



SOL PLAATJE UNIVERSITY

UNDERGRADUATE PROSPECTUS 2020

**General Information and
Admission Requirements**





The Sol Plaatje University (SPU) in Kimberley draws on the distinctive strengths and heritage of the Northern Cape, stimulating provincial and national development and has the potential to inject new life and purpose into Kimberley and the Northern Cape – a place bursting with energy, attracting people from all over Southern Africa and from other continents.

The University is offering the following programmes:

- **Bachelor of Education (Intermediate Phase) – 4 years**
 - Languages, Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology (721)
 - Languages, Social Sciences and Life Skills (722)
- **Bachelor of Education (Senior Phase and FET Phase) – 4 years**
 - Life Sciences, Natural Sciences, Mathematics (731)
 - Geography, Mathematics or History and Technology (732)
 - Languages or Language and History (734)
 - History, Social Sciences, Language (735)
 - Physical Sciences plus Mathematics OR Physical Sciences plus Natural Sciences and Mathematics (736)
 - Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy (737)
 - Two of Accounting/Economics/Business Management, Economic and Management Sciences (738)
- **Bachelor of Science – 3 years**
 - Mathematical and Computer Sciences
 - Physical Sciences
 - Biological Sciences
- **Bachelor of Science in Data Science – 3 years**
- **Diploma in Information and Communication Technology: Applications Development – 3 years**
- **Bachelor of Commerce – 3 years**
- **Diploma in Retail Business Management – 3 years**
- **Bachelor of Arts – 3 years**
- **Higher Certificate in Heritage Studies – 1 year**

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR SOL PLAATJE UNIVERSITY

The language of learning and teaching at SPU is English. All our academic programmes require that students will have taken English HL: NSC Level 4 OR English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5. Note that, in calculating the APS, the additional points apply to any of the official languages taken as the HL.

The minimum requirements are based on the results that applicants achieved in the South African National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations. Applicants who hold certificates from a different examination system will be considered individually for admission.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you satisfy the minimum requirements stated here, it does not mean that you will automatically be admitted to the study programme at SPU. The final decision on your admission will be based on your academic performance and the availability of space in the programme. If your academic performance is above this minimum requirements, your chance of being admitted to study at the University will be better.

HOW TO CALCULATE THE SPU ADMISSION POINTS SCORE (APS)

NSC Achievement Level	NSC %	SPU Points Score	Additional points for Mathematics and language (HL)	Points for Life Orientation
8	90 – 100	8	+2	4
7	80 – 89	7	+2	3
6	70 – 79	6	+2	2
5	60 – 69	5	+2	1
4	50 – 59	4	+1	0
3	40 – 49	3	+1	0
2	30 – 39	2	0	0
1	0 – 29	1	0	0

THE UNIVERSITY IS CONTINUOUSLY DEVELOPING NEW PROGRAMMES AND STUDENTS ARE ADVISED TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE (www.spu.ac.za) ON A REGULAR BASIS TO KEEP UP WITH THE LATEST ADDITIONS OF ACCREDITED PROGRAMMES.

PROGRAMMES OFFERED

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (B.Ed.) Degrees

The B.Ed. programmes in Senior Phase and FET Teaching and Intermediate Phase Teaching, are specifically designed to prepare students for teaching in the South African schooling system. National imperatives such as the shortage of Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Geography and Technology teachers, as well as regional imperatives such as the need for Afrikaans and Setswana teachers in both primary and secondary schools in the Northern Cape, were important considerations in the design and development of these programmes.

It is intended for education students who want to obtain a degree in Education, specialising in the teaching of one or more of Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Life Sciences, Geography, Technology, History, Afrikaans, English or Setswana that would qualify them as professional educators for the Senior Phase and Further Education and Training or Intermediate Phase. These qualifications are also suitable for expertise in education-related careers such as training officials.

The purpose of the B.Ed. degree is to provide a well-rounded education that will empower graduates with an integrated knowledge base enabling them to demonstrate competence, commitment and responsibility as academically and professionally qualified beginner teachers. The curriculum and the accompanying classroom practice is a “shaping force” of the students admitted to this University. The approach to teaching, learning development and assessment on this degree programme is strongly guided by the intellectual and professional attributes that our graduates need to develop in order to have a positive impact on the schooling needs of the diverse communities in our country.

The following aims will assist in exploring and fulfilling the purpose of the B.Ed. Degree:

- provision of subject/discipline knowledge;
- provision of pedagogical content knowledge;
- fostering self-reflexivity and self-understanding to enable commitment to the highest level of professional work ethics;
- development of students as active citizens who will respond to and initiate change, and
- development of competencies to organise learning among a wide range of learners in diverse contexts.

- **BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (B.Ed.)
INTERMEDIATE PHASE (Grades 4 - 6)**

Period of study: 4 years

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme

- NSC pass with Bachelor's Degree requirement
- English HL: NSC Level 4 OR English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5
- If Mathematics is an elective: NSC Level 4
- If Biology/Life or Physical Sciences is an elective: NSC Level 4
- APS: Minimum 30 points

These programmes target potential students who have successfully completed Grade 12 with admission to degree studies and who want to teach Languages, Mathematics, Natural Sciences or Languages, Life Skills and Social Sciences to Grade 4 – 7 learners.

- **BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (B.Ed.)
SENIOR PHASE (Grade 7 – 9) &
FET PHASE (Grade 10 – 12)**

Period of study: 4 years

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme

- NSC pass with Bachelor's Degree requirement
- English HL: NSC Level 4 OR English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5
- If Mathematics is an elective: NSC Level 4
- If Life Sciences or Physical Sciences is an elective: NSC Level 4
- If Accounting is an elective: Accounting NSC Level 4
- APS: Minimum 30 points

This programme targets potential students who have successfully completed Grade 12 with admission to degree studies and who want to teach one or more of the following subjects at school: Mathematics, Natural Sciences, Life Sciences; Geography, Technology, Languages, History Accounting, Economics and Business Management.

SCHOOL OF NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES

• BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.Sc.)

Period of study: 3 years

The Bachelor of Science degree has been carefully designed to address a critical skills shortage in the country and will provide access to students to an advanced area of study in a critical contemporary discipline.

The programme aims to produce science graduates who have a systematic and coherent body of knowledge and an understanding of underlying concepts and principles; the ability to assess and evaluate scientific information; a high level of cognitive and other generic skills; written and spoken communication, computer literacy and competence in applying knowledge through basic research methods and practice.

The programme is offered in three specific sub-field specialisations, namely Mathematical and Computer Sciences, Physical Sciences and Biological Sciences.

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme

- NSC pass with Bachelor's Degree requirement
- English LOLT or HL: NSC Level 4; or English 1st language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: NSC Level 4 (**Mathematical Literacy is not acceptable.**)
- Physical Sciences: NSC Level 4
- Life Sciences: NSC Level 4
- APS: Minimum 30 points

Career Opportunities

Exciting career opportunities await BSc graduates. Besides teaching and academics, specific careers include:

- **Biological Sciences** – Biologist, Conservation Science, Zoo Curator, Herbarium Curator
 - **Mathematical and Computer Sciences** – Banking, Insurance, Statistician, Computer Programming, Operations Research, Cyber Security Analyst, Forensic Computer Analyst and Software Analyst
 - **Physical Sciences** – Physicist, Chemical Analyst, Quality Control, Forensic GIS Analyst and Geographer.
- **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN DATA SCIENCE**

Period of study: 3 years

The Bachelor of Science in Data Science degree has a strong mathematics core and a focus on data science and applications thereof. The degree is designed to develop highly skilled graduates in areas in which there are considerable shortages across the country. Graduates in possession of this degree will be both employable and eligible for further study, whether in honours or

postgraduate diploma studies.

Data Science focuses on finding solutions to solving the 'big data' problems. This qualification addresses the need for predictive models in diverse disciplines such as clinical research, intelligence, consumer behaviour and risk management continues unabated. It also addresses the critical skills shortage in the country and will provide access to students to an advanced area of study in a critical contemporary discipline.

In addition, this qualification forms an important part of the evolving Academic Plan of the new Sol Plaatje University (SPU) in Kimberley in the Northern Cape. The academic posture adopted by the University has been to focus on the unique characteristics and needs of the general Northern Cape region in a manner that raises intellectual matters of local and global interest. Sol Plaatje University is keen to develop capacity for academic engagement in Data Science that is both wide in its reach and deep in the levels of intellectual competence of its staff and students.

Having been established as a Comprehensive University, the implementation of the Bachelor of Science in Data Science is consistent with our mission, and the qualification proposed permits for the development of our University's growth in this field. By providing access to students in the Northern Cape to an advanced area of study in a critical contemporary discipline, SPU will continue to focus on areas in which it aims to make a high quality intervention driven by academic excellence.

At least one university is presently developing postgraduate qualifications in Data Science (the University of the Witwatersrand), thus ensuring vertical articulation possibilities and further encouraging the development of academic programmes in this field.

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme

A National Senior Certificate as recognised by Umalusi with a minimum achievement of Level 5 for Mathematics; Level 4 for English LOLT/HL or Level 5 for English First Additional Language. Mathematical Literacy will not be accepted for admission to this programme.

- NSC pass with Bachelor's Degree requirement
- English HL: NSC Level 4 OR English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: NSC Level 5 (**Mathematical Literacy is not acceptable.**)
- APS: 30 points

Career opportunities

Data Science is a field with high demand in various industry sector. Big companies such as Amazon, Netflix, Facebook, Twitter, Microsoft, Uber and all other small companies

require skilled data science to drive insightful business decisions. Data Science career opportunities include the following:

- Data Scientist
- Data Architect
- Data Analyst
- Data/Analytics Manager
- Data Engineer
- Intelligence Analyst
- Data Mining Engineer

• **DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) Specialising in Applications Development**

Period of study: 3 years

The pervasive use of computers has resulted in an ongoing need for a wide range of highly skilled human capacity in ICT disciplines. The field is subject to rapid technological changes and therefore requires professionals who are well-educated, who keep up-to-date with the latest developments in the field and who can engage future trends and developments in the field.

The purpose of this Diploma qualification is to provide a career-focussed, professional qualification featuring industry-referenced knowledge and skills transfer, technological competencies, critical cross-field skills as well as attitudinal development. The programme deals with the conceptualisation, design, development, implementation and testing of computer software applications to meet the enormous commercial and social demand for such products. Students are prepared for careers in Computer Programming and Systems Analysis & Design but will gain exposure to a wide range of related topics. The diploma graduate will be knowledgeable and competent in the discourse and practice of the ICT discipline and have specialist knowledge of the Applications Development sub-discipline of ICT.

The curriculum features a range of professional and personal development initiatives relevant to the ICT industry and the promotion of lifelong learning skills. Qualifying students will therefore be proficient in the general discourse of ICT but have specialised knowledge and skills that are focussed on Applications Development. The programme is designed to promote initiative and responsibility in an academic and/or professional context to respond to the local, regional and national, community and industry needs.

Diploma graduates in ICT specialising in Applications Development are able to:

- Create and modify general computer applications software or specialised utility programs for stand-alone and distributed environments including the web environment,
- Analyse user needs and produce a suitable specification for a system, covering a medium sized business problem,

- Develop computer programs to demonstrate the ability to store, locate and retrieve information from different data sources, and
- Deploy a suitable, secure software solution based on a given scenario demonstrating an understanding of systems architectures.

ICT practitioners are generally required to collaborate in teams to accomplish a common goal by integrating personal initiative and group co-operation around ICT projects. The course therefore also focuses on the development of professional communication skills which prepares students to work both independently and as part of a team. Strong emphasis is placed on creative problem solving and structured project management approaches.

The dynamic nature of the ICT industry demands that practitioners remain aware of developments and continuously update their skills. Practitioners must be au fait with the best practices and benchmark standards of the ICT industry. The programme therefore focuses on developing the lifelong learning skills of students.

Security of information has become a key concern in the modern business environment. As future ICT practitioners, students will be exposed to uncompromising approaches in the ethical practice of their profession.

Minimum requirements for admission

- NSC pass with Diploma requirement
- English HL: NSC Level 4 OR English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: NSC level 3 OR Mathematical Literacy: NSC Level 5
- APS: Minimum 25 points

It is highly recommended that applicants should also have Computer Applications Technology (CAT) or Information Technology (IT) as subjects in their Matric curriculum.

Career Opportunities

An exciting career awaits those who successfully complete the Diploma in ICT specialising in Applications Development qualification. A world without ICT and software application is unimaginable! ICT career opportunities include the following:

- Software Analyst
- Solution Architecture
- Computer Network Professional
- Network Administrator
- Network Analyst
- Software Application Programmer
- Software Application Developer
- Web Administrator
- Web Designer
- Web Developer
- System Administrator.

• BACHELOR OF COMMERCE (GENERIC)

- B.COM.

Period of study: 3 years

The Bachelor of Commerce exits at HEQSF level 7 and the minimum duration is three years. A student needs to obtain a total of 416 SAQA credits in order to obtain the degree.

There is a strong focus on core functional areas of Business Management with majors offered in Business Management and other disciplines. The B.Com intends to develop skilled graduates who are able to engage critically with the world and apply disciplinary content to the resolution of problems.

Business Management and Communication are compulsory 1st year modules.

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme

- NSC pass with Bachelor's Degree requirement
- English LOLT or HL: NSC Level 4; OR English 1st Additional Language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: NSC Level 4 (**Mathematical Literacy is not acceptable.**)
- A National Certificate Vocational with relevant subjects will be considered for entry into this programme.
- APS: Minimum 30 points.

Career opportunities

The demand for commerce graduates is high, as they fit into a variety of jobs. There are numerous options for B.Com graduates, including becoming accountants or taxation specialists. The job may include administration, credit control, hospitality, production planning and control, purchasing, quality management, marketing and travel and tourism.

B.Com graduates have a fundamental knowledge of finance, marketing, operations and systems, budgeting and business planning and are preferred in most departments and allows you to work in management, development, investment, sales or valuation.

Commerce Graduates have good employment prospects and there is almost no area of business today where your analytical, accounting, human resources and research skills cannot be used.

• DIPLOMA IN RETAIL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Period of study: 3 years

This diploma provides students with the knowledge, insight and skills needed to follow a successful management career in the retail or wholesale fields. Retail and wholesale businesses strive to satisfy the needs of consumers by providing the necessary products and services.

The retail industry offers national and international career opportunities for the graduate. The variety of retail and wholesale businesses is enormous and includes departmental stores, hypermarkets, shopping centres, speciality stores, general dealers, chain stores, supermarkets, factory stores, boutiques and restaurants.

Retail managers are generally required to work in teams and the programme therefore focuses on the development of professional communication skills which prepares students to work both independently and as part of a team. Strong emphasis is placed on problem solving and students are also exposed to good management practices in the field of retailing. Our work integrated learning programme allows students to gain some retail management experience. Students are also exposed to uncompromising approaches in the ethical practice of this management discipline.

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme *

- NSC pass with Diploma Requirement
- English HL: NSC Level 4; or English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: NSC Level 3 OR Mathematical Literacy: NSC Level 5
- At least one of the following at NSC Level 4: Accounting, Business Studies or Economics
- APS: Minimum 25 points

Career Opportunities

This qualification forms a base for further specialisation in fields such as buying, merchandising, store lay-out and merchandise planning.

Graduates can choose from a wide variety of entry level positions, e.g. as a trainee manager or a position in buying, stock control, merchandising, sales, administration, logistics, housekeeping or the finance section of a retail business.

***NOTE:** changes to minimum requirements for admission to this programme in 2020 might be implemented.

• BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

Period of study: 3 years

The Bachelor of Arts exits at HEQSF level 7 and the minimum duration is three years.

The B.A. intends to develop skilled graduates who are able to engage critically with the world and apply disciplinary content to the resolution of problems. There is a strong focus on languages (Afrikaans, English and Setswana), History, Heritage Studies, Geography, Mathematics and Sociology.

Heritage Studies is a compulsory 1st year module to provide students with an interdisciplinary academic field that takes a critical look at the way we preserve, present, participate and interrogate heritage and the unofficial objects and symbols of heritage.

For the B.A. Degree, it is envisaged that articulation into postgraduate qualifications will enable further development of the majors or in selected professional fields. The package is aimed at equipping the learner with communication skills as well as in-depth knowledge of the subjects of their choice. Students from the B.A. acquire perspectives on different aspects of people and their interaction with the world.

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme

- NSC pass with Bachelor's Degree requirement
- English LOLT or HL: NSC Level 4; OR English 1st Additional Language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: (NSC Level 2) OR
Mathematical Literacy: (NSC Level 3) is required
- Minimum Admission Points Score (APS) of 30
- Additional subject requirements have been set for students wishing to enrol for a major or modules in Economics, Geography or Mathematics – a minimum achievement of Level 4.
- A National Certificate Vocational with relevant subjects, or SPU's Higher Certificate in Heritage Studies will be considered for entry into this programme. Details will be provided by the Head: School of Humanities.

Career opportunities

B.A. graduates are equipped to become researchers or practitioners in a variety of professional domains such as museums and other heritage organisations, language based positions (translation and editing), teaching, communication, journalism, creative writing, media work, community development, tourism and the diplomatic service.

• HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HERITAGE STUDIES

Period of study: 1 year

This course provides students with a theoretical and practical grounding of knowledge and skills about the heritage sector.

A key benefit is that this Certificate provides an opportunity for studying further in heritage or another discipline. This Certificate would enable a pathway for ongoing learning and successful graduates could enter one of the various undergraduate degree courses. We are keen to produce students with a strong ability for independent thinking who can be prepared for this level of learning.

Minimum requirements for admission to the programme*

- NSC pass with Certificate requirement
- English HL: NSC Level 4 OR
English 1st additional language: NSC Level 5
- Mathematics: (NSC Level 2) OR
Mathematical Literacy: (NSC Level 3)
- APS: Minimum 25 points

Career opportunities

The skills developed, would encourage work in diverse roles within national and provincial heritage management bodies or privately-managed heritage organisations. This could include roles from administration in heritage institutions such as museums. Other possible roles could include assisting in archival work in a wide range of institutions including universities, public and private bodies, or working within the tourism industry.

***NOTE:** changes to minimum requirements for admission to this programme in 2020 might be implemented.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

There is a wide range of possible sources of financial support for higher education students in South Africa. These range from bursaries to study loans from government or private institutions, e.g. commercial banks.

It is the students' responsibility to apply for financial aid and you are therefore encouraged to investigate all possibilities and make sure that you apply in time for financial aid.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE USEFUL:

BURSARY/STUDENT LOAN	CONTACT DETAILS	CLOSING DATE
NSFAS Available for financially and academically deserving students in any area of study.	General enquiries: +27 (0)860 067327 e-mail: info@nsfas.org.za Apply on-line at: http://www.nsfas.org.za	Available on website.
FUNZA LUSHAKA BURSARY only applicable to the following B.Ed. Programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.Ed. Senior Phase and FET (Life Sciences and Mathematics) • B.Ed. Senior Phase and FET (Geography and Mathematics) • B.Ed. Senior Phase and FET (Mathematics and Natural Sciences) All other B.Ed programmes to apply for other funding.	Only on-line applications: www.funzalushaka.doe.gov.za	Available on website.
ETDP SETA	Telephone: +27 (0)53 832 0051/2 Fax: +27 (0)86 581 8322 Website: www.etdpseta.org.za	Information available at ETDP SETA's Office.
W&R SETA Students who are interested in studying the Diploma in Retail Business Management can apply for this bursary.	Shop 16b, Flaxley House, 24 – 28 Du Toitspan Road, Kimberley Telephone: +27 (0)53 831 4117	Information available at the W&R SETA Office.
THE NORTHERN CAPE PREMIER'S EDUCATION TRUST FUND	Tel: +27 (0)53 830 9147	Information available at the Office of the NC Premier's Education Trust Fund.
NORTHERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	Tel no: +27 (0)53 839 6500 (Bursary Office) Fax to e-mail: +27 (0)867 733 842	Kindly contact the NC Department of Education (Bursary Office).
FUNDI All qualifications	Call Centre: +27 (0)860 55 55 44 E-mail: support@fundi.co.za Website: https://www.fundi.co.za	Contact FUNDI
BURSARIES SOUTH AFRICA	Website: www.bursaries2018.co.za	

DO YOU NEED ANY FURTHER INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE?

For Funding Information, kindly contact:

Mrs Chrizelle Mally, +27 (0)53 491 0102, e-mail: chrizelle.mally@spu.ac.za

For Tuition and Other Information (Quotations), kindly contact:

Mrs Valerie Herman, +27 (0)53 491 0156, e-mail: valerie.herman@spu.ac.za

Mrs Lebo Tlhalogang, +27 (0)53 491 0215, e-mail: lebo.tlhalogang@spu.ac.za

For Application and Registration Information, kindly contact:

The University Registrar
 Private Bag X5008
 KIMBERLEY
 8300

The University Registrar
 Sol Plaatje University (North Campus)
 Chapel Street
 KIMBERLEY
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"EDUCATION IS THE PASSPORT TO THE FUTURE, FOR TOMORROW BELONGS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE FOR IT TODAY."