



# Pathway Courses



## Courses Overview

### Foundation

The Foundation Pathway is a one-year programme for international students preparing for higher study or vocational qualifications. Available in Business, Management, or Information Technology, it builds essential academic knowledge, practical skills, and confidence, preparing students for progression to Level 4 or 5 study, undergraduate degrees, or employment.

### EAP+

This programme is ideal for academically qualified students with a strong GPA who need additional English support to meet the language entry requirements (e.g., IELTS 6.0). EAP consists of 3 hours per morning lessons, 5 days a week for the language part and 6 hours per week in the afternoon for either research methods or transition to university.



# A summary of our Pathway courses

## Foundation

The Foundation Pathway is a full-year programme designed to prepare international students for further academic study or entry into vocational qualifications. It is available in Business, Management or Information Technology and helps students develop essential knowledge, practical competencies, and academic confidence.

Throughout the year, students engage in hands-on learning through projects, assignments, and collaborative tasks. The curriculum focuses on building core skills such as communication, teamwork, research, digital literacy, and critical thinking. These are the foundational capabilities sought by universities and employers alike.

In the Business and Management pathways, students explore areas such as marketing, finance, customer service, and human resources, gaining insight into how these functions operate within real-world organisations. In the Information Technology pathway, learners develop technical skills in systems, software, and IT support, while also understanding the role of technology in business environments.

Study Skills modules support academic development, including essay writing, referencing, time management, and presentation techniques. By the end of the programme, students will have a clear understanding of their academic and career direction, and be well-prepared to progress to Level 4 or 5 qualifications, undergraduate degrees, or entry-level employment.

## EAP+

The English for Academic Purposes course is a structured pre-sessional program designed for secondary school graduates preparing for undergraduate (EAP+UG) or postgraduate (EAP+PG) study in English-speaking institutions. It aims to develop academic English proficiency to IELTS 6.0 or equivalent, alongside essential study skills for university-level success.

The course spans 12 weeks in Dubai or 15 weeks in Malta (comprising 12 weeks of tuition, 1 mid-term break, 1 revision week, and 1 final exam week). Students receive approximately 21 hours of classroom instruction per week, delivered either in-person or via blended online formats across EP College campuses or partner university sites.

The curriculum integrates academic reading, writing, listening, and speaking with a focus on genre-specific writing (essays, reports), vocabulary acquisition, and grammatical accuracy. Listening and speaking modules simulate lectures, seminars, and presentations. Academic skills training includes critical reading, structured note-taking, source referencing (APA/Harvard), time management, and oral presentation techniques.

Entry requirements include IELTS 5.0 (minimum 5.0 in all components) and a secondary school diploma for EAP+UG or Undergraduate degree for EAP+PG. Upon completion, students receive an EP certificate and assessment record confirming readiness for undergraduate study. Graduates demonstrate enhanced academic literacy, independent learning strategies, and confidence in navigating university coursework. Applicants should verify if additional English test scores are required by their chosen institution.



## Foundation and Diploma Route

Phase 1 Improve your English				Phase 2 Pathway - get ready for your higher education programme							Phase 3 Study your higher education programme					
English course	Start date	Entry requirements	Tuition fees	Pathway programme	Duration	Tuition fees	Programme intake	Entry requirement	Exit level upon completion	Scholarship available	GBS Dubai	Duration	Price per year	Scholarship available	Entry requirement	Intakes
General English	every Monday	n/a	Please consult package price.	International Diploma (level 2)	6 months	\$ 6,950	January, March, June, September	n/a	IELTS Academic 4.5	Please consult package price.	n/a	n/a	\$ 10,900		IELTS Academic 5.5	January, March, June, September
				Foundation Year (level 3)	1 year	\$ 10,900	January, March, June, September									
Pre-Sessional English	every Monday	minimum IELTS 2.0	Prices outlined in the table below*	EAP+	3 months	\$ 3600	October, December, June	IELTS Academic Overall 4.5 (or equivalent)	IELTS Academic Overall 5.5 (or equivalent)	n/a	Higher National Diploma (level 4/5)	2 years	\$ 10,900		IELTS Academic 5.5	January, March, June, September

## Full course list & information

### Foundation & Pre-University Courses

- International Diploma in Business (Level 2)
- International Extended Diploma in Business (Level 3)
- International Extended Diploma in IT (Level 3)

### Higher National Diplomas (HNDs)

- HND International in Business
- HND in Construction Management
- HND in Digital Technologies (Cyber Security)
- HND in Digital Technologies (Artificial Intelligence (AI) Solutions and Applications)
- HND in Healthcare Practices (Healthcare Management)

### Booking Combinations & further information

Students can book the following combination of courses...

#### Foundation and Diploma Pathways

- General English + International Diploma (available as a package)
- General English + Foundation Year (available as a package)
- Pre-sessional English + EAP + HND
- EAP + HND

#### Scholarships

- Scholarships are available for Higher Education programmes.
- Availability and value depend on the student's nationality.

**Consultation:** Students are advised to consult us for a free and detailed education plan before booking.

- Pre-sessional English is optional.
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#### Tests for enrolment

For Pre-Sessional English

- Grammar and vocabulary assessment: [Link](#)
- Writing assessment: [Link](#)
- Speaking assessment: [Link](#)

For EAP+

- Skills Test [link](#)

### Additional fees

What	Price
1-year visa outside (includes insurance)	\$ 1,250
1-year visa inside (includes insurance)	\$ 1,700
1-year visa extension (includes insurance)	\$ 1,000
Enrolment fee (all courses)	\$ 75
EAP material	\$ 195
PreMaster material	\$ 135
Pre-sessional enrolment	\$ 75
Pre-sessional material	\$ 130 (6 weeks)      \$ 190 (12, 18 weeks)      \$ 260 (24 weeks)

### \*Pre-sessional English Course Prices

Duration in weeks	Price	Progression table
6	\$ 2,205	IELTS 4.5 to IELTS 5.0
12	\$ 4,265	IELTS 4.0 to IELTS 5.0
18	\$ 6,265	IELTS 3.5 to IELTS 5.0
24	\$ 8,335	IELTS 3.0 to IELTS 5.0

Can be booked prior to EAP, Pre-Master, Pre-Master Accelerated if the student does not have the minimum of language requirement to enter the desired programme.



# General English and English for Academic Purposes

A summary of the key differences between General English (GE) and English for Academic Purposes (EAP). It highlights their goals, contexts, language focus, and outcomes to help learners and educators understand their distinct purposes.

Aspect	General English (GE)	English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
Main Goal	Everyday communication and social interaction	Academic success in study and research contexts
Contexts of Use	Travel, work, daily life, casual conversations	Universities, research, academic writing, lectures, seminars
Skills Emphasis	Speaking fluently, listening comprehension, practical reading & writing	Academic reading, essay/report writing, note-taking, presentations
Vocabulary	General, broad, everyday vocabulary	Subject-specific, academic vocabulary, technical terms
Grammar Focus	Basic to intermediate accuracy for communication	Advanced accuracy, formality, and complexity
Critical Thinking	Limited—focus on communication fluency	Strong emphasis on analysis, argumentation, and critical evaluation
Cultural Focus	Daily social norms, idioms, colloquial expressions	Academic conventions, citation, referencing, avoiding plagiarism
Outcome	Ability to function confidently in general English settings	Ability to study, research, and write effectively in academic fields



## Further course information

This table further outlines key differences between EP general English and EP EAP and EAP+ offerings.

Aspect	EP General English (GE)	English for Academic Purposes (EAP+)
Classroom Hours to increase 1 CEFR or IELTS Band	150 hours from B2.1-B2.2 10 week target.	180 classroom hours of EAP instruction to progress from IELTS 5.0-6.0 12 week target. 60 additional hours of academic preparation.
Qualification of Teacher	CELTA or undergraduate qualification	DELTA or post graduate qualification
Assessment Methodology	Completion of classroom activities and topics, acceptable attendance assessed by instructor.	Eleven summative and formative assessments mapped to IELTS indicators on speaking, listening, reading and writing. final grade maps to IELTS bands.
Use of second marker/external examiner	Not applicable	Quality assurance framework modelled after UK Higher Education. Includes external examiners and second marking of assessments.
Textbook Used	E.G. Empower, English File Oxford	Oxford English for Academic Purposes
Entry Standard	Assessment by Academic Manager on arrival.	IELTS or equivalent exam result to meet entry criteria or formal EP assessment prior to admission offer.
Exit Criteria	Record of attendance and level of study.	Final grade on the 11 assessments noted above.



EP



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