Brochure 2025

Bachelor of Arts Honours in Community Development

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.

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.

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.

BACHELOR OF ARTS HONOURS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

OVERVIEW
The BAHons Development programme offers students the opportunity to deepen their understanding of both the theory and practice of community development, with a strong foundation in community-focused research. Through this programme, students will critically analyse and apply core concepts of community development, gaining the skills and knowledge needed to facilitate collective action and drive positive change within communities.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Are you passionate about community upliftment and development? Do you want to tackle issues of poverty, globalisation or conflict? Sociology and Community Development graduates are found as teachers, researchers, employees of government agencies, research bureaus, and large companies. Some have found employment as: Business/Management Trainees, Community Organisation Directors, Editors/Journalists, Ethnologists, Hospital Administrators, Labour Relations Specialists, Market Research Analysts, Medical Sociologists, Personnel Managers and Police Officers.

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 (Honours) in Community Development: Contact mode. Registered by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). Accredited by the Council on Higher Education (CHE) as a 120-credit learning programme for higher education at NQF level 8. SAQA ID: 97901; CHE reference: H/
- PRO96/E018CAN

LEGAL STATUS
Cornerstone Institute is a not-for-profit company (NPC); registration number 2004/025078/08.

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

The Cornerstone Institute BA Honours in Community Development qualification provides students with a solid foundation for further study and/or careers in:

- **Community and Youth Work**
- **Corporate Social Investment**
- **Education**
- **Government Public Service**
- **Business**
- **Marketing**
- **Politics**
- **Activism**

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 quantitative research, self-directed ministry projects, community assessments, focus groups, placements in community projects and envisioning of local community-based initiatives.

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.

**Bachelor of Arts Honours in Community Development
(Minimum 1 year, 120 credits, NQF 8)
Modes of delivery: Contact and Distance (as per CHE concession)**

Admission requirements

- A candidate must have complied with all the requirements of an undergraduate degree, or equivalent,before the beginning of the academic year for which he/she has been selected
- Third-year key modules in Social Sciences, must have passed with a minimum of 60%
- As per the RPL Policy, no more than 10% of applicants who do not have the necessary 60% grade for third year in Social Sciences (or equivalent) can be admitted into the programme if they have obtainedwork or life experience which qualifies them to be admitted as post-graduate students
- Applicants must provide evidence of computer literacy. Candidates can be required to take a computer course to improve their computer skills
- All successful applicants are required to complete a pre-programme assignment to determine the level of academic support that is required. In addition, it prepares students for the first week's discussions

Programme outcomes

- Analyse and critique significant philosophical approaches towards and theories of Community Development in a variety of contexts
- Apply sound social science research methodology to Community Development related situations, conducting in-depth research, analysis and interpretation in a community-based context
- Examine how the issues of governance, social policy and the legislative framework governing and shaping community development structures and practice
- Identify, assess and apply integrated programme management principles for sustainable people-centred development

- Examine in-depth two focus areas of interest in community development. The curriculum provides students with foundational knowledge of community development theory and practice while allowing them to pursue specific areas of interest within community development studies. This is achieved by assisting students to comprehend, analyse and apply community development the theory, policy and governance, programme management theory, and social research methodology.

Semester 1

Module code	Module name	Credit
STCD8150	Social Theory for Community Development	15
POLF8150	Policy and Legislative Framework	15
SRPA8150	Sociology Research Project A	15
SORM8150	Social Research Methods	15

Semester 2

Module code	Module name	Credit
YDEV8150	Youth Development	15
ORMA8150	Organisational Management	15
SRPB8150	Sociology Research Project B	15
SCOD8150	Sustainable Community Development	15

Option2: Two years part-time

Study Year 1		
Semester 1		
Module code	**Module name**	**Credit**
STCD8150	Social Theory for Community Development	15
POLF8150	Policy and Legislative Framework	15
Semester 2		
YDEV8150	Youth Development	15
ORMA8150	Organisational Management	15

Study Year 2		
Semester 1		
Module code	**Module name**	**Credit**
SRPA8150	Sociology Research Project A	15
SORM8150	Social Research Methods	15
Semester 2		
SRPB8150	Sociology Research Project B	15
COD8150	Sustainable Community Development	15

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

DISCLAIMER
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.

Disclaimer for potential low enrolments per programme

If the required number is not reached by the end of the registration period, the programme will only receive new students in the next registration period. New students already registered for the programme will be advised on available options, and paid fees will be refunded where applicable. Students who have already completed one or more semesters will not be affected.

LEARN TO CHANGE THE WORLD

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