



ESSA was founded in 1980 in Pietermaritzburg. Our Mission is

to train dedicated Christian leaders for the Church-in-Mission, in an urban setting, by providing quality tertiary education that is evangelical, holistic and contextual.

Students come to study at ESSA from all over Africa, but in particular from Southern Africa. Our student body comprises a stimulating mix of believers from many different cultures and Christian denominations.

We offer a range of qualifications, from a one year certificate in theology right up to a three year diploma or degree (recognised internationally at university level). We aim to produce graduates who have not only been informed and stimulated on an intellectual level, but who have also been challenged to form godly attitudes and values and who are equipped with practical skills for service. Full time students may choose to major in one of the following areas:

- Church and Development
- Cross-cultural Mission
- Congregational Ministry

PART-TIME STUDIES

We are convinced that the way forward in theological education is to provide lay people with greater access to training, by means of part-time studies and distance learning. Our distance learning programme is still in its planning phase, but we are seeing an increasing amount of public interest in part-time studies. At present our courses are run during office hours, but we are exploring the possibility of offering some part-time evening or 1-hour classes.

Registration and fees

Registration as a part-time student is very simple. You will need to complete a basic registration form and pay a tuition fee of **R535.00** before the commencement of the course. This fee entitles you to use the ESSA library for the duration of the course.

After completing your course/s, you may choose to join the library as an associate member. Associate library members are presently charged an annual membership fee of R250.

Studies for degree/diploma purposes

If you intend to slowly accumulate credits for the purposes of eventually obtaining a degree, diploma or certificate, you will at some stage be required to go through our full registration procedure. This only becomes compulsory after you have completed 6 courses at ESSA. The full registration process includes supplying character references and a personal testimony, as well as proof of your previous academic qualifications. (As a basic guide for those wishing to complete a full qualification, degree candidates require a matric exemption, while diploma students need to have completed 12 years of schooling. Mature age candidates qualify for certain concessions).

Timetables

Our academic year is divided into 4 quarters: Modules A, B, C and D, which correspond roughly with the sessional dates set by the University of Natal. For 2004, the respective modules are scheduled to run as follows:

Module A:	16 February to 8 April
Module B:	19 April to 11 June
Module C:	3 August to 24 September
Module D:	4 October to 26 November

Most of our courses run for a period of one module. These are called *intensive courses* and generally involve 3 one hour lectures per week, with a total of 22 lectures per course. In addition, each course will generally call for a commitment to a further 30 to 60 hours for required reading and assignments.

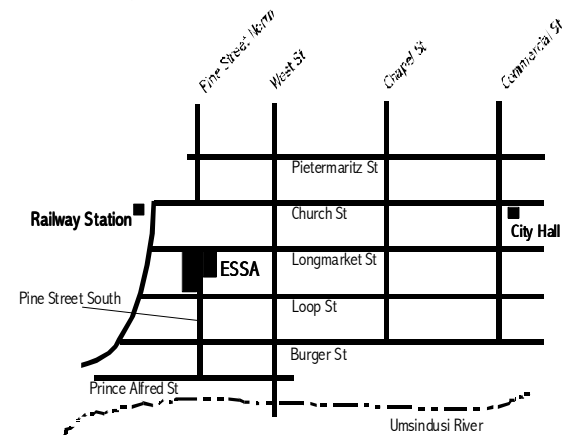
Some of our courses are timetabled as *extensive courses*, which means that they run over a period of 2 modules. Extensive courses involve the same total time commitment as intensive courses, but are taught on a less intensive basis (ie: 1.5 hours lectures per week, instead of 3 hours).

Timetables for the coming module are generally available during the last week of the previous module.

Further information

If you need any more information, please feel free to contact Denise Govender on the numbers listed below. In particular graduates may be interested in our postgraduate programme which is offered by block release.

You are also most welcome to come and visit on campus in Pietermaritzburg.



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