

## **National Diploma: Interior Design Application Process**

### Getting Started

Dear Applicant,

There are two parts to the application process to be considered for the Interior Design Diploma at Nelson Mandela University.

#### **PART 1**

The first is a general undergraduate application process that everyone coming to Nelson Mandela University needs to undertake. The process is handled by the Admission Department and is an online process which is not handled by the Department of Architectural Technology & Interior Design. For more information on the general application process as well as online application, please visit [www.mandela.ac.za](http://www.mandela.ac.za). To be considered for the Interior Design programme, applicant must meet the minimum academic requirements set for the Interior Design diploma programme which consists of:

1. Minimum NSC requirements for diploma entry must be met
2. English, Afrikaans or isiXhosa (Home Language or First Additional Language) on at least level 3 (40 - 49%)
3. Applicants must in addition to this attain an Applicant Score (AS) of 310 if Mathematics or Technical Maths was taken as a school subject or 325 if Mathematical Literacy was taken
4. Admission is subject to departmental selection
5. Must meet direct admissions requirements to be considered for departmental selection
6. Design and Visual Arts are recommended

#### **PART 2**

Due to the popularity of the diploma there is a limited number of places available, the Department of Architectural Technology & Interior Design has an additional selection process. This document covers that process, which follows the Nelson Mandela University online application.



## 2.1 The interview

All qualifying applicants are required to attend a selection interview at the Department of Interior Design at predetermined dates (**see below**). Selection is based on the submission of a creative portfolio of work, comprising of drawings, sketches and other creative or technical projects, as outlined by the Department as well as an interview with the department's staff to discuss the creative portfolio. It is advisable to attend the interview at the earliest as there are fixed number of seats available for admission. International applicants who are unable to present themselves for an interview must courier the portfolio to the department. The final selection of applicants will only be finalised after the Grade 12 results have been received by Admissions and the Department.

For general enquiries, please contact the Departmental Secretary as per details above.

**A Creative Portfolio of your work to be submitted at the interview. Applicants are required to do a drawing exercise before an interview with a panel of staff members.**

**Interviews will take place on the dates below:**

<b>Interview Session</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>
Session 1	05 June 2019 10H00	10 June 2019 10H00
Session 2	25 September 2019 10H00	26 September 2019 10H00
Session 3	25 November 2019 10H00	26 November 2019 10H00
Session 4	4 December 2019 10H00	5 December 2019 10H00
Session 5	14 January 2020 10H00	15 January 2020 10H00

## 2.2 The Portfolio

**Creative Portfolio requirements: Student selection**

### **Personal Creative portfolio (A3 flip file format)**

Students are required to present a personal portfolio of creative work during the interview which forms part of the selection process. This could include work produced in Visual Art, Design or EGD at school or any drawings, sketches, paintings, photos of three-dimensional work (sculpture or models) and also technical drawings or any other creative work.

- **Design a cover** for the portfolio that will give a reflection of your personality. Your name & surname must form part of this design.



In addition, the following 6 points must be completed and included into the portfolio: (A3 flip file format)

### **1. Design exercise: A pot plant with personality**

*The aim of the brief is to test your creative imagination and abstract associations. It also test your practical thought process.*

In a world threatened by Global warming, people are starting to re-explore nature and the importance of plants in our daily lives.

Choose **3** different and unique indigenous plants and design a pot/holder for each one of them that will clearly express the character of each plant. Indicate in which context this design will be used – an office, a shopping mall, somewhere at home, inside, outside, etc. Be specific and think creatively.

Important aspects to consider:

- Include pictures of the chosen plants and explain briefly why you have chosen those specific plants
- The pots or plant holders may **NOT** stand on a table or on the floor
- **One** of the designed pots/holders must have the ability to be fixed by at least two different methods within the chosen context (for example be able to be suspended or wall mounted)
- Think of the functional needs of the specific species of plant and incorporate it into the design
- Aesthetics should be considered in terms of material choices – indicate the materials used.

Support your design by using drawings to communicate the design project and how it works.

Include process drawings and mind maps to demonstrate the development of ideas.

Illustrate with diagrammatical sketches the sequence of adjusting the one pot/holder from one position to the next. Connection details must be clear. Text cannot be used to describe the process.

Include three dimensional colour drawings to illustrate the 3 final designs of the pots/holders in each one's specific context.

### **2. Colour perspective**

*The aim of this exercise is to test your drawing skills as well as your ability to render in colour.*

Draw a full colour perspective of an interior you admire. Any medium can be used, also include light and shade in the drawing.

### **3. Essay**

*The aim of this exercise is to test your creative writing and English language skills, as well as your knowledge of the profession.*

Write 2 descriptive paragraphs to indicate the difference between **Interior Design** and **Interior Decorating**, followed by 2 poems consisting of 6 lines each to creatively emphasize the difference between the two.

In conclusion, write a paragraph as motivation why you think you will make a great interior designer.



**4. Affidavit**

The creative portfolio must be entirely the student's **OWN work**, and is to include a **signed affidavit** to that effect.

**5. Grade 12 results**

A copy of your Grade 12 results of the 1<sup>st</sup> three terms, or your final Grade 12 certificate, must accompany the portfolio.

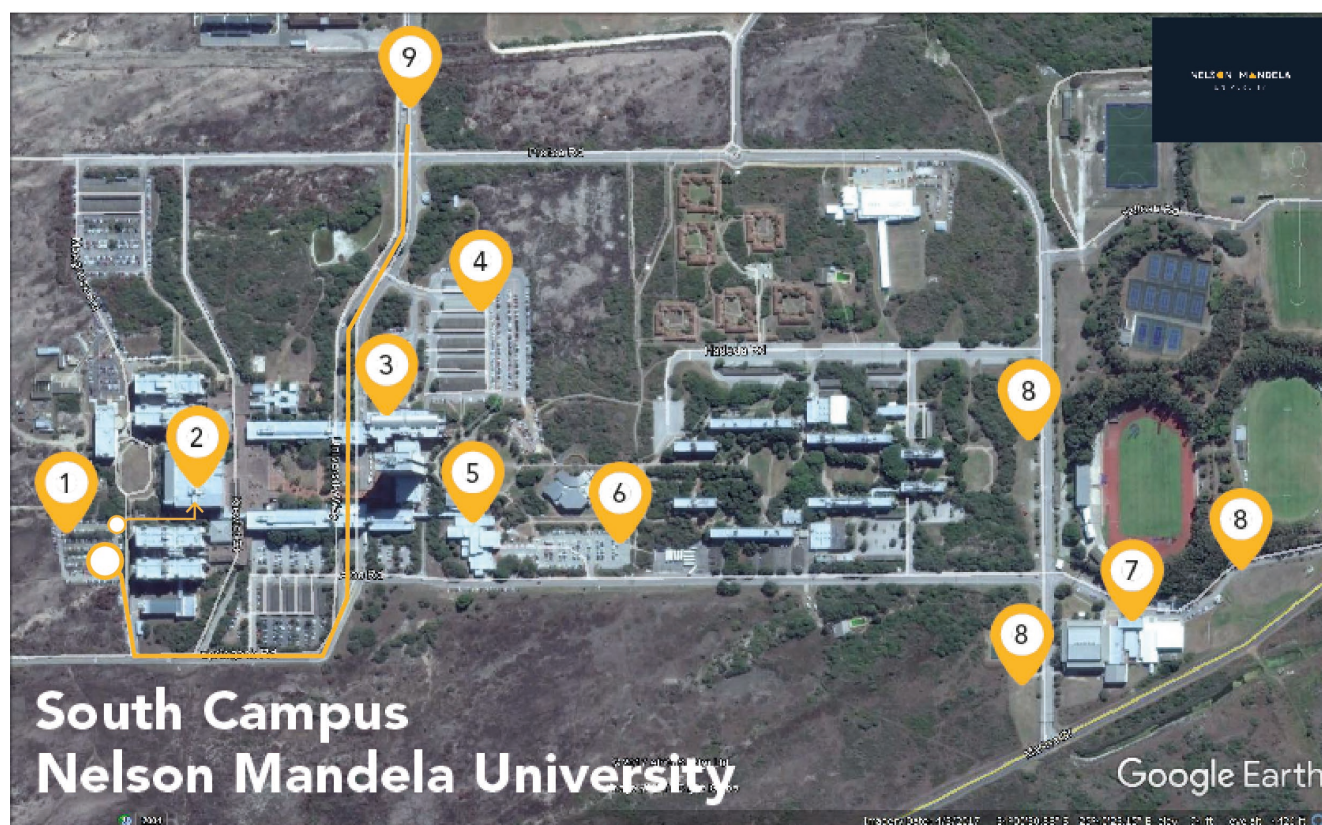
**6. Shadow an Interior designer**

You will be required to shadow a professional Interior Designer for one day to familiarise yourself with the working of an Interior Design Practice. A formal letter from the Interior designer stating that you did shadow him/her for the day must be included in the portfolio.

Qualifying applicants will be interviewed and must complete a drawing exercise on the day of the interview. Please bring drawing equipment with.



## Directions to the Department of Architectural Technology, South Campus, Nelson Mandela University



- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Architecture Parking                                   | 6. Building 35 Parking (Can also park at Archi Parking and walk) |
| 2. Architecture Department, Building 8, Floor 2           | 7. Indoor Sport Centre (for registration)                        |
| 3. Main Building, Administration (Admission) and Cashiers | 8. Parkign at Indoor Centre                                      |
| 4. Admin Building Parking                                 | 9. Entrance to Nelson Mandela University South Campus            |
| 5. Building 35 (Venue for First-Year Orientation)         |  |

- Take University Way in Summerstrand, off Admiralty Drive.
- Enter the University grounds (street named Guineafowl). You need to go to building 8.
- Drive past the main building. Keep on the same road as it takes a turn to the right (now street named Springbok).
- Take the 3<sup>rd</sup> turning to the right (street named Bush Buck) with directions to Physics/Chemistry building.
- Turn immediately left onto grass parking lot. Drive to furthest end and park.
- Take the red brick path between the physics building and the library. You will pass a concrete carport for 4 cars. Turn left and take the steps down into the foyer. Take the lift to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Enter the School of Architecture through the wood and glass doors. Go to room **214**.



## Application Timeline

1

**01 April**  
2019 Nelson Mandela University online applications open.  
[www.mandela.ac.za](http://www.mandela.ac.za)

2

**01 August**  
2019 Complete the general undergraduate application (first round applications) to Nelson Mandela University.  
[www.mandela.ac.za](http://www.mandela.ac.za)

3

**30 September**  
2019 Complete the general undergraduate application (late applications) to Nelson Mandela University.  
[www.mandela.ac.za](http://www.mandela.ac.za)

4.1

**05 & 10 June**  
2019 **Session 1: Interview opportunity** for applicants who have met the minimum requirements

4.2

**25 & 26 September**  
2019 **Session 2: Interview opportunity** for applicants who have met the minimum requirements

4.3

**25 & 26 November**  
2019 **Session 3: Interview opportunity** for applicants who have met the minimum requirements

4.4

**4 & 5 December**  
2019 **Session 4: Interview opportunity** for applicants who have met the minimum requirements

4.5

**14 & 15 January**  
2019 **Session 5: Interview opportunity** for applicants who have met the minimum requirements

