3167
E-mail: Vaalaccounts@nwu.ac.za

15. Apart from the other documents that must accompany your application, we also expect of you to submit a **letter of intent/mini-proposal for your proposed research (maximum two pages)** with your application. **Your application will not be considered without this document.**

In order to prepare this document, follow the following steps:

Visit the website of the Faculty of Education for the particular entity or project in which you wish to conduct your MEd/PhD research (see the table below) to learn more about the research focuses of the research entity or subject group). It is highly recommended that your proposed study links with the aims of the existing entities or research projects. The Faculty regards it as important that your proposed research topic strengthens the current research focuses of the faculty.

- Visit the webpages of the Faculty of Education and the various Research Entities within the Faculty and identify a research topic that will link with your research interest and the existing research projects within the faculty, keeping in mind your previous qualification.
- Write your letter of intent **for your proposed research** by following the guidelines below:
 - Formulate a **preliminary title** for your proposed research. The title should cover the research topic meaningfully and refer to the main aspects of the study.
 - Identify the research problem and describe it briefly. Thus, in this section, give a description of **what** you want to research.
 - Motivate **why** it is important to conduct the research. Explain why the research will be of particular relevance and how it will contribute towards the expansion of existing knowledge in the field of education and what the anticipated implications will be for teaching practice.
 - Explain **how** you will conduct the research, i.e. what methods you anticipate using to conduct the research.
- It is **your sole responsibility** to write this letter without the expectation of faculty guidance in this regard.

This letter of intent must be typed and must **not exceed two pages**. Please note that this letter of intent only serves as guidance for the committee to allocate a supervisor/promoter to you and will not disqualify you from study at the

faculty. After acceptance of your application, the relevant Scientific Committee will use this letter of intent to guide them in order to assign a suitable supervisor/promoter.

Higher Degrees Administration will notify you of the outcome of the application during November.

Documents to be submitted with your application:

- 1. Completed application form (if apply manually)**
- 2. Signed undertaking (see webpage <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/studies/how-apply-online>; step 4 under Postgraduate students.**
- 3. Certified copy of your ID / passport**
- 4. Certified copy of your academic record of your previous qualification**
- 5. Letter of intent**
- 6. If previous qualification is from a non-South African higher education Institution, a SAQA certificate should be included.**
- 7. If you are an international student, R500 application fee (see website for more information: <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/postgraduate-studies/higher-degree-admissions> – last option under “Apply as follows”**

Further inquiries:

Prof P du Preez
MEd and PhD Programme Leader – Potchefstroom Campus
E-mail address: Petro.DuPreez@nwu.ac.za
Tel: 018 299 4737

Ms Erna Greyling
Higher Degrees Administrator
E-mail address: Erna.Greyling@nwu.ac.za
Tel: 018 299 4656

Ms Ronéle van Staden
Higher Degrees Administrator
E-mail address: Ronelle.VanStaden@nwu.ac.za
Tel: 018 285 2101

RESEARCH ENTITIES IN THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Unit	Unit	Niche	Focus area
Edu-HRight Education and Human Rights in Diversity	SDL Self-Directed learning	Edu-Lead Education Leadership	COMBER Community-based Educational Research
Prof Johan Botha 018 285 2265 Johan.Botha@nwu.ac.za	Prof Elsa Mentz 018 299 4780 Elsa.Mentz@nwu.ac.za	Prof Jan Heystek 018 299 1906 Jan.Heystek@nwu.ac.za	Prof Lesley Wood 018 299 4700 Lesley.Wood@nwu.ac.za
Sub-areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse Contexts • Legal Perspectives, Governance and Democracy • Bio-Psychosocial Perspectives • Discipline • Citizenship • Comparative International See http://education.nwu.ac.za/edu-hright for more information	Subareas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment to support Self-Directed Learning • Cooperative learning to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Blended learning to support Self-Directed Learning • Indigenous knowledge and contextualised learning to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Cognition and metacognition to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Problem-based learning to enhance Self-Directed Learning • Scholarship and praxis for Self-Directed Learning • UNESCO Chair on Multimodel Learning and Open Educational Resources See http://education.nwu.ac.za/sdl for more information	Subareas <p>See http://education.nwu.ac.za/Edu-Lead for more information</p>	Subareas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifelong Learning and Development in Communities • Holistic Wellbeing of Communities • Early Childhood Development in Communities • Inclusive Education & Support Services in Communities • Environmental Education for Sustainable Development in Communities See http://education.nwu.ac.za/comber for more information

If you cannot find a home for your research in the first four columns contact Prof Lesley Wood (Lesley.Wood@nwu.ac.za) or Prof Washington Dudu (Washington.Dudu@nwu.ac.za) for research outside entities (ROE).

For more information on the programmes offered, see the table below or consult the yearbook - <http://studies.nwu.ac.za/sites/studies.nwu.ac.za/files/files/yearbooks/2021/2021-Education-PGv2.pdf>.

MEd programmes relating to each of the research foci			
Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CC N01 - O801P/M/V)	Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CC N01 - O801P/M/V)	Education Management and Leadership (4CB N01 - O801P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CH N01 - O801P/M/V)
Education Law (4CG N01 - O801P/M/V)	Computer Science Education (4CP N01 - O801P/M/V)		Special Needs Education (4CL N01 - O801P/M/V)
Special Needs Education (4CL N01 - O801P/M/V)	Mathematic Education (4CK N01 - O801P/M/V)		
Philosophy of Education (4CM N01 - O801P/M/V)	Physical Science Education with Natural Science Education (4CE N01 - O801P/M/V)		
Education Management and Leadership (4CB N01 - O801P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CH N01 - O801P/M/V)		
PhD programmes relating to each of the research foci			
Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CA R03 - O901P/M/V)	Curriculum Studies (including school subjects: English, Afrikaans, Setswana, Life Orientation, Geography, Technology, Economics, Arts, History) (4CA R03 - O901P/M/V)	Education Management (4CA R06 - O901P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CA R07 - O901P/M/V)
Education Law (4CA R05 - O901P/M/V)	Computer Science Education (4CA R02 - O901P/M/V)		Special Needs Education (4CA R14 - O901P/M/V)
Special Needs Education (4CA R14 - O901P/M/V)	Mathematic Education (404116 - O901P/M/V)		
Philosophy of Education (4CA R11 - O901P/M/V)	Natural Science Education (4CA R10 - O901P/M/V)		
Education Management (4CA R06 - O901P/M/V)	Education Psychology (4CA R07 - O901P/M/V)		