

# NATIONAL DIPLOMA: Architectural Technology Application Process

## PART 1 Online Process

Handled by NMU Admission Department.

Click on the links Below:

**Local students:**  
<https://www.mandela.ac.za/Study-at-Mandela>

**International Students:**  
<https://international.mandela.ac.za/Application-and-Admissions>

To get into this programme, the applicant must have a minimum of:

- NSC Grade 12 Mathematics or Technical Mathematics - Score (AS) of 330.
- NSC Grade 12 Mathematical Literacy - Score (AS) of 345.
- Language on at least level 3 (40 - 49%)
- NSC achievement rating of at least 45% for Mathematics/ Technical Mathematics or 60% for Mathematical Literacy



## PART 2 Prepare your Portfolio

Only **ONE** submission To be emailed to [priya.peters@mandela.ac.za](mailto:priya.peters@mandela.ac.za)

Pdf's, Powerpoint presentation & Jpeg files, are all accepted.  
"Remember to send us good quality pictures."

You are required to put together a personal portfolio of work in an A3 flip file format. The portfolio consists out of 2 parts:

**A** Applicants are required to upload a personal portfolio of creative work done during school years which can assist in the selection process. This part is not compulsory but will aid in the selection process. Please refer to document added for more detailed information.

**B** The Design brief on the next page must be completed and added to your creative portfolio. All sections of the design brief must be completed to be considered for placement.

**4 Projects** each students **MUST** present...  
The first one to test your imagination,

Second project to gauge your drawing skills and determine your writing skills,

Third project to assess your technical skills,

Last project ask you to shadow an Architect for one day.

**YOU WILL BE ASSESSED ON THE LEVEL OF CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL DRAWING PRESENTED IN A PROFESSIONAL FORMAT.**

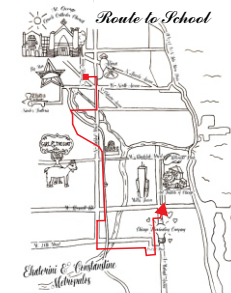
**NO Interviews** - Due to the current pandemic  
A panel will view your portfolio and "IF" necessary, applicants will be contacted for an online interview.

Deadline for submission of these portfolios are the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2021.

## PROJECT 1

You are required to sketch and annotate a MAP!!  
Your route from home to school.

Show us landmarks, landscapes, and buildings of particular interest to you.



## PROJECT 2

You must complete a **drawing or painting** of TWO significant buildings which are of particular interest to you from your community.

Please send us **One** project per page - each with their our word document briefly telling us... (Where are they?, What is their history and significance?)



Check these videos for help!!

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xG6VKCG9UE>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRh\\_r3Gs2TM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRh_r3Gs2TM)

## PROJECT 4

You will need to submit a letter signed by an Architect as proof of the fact that you spent **one full day** on his/her office! - This will help you to familiarise yourself with working with an Architectural Practice.

You will then add that letter to your portfolio and **send everything as ONE** submission!



Should the document be too big to email, please use WeTransfer / Dropbox / Google Drive to send it to Priya Peters.

Remember to send that email to:  
Priya Peters - [priya.peters@mandela.ac.za](mailto:priya.peters@mandela.ac.za)

## PROJECT 3

You are required to **design a compact folding table OR a chair!**  
1. Please tell us briefly what is the "driving idea" or concept behind your design.  
2. Give us as much drawing details as possible... you could even present a small model

**Be inventive!!!** Consider unusual materials and connection details.



Feel free to use pencil, pen, markers, paint, pastels, charcoal etc... for any of your drawings!

Contact Details:  
Priya Peters

Tel. +27 (0)41 504 9928  
[priya.peters@mandela.ac.za](mailto:priya.peters@mandela.ac.za)

## **National Diploma: Architectural Technology Application Process**

Getting Started

Dear Applicant,

There are **TWO** parts to the application process to be considered for the Architectural Technology 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. 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 Architectural Technology programme, the applicant must meet the minimum academic requirements set for the Architectural Technology diploma programme which consists of:

1. An applicant with NSC Grade 12 Mathematics or Technical Mathematics requires a minimum Applicant Score (AS) of 330.
2. An applicant with NSC Grade 12 Mathematical Literacy requires a minimum Applicant Score (AS) of 345. Language) on at least level 3 (40 - 49%)
3. NSC achievement rating of at least 45% for Mathematics or Technical Mathematics or 60% for Mathematical Literacy
4. Admission is subject to Departmental selection
5. NSC subjects like Visual Arts, and Design are given priority during selection of candidates. All qualifying applicants will be required to prepare a prescribed portfolio, possibly attend an online interview, and complete a placement assessment.
6. Selection is based on the submission of a creative portfolio of work, comprising drawings, sketches and other creative or technical projects, as outlined by the Department.

## **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 NO Interviews**

Due to the current pandemic, there will be NO interviews. A panel will view your portfolio and where necessary, applicants will be contacted for an online interview. An available time slot will be allocated to the applicant.

Applicants are requested to email their portfolios, may email it to [priya.peters@mandela.ac.za](mailto:priya.peters@mandela.ac.za). Deadline for these portfolios is the **30<sup>th</sup> of August 2021**. The applicant is required to take good quality photos of the portfolio when emailing us. Don't take the photos while it is in the plastic sleeve of the flip file. Use good lighting and no shadows. Don't take the photo at an angle – the camera must be parallel to the page. We suggest that the applicant create a Powerpoint presentation and / or Word document of their photos and save as a PDF file. The written part of the portfolio must be done as a Word document. Please refrain from sending multiple emails. We only want ONE email from each applicant, Should the document be too big to email, please use WeTransfer / Dropbox / Google Drive to send it to the department. **Please ensure that document is clearly marked with your name, surname and student number.**

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.

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

The personal creative portfolio consists of 2 parts.

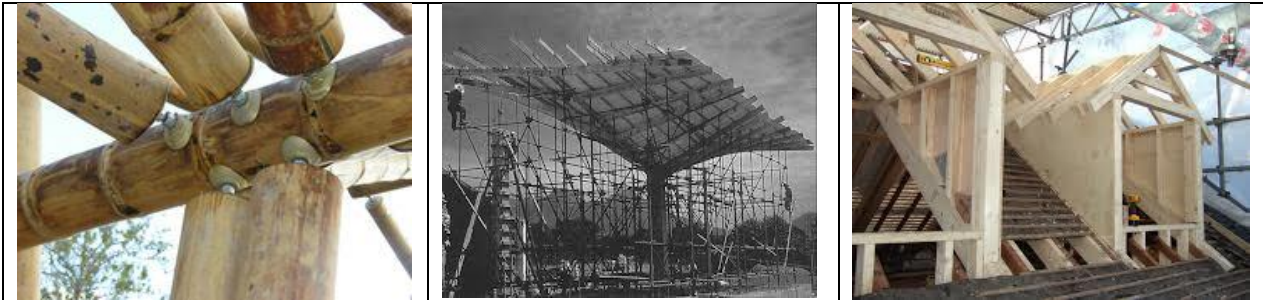
#### **Part 1**

Applicants are required to upload a personal portfolio of creative work done during school years which can assist in the selection process. This section may include work produced in Visual Art, Design or EGD at school. It may also contain any drawings, sketches, paintings, photos of three-dimensional work (sculpture or models) and technical drawings or any other creative work done outside of the school environment. (This part is not compulsory but will aid in the selection process)

#### **Part 2**

The following section of the creative portfolio is compulsory. All sections of the design brief must be completed to be considered for placement.

**Creative Portfolio Requirements:**



As a prospective student for the programme of Architectural Technology, you are required to present the following creative work to the staff panel.

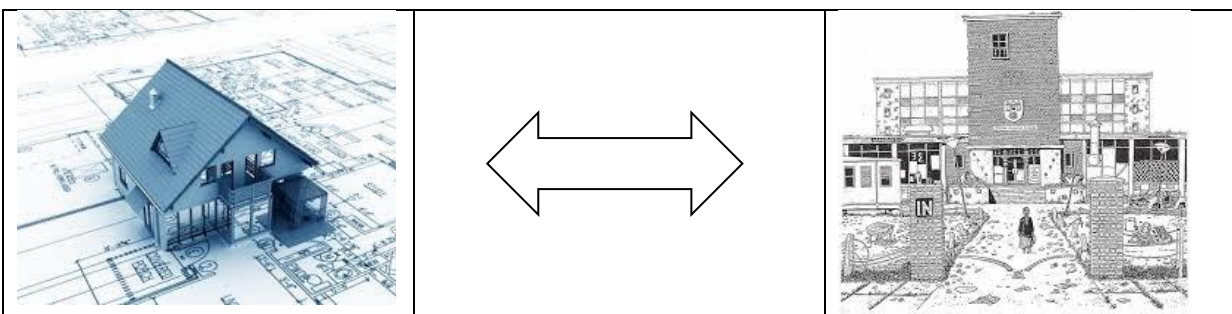
The aim of this creative brief is to assist you in preparing the relevant drawings and documents so that the academic staff can assess your abilities and enter into a dialogue with you regarding your interest in the profession and the built environment.

The requirements listed here are minimum requirements. You may enhance your portfolio with additional work in the form of school projects, drawings, paintings, and models.

**YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL WORK AS WELL AS SCHOOL PROJECTS.**

## PROJECT 1

**The aim of this project is to assess your creative imagination.**



You are required to illustrate/sketch and annotate a MAP, as a graphic expression, of your route to school. This map should show landmarks, landscapes, and buildings of particular interest to you. It is also a means with which you can communicate with the lecturing staff

your perception of your environment. This can be either in an A2 or A3 format. You are free to use whatever medium you feel most confident working with – pencil, pen, markers, paint, pastels, charcoal etc.

## PROJECT 2

The aim of this project is twofold, to gauge your drawing skills and secondly to determine your writing skills.



As a means of illustrating in more detail buildings of interest within your town or city, you must complete a drawing or painting of TWO significant buildings which are of particular interest to you and the community.

Each building must be illustrated on a separate page and a document attached to this will briefly explain the following:

Where the building is sited/located.

What is the history of the building?

Why is this a significant building?

What is your opinion of this building?

This can be either in an A2 or A3 format. You are free to use whatever medium you feel most confident working with – pencil, pen, markers, paint, pastels, charcoal etc.

**You are also required to write a brief essay about the history of this building and why you feel it is important within the context of your environment**

## PROJECT 3

The aim of this project is to assess your technical skills



You are required to design a compact folding table OR a chair.

Firstly explain what is the “driving idea” or concept behind your design. Then detail the form, materials, connections, and details by means of the following:

A perspective or three dimensional drawing – you may also utilize a small model

Consider the ergonomics/anthropometrics

A plan of the chair or table

Elevations

And lastly details as to how one would possibly construct the chair or table.

Be inventive! Consider unusual materials and connection details.

## **PROJECT 4**

You will be required to shadow an Architect for one day to familiarise yourself with the working of an Architectural Practice. A letter of proof of this must accompany your portfolio.