

# University of South Africa (UNISA) 2027 Prospectus: Comprehensive Guide to Degrees and Diplomas

As the largest open distance learning institution in Africa, the **University of South Africa (UNISA)** provides accessible, high-quality education to students across the globe. Whether you are a first-time matriculant or a working professional looking to upskill, the **2027 academic year** offers a wide array of qualifications designed to fit a flexible lifestyle.

UNISA operates on a **Comprehensive, Open, Distance, and e-Learning (CODEL)** model. This means your classroom is wherever you are, supported by advanced digital tools like the **myUnisa** student portal and dedicated **e-tutors**.

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## Official 2027 Resources

To ensure accuracy for your specific application, please refer to the official links below:

- **View UNISA 2027 Prospectus:** <https://schoolhive.co.za/unisa-prospectus/>
- **Official UNISA Website:** <https://www.unisa.ac.za/>

**Disclaimer:** This information is compiled for assistance only. Please confirm all admission requirements, course codes, and closing dates directly with UNISA for the 2027 intake.

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## Why Study at UNISA in 2027?

- **Flexibility:** Plan your studies around your work and family commitments.
  - **Modern Facilities:** The UNISA Science Campus features state-of-the-art laboratories and research equipment.
  - **Extensive Support:** Access the largest academic library in Africa and 28 regional service centres across South Africa.
  - **Accreditation:** Qualifications are nationally responsive and globally relevant, with Engineering programmes fully accredited by the **Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA)**.
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## Admission Requirements Overview

Admission is dependent on meeting the specific requirements for your chosen qualification.

- **Higher Certificates:** Typically require a National Senior Certificate (NSC) with at least 30% in the language of teaching and 40% in Mathematics.
- **Diplomas:** Generally require a minimum **APS of 18** and specific subject ratings.
- **Postgraduate:** Requires a relevant lower-level qualification with a minimum average (usually 60%) and, for Research degrees, confirmation of an available supervisor.

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## Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

UNISA values the skills and competencies you have acquired through work experience, short courses, or community work. Through **RPL**, you may gain credits towards a formal qualification based on your existing knowledge.

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## College of Law (CLAW) 2027 Prospectus

The College of Law (CLAW) at UNISA offers a variety of qualifications ranging from entry-level higher certificates to professional degrees like the Bachelor of Laws (LLB). These programmes are designed to provide a solid foundation in South African law, criminal justice, and governance.

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### Higher Certificates in Law

Higher certificates are ideal for students who do not yet meet the full requirements for a degree or diploma. They serve as a "bridge" to higher-level studies within the College.

Qualification Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
Higher Certificate in Criminal Justice	90006	Any undergraduate bachelor's degree or diploma in CLAW (except BCom Law).
Higher Certificate in Law	98751	Any undergraduate bachelor's degree or diploma in CLAW (except BCom Law).

**Important Note for LLB Aspirants:** If you intend to use a Higher Certificate to gain entry into the **LLB degree**, you must pass the certificate with an average of at least **60%**.

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## Undergraduate Diplomas and Degrees

The College of Law offers several professional pathways. Note that specific Admission Point Score (APS) requirements apply to each.

- **Bachelor of Laws (LLB):** The standard professional qualification for those wishing to practice as advocates or attorneys.
- **BA in Police Practice:** Specifically designed for members of the South African Police Service (SAPS) and security professionals.
- **Diploma in Corrections Management:** Focused on the administrative and legal aspects of the correctional services environment.
- **Diploma in Law:** A versatile qualification for those seeking legal administrative roles.

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## Professional Progression Path

UNISA's structure allows for a clear hierarchy of learning. If you start with a certificate, your journey typically follows this route:

1. **Level 5:** Higher Certificate (1 year).
2. **Level 6:** Diploma (3 years) or **Level 7/8:** Bachelor's Degree (3–4 years).
3. **Postgraduate:** Honours, Master of Laws (LLM), and Doctor of Laws (LLD).

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## Application Essentials for 2027

- **Check Your APS:** Ensure your Grade 12 results meet the minimum points for your specific law programme.
- **Documents:** You must upload certified copies of your ID and school qualifications.
- **Exclusions:** Higher Certificates in this college do not provide a direct path into the **BCom Law** degree.

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## College of Human Sciences (CHS) 2027 Prospectus

The College of Human Sciences (CHS) is one of the largest colleges at UNISA, offering a vast range of programmes in arts, social sciences, humanities, and community development. These qualifications are designed to help students understand and address social issues, cultural dynamics, and human behaviour.

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## Higher Certificates: Your Pathway to a Degree

The CHS offers specific higher certificates that provide a direct route into various bachelor's degrees and diplomas.

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
Higher Certificate in Archives &	98577	Bachelor of Arts (99311), BA in Communication Studies (90186), BA in Community Development (98618), BA in Creative Writing (99313), BA in

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
Records Management		Development Studies (99312), BA in Government, Admin & Development (99301), BA in International Relations (99302), BA in Policy Studies (99303), BA in Political Leadership & Citizenship (99304), BA in Politics, Philosophy & Economics (90079), BA in Visual Multimedia Arts (90091), <i>Bachelor of Music (90089)</i> , Bachelor of Information Science (90188), Bachelor of Theology (90160), BA in Psychology (90180), or Diploma in Public Relations (90077).
Higher Certificate in Social Auxiliary Work	90011	Bachelor of Social Work (90088).

\*Please note that degrees like Visual Multimedia Arts and Music have additional audition or portfolio requirements.

## Undergraduate Degrees and Diplomas

The following are some of the most popular qualification streams within the College of Human Sciences for the 2027 academic year:

### 1. Arts and Languages

- **Bachelor of Arts (General):** A flexible degree allowing you to major in various subjects like Languages, History, or Linguistics.
- **BA in Creative Writing:** Focused on developing professional writing skills for the literary and media industries.

### 2. Social Sciences and Psychology

- **BA in Psychology:** The first step for students aiming to become registered counsellors or psychologists.
- **Bachelor of Social Work:** A professional degree requiring practical field placements to qualify as a social worker.

### 3. Communication and Information Science

- **BA in Communication Studies:** Prepares students for careers in media, corporate communication, and journalism.
- **Bachelor of Information Science:** Focuses on the management of information and records in the digital age.
- **Diploma in Public Relations:** A career-focused qualification for the PR and advertising sectors.

### 4. Politics and Development

- **BA in Development Studies:** Focuses on community growth and socio-economic challenges in Africa.
- **BA in International Relations:** Ideal for those interested in diplomacy and global politics.

## Important Admission Notes for 2027

- **Ranking System:** Like all UNISA colleges, CHS uses a ranking system. Meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee a space if the qualification has reached its limit.
- **Subject Requirements:** Ensure you check the specific APS for your chosen degree. Most Bachelor's degrees in this college require a minimum APS of 20 to 23 depending on the stream.
- **Practical Components:** Some degrees, such as Social Work and Creative Writing, include compulsory practical or creative modules that may require extra time or travel.

## College of Education (CEDU) 2027 Prospectus

The College of Education (CEDU) is dedicated to training the next generation of South African teachers. The 2027 curriculum is designed to meet the specific needs of the Department of Basic Education, focusing on Foundation, Intermediate, and Senior Phase schooling.

### Higher Certificates: The Gateway to Teaching

If you do not meet the direct entry requirements for a Bachelor of Education (BED) degree, you can enrol in a Higher Certificate in Education. Passing specific modules within these certificates allows you to progress into full teaching degrees.

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on BED Qualification	Stream/Requirements
Higher Certificate in Education	90093-FIP	BED Foundation Phase (90102)	Requires MTE1501 to be passed.
Higher Certificate in Education	90093-FIP	BED Intermediate Phase (90103)	Requires MTE1501 to be passed.
Higher Certificate in Education	90093-SPF	BED Senior Phase & FET (90104)	Various streams including Language (LAN), History (HIG), and Life Orientation (LOL).
Higher Certificate in Education	90093-SMS	BED Senior Phase & FET (90104)	Technical and Science streams including Biology (BIO), Maths (MTE), and Tech (TEC).

## **Bachelor of Education (BED) Degrees**

These are four-year professional degrees that qualify you to register with the South African Council for Educators (SACE).

### **1. Foundation Phase (Grades R – 3)**

Focuses on early childhood development, literacy, and numeracy. You must be proficient in the language of instruction for this phase.

### **2. Intermediate Phase (Grades 4 – 6)**

Prepares you to teach a variety of subjects, with a strong emphasis on Mathematics, Natural Sciences, and Technology (MNS/MLS streams).

### **3. Senior Phase & FET (Grades 7 – 12)**

In this phase, you specialise in specific elective subjects. Available streams for 2027 include:

- **Economic and Management Sciences (EMS)**
- **Computer Accountancy (CAT)**
- **Agriculture (AGM/AGS)**
- **Consumer Studies (CON)**
- **Art (ARP):** Note that an art portfolio must be submitted for this stream.

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## **Admission Requirements for 2027**

- **APS Requirement:** Most BED degrees require a minimum APS of **23**.
- **Language:** A minimum of Level 4 (50%) in the language of teaching and learning is mandatory.
- **Mathematics:** For Science and Commerce streams, a solid background in Mathematics (not just Mathematical Literacy) is often required for the Senior Phase.

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## **Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)**

If you already hold a non-teaching degree (e.g., a BA or BCom), you can apply for a **PGCE** to become a professionally qualified teacher in one year of full-time study.

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## **College of Accounting Sciences (CAS) 2027 Prospectus**

The College of Accounting Sciences (CAS) at UNISA is a premier provider of accounting education in South Africa, offering programmes that are highly regarded by professional bodies such as SAICA and SAIPA. These qualifications prepare students for careers in auditing, financial accounting, taxation, and management accounting.

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## **Higher Certificates: Building Your Foundation**

If you do not meet the direct entry requirements for a Bachelor of Accounting Sciences, these certificates provide the necessary academic bridge.

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
Higher Certificate in Accounting Sciences	98201	Diploma in Accounting Sciences (98200), Bachelor of Accounting Sciences in Financial Accounting (98302-FA1), Internal Auditing (98303-AUI), Management Accounting (98304-MA1), or Taxation (98318-TAX).
Higher Certificate in Banking	98225	Diploma in Accounting Sciences or various Bachelor of Accounting Sciences degrees.
Higher Certificate in Insurance	90013	Diploma in Accounting Sciences or various Bachelor of Accounting Sciences degrees.
Higher Certificate in Tourism Management	98226	Diploma in Accounting Sciences or various Bachelor of Accounting Sciences degrees.
Higher Certificate in Economic & Management Sciences	98237	Diploma in Accounting Sciences or various Bachelor of Accounting Sciences degrees.

## Undergraduate Diplomas and Degrees

These qualifications are designed to meet the competency requirements of the modern financial sector.

### 1. Diploma Level

- **Diploma in Accounting Sciences (98200):** A versatile three-year qualification that covers the core pillars of accounting.

### 2. Bachelor of Accounting Sciences (BCompt)

These are specialized degrees focusing on professional registration paths:

- **Financial Accounting (98302-FA1):** Focuses on the preparation and reporting of financial statements.
- **Internal Auditing (98303-AUI):** Focuses on risk management, control, and governance processes.
- **Management Accounting (98304-MA1):** Focuses on internal decision-making and cost management.
- **Taxation (98318-TAX):** Specialized knowledge in South African and international tax law.

## Postgraduate Progression

The CAS offers a clear route from undergraduate study to specialized postgraduate diplomas and honours degrees.

- **Advanced Diploma in Accounting Sciences (98230):** Available with specializations in Financial Accounting (FAC), Internal Auditing (AUI), Management Accounting (MA1), or Taxation (TAX).
- **Postgraduate Diplomas (PGDs):** Including Applied Accounting Sciences (98255), Forensic Auditing (98234), and Internal Auditing (98207).
- **Honours Degrees:** Bachelor of Accounting Sciences Honours in Management Accounting (98354).
- **Masters and Doctoral:** Master of Accounting Sciences (98656) and Doctor of Philosophy in Accounting Sciences (90026).

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### Admission Requirements for 2027

- **Mathematics Requirement:** Most Bachelor of Accounting Sciences degrees require a minimum of Level 4 (50%) in Mathematics (not Mathematical Literacy).
- **APS Requirement:** Bachelor's degrees in this college typically require an APS of **21 to 24**.
- **Professional Body Alignment:** Students aiming for the Chartered Accountant (CA) path must ensure they follow the SAICA-accredited streams.

## College of Economic and Management Sciences (CEMS) 2027 Prospectus

The College of Economic and Management Sciences (CEMS) is one of the largest and most diverse colleges at UNISA. It focuses on preparing students for the global business environment, public administration, and economic sectors.

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### Higher Certificates: Starting Your Business Career

These one-year qualifications provide a foundation for students who want to enter the world of commerce and management.

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
<b>HCert in Economics &amp; Management Sciences</b>	98237	Relevant Undergraduate Diploma or Degree within CEMS.
<b>HCert in Banking</b>	98225	Relevant Undergraduate Diploma or Degree within CEMS.
<b>HCert in Marketing</b>	98229	Relevant Undergraduate Diploma or Degree within CEMS.

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
<b>HCert in Supervisory Management</b>	90015	Relevant Undergraduate Diploma or Degree within CEMS.
<b>HCert in Tourism Management</b>	98226	Relevant Undergraduate Diploma or Degree within CEMS.
<b>HCert in Retailing</b>	90014	Relevant Undergraduate Diploma or Degree within CEMS.

## Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas

CEMS offers career-aligned diplomas that allow for direct progression into specialized Bachelor of Commerce degrees.

- **Small Business Management (90073):** Leads to BCom in Business Management (98310).
- **Local Government Finance (90083):** Leads to Bachelor of Administration (98315-BAD) or BAdmin in Human Settlements Management (90016).
- **Safety Management (90107-PSM):** Leads to the Advanced Diploma in Safety Management (90181).
- **Operations Management (90183):** Leads to BCom in Supply Chain and Operations Management (98766).
- **Marketing Management (98202):** Leads to BCom in Marketing Management (98301).
- **Human Resource Management (98211):** Leads to BCom in Human Resource Management (98307) or BAdmin (98315).

## Bachelor Degrees (BCom and BAdmin)

These degrees are designed for professional specialization and high-level management roles.

### 1. Specialized BCom Streams

- **BCom in Entrepreneurship (90106):** Focuses on business start-ups and management.
- **BCom in Business Informatics (98300-BIS):** Merges IT with business processes.
- **BCom in Financial Management (98306-FMN):** Specialized for corporate finance roles.
- **BCom in Industrial and Organisational Psychology (98308-IOP):** For careers in human behaviour within the workplace.
- **BCom in Transport and Logistics (98313-TRL):** Focused on supply chain and movement of goods.

### 2. Administration Streams

- **BAdmin in Human Settlements Management (90016-HSM):** For public sector housing and urban development roles.

- **Bachelor of Administration (98315-BAD):** A general public management degree.

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### Postgraduate Progression

CEMS provides a clear academic path from Honours to Doctoral levels.

- **Honours Degrees:** Including BCom Honours in Economics (98353), Marketing Management (90114), and Business Management (98452).
- **Postgraduate Diplomas:** Such as the PGD in Public Administration (98208) and PGD in Labour Relations Management (98209).
- **Master's Degrees:** MCom in Logistics (98584) or Master of Public Administration (98651).

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### Admission Requirements for 2027

- **Mathematics:** Most BCom degrees require at least a Level 4 (50%) in Mathematics.
- **Language:** Minimum 30% to 50% in the language of teaching and learning depending on the level of qualification.
- **APS:** Diplomas generally require an APS of 18, while Bachelor's degrees usually require an APS of 21 or higher.

## College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES) 2027 Prospectus

The College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES) focuses on sustainable development, food security, and environmental management. These qualifications are ideal for students who want to contribute to the agricultural economy or protect South Africa's natural resources.

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### Higher Certificates: Access to Science and Nature

The CAES offers foundational certificates that lead to specialized diplomas and degrees in life and environmental sciences.

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
<b>Higher Certificate in Life and Environmental Sciences</b>	98366	BA in Environmental Management (98055).  Bachelor of Consumer Science (98005).  Diploma in Animal Health (98026).  Diploma in Nature Conservation (98024).

Higher Certificate Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
		Diploma in Horticulture (98025).  Diploma in Agricultural Management (90097).  Bachelor of Agricultural Science (90082).
<b>Higher Certificate in Physical Science</b>	90101	Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management (98052).  Bachelor of Life Science degrees (98053) including Biochemistry, Botany, Microbiology, and Zoology.

## Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas

These career-focused qualifications include practical components and lead to advanced professional study.

- **Diploma in Agricultural Management (90097):** Focuses on farm management and agricultural business.
- **Diploma in Animal Health (98026-AHE):** Prepares students for technical roles in veterinary services.
- **Diploma in Nature Conservation (98024-NCO):** Focuses on wildlife and ecosystem management.
- **Diploma in Ornamental Horticulture (98025-HOR):** Deals with the cultivation of plants for gardens and landscapes.

**Progression:** Most diplomas lead directly to an **Advanced Diploma** (NQF Level 7) in the same field, such as the Advanced Diploma in Nature Conservation (98028).

## Bachelor of Science (BSc) and Consumer Science

Professional degrees for those entering research, environmental consulting, or the food and hospitality industries.

- **BA in Environmental Management (98055):** A social science approach to environmental issues.
- **B Consumer Science (98005):** Available in various specialisations including Food & Clothing, Food & Nutrition, and Hospitality Management.
- **BSc in Environmental Management (98052):** A natural science approach with specialisations in Botany, Chemistry, or Zoology.

- **BSc in Life Sciences (98053):** Offers diverse streams such as Biochemistry and Microbiology (BBM), Physiology and Zoology (PAZ), and Biomedical Sciences (BMI).

### Postgraduate Progression

CAES offers a robust path for researchers and specialists.

- **BSc Honours:** Available in Environmental Management (98102), Geography (98105), and Life Sciences (90084).
- **Postgraduate Diplomas:** Including PGD in Agriculture (90159) with streams in Animal Health, Plant Science, and Agri-Business.
- **Master's and Doctoral:** Master of Science (MSc) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in various agricultural and environmental disciplines.

### Admission Requirements for 2027

- **Mathematics:** Students wishing to enrol for the **Diploma in Animal Health** must have Mathematics (not Mathematical Literacy).
- **Physical Science:** Many BSc degrees require Physical Science at Level 4 (50%) or higher.
- **APS:** Higher Certificates generally require an APS of 15–18, while Bachelor's degrees usually require an APS of 20–24.

## College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET) 2027 Prospectus

The College of Science, Engineering and Technology (CSET) provides a world-class environment for developing futuristic African leaders in innovation. Located primarily at the **UNISA Science Campus in Florida**, the college features state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment to support both undergraduate and postgraduate research.

### Official 2027 Resources

- **View CSET 2027 Prospectus:** <https://schoolhive.co.za/unisa-prospectus/>
- **Official College Website:** [www.unisa.ac.za/cset](http://www.unisa.ac.za/cset)

**Disclaimer:** Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission as the university can only enrol a limited number of students per qualification.

### Higher Certificates: Science and Tech Foundations

These one-year programmes are designed for students who need to meet the requirements for diploma or degree studies in technical fields.

Qualification Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
Higher Certificate in Physical Science	90101	Diplomas in Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Industrial, Mechanical, or Mining Engineering; BSc degrees.

Qualification Name	Code	Follow-on Qualification Options
Higher Certificate in Mathematics & Statistics	90129	Diploma in IT; BSc in Computing or Informatics; various BSc science streams.

#### Minimum Entry Requirements:

- National Senior Certificate (NSC) with at least **30%** in the language of teaching and **40%** in Mathematics.

## Engineering Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas

All UNISA Engineering qualifications are fully accredited by the **Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA)**.

### 1. Three-Year Diplomas (NQF Level 6)

- Chemical Engineering** (90130)
- Civil Engineering** (90137)
- Electrical Engineering** (90138)
- Industrial Engineering** (90136)
- Mechanical Engineering** (90132)
- Mining Engineering** (90140)
- Pulp and Paper Technology** (90141)

**Requirements:** NSC with a rating of **4 in Mathematics** (not Maths Literacy), Physical Science, and English. A minimum **APS of 18** is required.

### 2. Advanced Diplomas (NQF Level 7)

To apply, you must have a relevant National Diploma or 360-credit Diploma at NQF Level 6.

- Advanced Diploma in Engineering Technology in Civil Engineering** (90142)
- Advanced Diploma in Electrical Engineering (Power or Telecom)** (90126/90127)

## Computing and Information Technology

- Diploma in Information Technology** (98806 - ITE): Requires NSC with 50% in English and 50% in Mathematics.
- BSc in Computing** (98906 - COM): Leads to Honours in Computing.
- BSc in Informatics** (98907 - INF): Focuses on the structure and management of information.

## Bachelor of Science (BSc) Degrees

UNISA offers diverse BSc streams for the 2027 academic year:

- Applied Mathematics and Computer Science** (98801 - AMC)
- Chemistry and Physics** (98801 - CAP)
- Mathematics and Statistics** (98801 - MAS)
- Statistics and Physics** (98801 - STP)

## Postgraduate Progression

CSET offers a complete academic path up to the Doctoral level:

- **Honours:** BEng Tech Honours in various disciplines (e.g., Water, Structural, or Chemical Engineering) and BSc Honours in Applied Mathematics or Chemistry.
  - **Master's Degrees:** Master of Engineering (90121) and MSc in various science fields.
  - **Doctoral Degrees:** PhD in Computer Science, Engineering, Mathematics, and Physics.
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### **Application Essentials for 2027**

- **Documents:** Upload certified copies (within the last 3 months) of your ID and school qualifications.
- **Application Fee:** Pay the fee only after receiving a student number.
- **Student Support:** Registered students receive a free **myLife email account** and access to **e-tutors** for undergraduate support.