



FULLY ONLINE



Postgraduate Diploma in Distance Higher Education

Duration: 2 years | 12 modules | 120 credits | SAQA ID: 109941 | NQF Level 8

APPLY NOW



Ranked **3rd** best Private
Higher Education Institute
in South Africa by the
**World Scholarship
Forum**



About the programme

Designed for current or aspiring lecturers, this postgraduate diploma equips educators with the skills to translate traditional teaching into effective online learning experiences. It follows global shifts towards digital education and focuses on preparing practitioners to design, facilitate, and evaluate quality e-learning environments.

START YOUR JOURNEY TODAY!

Structure and Enrolment

- **Duration:** 2 years
(modules: 8 weeks each, 7 weeks study + 1 week break)
- **Format:** Fully online (*E-Learning*)
- **Effort:** 12–15 hours per week
- **Admission Requirements:**
 1. A recognised bachelor's degree or advanced diploma at NQF Level 7
 2. Appropriate working experience in higher or distance education (valued as a significant determinant)

Application Requirements

- Completed application form
- Certified copy of ID/passport
- Certified copy of highest qualification(s)
- SAQA and USAF verification for foreign qualifications
- If applying for Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CAT): certified academic transcripts and study guide at same NQF level
- If applying for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL): testimonials or reference letters, portfolio of evidence, curriculum vitae, portfolio of research (if applicable)



Who is this Programme For?

This programme is ideal for:

- Educators with a bachelor's degree or advanced diploma (NQF Level 7) who seek to formalise their online teaching capability.
- Professionals with relevant experience in higher education, distance teaching, or post-secondary learning contexts.

What will you study?

Modules

Fundamentals of Distance Education
(10 credits)

**Promoting Professionalism in
Higher Education**
(10 credits)

**Evidence-based Higher
Education Practice**
(10 credits)

Assessment in Higher Education
(10 credits)

Curriculum Development
(10 credits)

**Using Technology in Higher Education
(including Instructional Design) – Part A**
(10 credits)

**Using Technology in Higher Education
(including Instructional Design) – Part B**
(10 credits)

Leadership in Higher Education
(10 credits)

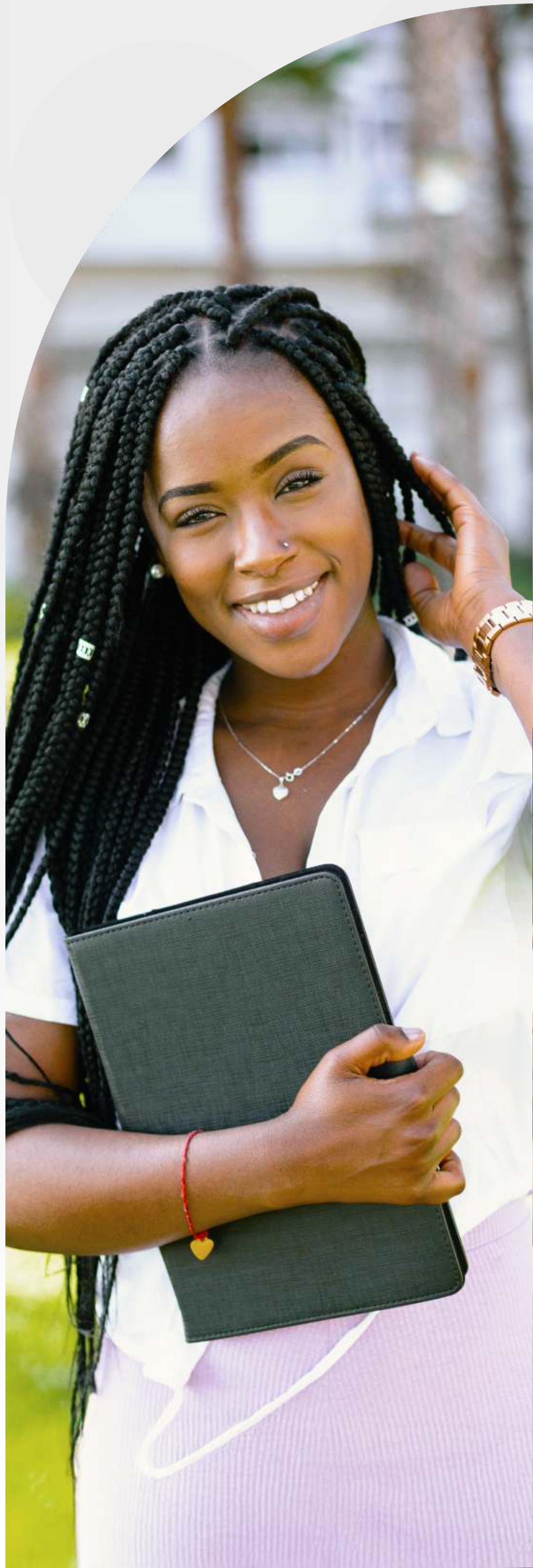
Higher Education Service Learning
(10 credits)

Quality Improvement in Higher Education
(10 credits)

**Promoting Well-being, Mental Health
and Wellness**
(10 credits)

Personal Branding
(10 credits)

Total: 120 credits



Delivery and Learning Experience

The programme is delivered fully online and designed for flexibility and depth. Students engage through:

- Structured Online Modules – Each module includes 7 weeks of guided study followed by a 1-week break.
- Rich Digital Resources – Professionally developed materials such as readings, multimedia content, and formative assessments.
- Practical Assignments – Applied tasks that allow learners to integrate theory into their work environments.
- Self-Paced Study – A fully asynchronous model that enables learners to study at their own pace.
- Ongoing Support and Feedback – Students receive constructive feedback and facilitator guidance via online channels.

This approach ensures that working professionals receive a learning experience that is both robust and adaptable to their schedules.

Graduate Opportunities

Graduates of this programme will be able to:

- Design and deliver high-quality online and blended learning programmes.
- Apply pedagogical and instructional design principles in digital education contexts.
- Implement rigorous online assessment strategies aligned with learning outcomes.
- Promote professionalism and innovation in distance teaching within higher education institutions.
- Pursue roles such as instructional designer, online learning facilitator, academic developer, or distance education coordinator.

This programme builds a pathway for educators to develop advanced expertise in designing and delivering online and blended higher-education programmes.





About FPD

The Foundation for Professional Development (FPD), established in 1997, is one of South Africa's leading private higher education institutions. Recognised as the 3rd best private higher education institute in South Africa by the World Scholarship Forum, FPD has built a reputation for developing professionals who make meaningful contributions to business and society.

Lead the digital education revolution - apply for the Postgraduate Diploma in Distance Higher Education and build the expertise to shape the future of online teaching.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#) ⓘ

Contact us

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