INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM

Pratt Institute and the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences welcome international students and offer an array of programs and services to improve English language skills and academic readiness. The Intensive English Program (IEP) provides academic English language instruction to matriculated graduate and undergraduate students. In addition, the Summer Certificate Program (SCP) runs under the IEP’s umbrella.

The mission of all programs in the IEP is to support successful matriculation and progress toward graduation for international students by providing appropriate English language instruction. Internal assessment and advisement ensure students’ proper placement in English language courses, as well as successful matriculation and degree attainment.

Good communication skills are essential to academic success at Pratt Institute. Instruction in the IEP emphasizes language use for general academic and specific purposes in the professions in which Pratt specializes: art, design, architecture, and information and library science. IEP faculty are trained and experienced in teaching English as a second language, as well as in integrating art and design content into their courses. Our classes are small (eight to 12 students per session), and enrolled international students benefit from their use of the Language Resource and Writing and Tutorial Centers for additional language learning practice.

All international students with TOEFL scores below 100 (IBT), or the equivalent—including transfer students—whose first language is not English must demonstrate proficiency in English by taking an English placement exam.

The English placement exam consists of a reading test, a writing test, and a personal interview with an IEP faculty member. Students assessed at the exempt level of English proficiency satisfy their Intensive English requirement and may enroll in all Institute courses without restriction. Students who are assessed as being in need of English instruction must register in consecutive Intensive English courses (including summer IEP classes should they wish to take other Institute courses during those sessions) until they achieve exempt status based on IEP exit proficiency criteria.

If the graduate student fails to be exempt from the IEP at the end of the fourth semester of study, they will be advised of the reasons for being placed on IEP probation then offered the option of: (1) voluntary withdrawal from the Institute or, (2) full-time enrollment in the Summer Certificate Program (SCP), in order to meet the Institute English requirement of exemption. After meeting the language requirement, affected students are eligible to return to full-time degree study.

For information on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) requirements at Pratt, please refer to the catalog listing for particular schools and departments. New international students are strongly encouraged to enroll in our eight-week Summer Certificate Program (SCP) in order to be fully prepared for the academic requirements of their degree programs.

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