

## Guide to Course Placement

ELSPM offers a number of courses in General English, English for Academic Purposes (EAP) and preparation for IELTS exams.

Courses have different entry levels – while we offer you a place in a particular course through your Confirmation of Enrolment this may need to be adjusted as you complete a placement test on arrival.

Placement tests are based on the basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. A score is comparable to standardised tests like the Cambridge Quick Placement test (PET) and IELTS scores:

General English	Entry level:
Elementary	under 3.5 IELTS equivalent
Pre Intermediate	3.5 - 4.5 IELTS equivalent
Intermediate	4.5 - 5.5 IELTS equivalent

Students with little or no English are asked to contact the Academic Manager to ensure their needs can be catered for.

**IELTS** There is no specific entry level for IELTS preparation courses. It is generally believed that students can increase their score by 0.5 each 10 weeks. Different visas require different IELTS scores. Students must be at or close to the required score before beginning IELTS. The IELTS preparation course usually runs for 10 weeks each semester.

### English for Academic Purposes

The level of English required to begin a 20 week EAP course is equivalent to a Band 5.5 IELTS score in all skill areas. Most academic courses in Australia require a minimum of 6.0 to 6.5 IELTS entry score. Yarra Theological Union and other Colleges of the University of Divinity require an equivalent of 6.5 which equates to a CREDIT in all four areas of English – Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking with no skill below 6.0.

ELSPM conducts its own assessments in all four skills and marks to an equivalent IELTS level. Students who achieve a CREDIT in all four skills are recommended to the University of Divinity for enrolment.

ELSPM has a regular assessment program that gives students a progress report every 5 weeks. These should be taken into account when you are planning your next level of study.

Should you have any questions about Course Placement please contact the Academic Manager at [manager@elspm.org.au](mailto:manager@elspm.org.au)