

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and Teacher Education Preparation in South Africa: Implications for 21st Century Classroom-based Practice

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ABSTRACT Information communication and technologies (ICTs) have become the life wire of modern society. Therefore this paper investigates how teacher educators prepare students and use ICT for effective teaching and learning purposes. The question therefore is: Are there any effect of introducing technologies into classroom in South Africa? Other questions include: do educators in South Africa need skills for effective teaching and learning using ICT? What are the impacts of ICT on educator professional development? All these questions are addressed in this study by emphasizing the South African national policy documents on ICT for education. These national documents will be scrutinized against the backdrop of the reality of teacher education preparation in South Africa. In addition, this study discusses the role of teacher educators in the 21st century with the use of ICT. It, however, concludes that teacher training institutions, professional development in HEI's and school-based institutions should be functional in line with the new technology.