

# Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Software Development)



SAQA ID 102780 NQF level 5

## Qualification duration

Minimum: 1 year full-time  
Maximum: 3 years part-time  
Full-time or Part-time

## Mid-year intake?

MLM: First Monday of the month  
LBL: Block offering

## Qualification start date

MLM – Student can start any week of the month of January and February. Thereafter from March to December students can start the first Monday of each month.

LBL – Block 1: Feb  
Block 2: Mar

## Qualification description

**The Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Software Development) is a career-focused qualification that is intensive but also broad. It will develop your programming ability and mobile development skills so that you can work in a range of areas in the IT industry.**

The Higher Certificate in Information Systems (Software Development) provides you with solid theoretical and intensive practical foundation in one programming language and one database language, where the emphasis is on application development. The core subject areas are Programming Language and Databases. You also cover topics such as general Computer Literacy, Program Design, Processing and Logic Concepts. Throughout the qualification you will complete technical projects so that you are able to troubleshoot problems.

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, hardware pods and smart pods, will prepare you for the real IT work environment of the future. In addition, you also have the opportunity to study through the Lecture-Based Learning (LBL) approach using the trimester structure plan.

Over and above this, you will develop essential skills for the world of work, especially for the IT industry, such as analysing and solving real problems, logical thinking, being innovative and adaptable, working in teams and communicating effectively.

Are you curious about the inner workings of programme design and do you wonder how you would install software, administer application development?

## Entry requirements

- National Senior Certificate (NSC) with diploma or Higher Certificate entry or an equivalent foreign secondary qualification or international school-leaving certificate on an NSC level (NQF 4) confirmed by SAQA.

Or

- National Certificate (Vocational) level four issued by the Council of General, Further Education, and Training.

And

- You must have obtained the required results in the Placement Assessment.

## Qualification accreditation

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

## Possible career options

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

- Programming
- Database administration
- Mobile application development

## This qualification is offered at the following campuses

- Selected Campuses

## Qualification structure

### Year 1

- Computer Literacy
- Personal Skills Development
- Processing and Logic Concepts
- Program Design
- Hardware Essentials
- Software Engineering
- Database Design Concepts
- Database Management
- First Programming Language (Basic and Advanced) Choice of
  - Java **or** C#
- Second Programming Language (Basic) Choice of
  - Mobile Development (J2ME & Android) **or** Java **or** C#
  - Final Practical Exam