

# NELSON MANDELA BAY

Eastern Cape

The main campuses of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) is located in the coastal city of Port Elizabeth (PE), on the south eastern coast of South Africa, in the Eastern Cape Province.

The Eastern Cape is the third largest province and is the home province of former president Nelson Mandela. Port Elizabeth, together with its neighbouring towns of Uitenhage and Despatch, form a metropole known as Nelson Mandela Bay. PE is a port city with a strong industrial sector and is an important center for the South African motor industry. Port Elizabeth boasts a variety of interesting architectural and historical sites, beautiful beaches, excellent sporting facilities and a vibrant cultural life. It is often referred to as the "Friendly City".



**THE BOARDWALK & CASINO** • The Boardwalk Entertainment World is located close to NMMU. It has a casino, gift shops, an arts and crafts market, a wide variety of restaurants, cinema and entertainment centre.



**BASKING IN THE SUN** • The Eastern Cape has more "sunshine days" than any other province in South Africa. And there are ample beaches and sporting facilities to enjoy the sunshine.



**BAYWORLD** • The Bayworld complex houses the Main Museum, Snake Park and Oceanarium.



**THE BIG SEVEN** • The Eastern Cape is a malaria free zone. Tourists can view wildlife, including the Big Five, dolphins and whales.

## NMMU & ITS FACILITIES

The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) was established in January 2005 through the merger of the University of Port Elizabeth (incorporating Vista University) and the Port Elizabeth Technikon. NMMU is the largest higher education institution in the Eastern and Southern Cape, with some 20 000 students enrolled at six different campuses – five located in Port Elizabeth and one in George. The main campuses of the NMMU are situated in Summerstrand, Port Elizabeth. The North and South Campus are the biggest campuses in the Southern Hemisphere and enjoy a unique location in a nature reserve close to the beach.

NMMU is one of the most racially, culturally and linguistically diverse universities in Southern Africa. NMMU empowers its students with top academic and internationally recognised qualifications, including certificates, diplomas and degrees up to doctoral level to match students' academic interests and career aspirations.



## NMMU & ITS FACILITIES

**LIBRARY**  
**COMPUTER FACILITIES**  
**STUDENT CAFETERIA**

Each campus has a library with excellent library and information services.

There are several open access computer laboratories available to students.

There are student cafeterias serving meals and fast food, as well as tuck shops and vending machines.

**HEALTH SERVICES**

Each campus has a Campus Clinic with trained nurses and the services of a doctor.

The Units for Student Counselling assist students with Academic, Career and Personal Issues.

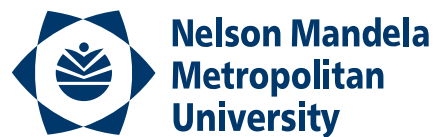
## SPORTS & STUDENT SOCIETIES

An indoor sports center, international-standard tartan athletics track, Astroturf & grass hockey fields, squash courts and heated swimming pool are amongst the comprehensive sporting facilities at NMMU, which cater for a wide range of sports at both competitive and social levels. There are numerous student societies at NMMU covering a wide range of academic, religious, social and recreational interests.

Athletics (Bi-, Tri- & Decathlon) • Golf • Rowing • Tennis • Aerobics • Hockey • Soccer  
Table Tennis • Archery • Judo • Swimming • Underwater Sports • Basketball • Karate  
Squash • Volleyball • Chess • Netball • Sport for the Disabled • Water Polo • Cricket  
Rugby • Surfing • Weight Lifting • Boxing • Badminton • Volleyball

## OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

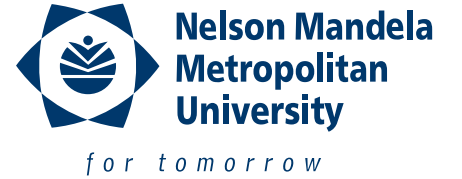
The University's Office for International Education assists international visitors and students with information on international travel, visas and academic studies. The support network is comprehensive and visitors and students can feel confident that they will be made welcome and be looked after during their time at NMMU.



for tomorrow

**Application Procedure:** Contact the Office for International Education for an application form. Return the application form with the application fee (**R480.00**) to the Office for International Education before the closing date. Closing dates for applications: 30 April for the course starting in July and 31 October for the course starting in February.

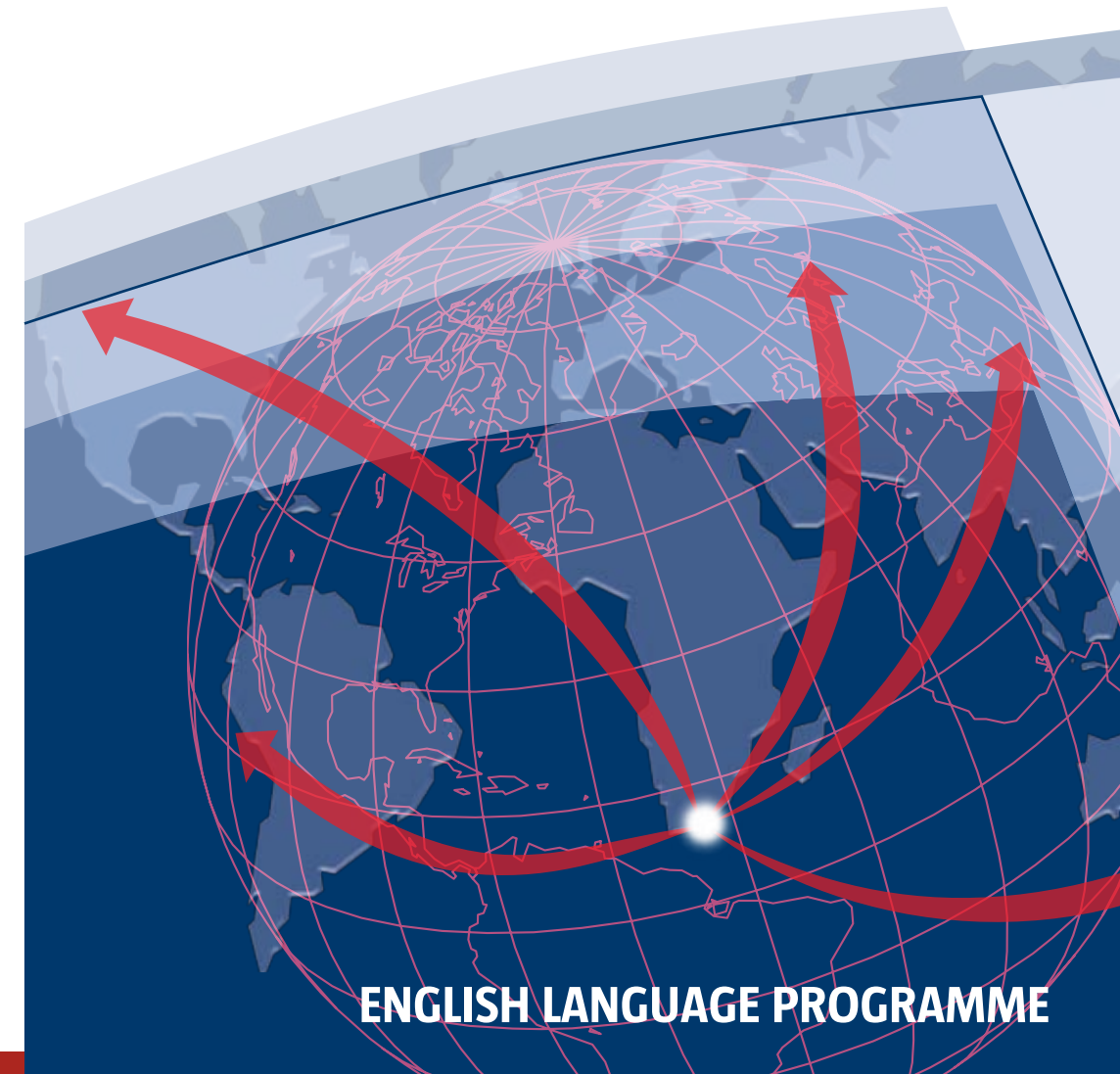
For more information please contact:  
**The Office for International Education**  
PO Box 77000, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University,  
Port Elizabeth, 6031 • SOUTH AFRICA  
Tel: +27 (0) 41 504 2161 • Fax: +27 (0) 41 504 2771  
E-mail: international@nmmu.ac.za



## NMMU International

Port Elizabeth, South Africa

Africa's unique study address



ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMME

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS PROGRAMME

for International Students (LEF 001/002)

The English Language Skills Programme (ELS) is especially designed for international students whose primary language is not English, and who do not meet the minimum language entrance requirements of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU). The University aims to meet this need by offering a semester-based, intensive, English skills programme aimed at improving proficiency levels to the extent that international students will be able to cope with English as a medium of instruction.

## MINIMUM ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (English for academic purposes)

Advanced English language proficiency is the foundation for further academic study at any university in the world where the medium of instruction is English. The minimum English proficiency requirements of NMMU and other such universities are usually a TOEFL score of around 570 on the paper-based test (PBT) and 230 on the computer-based test (CBT). This is equivalent to IELTS Band 6.5, level A4 on the ALTE framework or C1 on the Common European Framework, which indicates that users at this level are proficient enough to follow a course of academic study at university level.

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR LEF 001/002

The one semester (sixteen-week) English programme at NMMU has been designed to meet the needs of those students who obtained PBT scores of between 400 to 500, or CBT scores of between 150 to 200, that is, just below the required proficiency level (approximately ALTE Level A2, IELTS Band 4.5+).

## PLACEMENT TESTING

Students will be submitted to an English placement test at the onset (at no extra cost to the student) of the LEF programme to determine their level of proficiency. This is not negotiable. These placement tests are text and task based, and consists of sections covering all major language skill areas – speaking, listening, vocabulary, reading comprehension, functional grammar and writing.

## CONDITIONS THAT APPLY

Students who wish to enter the LEF programme for purposes of further academic study at scores below the minimum scores of 400 PBT and 150 CBT as indicated above, **will be allowed to enter the programme only on condition that they understand the need for doing additional semester programmes, depending on their level of proficiency at the end of the 16-week period.**



## ASSESSMENT

Students are assessed formatively and cumulatively through a variety of daily and weekly oral and written assignments, regular standardised progress checks, and the submission of a portfolio of written work. Upon completion of the programme a formal oral/aural and written examination, with various exit possibilities, is conducted.

## THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAMME

LEF 001/2 is an accelerated language programme for international students who have already acquired a minimum level of proficiency in English as a foreign language, and is designed to equip such students with the degree of proficiency in English required to communicate comfortably at university level (including English for academic purposes), in social and intercultural settings and in the workplace. The programme aims to foster in students a desire to explore the possibilities that an international language such as English can offer them and also guide students in meeting the challenges of living in a multilingual and multicultural environment (cf BICS-CALP distinction).

## SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

Students will continue to build on already acquired core proficiencies. At the end of the programme they will demonstrate competency in • listening and processing information accurately, sensitively and critically • speaking fluently, clearly, confidently and with a sensitive awareness of audience and situation • reading a variety of texts in different genres with comprehension, enjoyment and critical awareness • writing purposefully and with increasing accuracy • applying grammatical structures and linguistic conventions.

## DURATION AND SUBSTANCE OF THE PROGRAMME

**The sixteen-week programme (at NQF Level 4) is presented bi-annually, in semester one from January to June, and in semester two from July to November.**

Formal contact sessions last three and a half hours per day (**17.5 hours per week**), and there are two sessions per day, from 09:00 to 12:00, and from 13:00 to 16:30 (depending on student numbers). Daily there are additional reading and writing assignments. Students spend an additional **three hours per week** on computer-based interactive and reinforcement exercises. Students are encouraged to sit in **on academic lectures at least twice weekly** to gain a general understanding of the language demands in a real academic environment, to familiarise themselves with academic practices and programmes and to develop additional listening skills, note-taking and other academic skills in English (EAP). In the adopt-a-student mentoring programme, international students are matched with local students who study in the mainstream English programmes.

The programme has shown great results as far as intercultural interaction and conversational English are concerned. Organised field trips and regular cultural excursions, at no additional cost to the student, make up the rest of the programme.



# FINAL ASSESSMENT FORMAT

for (LEF 001/002)

**SPEAKING 20-30 minutes:** a face-to-face interview, answering questions, speaking at length on a familiar topic, interacting with interviewer (two tutors and two students are present at a time - it somewhat relieves stress levels). This examination is done separately but usually within the same week as the others.

**LISTENING 30 minutes:** a recorded/spoken text(s) that may feature a mixture of monologues, conversations and variety of accents. The recording/ dialogue/ speech is heard once, but candidates may read questions and record answers in the allocated time. This assessment can be done as part of the main one, or separately, depending on the venue and sound equipment available, but usually on the same day.

**READING Comprehension and language in use: 120 minutes:** 2 to 3 reading passages from basic academic texts, books, magazines, newspapers. The texts may be argumentative, descriptive, expository or any other genre within the students' potential range. Comprehension questions test candidates' ability to understand and use information at various levels (cf Bloom's Taxonomy), language questions test candidates' knowledge and understanding of the rules of usage (practical and functional language skills and abilities of accuracy).

**WRITING (Composition): 60 minutes**

**Task 1:** 150 words based on material found in a table or diagram and/or a letter asking for information, or explaining a situation.

**Task 2:** a 150-word essay in response to a given problem or opinion, testing their ability to discuss issues, present their own ideas, challenge other ideas, construct an argument, and to use appropriate tone and register. (Three shorter assignments involving different genres, totaling 300+ words, may be set).

