

IIE Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce

Faculty of Commerce

2 Years Full-Time / 3 Years Part-Time Distance Doctorate
NQF Level 10 | 360 Credits | SAQA ID: 125159 | DPIC1001

→ Online

Qualification Description

The main purpose of this Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce is to act as a pathway for Master's graduates in Commerce seeking to transition into Doctoral-level research and scholarship. The Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce thus provides students with the opportunity to develop highly specialised competencies in their chosen academic and professional context in order to make an original contribution to their chosen discipline in the field of Commerce. As a generic Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce, this qualification is suited to students from various disciplines within the broader field of Commerce, as well as for students who are interested in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary studies.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce aims to empower students to contribute significantly to the advancement of knowledge within their chosen field by conducting independent research at the highest academic level. This qualification requires students to produce a doctoral thesis that showcases specialised knowledge, advanced research capabilities, and original insights that meet international standards. Emphasising the importance of addressing pressing issues in a rapidly evolving knowledge economy, students are expected to conduct research that is not only original and worthy of peer-reviewed publication, but also offers innovative solutions to local, national, and global challenges.



Who Is This Qualification Aimed At?

The IIE's Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce will graduate students ready to enter or advance in the workplace or an academic environment in their chosen discipline in the field of Commerce, along with several graduate attributes.

The IIE aims to graduate graduates with a transformative mindset who are:

- Innovative Co-creators who seek ethical and meaningful solutions and promote transformative knowledge that address challenges faced by individuals and society.
- Holistic Thinkers who adopt eco-systemic perspectives on global issues and local contexts and view challenges and solutions critically and comprehensively.
- Change Advocates who skilfully and mindfully challenge the status quo and champion meaningful solutions through principled leadership.

DISTANCE FULL-TIME

DISTANCE PART-TIME

- Engaged Citizens who promote social cohesion, diversity, equity, and inclusion, leading with purpose, influence, and integrity within their respective spheres of influence.
- Resilient Navigators who approach learning-, transformational- and personal challenges with unwavering perseverance and a willingness to adapt.
- Empowered Individuals who are self-directed life-long learners who seek opportunities for growth and continually expand their knowledge and skills in pursuit of personal and professional success.
- Intellectually Curious Individuals who are self-reflective with a tolerance for ambiguity and the intellectual curiosity to explore new ways of thinking, knowing, being and understanding.
- Versatile Communicators who can both collaborate effectively within a team and work independently, with well-developed negotiation and networking skills.

Admission Requirements

Minimum Admission Requirements	• A relevant Master's Degree at NQF Level 9 or equivalent in a cognate field. • Candidates must have obtained an overall average of at least 65% for their Master's Degree with evidence of research experience. • International students must provide SAQA evaluation certificates as proof of the equivalence of their prior qualifications to prove that their prior qualifications are equivalent to a relevant Master's Degree at NQF level 9 Candidates must further comply with the following rigorous selection criteria for entry into the IIE Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce: • Interview with relevant IIE academics - The interview by a qualified IIE academic will focus on the candidate's academic qualifications, research potential, relevant experience, and alignment with the institution's research strengths and priorities. • Development of a Concept Document - Following a successful interview, candidates must develop and submit a relevant concept document for review • Once the Concept Document is approved, completion of the Proposal Development for Doctoral Studies Short Learning Programme (SLP) and defence of a research proposal will be required once the student may formally register for the Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce
Additional Notes	• If a candidate meets the above minimum admission requirements, selection into the Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce is further subject to faculty supervisory capacity, as well as an individual interview, the completion of a preparatory short learning programme, and approval by The IIE's Higher Degrees Committee of a research proposal. • The applicant has the right to request a written reason for any refused admission and may appeal to the Research and Postgraduate Committee in writing. • If the Research and Postgraduate Committee upholds the refusal, the decision is final. The candidate may re-apply in the following academic year if they have been able to address the issues concerned and The IIE may invite the candidate to reapply if a suitable supervisor is employed.
Senate Discretionary Admission	Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) • Where candidates do not satisfy the formal admission requirements for this qualification, The IIE may consider an admission application in terms of the Qualification Completion, Credit Accumulation and Transfer, Articulation and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy (IIE010). In terms of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for the Doctorate, RPL is only for admission, and candidates need to evidence, inter alia, research competence at an advanced level. • RPL candidates are evaluated on an individual level based on their research experience and readiness for doctoral studies. The offices of the Head of Postgraduate Studies, Head of Faculty, and Dean or Deputy Dean of Research and Postgraduate Studies review RPL applications for the Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce. Candidates applying for RPL are required to compile a comprehensive portfolio of evidence that includes evidence demonstrating prior learning and the mastering of provided outcomes. • The portfolio of evidence is reviewed by two evaluators who makes recommendations following an interview with the applicant. All RPL candidates must be approved by Senate before they can enrol in the Proposal Development for Doctoral Studies SLP.

Scan the QR Code to learn more about Alternate Admission requirements for:
RPL | Mature Age Exemptions | USAf International Students | One module
outstanding from a Higher Certificate *if applicable



2 Years Full-Time / 3 Years Part-Time Distance Doctorate | NQF Level 10 | 360 Credits | SAQA ID: 125159 | DPIC1001

Faculty of Commerce

Admission Procedures

- In line with admission requirements, applicants must submit their academic records and transcripts and a brief CV. Candidates who meet the admission criteria will be requested to complete a research Concept Document outlining their proposed study and the original contribution it will make to the field of Commerce.
- The Concept Document is submitted to three expert reviewers for feedback. More than one feedback and submission cycle may be required.
- Candidates who are provisionally admitted will be invited to register for the Proposal Development for Doctoral Studies Short Learning Programme (SLP), and an experienced supervisor will be assigned to support the applicant in the development of the research proposal.
- Only once the research proposal has been approved by The Higher Degrees Committee and provisional ethics clearance has been granted will candidates be allowed to officially enrol for the Doctorate and continue with their research under the guidance of the supervisor/s.
- Once the candidate is officially registered, further dates will be scheduled at appropriate points in time for the candidate's delivery of, or participation in seminars throughout the doctoral enrolment period (normally minimum 2 years full-time and 3 years part-time).

Curriculum Outline

The proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce is a research-based qualification and as a result no modular work will be offered in this qualification. There are therefore no other compulsory or elective modules and no rules of combination.

a. Modules, Level and Credits:

Modules			
Code	Module Name	NQF	Credits
PWDS021	Proposal Development for Doctoral Studies (SLP)*		
DPIC1001	Doctoral Thesis: Commerce	10	360

***Important to note:** an additional fee is payable for the Proposal Development for Doctoral Studies Short Learning Programme (PWDS021), please refer to the fee schedule applicable for further information.

b. Compulsory and Electives:

COMPULSORY:

The structure of the Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce consists of only one compulsory NQF level 10 component (module), namely the Doctoral Thesis: Commerce. As it is a research-based doctoral degree with no coursework included, there are no other compulsory or elective modules included in this qualification. The thesis constitutes the full 360 credits for the qualification, in line with the requirements of the HEQSF.

Graduation and Completion Requirements for This Qualification

The Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce requires a student to undertake research at the most advanced academic levels culminating in the submission, assessment, and acceptance of a doctoral thesis, along with the preparation of an article for publication in an appropriate peer-reviewed journal. Students are further required to defend their final thesis in a *viva voce*.

2 Years Full-Time / 3 Years Part-Time Distance Doctorate | NQF Level 10 | 360 Credits | SAQA ID: 125159 | DPIC1001

Faculty of Commerce

What Are the Benefits of an IIE Distance (Online) Qualification?

The IIE's distance (online) delivery mode provides you with the agility of studying towards a tertiary qualification asynchronously, at different times from different locations. Distance students need to commit to approximately 20-25 hours a week for distance engagement (most of which is after hours) with material and assessments to succeed.

Here are some of the benefits you can expect:

- A sequenced online learning environment that allows you the ability to manage your learning experiences flexibly and autonomously.
- A learner guide designed to lead you through the module material and learning outcomes, empowering you to effectively pace your learning in preparation for assessments.
- Our Learning Management System is designed to break up your learning units into manageable sections which include various activities to support learning.
- Module expert online lecturers that facilitate module teaching and learning support through various technology enhanced mediums.
- Student Relations Navigators provide administrative and operational guidance and support throughout your academic journey.
- A professionally registered Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor available for short-term, primary counselling services. Additionally, the Student Wellness Manager/Counsellor hosts various webinars and virtual talks on topics that promote a balanced lifestyle as you pursue your academic goals.

Apply Online

After your application is submitted, we will review your documentation and provide an outcome regarding your chosen study.



Follow us on social



2 Years Full-Time / 3 Years Part-Time Distance Doctorate | NQF Level 10 | 360 Credits | SAQA ID: 125159 | DPIC1001

Faculty of Commerce



Emeris is an educational brand of The Independent Institute of Education (Pty) Ltd which is registered with the Department of Higher Education and Training as a private higher education institution under the Higher Education Act, 1997 (reg. no. 2007/HE07/002). Company registration number: 1987/004754/07

Please note, details are correct at the time of publication.

