

Approved at the Academic Council meeting  
of the college of Basic Professional Studies NUST MISIS,  
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ENTRANCE EXAMINATION CONTENT  
FOR THE MASTER`S DEGREE PROGRAM IN  
**45.04.02 LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION**

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## 1. General Information

### The Aim of the Entrance Examination

The aim of the entrance examination is to evaluate the candidate's level of preparation, background knowledge and motivation to perform successfully on Master's Degree Program in Linguistics (code 45.04.02). Successful candidates should meet the requirements for minimum B2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and demonstrate communication skills of a competent user level and above.

### Entrance Examination Format and Timing

The entrance examination both for Russian and international applicants consists of two parts: portfolio (30%) and oral interview (70%).

The portfolio includes a motivational letter and CV.

The interview is conducted in English and includes two questions on intercultural communication. The time allocated for preparation is 10 minutes. Candidates can make notes while preparing for the interview. The interview lasts 20-25 minutes.

The interviewee is expected to be able to:

- demonstrate general awareness of intercultural communication issues;
- present arguments and support ideas with examples;
- elaborate on their prior experience and background presented in both motivational letter and CV.

The overall results are assessed according to a 100-point scale. The final result is the sum total of points gained for the interview and portfolio.

Portfolio Submission Guidelines:

- Both CV and motivation letter should be contained in one file (Word/Pdf);
- No prerequisite templates are provided;
- Candidates are to submit all required portfolio materials (motivational letter and CV) to **english@misis.ru** no later than **two days prior to the examination date** (by 18.00 GMT+3);
- Subject line: ***Full name\_Linguistics\_Application.***
- Candidates who failed to submit the portfolio materials within the stipulated deadlines **are not qualified** for the oral part of the examination.

### Assessment Criteria

#### Portfolio

- Language accuracy
- Relevance of presented information
- Communicative achievement

Each criterion is assessed against a 10-band scale.

#### Interview

- Language accuracy
- Communication skills
- Knowledge of theory of language and communication
- Coherence and cohesion
- Critical thinking

Language accuracy, communication skills, knowledge of theory of language and communication, coherence and cohesion are assessed against a 15-band scale. Critical thinking is assessed against a 10-band scale.

## **2. Examination Content**

The structure of the motivational letter (500 words maximum):

- Biography
- Motivation (write a statement why you want to join the Program and how your enrollment will benefit your professional development)
- Career plans.

The CV must include all degrees and achievements earned in a reverse chronological order (starting with the most recent ones).

Samples of examination topics covered in the interview (not limited to the list):

- Culture shock, reasons and consequences
- Cultural values
- Intercultural interaction between students
- The influence of national culture on academic culture
- Cultural identity and challenges of globalization

Samples of questions:

1. a. Reflect on how your culture informs your judgment. Talk about your culture norms, values, communication styles. Give examples.  
b. Reflect on your ethnic and cultural identity. Talk about your strategies for sharing one's culture and dealing with differences in race, language etc.
2. a. Elaborate on the concept of uncertainty in cross-cultural communication. Give examples.  
b. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the digitalization and AI technology as the new socio-economic trends in the context of human culture.

## **3. Recommended Reading**

1. DeVito, Joseph A. (2015). Human Communication. The Basic Course. – 13th Edition. Pearson Education Limited.
2. Hofstede, G., Hofstede, G.J., Minkov, M. (2010). Cultures and Organizations: Software of the Mind. - 3rd Edition. McGraw-Hill USA.
3. Huntington, P. Samuel (1996). The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order // Link:  
<https://msuweb.montclair.edu/~lebelp/1993SamuelPHuntingtonTheClashOfCivilizationsAndTheRemakingofWorldOrder.pdf>Journal of Intercultural Communication. URL:  
<http://www.immi.se/intercultural/>
4. Kern, Richard. (2015). Language, Literacy and Technology - Cambridge University Press.
5. Morin, Edgar. From the Concept of System to the Paradigm of Complexity// Link:  
<https://manoftheword.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/morin-paradigm-of-complexity.pdf>
6. Taleb, Nassim. (2014) Antifragile: Things That Gain from Disorder. Random House USA.

7. Wolfson, J. (2013). The Great Debate: A Handbook for Policy Debate and Public Forum Debate. Naperville: LightningBolt Press.

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