

## We're waiting for your call

Call us if you need more information on our courses and related careers.  
Remember, an informed choice is a good choice.

### Enquiries:

- Port Elizabeth Campuses – Tel: 041 504 1111
  - George Campus – Tel: 044 801 5111
- PO Box 77000 • Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
  - Port Elizabeth 6031
- E-mail: [info@nmmu.ac.za](mailto:info@nmmu.ac.za)  
[www.nmmu.ac.za](http://www.nmmu.ac.za)

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 **Nelson Mandela  
Metropolitan  
University**  
*for tomorrow*  
Port Elizabeth & George



Information for  
**GRADE 9'S**

# Welcome to our world

*You have dreams. You have potential. But how do you reach your goals?*

A university qualification can help you make the most of your talents in building a great future. However, much depends on the choices you make now, in Grade 9. We're here to help you make those decisions in order to make your dreams a reality.

## National Senior Certificate

South Africa's new Grade 12 school-leaving qualification, the National Senior Certificate (NSC), replaces the matric certificate and old senior certificate.

The NSC consists of a new and wider range of subjects. Your school may not offer all 29 subjects that form part of the new NSC, but it should offer enough subjects to give you the option of going to university.

## What you need to know

### You need to ...

- ▶ Know yourself and your abilities.
- ▶ Understand the world of study.
- ▶ Understand the world of work and the requirements for various jobs.

By getting to grips with these three areas, you will be better equipped to choose the most suitable school subjects and qualification needed to get that dream job or run your own business one day.

### Where to start?

With so many study and career opportunities available, you may still feel uncertain about your decision, so:

- ▶ Discuss your plans with your friends, and/or a guidance teacher.
- ▶ Speak to your parents to gain insight.
- ▶ Go to career exhibitions.
- ▶ Visit workplaces and talk to people.
- ▶ Talk to students who are studying what you are interested in.
- ▶ Search the internet and read up about your chosen field.
- ▶ Volunteer as an intern to help you better understand your chosen career field, as this will assist you with your final subject choices.

If you need more help in making a decision about school subjects or the right career, speak to a career counsellor or psychologist.

## How do I choose my subjects to get into varsity?

The subjects you select in Grade 9 will have a significant impact on the type of programme you will be able to apply for when considering higher education. These subjects should tie in with a career field that you are interested in. Avoid taking subjects just because your friends are doing them.

- ▶ For a **higher certificate**, you need to pass the NSC together with any other university requirements.
- ▶ For a **diploma**, you need an NSC with an achievement rating of 3 (40-49%) or better in four recognised NSC 20-credit bearing subjects, together with any other university requirements.
- ▶ For a bachelor's **degree** (eg BCom, BSc), you need an NSC with an achievement rating of 4 (50-59%) or better in four NSC 20-credit subjects from the designated list, together with any other university requirements.

## Designated school subjects

- ▶ If you are intending to enrol for a degree programme you need to ensure that **four of your seven subjects** are from the designated list and that you obtain at least a level 4 (50-59%) in each of them.
- ▶ You must select one or more subjects from the list below, provided that they are not from the same group, in order to apply for a degree programme.

Accounting	Languages
Agricultural Sciences	Life Sciences
Business Studies	Mathematics or Mathematical Literacy
Dramatic Arts	Music
Economics	Physical Sciences
Engineering Graphics and Design	Religion Studies
Geography	Visual Arts
History	Consumer Studies
Information Technology	

## Now here's the big stuff!

**Maths:** You will have to make a choice between Maths and Maths Literacy. Remember that you need Maths (and not Maths Literacy) for diplomas or degrees in fields such as:

- ▶ Accounting
- ▶ Architectural studies
- ▶ Bachelor of Science (BSc) programmes
- ▶ Biochemistry
- ▶ Biomedical Technology
- ▶ Botany
- ▶ Business & Financial studies
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Dietetics
- ▶ Economics
- ▶ Computer Science & Information Systems
- ▶ Construction Studies & Construction Economics
- ▶ Engineering (incl. civil, electrical, industrial, mechanical & mechatronics)
- ▶ Education (for prospective maths, physical sciences or accounting teachers)
- ▶ Geosciences
- ▶ Information Systems
- ▶ Mathematics & Mathematical Statistics
- ▶ Microbiology
- ▶ Physics
- ▶ Pharmacy
- ▶ Polymer Technology
- ▶ Paramedic
- ▶ Radiography
- ▶ Statistics
- ▶ Zoology

## Links between school subject choices and university study

Higher education fields of study	Possible school subjects to consider
Science, Engineering, IT and Health Sciences (excluding professions such as Psychology and Social Work).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mathematics</li> <li>▶ Physical Sciences</li> <li>▶ Economics</li> <li>▶ Information Technology</li> <li>▶ Computer Applications Technology</li> <li>▶ Life Sciences</li> <li>▶ Agricultural Sciences</li> <li>▶ Engineering Graphics and Design</li> </ul>
Business & Economic Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mathematics</li> <li>▶ Accounting</li> <li>▶ Business Studies</li> <li>▶ Economics</li> <li>▶ Consumer Studies</li> <li>▶ Information Technology</li> </ul>
Humanities (journalism, media and communication, drama, graphic design), Health Sciences (helping professions and sport & recreation), Law and Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Mathematical Literacy</li> <li>▶ Languages</li> <li>▶ History</li> <li>▶ Geography</li> <li>▶ Visual Art</li> </ul>

Source: Into Higher Education, October 2007

## What about Physical Sciences?

An achievement rating (pass) is also required in Physical Sciences for admission to study in the following fields:

- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Biomedical Technology
- ▶ Dietetics
- ▶ Education (Physical Science Teacher)
- ▶ Engineering (incl. civil, electrical, industrial, mechanical & mechatronics)
- ▶ Environmental Health
- ▶ Nursing Science
- ▶ Pharmacy
- ▶ Paramedic
- ▶ Polymer Technology
- ▶ Radiography
- ▶ Wood Technology

