

NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY

GQEERHA - SOUTH AFRICA

STUDY ABROAD **FACT SHEET** 2026



international.mandela.ac.za/studyabroad



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1. About the Institution

Country	South Africa
City	Gqeberha (Formerly Port Elizabeth)
Year of founding of Institution	2005
Strengths of institution	Nelson Mandela University is a comprehensive university with its focus on teaching and learning.
Student population	32000
Nearest airport	Port Elizabeth International Airport
Transportation from airport to campus	The Nelson Mandela University International Office will provide airport pick-up from the airport provided the student has informed the office of their arrival by completing the appropriate orientation booking form timeously and arrives within the pickup period.
Address of institution	Nelson Mandela University PO Box 77000 Gqeberha, 6031 South Africa
Official website	www.mandela.ac.za



2. About the Country and City

Population of country	63 million
Population of city	1.3 million
Native language(s)	English, IsiXhosa and Afrikaans
Major holidays	Family Day, Human Rights Day, Youth Day, National Women's Day, Christmas Day, Day of Goodwill, Day of Reconciliation, Freedom Day
Major events (festivals, fairs, etc.) / places of interest	Kragga Kamma Game Park, Algoa Bay, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, Iron Man South Africa

3. International Office Information

Office in charge of student exchange	International Office
Website of this office	international.mandela.ac.za
Application procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Email: studyabroad@mandela.ac.za to receive application package• Fill out application form Send application• Receive acceptance letter & pay acceptance deposit Apply for Medical Aid, choose accommodation & then study permit• Receive study permit & book flights A minimum GPA of 2.5
Contact	Email: StudyAbroad@mandela.ac.za Johannes.VanRensburg@mandela.ac.za
Application deadlines	Semester 2 (Jul - Nov): 30 April Semester 1 (Feb – Jun): 15 November



4. Academic Information

Language(s) of instruction

English

Link of courses available for exchange students

<http://www.mandela.ac.za/Academic/Courses-on-offer/Qualifications>

Popular courses taken by exchange students

South African language courses:

- Afrikaans For Beginners (LAB111)
- Afrikaans For Beginners (LAB112)
- isiXhosa For Beginners (LXP111+LXP112)
- isiXhosa For Beginners (LXP113+LXP114)

Faculty of Arts:

- Understanding Cultural Diversity A (SA101)
- Understanding Cultural Diversity B (SA102)
- Political History of South Africa in the 20th Century (A) (SSH201)
- Modern Africa- History & Philosophy (SSH204)
- History Of African Human Migration (SSH205)

Faculty of Business and Economic Science:

- Marketing Management (EBM201)
- Logistics And Purchasing Management (EBM202)
- Marketing Communication Management (EBM203)
- Financial Management (EBM301)
- General And Strategic Management (EBM302)
- Internet Marketing Strategies (EBM304)
- International Marketing Management and Strategy (EBM305)

Faculty of Education:

- South African Education in Time & Space (PGED112)
- Educational Thought, Teaching and Learning (PGED201)
- Curriculum Design and Development (PGED202)
- Psychology In Education & Training (SP107)
- Applied Child & Adolescent Development (SP105)



4. Academic Information *(continued)*

Are there any courses/ subjects closed to exchange students? If yes, please specify.

Exchange students can be allowed to register for all modules, provided they meet the requirement of the department.

Minimum requirements on specific subjects

Exchange student wanting to take second- and third-year modules must have done an equivalent lower level module as a pre-requisite.

Can internships be arranged for exchange students? If yes, is academic credit available?

No internships are offered by the Office for International Education to exchange students.

Are service learning or civic engagement opportunities available to exchange students? If yes, is academic credit available?

At Nelson Mandela University we offer study abroad students the opportunity to make a difference in communities where assistance is much needed.

Students can volunteer through our service-learning initiatives by assisting at one of our approved community-service learning projects.

This service learning is offered as a credit bearing module where students can obtain 8 NMU credits (2 USA credits / 4 ECTS credits) for volunteering 2 hours per week, attending community service-learning workshops and submitting a journal and visual presentation on their experiences at the projects.

Students can apply for community service learning during registration.



5. Academic Calendar

Start and end date of classes	Fall (Jul - Dec): 21 July 2026 – 31 October 2026 Spring (Jan - Jun): 10 February 2026– May 28, 2026
Breaks/Vacation during the semester	Fall (Jul - Dec): 04 October 2026 – 12 October 2026 Spring (Jan - Jun): 29 March 2026 – 07 April 2026
Exam Period	Fall (Jul - Dec): 04 November – 22 November 2026 Spring (Jan - Jun): 02 June 2026 – 21 June 2026
Official Arrival Dates	Fall (Jul - Dec): 10 July 2026 Spring (Jan - Jun): 29 January 2026
Orientation	Fall (Jul - Dec):14 July 2026 – 18 July 2026 Spring (Jan - Jun): 03 February 2026 – 07 February 2026
Are there any orientation related fees exchange students need to pay? If yes, please specify.	Compulsory Orientation: R660.00 Optional weekend excursion: R2 500 – R3 000

6. Housing, Meal, and Estimated Expenses Information

Housing options available to exchange students (on or off campus accommodation/ apartment, single, double, homestay)	Housing information will be forwarded to nominated students in due course.
Range of housing fees per semester	R35 000 – R60 000
How and when does a student apply for housing?	A student is sent the accommodation application form after he/she has been accepted
Link to housing application	Students apply by filling in the application form
Are there any compulsory meal plans? If yes, please specify the fee range per semester.	No



6. Housing, Meal, and Estimated Expenses Information *(continued)*

What should exchange students' budget for food per semester?	R15 000
Estimated living expenses per semester	R7 000
Other miscellaneous fees/expenses	R5 000
Estimated Total Expenses	R27000

7. Health Insurance

Are there any mandatory insurance packages that exchange students are required to purchase before or after arrival? Please specify if this is an institutional requirement or a visa requirement.

For Study Permit application and registration purposes, Nelson Mandela University requires proof of full Medical Aid Cover with a South African registered medical aid scheme. No insurance products, from South Africa or abroad, will be accepted.

8. Additional Information

Please share any additional important information for incoming exchange students.

Exchange students can visit: <https://international.mandela.ac.za/> to get more information about studying at NMU

Application Form [Download Here](#)

University Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MandelaUni/>

International Office / Exchange Student Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/MandelaUniInternational>



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