



Brochure 2024

Bachelor of Arts



YOUR STORY

Do you want to live a life of purpose? Do you worry about the state of the world? Do you genuinely want to make a difference to the lives of others? Are you looking for more than just a qualification? Is leaving a lasting legacy important to you? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then we have a lot in common.

Cornerstone is the institution to help you realise your life's purpose and grow your ambition. While doing so, you will develop and nurture the values that you share with Cornerstone Institute, which will assist you in taking your place in a vibrant and thriving economy. Together, we will learn to change the world.

OUR STORY

We believe in education with a purpose. At the heart of our education philosophy is the firm belief that education leads to transformation. Cornerstone Institute has been generating knowledge that benefits humanity since 1970. We began with two black theology students who were barred from attending university because of the colour of their skin. Today, hundreds of Cornerstone graduates from all walks of life are making a difference around the globe.



**A MESSAGE FROM
OUR EXECUTIVE DEAN
DR MARIANNE LOUW**

Together we can learn to change the world

At Cornerstone Institute, our motto is: Learn to change the world. It's a very simple sentence, but to us, it carries significant meaning.

The obvious meaning is: Learn how to change the world. And that is true because, at Cornerstone, you will learn new knowledge and skills that will equip you to enter the new world of work and build a career that will positively impact society.

The second meaning is the less obvious but, the more important one: To change the world, learn. We believe you can only change the world if you continue learning. To learn is to grow – first, as a person in connection with other human beings. It is a lifelong journey that may include but by far transcends formal studies and qualifications. As we travel this road with other people who share different parts of our journey, we learn from them, and they learn from us.

Will any single individual ever change the entire world? Probably not! But you can change your world. And we would love to be part of that journey.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

OVERVIEW

The Cornerstone Bachelor of Arts (BA) qualification is a general formative undergraduate NQF 7 degree. Cornerstone Institute offers several Bachelor of Art degrees and course combinations.

Bachelor of Art students are able to customise their majors and courses, keeping their career goals and interests in mind, to ensure that they're fully equipped for specific professions.

The Cornerstone Institute Bachelor of Arts qualification creates access for those who have completed Grade 12 to a degree programme by equipping them with skills to be more effective leaders in the community in various humanities areas such as Psychology, Sociology, Theology, Alternative Education and others.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you passionate about community upliftment and development? Do you want to tackle issues of poverty, globalisation or conflict? Do you want to be able to influence behaviour in a way that brings about positive change?

The range of Bachelor of Art degrees offered at Cornerstone provides students with transferrable skills that are available for almost any career choice.

A Bachelor of Arts degree offers students a broadly formative education that is useful in any occupation requiring a meaningful understanding of contexts and perspective.

The Cornerstone Institute Bachelor of Arts qualification has been designed to be a career path for sociologists, psychologists and media specialists. The programme is also intended to enable students who are considering a career as teachers to advance to a Post-Graduate Certificate in Educations with the required teaching subjects at an undergraduate level. This degree provides students with a broad but solid educational foundation in the field of Humanities, including various key discipline areas such as:

- Psychology & Counselling
- Sociology & Community Development
- Theology & Ethics
- Media Studies
- Alternative Education
- Sociology & Psychology

ACCREDITATION STATUS

All our programmes are accredited by the Council on Higher Education and registered by the Department of Higher Education and Training.

Cornerstone Institute (RF) NPC is registered by the Department of Higher Education and Training as a Private Higher Education Institution under the Higher Education Act, 1997. Registration Certificate No. 2001/HE08/006.

- Bachelor of Arts: Contact mode. Registered by the DHET. Accredited by the CHE as a 372-credit learning programme for higher education at NQF level 7. SAQA ID: 87406. (A maximum of 24 credits are added if the student has to complete Academic Development) CHE reference: H/PRO96/E006CAN
- Bachelor of Arts: Distance mode. Registered by the DHET. Accredited by the CHE as a 372-credit learning programme for higher education at NQF level 7. SAQA ID: 87406. (A maximum of 24 credits are added if the student has to complete Academic Development) CHE reference: H/PRO96/E011CAN.

LEGAL STATUS

Cornerstone Institute is a non-profit company (NPC); registration number 2004/025078/08.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

*Note that 'Contact Mode' means on-campus studies, and 'Distance Mode' means online studies.

CONTACT MODE

Contact students experience and engage learning at different levels within the classroom. Here students are exposed to lectures presented by passionate, experienced, and knowledgeable faculty; group work where the value of learning from peers is amplified; multimedia presentations; role-play; engagement with case studies; and skills development where students are encouraged to practice certain skills (e.g. communication, presentations, etc.) within the classroom space.

Experiential learning strategies are integrated in the design of modules and can include counselling placements (including interviews with clients, treatment plans, session notes and supervision sessions), psychometric evaluations, quantitative research, self-directed ministry projects, community assessments, focus groups, placements in community projects and envisioning of local community-based initiatives.

DISTANCE MODE

Distance students experience and engage learning at different levels within the virtual learning space enabled by our e-learning platform, called FUNDA. Students are exposed to learning material presented by passionate, experienced and knowledgeable faculty who understand the needs of the distance student. Learning on the e-learning platform takes the form of video lectures, voice-over PowerPoint, readings and discussion forums where student-faculty engagement is facilitated. While learning is primarily self-driven, students have access to experienced faculty and can draw on their classmates as they navigate their learning. The learning experience is vibrant, stimulating and interactive.

Distance students are supported in their studies by inter alia, live, virtual video tutorial sessions, which are broadcast from the Cornerstone main campus. In the tutorials, programme content is unpacked and debated amongst students online. This greatly contributes to peer and content interaction and ultimately promotes student engagement.

LANGUAGE POLICY

All classes and communication with students, staff, and the public are in English, except where otherwise required in modules based on other languages.

DISCLAIMER

Cornerstone Institute makes every effort to ensure that the information provided in this brochure is accurate and up to date. However, it may be necessary for Cornerstone Institute to make some changes to the information presented in the following document.

This document should be read together with the policies, rules, and regulations of Cornerstone Institute (as may be amended from time to time).

We recommend that you look at the relevant sections in the yearbook of faculties and departments in which you may be interested if you have any additional queries.

Bachelor of Arts
(Minimum 3 years, 372 credits, NQF 7)
Modes of delivery: contact and distance

Admission requirements

- National Senior Certificate (NSC) with a bachelor’s pass or equivalent
- A Matriculation Certificate (with university exemption) or equivalent
- A Higher Certificate or Advanced Certificate or Diploma in a cognate field
- Matriculation Certificate (with university exemption) or equivalent
- National Benchmark Test (NBT) results

**Alternative Admission Requirements
(with Senate approval as per Admissions Policy)**

- A National Senior Certificate or National Certificate Vocational with a diploma pass (or equivalent) combined with the NBT results
- Mature age of 23 and over during the first year of studies and a National Senior Certificate (or equivalent). The conditions of the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Policy for access and the results of the NBT are determining factors for admission. Contact the admissions office regarding RPL
- Mature age of 45 years can be admitted, determined by the RPL conditions and the results of the NBT

Applicants in the first category under Alternative Admission Requirements must register for the Extended Programme for Academic Development. The Programme extends the completion of the prescribed subjects over a minimum of four years.

Students who are admitted on the basis of prior learning and who want to complete the degree in three years, but who fail more than 20% of modules taken during the first semester, are required to take the first year over two years.

Target groups

The BA aims to provide access for those who have completed Grade 12 to a degree programme equipping them with skills to be more effective leaders in the community in the areas of Psychology, Theology, Media Studies, Alternative Education and Sociology and Community Development. In addition to a career path for sociologists, psychologists, and media specialists. The programme is also intended to enable students who are considering a career as teachers to advance to a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education with the required teaching subjects at an undergraduate level.

Programme-specific outcomes

BA students must choose between a major in Psychology, Sociology, Theology, Alternative Education or Media Studies. Each focus has its own specified core and elective modules from the curriculum below. Outcomes are set for each area of focus, as outlined below. Each module within the curriculum also has its own set of outcomes.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN PSYCHOLOGY

OUTCOMES

Psychology students who have completed the qualification must be able to:

Psychology students who have completed the qualification must be able to:

- Understand the principles, concepts, history and major approaches in Psychology
- Identify psycho-social problems and understand the insights, theories and methods Psychology provides for dealing with them
- Understand how psycho-social insights and methods should be utilised in the various spheres of mental health
- Have an understanding of how and when to refer people to other agencies more suited to handling problems of a psycho-social nature
- Develop, implement and evaluate psychologically-based training programmes
- Engage critically with current debates in psychology on contemporary issues

Basic Level (first year, 124 credits)
Academic Development I, Core (16 Credits)
Citizenship (36 Credits)
Psychology I (Major – 24 Credits)
Counselling I (Major – 24 Credits)
Choose one other subject from Sociology I, Theology I, or Media Studies I (24 credits)
Intermediate Level (second Year, 128 credits)
Psychology II (Major – 64 Credits)
Leadership Studies II (32 Credits)
Continue with the subject chosen in the first year: Sociology II, Theology II or Media Studies II (32 credits)
Advanced Level (third year, 120 credits)
Psychology III (Major, 48 credits)
Counselling III (48 credits)
Practical (24 credits)

For a description of each module, please see ‘Module descriptions’ in the **Yearbook**.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
(Not available for 2024 intake)

OUTCOMES

Sociology and Community Development students who have completed the qualification must be able to:

- Understand the principles, concepts, history and major approaches to the study of society
- Understand sociological theory as it is applied to important institutions in society such as the family, religion, government and community life
- Understand their own culture and appreciate the values of other cultures
- Understand the psycho-social problems facing Africa today, with an emphasis on poverty and poverty alleviation
- Analyse economic systems from a sociological perspective and identify the debates around the prevalent economic systems in the African context
- Engage critically with contemporary examples of social, cultural, economic and political oppression and injustice within our region, continent and globally
- Illustrate an in-depth understanding of contemporary sociological theory and be able to evaluate and analyse these theories with reference to issues such as globalisation, conflict, the environment, gender and poverty, with a special focus on South Africa and the African continent

OPTION 2 - SOCIOLOGY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - MODULES

Basic Level (first year, 124 credits)
Academic Development I, Core (16 Credits)
Citizenship (36 Credits)
Sociology I (Major – 24 Credits)
Psychology I (Major – 24 Credits)
Counselling I (24 Credits)
Intermediate Level (second Year, 128 credits)
Sociology II (Major – 32 Credits)
Leadership Studies II (32 Credits)
Continue with Psychology II or Counselling II (32 credits)
Advanced Level (third year, 120 credits)
Sociology III (Major – 48 Credits)
Community Development III (48 Credits)
Practical (24 credits)
Community Development (32 Credits)

For a description of each module, please see 'Module descriptions' in **the Yearbook**.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY (Not available for 2024 intake)

OUTCOMES

Theology students who have completed the qualification must be able to:

- Demonstrate an ability to engage with theological lenses and techniques in addressing real world questions and crises
- Understand the principles, concepts, history and major approaches to the study of theology
- Demonstrate skill in interpreting the Bible and showing its relevance to all of life, including pastoral needs in churches and communities, especially in an African context
- Understand how people's worldview influences their concept of God and practice of spirituality and be able to minister to and serve people in different cultural contexts
- Articulate a personal sense of vocation, meaning and purpose in life, largely through engagement in theory that has a practical outworking
- Demonstrate the necessary skills for understanding and engaging with a diverse and complex society
- Understand a broad set of the contextual issues facing South Africa today and develop an integrative response (employing psychological, theological, sociological and/or other theories of practise) for engaging these challenges

OPTION 3 - THEOLOGY - MODULES

Basic Level (first year, 124 credits)
Academic Development I, Core (16 Credits)
Citizenship (36 Credits)
Biblical Studies I (Major – 24 Credits)
Theology I (Major – 24 Credits)
Choose between Sociology or Psychology (24 Credits)
Intermediate Level (second Year, 128 credits)
Biblical Studies II (Major – 32 Credits)
Theology II (Major - 32 Credits)
Continue with the subject chosen in the first year: Sociology II (2 x 32 credits) or Psychology II (2 x 32 credits)
Advanced Level (third year, 120 credits)
Theology III (Major – 48 Credits)
Community Development III (24 Credits)
Psychology III (24 credits)
Practical (24 credits)

For a description of each module, please see 'Module descriptions' in **the Yearbook**.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN SOCIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY

(Mode of delivery: Distance for 2024 Intake)

Programme Outcomes for BA Sociology & Psychology:

- Understand the principles, concepts, history, and major approaches in Psychology
- Identify psycho-social problems and understand the insights, theories, and methods Psychology provides for dealing with them
- Engage critically with current debates in Psychology on contemporary issues
- Understand the principles, concepts, history, and major approaches to the study of society
- Understand sociological theory as it is applied to important institutions in society such as the family, religion, government, and community life
- Illustrate an in-depth understanding of contemporary sociological theory and be able to evaluate and analyse these theories with reference to issues such as globalisation, conflict, the environment, gender, and poverty, with a special focus on South Africa and the African continent.

OPTION 5 - SOCIOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY - MODULES

Basic Level (first year, 124 credits)
Academic Development I, Core (16 Credits)
Citizenship (36 Credits)
Sociology I (Major – 24 Credits)
Psychology I (Major – 24 Credits)
Choose between English or Counselling I (24 Credits) – Note that English is option is only available for distance students
Intermediate Level (second Year, 128 credits)
Sociology II (Major – 32 Credits)
Leadership Studies II (32 Credits)
Community Development II (32 Credits)
Psychology II (32 credits)
Advanced Level (third year, 120 credits)
Sociology III (Major – 48 Credits)
Community Development III (48 Credits)
Practical (24 credits)

For a description of each module, please see 'Module descriptions' in the **Yearbook**.

OPTION 6 - ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION - MODULES

(Only available in distance mode)

Basic Level (first year, 130 credits)
Academic Development I, Core (16 Credits)
Citizenship (12 Credits)
Alternative Education (Major – 24 Credits)
Psychology I (Major – 12 Credits)
English I (24 Credits)
Sociology I (12 Credits)
Education (30 Credits)
Intermediate Level (second Year, 126 credits)
Alternative Education II (Major – 32 Credits)
English II (32 Credits)
Psychology II (16 credits)
Education (30 Credits)
Sociology (16 Credits)
Advanced Level (third year, 120 credits)
Alternative Education III (Major – 72 Credits)
Psychology III (12 Credits)
English (24 Credits)
Sociology (12 Credits)

For a description of each module, please see 'Module descriptions' in the **Yearbook**.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

OUTCOMES

Alternative Education students who have completed the qualification must be able to:

- Understand the principles, concepts, histories and major approaches in the field of Alternative Education.
- Identify problems in mainstream educational thought and practices.
- Know the various past and present schools of thought regarded as part of the Alternative Education field.
- Understand the insights, theories and methods that inhere in different schools of thought and practices in Alternative Education
- Articulate the ideas of hallmark theorists and educationists in the field of Alternative Education.
- Understand how insights and methods from the field of Alternative Education are and could be utilised in the various spheres of education in South Africa.
- Develop, implement and evaluate Alternative Education projects in South Africa and elsewhere.
- Engage critically with current debates in education about the possible futures of education in South Africa and globally.
- Conduct appropriate basic practice-based research into questions of alterity in mainstream and alternative spheres of education



LEARN TO CHANGE THE WORLD

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