

Sample Communications and New Media Study Plans for Cohort 2025 onwards

These study plans assume you are a Communications and New Media (CNM) Single Major Honours. While you can read any CNM course as long as you meet the pre-requisites, the logical path is to complete NM1101E and the introductory theories (NM2101) and methods (NM2103, NM2104, NM2105*) courses early on. After obtaining a broad overview of the major domains and methods of the discipline from the compulsory courses, you can move on to the electives – more specialised content and empirical courses. The level 4000 courses would generally be completed in the final year, although it's possible to take these courses in Year 3 Sem 2 if the pre-requisites are met (all Honours courses require 80 UTs to have been completed before taking them).

Please note that the focus of this document is on the CNM requirements. For details on University level requirements, Faculty/CHS-level requirements, double-counting courses across programmes and more, please refer to this FASS document:

https://fass.nus.edu.sg/wpcontent/uploads/2021/07/Modular-System-2021-Cohort_final.pdf

For enquiries on FASS/CHS/university-level requirements, please email fashelp@nus.edu.sg
For enquiries on CNM matters, please email cnm.undergraduate@nus.edu.sg

NM2105 is a **compulsory course for students from Cohort 2025 onwards. Students from Cohorts 2021-2024 may choose to take the course but it is **not** necessary for graduation.*

FOR COHORTS 2025 ONWARDS: Majoring in Communications and New Media

- NM1101E should ideally be read in your first year, as shown in Table 1A. However, these courses are always in great demand, but there is no need to panic if you aren't able to read both in your first year. Table 2A shows that even if you can only complete them in your third semester, you can still fulfil the CNM requirements comfortably.
- The compulsory methods courses NM2103, NM2104 **and NM2105** should ideally be read by the end of your second year, as an understanding of research methods will help you better understand some of the research discussed in elective NM courses.
- Your final year should generally be reserved for your level 4000 electives, and the **optional** Honours Thesis.
- CNM majors can also choose to minor in Cultural Studies, Interactive Media Development and/or Visual Cultures (more information on these minors below).

Single Major [B.Soc.Sci.(Hons)]

The information below can also be found here: <https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cnm/undergraduate-major/>

To graduate with B.Soc.Sci (Hons), students need to pass at least **60 UTs** of NM or NM-recognised courses, in addition to an **8 UT** internship course (NM3550C) which falls under the CHS 'project requirement':

1. NM1101e / NM1101x Gateway Course (NM1101x only for non-NUS NSMen)
2. NM2101
3. NM2103
4. NM2104
5. NM2105
6. NM3550C (see **note** below)
7. A minimum of 16 UTs from Level 3000 (not inclusive of NM3550C)
8. A minimum of 20 UTs from Level 4000 or above (up to a maximum of 2 Level 5000 NM courses, subject to department's approval)

Note:

- a) This is the 8 UT compulsory internship course which does not count towards the 60 UTs of NM or NM-recognised courses. It instead counts towards the CHS curriculum requirements, meaning that CNM students must take these 8 UTs in addition to the usual 52 UTs of CHS common curriculum courses needed by other CHS students (total of 60 UTs). This also means that CNM students have 8 fewer Unrestricted Electives (UE) to take than most other CHS students, i.e. 40 UTs instead of 48 UTs.

In summary, CNM first majors will be required to complete:

- 60 UTs of CHS common curriculum
 - i. 52 UTs of CHS common curriculum
 - ii. 8 UTs of Project requirement for CNM major (NM3550C)
- 60 UTs of NM major requirements (see above)
- 40 UTs of Unrestricted Electives requirements

- b) NM3550C Single-major students may read TR3202S and/or ETP3201S (8 UTs) in place of NM3550C (8 UTs).

Table 2. Sample 4 Year Study Plan for Honours Students

Please see below for a sample study plan for a CNM Honours first major. Do note that this is just an example, and there are many other orders you can take the courses in. We do recommend that you complete your compulsory core courses by your second year.

Year	Semester One	Semester Two
1	CHS Core 1	CHS Core 4
	CHS Core 2	CHS Core 5
	CHS Core 3	CHS Core 6
	Unrestricted Elective 1	Unrestricted Elective 2
	NM1101e (Gateway Course)	NM2101
2	CHS Core 7	CHS Core 10
	CHS Core 8	CHS Core 11
	CHS Core 9	CHS Core 12 (Interdisciplinary Course 1)
	Unrestricted Elective 3	NM2103 or NM2104 or NM2105
	Unrestricted Elective 4	NM2103 or NM2104 or NM2105
3	NM2103 or NM2104 or NM2105	NM2000 or 3000 Elective
	NM3550C Compulsory Internship (8 UTs)	Unrestricted Elective 5

		CHS Core 13 (Interdisciplinary Course 2)
		NM2000 or 3000 Elective
		NM2000 or 3000 Elective
		NM2000 or 3000 Elective
		NM2000 or 3000 Elective
4	Unrestricted Elective 5	Unrestricted Elective 5
	Unrestricted Elective 5	Unrestricted Elective 5
	Unrestricted Elective 5	NM4000 Elective 3
	NM4000 Elective 1	NM4000 Elective 4 or Honours Thesis*
	NM4000 Elective 2	NM4000 Elective 5 or Honours Thesis*

Students who are doing the year-long Honours Thesis (HT) will be allocated the HT at the during the semester that they are starting on the HT. Even though the allocation takes place one semester earlier, the HT will still only count for a total of 8 UTs.

This table shows the students taking the Compulsory Internship Programme or CIP (NM3550C) in Year 3 Sem 1. Note that it could also be taken in the Special Term 1 **and** 2, for a total of 12 weeks.

While students read 20 UTs in a 'typical' semester, students are encouraged not to read courses in the semester they are undergoing their 8 UTs CNM Internship Programme (NM3550C) due to the amount of work involved. This means that you would instead make up for the missing 8 UTs by 'overloading' in three other semesters, e.g. Year 2 Sem 1, Year 2 Sem 2, and Year 3 Sem 2 in the sample plan above. While discouraged, it is still possible to read courses during CIP if they are held in the evening.

An Independent Study (IS) could be taken as a level 4000 elective, though this can only be done by students who will not be pursuing an Honours Thesis.

Second Major in Communications and New Media

Note that CNM 2nd Majors can also choose to minor in Cultural Studies, Interactive Media Development or Visual Cultures (more information on these minors below).

Graduation Requirements

The information below can also be found here:

To graduate with a second major in NM, students need to:

1. Pass NM1101E or NM1101X. This will count towards the Faculty Core or Unrestricted Elective (UE) requirements.
2. Pass at least **36 UTs** of NM courses, or NM-recognised courses which includes the following:
 - a) NM2101
 - b) NM2103
 - c) NM2104

d) A minimum of 16UTs from Level 3000

Note:

- i. NM3550C is only compulsory for CNM primary majors. Students who are on NUS Overseas College (NOC) may read TR3202S and/or ETP3201S (8 UTs) in lieu of NM3550C.
- ii. Level 4000 courses can count towards the minimum 16UTs of Level 3000 course requirements.
- iii. Level-5000 or NM courses are not allowed.

Table 3. Sample 4 Year Study Plan for CNM Second Major Students

Year	Semester One	Semester Two
1	CHS Core 1	CHS Core 4
	CHS Core 2	CHS Core 5
	CHS Core 3	CHS Core 6
	NM1101e (UE1)	NM2101 (UE2)
	Primary Major Gateway Course	Primary Major Course
2	CHS Core 7	CHS Core 10
	CHS Core 8	CHS Core 11
	CHS Core 9	CHS Core 12 (Interdisciplinary Course 1)
	Primary Major Course	Primary Major Course
	NM2103 or NM2104 (UE3)	NM2103 or NM2104 (UE4)
3	CHS Core 13 (Interdisciplinary Course 2)	Primary Major Course
	Primary Major Course	Primary Major Course
	Primary Major Course	Primary Major Course
	NM2000 or 3000 Elective (UE5)	NM2000 or 3000 Elective (UE7)
	NM2000 or 3000 Elective (UE6)	NM2000 or 3000 Elective (UE8)
4	Primary Major Course	Primary Major Level 4000 Elective 4 or HT*
	Primary Major Level 4000 Elective 1	Primary Major Level 4000 Elective 5 or HT*
	Primary Major Level 4000 Elective 2	NM2000 or 3000 Elective (UE10)
	Primary Major Level 4000 Elective 3	Unrestricted Elective 11
	NM2000 or 3000 Elective (UE9)	Unrestricted Elective 12

Students who are doing the year-long Honours Thesis (HT) will be allocated the HT at the during the semester that they are starting on the HT. Even though the allocation takes place one semester earlier, the HT will still only count for a total of 8 UTs.

Minoring in Communications and New Media

The Minor in Communications and New Media (CNM) is targeted at students who are already majoring in another programme, but are interested in acquiring an exposure to Communication and Media Studies.

The CourseReg system prioritises majors, so you may have difficulty getting into the core courses. The recommended approach is to read one course per semester, as shown in Table 3A, but if you cannot get in, it is still possible to complete the minor if you read two per semester from your fourth semester onwards, as shown in Table 3B.

Please visit this page for more information: <https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cnm/undergraduate-minor-cnm/>

Graduation Requirements

To graduate with a Minor in Communications and New Media, students need to pass at least 20 UTs of NM courses, which include:

1. NM1101E or NM1101X. This will be counted towards Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least **16 UTs of NM courses**, which include the following:
 - a) NM2101
 - b) An additional 12 UTs of NM-coded courses, of which a minimum of **4 UTs** are from Level 3000 or higher.

Table 4A. Read one course per semester

Year	Semester One	Semester Two
1	NM1101E	NM2101
2	NM Elective 1	NM Elective 2
3	NM Elective 3	

Table 4B. Read two courses per semester from your fourth semester

Year	Semester One	Semester Two
2		NM1101E
		NM2101
3	NM Elective 1	NM Elective 3
	NM Elective 2	

Minoring in Cultural Studies

The Minor in Cultural Studies is a very unique programme that allows you to pick and mix courses across various disciplines. Cultural Studies is an interdisciplinary field focused on the interpretation and understanding of cultural forms and practices, including cinema, cyberspace, social media, popular fiction, popular music, television, and popular art. Students who take up this minor will leave it with knowledge of contemporary debates in cultural

studies and with a theoretical tool-kit capable of analysing a range of social processes that give rise to and underpin the cultural forms and practices.

Please visit this page for more information: <https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cnm/undergraduate-minor-culturalstudies/>

Graduation Requirements

To graduate with the Minor in Cultural Studies, students must pass a minimum of **20 UTs** of recognised Cultural Studies Minor courses, which **must include**:

1. NM3241 Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice
2. Four elective courses (16UTs), of which a minimum of 8UTs must be taken at Level 3000 (including NM3241)

Notes:

- i. Students are limited to taking a maximum of two courses (including NM3241) from the same department (outside student's major)
- ii. The list of recognised electives can be found here:
<https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cnm/undergraduateminor-cultural-studies/>

Students can refer to the suggested plans in the 'Minoring in Communications and New Media' above but replace the NM courses with Cultural Studies courses. Note that the compulsory courses NM3241 Cultural Studies: Theory and Practice does not have to be read before the elective courses.

Minoring in Interactive Media Development

With almost every aspect of our lives being influenced by interactive media, it is increasingly important for students from all backgrounds to be aware of how these new technologies are designed and developed. The interdisciplinary Minor in Interactive Media Development, open to students from any NUS faculty or discipline, is designed to support this need by providing an introduction to the theory and practice of interactive media development.

Please visit this page for more information: <https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cnm/undergraduate-minor-imd/>

Graduation Requirements

1. Complete **20 UTs** of courses from the following NM and CS courses lists below, of **which at least 12 UTs** must be taken from outside the full set of courses which make up the student's primary major.
2. **Up to 8 UTs** of courses may be used to satisfy both major and minor requirements. Students must take courses from both the NM and CS courses lists, with **at least 8 UTs** from the **NM** list and **at least 8 UTs** from the **CS** List.
3. For non-CS students, please note that NM2207 is acceptable as a prerequisite for CS3240. However, also note that CS1010 is a preclusion for NM2207, so students planning to take NM2207 should do so before taking CS1010.

The course lists can be found at the link above.

Students can refer to the suggested plans in the 'Minoring in Communications and New Media' above but replace the NM courses with Interactive Media Development courses.

Minoring in Visual Cultures

Visual Cultures is an interdisciplinary field focused on exploring relationships between visibility and culture through various media including: photographs, posters, films, advertisements, paintings, fashion items, comics, news media, monuments, videos, digital social media, and others. Visual Cultures engages with the visual to explore the motivations, histories, and implications of such artefacts and their meanings. In appraising 'non-art' images equally as forms of visual expressiveness, Visual Cultures moves beyond the traditions of art history. It stages conversations across disciplines to critically engage visual meaning-making in our visually saturated world.

Please visit this page for more information:

<https://fass.nus.edu.sg/cnm/undergraduate-minors/undergraduate-minor-visual-cultures/>

Graduation Requirements

To graduate with a Minor in Visual Cultures, students must pass a minimum of 20 units, which must include:

1. Core courses AR2225 and VCU3101; and
2. 3 electives amounting to 12 units, in the following permutations:
 - 2 Practical courses and 1 Theory course; or
 - 2 Theory courses and 1 Practical course.

The list of courses can be found at the link above.

Students can refer to the suggested plans in the "Minoring in Communications and New Media" above but replace the NM courses with Visual Cultures courses. Note that the compulsory course AR2225 is a pre-requisite for VCU3101 and therefore must be read before VCU3101.