

Compilation of questions asked by students during previous Orientation Talks  
*Prospective students may refer to this document as a guide*

General timeline

S/N	Timeline	Topic	Section
1	June/Nov	Academic Plan Declaration	A
		(i) Subject Major combinations (a) General (b) CHS subject combinations (c) Different faculties' subject combinations	
2	July/Nov	QET (if applicable)	B
3	Jul/Dec	Timetable Planning	C
4	July/Dec	CourseReg	D
		(i) Pre-allocation Guidelines	
		(ii) Gateway courses	
		(iii) Workload	
		(iv) Tutorial Registration	
5	Aug/Jan	Fees and candidature	E
6	Sep	APCs for polytechnic admits	F
7	From mid-Sep/Feb	Drop courses with "W" and "F" grades	G
8	Dec/Jun/July/Aug	S/U Option	H
9	Throughout candidature	Degree Requirements	I
		(i) CHS common curriculum including (a) Artificial Intelligence (b) Communities and Engagement (c) Data Literacy (d) Digital Literacy	
		(ii) Bridging Courses	
		(iii) Writing Courses	
		(iv) Integrated & Interdisciplinary Courses	
		(v) Unrestricted Elective Courses	
		(vi) Graduation requirements	
		(vii) Honours Thesis	
		(viii) GPA	
10	Where applicable	Special Programmes	J
		(i) Overview (a) Double major / Second major (b) Restricted Minor / Second Major (c) Minor (d) Double Degree (e) Specialisations (f) Concurrent Degrees (CDP)	

Compilation of questions asked by students during previous Orientation Talks  
*Prospective students may refer to this document as a guide*

		(g) Cross-Disciplinary Programmes (XDP) – PPE-XDP (h) NUS College (NUSC) (i) Residential Colleges (UTCP & RVRC) (j) Language Preparation Programme (LPP)	
		(ii) Double counting	
11	Where applicable	General	K
		(i) Course transfer	
		(ii) Study plans	
		(iii) Miscellaneous	

## **Section A - Academic Plan Declaration Exercise (APD)**

Please refer to this [page](#) for more information on the Academic Plan Declaration (APD) exercise.

**Q: How do we complete APD if we do not have a NUSNET account yet?**

A: You would only be able to do so when you have completed Registration and received your login details. APD can still be done during CourseReg but it is best if you can get it done before Select Courses Round 1 starts. If you have trouble securing courses due to access issues, please write to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg).

**Q: Where is the APD held? Where is the APD website?**

A: You may submit your Academic Plan in the Education Records System (myEduRec). Please refer to [this guide](#) for more information.

**Q: Is it necessary to declare a major now?**

A: You are strongly recommended to declare a primary major, as the gateway course will be pre-allocated to you only if you declare it by the APD deadline. You will have the flexibility of changing your major within your first 2 years.

**Q: If I had submitted my academic plan as Undeclared, do I just have to choose courses I am interested in to try out first?**

A: Yes, you may choose a gateway course of a subject in which you are interested. While it is recommended that you declare a primary major, you are allowed to change your major within your first two years of study.

**Q: Is it compulsory to declare my major/second major/minor in my first year?**

A: The latest that students can declare or switch a major/second major/minor is during the APD exercise held before the start of CourseReg in their 5th semester. Please note that your declared major will give you a higher priority in the selection of major courses, so you are encouraged to declare your major as early as possible.

**Q: I have heard that if I do not declare my Academic Plan, I will be disadvantaged when choosing courses. How do we approach this as CHS students who want to explore before settling on a second major or minor?**

A: You are advised to declare at least your primary major before the CourseReg exercise begins, as you will be pre-allocated the gateway course of your primary major in your first semester. CHS students have the flexibility of changing their academic plan up to the 5th semester, so you are allowed to declare a subject that you are interested in and explore your interests before you settle on a second major or minor. Alternatively, you may register for courses offered in that major (provided that you meet the pre-requisites and that there are vacancies) before you declare it as your second major or minor.

**Q: If I did not indicate any preference in the APD exercise, will I still be pre-allocated courses?**

A: You will be pre-allocated the CHS Common Curriculum courses but not the gateway course.

**Q: If I did not declare a minor or second major in the first semester, can I still read courses offered in that subject?**

**Q: If I am unsure whether I am reading a course to fulfil a second major or minor, can I start by taking that course first and decide later?**

**Q: If I have already submitted my academic plan declaration but did not indicate to take Korean Language Studies but wish to do so in the future, can I still register for Korean language courses during CourseReg?**

A: Yes, you may register for the courses related to the second major or minor as long as you fulfil the course pre-requisites.

**Q: Am I able to change my academic plan if I have already declared it?**

**Q: Is it possible to change my major/minor after declaring my major in the APD system before the**

**deadline?**

**Q: If I had declared my Academic Plan successfully before the deadline, will I still need to declare it again before CourseReg begins on Round 1?**

**Q: If I do not declare a second major this semester, can I still do a second major in subsequent semesters?**

**Q: Can I declare another major or minor in a later semester – in the second semester or third semester?**

**Q: Can I change my double major choice or drop it within CHS if I had already declared a second major in the APD for this semester?**

**Q: Can we opt for a minor during the APD exercise, and drop it completely after the first semester?**

**Q: If I have declared several minors this semester, can I decide to drop all or some of them in the next semester?**

**Q: Are we able to change minors or specialisation later on?**

**Q: Is it possible for me to take a major in Data Science and a minor in Life Sciences, and switch my major to Life Sciences another semester if I realise later that I prefer Life Sciences?**

**Q: When is the latest date by which we must decide we should declare a minor/second major/double degree?**

**A:** You may change your primary major, second major, minor, or specialisation within your first two years of study. However, the APD can only be attempted once every semester during the designated declaration period – usually at the start of the semester, and no changes are allowed after the declaration is submitted. You may still try to register for the respective courses for your intended major/second major/minor during CourseReg. You may only declare a different major or minor during the APD exercise in the next semester. The latest that students can declare or switch a major/second major/minor is during the APD exercise held before the start of CourseReg in their 5th semester.

If the subject is offered by CHS, you may declare it during the APD exercise at the beginning of the semester, up to your 5th semester of study. You may declare open second majors and minors offered by other faculties or schools during the APD exercise. For restricted second majors or minors offered by other Faculties or Schools, please look out for their application period and procedures as they may differ from that of CHS.

Information on Double Degree Programmes can be found at the [OUR website](#) (for DDP in general) or on the [CHS website](#) (for CHS-DDPs).

**Q: Can I declare a different second major, if I have already been offered direct admission to a double major programme?**

**Q: I was offered Economics, which falls under Social Sciences. Can I still choose a primary major from the Sciences field?**

**Q: Can I take Life Sciences as my primary major and Psychology as my second major instead of the other way round?**

**Q: I had accepted a double major in Psychology and Business Management but now, I only wish to major in Psychology, can I drop my second major in Business Management during the APD exercise?**

**Q: If I did not manage to apply for a double major at the point of application to NUS, can I declare it during the APD exercise?**

**A:** Yes, you may submit your chosen major or double major combination during the APD exercise at the beginning of the semester, as long as it is an open programme. Please note that you may only submit your APD once every semester, up to your 5th semester of study.

However, note that the second major or minor that you declare during the APD exercise is final, and you will not be able to appeal for the dropped second major or minor to be added back if it is a restricted programme. You may refer to [Academic Plan Application – Restricted Second Major/Minor](#) for more information.

**Q: Can I declare a different second major/minor if I have been offered direct admission to a double-major/restricted minor programme?**

A: Yes, you may do so during the APD exercise. However, do note that you will have to appeal to be added back to the restricted second major/minor if you change your mind.

**Q: When we drop a major/minor, how will it affect our Units? Are they no longer counted?**

A: The major/minor courses that you have read and passed will be used to fulfil your UE requirement if you choose to drop the major/minor. If the courses are in excess, the excess Units cannot be used to fulfil your degree requirements but the grades of all courses read in excess will still be factored into your GPA.

**Q: If I am not sure if I would like to take a certain course as a second major, can I start with a minor in that course first?**

A: Yes, you can start with a minor first to explore your interest.

**Q: Will declaring a second major/minor after your first year put me at a disadvantage in terms of creating a heavier workload in the later years?**

A: This depends on whether you are able to follow your study plan and complete your major/second major/minor requirements on time. In the event that you are not able to read and pass your required courses offered in a particular semester, you may have to overload in later semesters to make up. If you are able to follow your study plan consistently, you should not be disadvantaged.

**Q: What are the disadvantages of not declaring my second major in this round of academic plan declaration?**

A: When registering for courses from a specific major, you will have lower priority in CourseReg than your peers who have declared it as their second major. Some courses may only be available to students who have declared it as their major or second major.

**Q: If we declare our minors during the APD exercise, will minor courses be pre-allocated to us?**

**Q: Do I need to declare my minor in the Academic Plan Declaration system in order to get my gateway courses pre-allocated for me? Or can I just only declare my Major?**

A: Minor courses (even if they are gateway courses) will not be pre-allocated. You will have to register for them on your own during CourseReg. We only pre-allocate gateway courses for your first declared major.

**Q: Do students who declare a minor have higher priority than non-minor students who want to do the same courses under UE?**

A: Only restricted minors have higher priority. Open minors have the same priority as UEs.

**Q: If the time slots of my major and minor courses clash, but I have already declared my academic plan, will I incur any offence in terms of student conduct?**

A: There is no offence. You will just need to read the courses in different semesters as you are NOT allowed to read courses with timetable clashes.

**Q: Does my declared first major affect what courses I can take in Semester 1?**

A: Yes, certain courses only apply to certain students. For example, if you declare a FASS major, you will have the opportunity to read FAS1101, which will be pre-allocated to all FASS students in their first year. When registering for courses from a certain major, your academic plan will also affect your priority score in CourseReg.

**Q: Can I declare minors such as Public Health in my second semester?**

A: Yes. The Minor in Public Health is an open minor. You may declare it as your minor in the APD without any prior approval before the end of your fifth semester. Refer to [this](#) for more details.

**Q: If I declare my academic plan in the first round, am I more likely to be enrolled in my preferred courses?**

A: Only students who have declared their primary major by the APD Declaration deadline will be pre-allocated the gateway course of their primary major. In addition, all CHS students will be pre-allocated CHS

Common Curriculum courses according to the [pre-allocation guidelines](#) listed on the CHS website. If you still have course space left, you may register for your desired courses on your own in CourseReg.

**Q: In the APD system, I noticed that if I choose a major under FoS (e.g. Life Sciences), I am not able to choose another second major under FoS (e.g. Chemistry). The only choices that appear under the second major list are those of FASS. How can I choose a FoS second major if I want to do a Science primary major?**

A: You should be able to read a second major in Chemistry if your primary major is Life Sciences. However, you will not be able to read two primary majors (leading up to a double degree) in Chemistry and Life Sciences. Please contact the [Faculty of Science](#) with screenshots if you are unable to declare a second major in Chemistry.

**Q: Do I need to submit my APD if there is no change to my major/second major/minor?**

A: Yes, all students are required to submit their declarations during the APD exercise before they are allowed to access CourseReg each semester.

**Q: Where can I apply to do a restricted second major/minor?**

A: Please refer to [Academic Plan Application/Declaration](#) for more information.

**Q: How many second major/minors can I declare?**

A: CHS students are allowed to declare one second major and a maximum of three minors.

**Q: Can I declare a major in a cross-disciplinary programme (XDP) during the APD exercise?**

A: XDPs cannot be declared during the APD exercise if you did not apply for it during the admissions exercise. However, there is midstream admission for the XDPs, and more information can be found [here](#).

## **Section A(i) Subject Major Combinations**

### **(a) General**

**Q: Is it possible to take a contrasting major as a second major, instead of taking both as primary majors and finishing with a double degree?**

A: Yes. You can take a primary major (60 Units) and a contrasting subject as a second major (40 Units) and not necessarily as a second degree (60 Units).

**Q: If I want to do a double major with a minor, how can I do it when there are only 12 courses I can take as UEs?**

A: Students can read more than 12 courses in their UE space. This means that you would have to read 6 courses in some semesters to complete your degree requirements on time. In addition, note that there is a 60 Units limit on Level 1000 courses, and the grades for all excess Units read will still be computed towards your GPA.

**Q: Can we take 1 major and 2 minors?**

**Q: Can I do a major in English Literature and minor in Theatre Studies?**

A: Yes, it is possible.

**Q: If I want to take a double minor and a major, what would the breakdown of courses be like?**

A: You will have to complete 52 Units of CHS Common Curriculum, 60 Units of primary major courses and 20 Units for each of your minors. As the courses read for the minor falls under UE, you will still have 8 Units of UE space left.

**Q: Is it possible to take two majors and one minor? Technically, the total Units load would be 60+40+20+52 (Common Curriculum) = 172 Units, which exceeds the 160 Units requirement. However,**

**since many courses can be double counted, I believe this combination will not exceed 160 Units.**

**Q: Will I be able to take a second major with a minor or will the minor courses be considered under UE?**

A: Yes, it may be possible, provided that you are able to follow your study plan carefully and take the required courses on time. Please note that there are limits to double counting as well, which may be seen here: [Double Major Programmes](#) and [Minor Programmes](#).

However, it is likely that you will have to take extra courses (beyond 160 Units) to earn 2 majors and 1 minor. All courses taken to fulfil second major and/or minor requirements will be counted under the UE space. The units of the excess courses do not count towards your degree requirements, but their grades will be factored into your GPA.

Please also refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: If I take 2 majors offered under the same degree type (e.g. BSc), it will be a double major. If the majors are offered under different types of degrees (e.g. one is BSc and one is BA), is this considered a double degree?**

A: If you pursue two majors of the same degree type, you may only read it as a double major programme. However, if you choose two majors that are contrasting majors (for example, Life Sciences and English Literature), it may be possible for you to do it as either a double major or double degree (DDP). Please note that there is an application process for a DDP.

**Q: Does doing double majors lead to a double degree as long as both majors are from two different faculties? (e.g. is Life Sciences with second major in management considered a double degree in science and business?)**

A: Second major in management is different from a second degree in Business Administration. Second major consists of at least 40 Units but a second degree's major requirement is at least 60 Units. For Double Degree programmes, students must first apply to be admitted. They also need to ensure that they satisfy both sets of degree requirements, not only major requirements.

**Q: Is it possible to take major (with specialisation) + minor, or major (with specialisation) + second major? If yes, is it possible to graduate with 160 Units, or more Units are required?**

A: You will have enough space for major (with specialisation) + minor. To complete a major (with specialisation) and a second major, you are most likely required to complete more than 160 Units, hence you may have to overload or do an extra semester.

**Q: Are triple majors allowed? Due to double counting, I may be able to do triple majors while abiding by the double counting rules.**

A: No, triple majors are not allowed.

#### **(b) CHS subject combinations**

**Q: If I want to pursue a double major, like Statistics and Chemistry, from the same faculty, do I still get two degrees?**

**Q: Assuming I complete the major requirements of Physics and Life Sciences, will that be 2 degrees or 1 degree?**

**Q: Is it possible to major in two Sciences, e.g. first major in Chemistry and second major in Life Sciences? Is the workload heavy for such curriculum?**

**Q: Are we allowed to take a double major under the same faculty (e.g. FoS)?**

A: As these majors are offered under the Bachelor of Science degree, these combinations cannot be taken as a double degree. It can only be taken as a double major programme, and one degree (BSc) is awarded. The total workload required for double major students will still remain as 160 Units. Please note that double

degrees are only awarded if students read two contrasting primary majors. There is an application process for a DDP.

**Q: Can I take a double degree in a Humanities subject and Social Sciences subject (e.g. English Literature and History)? If yes, does this mean that I have to fulfil 15 courses (60 Units) for both English Literature and History respectively, instead of 15 courses for first major and 10 courses for the second major?**

A: As both majors are offered under the Bachelor of Arts degree, this combination cannot be taken as a double degree. It can only be taken as a double major programme (60 Units for primary major, 40 Units for second major).

Please note that double degrees are only awarded if students read two contrasting primary majors offered under the BA degree (e.g. English Literature) and the BSocSci degree (e.g. Sociology) respectively. There is an application process for a DDP.

**Q: Is it possible for me to earn a double degree in BSocSci and BA (Political Science and History) in FASS? Does this mean I have to fulfil 60 Units for each subject?**

**Q: Do contrasting majors for the DDP mean that they must be majors from FoS and FASS to be able to fulfil double degree requirements? So, even if I fulfil degree requirements for both History (Arts) and Political Science (Social Sciences), I cannot graduate with a double degree?**

**Q: May I take Psychology and Chinese Studies as a double degree combination?**

**Q: Is Chemistry and History, or Chemistry and Psychology considered a single or double degree?**

A: In the examples, all combinations can be pursued as either a double degree or a double major, as the subjects are associated with different degree types. The subjects (e.g. History, Chinese Studies) are offered under the BA degree while Political Science and Psychology are offered under the BSocSci degree. They are considered as contrasting majors. It is possible to take a DDP within the FASS if the majors are offered under different degrees in FASS.

Students will have to apply if they wish to do a DDP. If successful, students will be awarded with 2 degrees after they have completed both sets of Primary major requirements (15 courses for each major). On the other hand, for a double major, students may simply declare it in the APD. Double major students will only need to fulfil one primary major requirement (15 courses) and one second major requirement (10 courses). Double major students will only be awarded with a single degree.

**Q: If I take Global Studies and Political Science, will that be considered as a double degree?**

A: Yes, because Global studies is offered under the BA degree while Political Science is offered under the BSocSci degree. However, you must first apply to be admitted into the DDP.

**Q: I would like to ask if both majors (Economics and Political Science) are offered under the same degree (BSocSci), am I allowed to pursue both majors to the Honours level?**

A: As both Economics and Political Science are associated with a BSocSci degree, you can only pursue this combination as a double major. For double major programmes, you will only be awarded with one honours degree.

**Q: Is it common for students to major in Psychology and have a second major in Life Sciences? As they are two contrasting majors, would it be hard to find courses that can be double counted?**

A: Yes, it is a common combination. Double counting of courses between Psychology and Life Sciences courses is permissible. You may check the websites of the Psychology and Life Sciences departments for a list of recognised courses.

Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: I understand that Psychology with Life Sciences is a common double degree. Is it advisable to pick the Psychology with Nutrition double degree?**



A: Whether you pursue a particular combination is really up to your interest. However, please note that Nutrition is only offered as a second major, and not a double degree.

**Q: If I take 15 courses for Math (primary major) and 10 courses in Economics, will I graduate with a double degree? If not, how do I fulfil the requirements of a double degree for contrasting majors?**

A: You are considered to be in a double major programme, and you will only be awarded with one degree. To read them as a double degree programme, you must first apply to be in the DDP and upon your successful admission, will have to read 15 courses each for Mathematics major and Economics major.

**Q: If I want to pursue a double major in Economics and Statistics, do I still get two degrees?**

**Q: How common is a double major/double degree in Mathematics and Economics?**

A: If you pursue the combination as a double major programme, you will only be awarded with one degree that is associated with your primary major. If you pursue it as a double degree, you will be awarded with two degrees. These 2 subjects are quite a popular combination with students.

**Q: If we do a subject from BA and another from BSocSci, will they be considered as contrasting majors? Will this combination be considered a double major or double degree?**

**Q: Is Psychology & Life Sciences a double major or double degree? Since one falls under Social Sciences, the other falls under Science.**

A: Yes, subjects that are associated with different degree types are considered contrasting majors and can be pursued as either a double major or a double degree.

Students will have to apply if they wish to do a DDP. If successful, students will be awarded with 2 degrees after they have completed both sets of Primary major requirements (15 courses or 60 Units for each major).

On the other hand, for a double major, students may simply declare it in the APD exercise. Double major students will only need to fulfil one primary major requirement (15 courses or 60 Units) and one second major requirement (10 courses or 40 Units). Double major students will only be awarded with a single degree.

### (c) Different faculties' subject combinations

**Q: Is Life Sciences and Management considered a double major or double degree?**

A: If you have been offered direct admission to this combination, it is a double major programme (DMP).

**Q: If we are enrolled in a DDP with another faculty (e.g. Mathematics and Computer Science), could we still pursue a DDP or Double Major within CHS? Can I graduate with Mathematics, Philosophy and Computer Science?**

A: Unfortunately, this is not possible.

**Q: If I am pursuing a double major (e.g., Economics & IT Security) and I fulfil the requirements for double degree, can these two be counted as double degree? Must the 2 contrasting majors be within CHS to be eligible for DDP?**

A: It is possible to do a double degree in these two majors. However, there is an application procedure for it. Please write to FASS Dean's Office at [fashelp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:fashelp@nus.edu.sg) to submit your application. You are also recommended to check the DDP website for updates on admissions into the programme here: [Degree Requirements per Cohort](#) and [NUS Computing Special Programmes](#).

**Q: Can I do a double degree in Social Science (e.g. Economics/Psychology) and in Science (e.g. Data Science and Analytics/Quantitative Finance)? Can I also apply to the School of Computing for a second degree?**

A: Yes, the double degree is possible as both are contrasting majors. To apply for a second degree with SoC, please submit your application to FASS Dean's Office at [fashelp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:fashelp@nus.edu.sg).

At the point of application, you should have read some SOC courses (at least 16 Units) and have accumulated between 60 Units and 80 Units for your total degree requirement.

**Q: Can we take a double degree in Political Science and Law instead of Economics and Law?**

A: No. The only combination that is possible is Economics and Law.

**Q: Are we allowed to do self-designed DDPs with Law?**

A: Student-based DDPs are possible only within the modular Faculties. As Law is not a modular Faculty, only structured DDPs (e.g. Economics and Law) are permissible.

**Q: Can we do a self-designed double degree in a course within CHS and a course offered by a faculty outside of CHS? (e.g. a double degree in Data Science and Analytics and Computer Science)**

A: Yes.

**Q: What about the structured major and minor programme? E.g., major in Communications and minor in Management.**

A: Yes, these are still being offered.

**Q: Is it possible to convert a Life Sciences with Management double major into a Life Sciences and Business double degree in the future?**

A: Yes, it is possible if you meet the requirements for the DDP application.

## **Section B - Qualifying English Test (QET)**

**Q: If we were not contacted during the first round of QET, does it mean that we do not need to go for the QET?**

**Q: Will we be informed via mail if we are required to take the QET?**

**Q: Will we be individually notified of whether we are required to take QETs?**

A: The Office of the University Registrar will inform all local and international students if they need to take the QET. More information can be found [here](#).

**Q: Do the CELC English courses, ES1103 and ES1000, take up my UE space or are they separate?**

**Q: For the extra courses that students are required to take if they fall under band 1 or 2 after the QET, do those courses count towards the Units, and if they do, which category do they belong in?**

**Q: For course ES1103 allocated to students in band 2 after QET, will the 4 Units count towards Unrestricted Electives?**

A: The ES courses will be part of the UE space. Please note that ES1000 is a 0-Unit course.

**Q: Are the 2 English courses that need to be taken by band 1 students graded by the grade points and counted towards the GPA?**

A: Only ES1103 is unit bearing; hence it will be counted towards your GPA.

**Q: What if we missed the QET?**

**Q: What should we do if we were accepted in late June and were not able to take the QET? Are we automatically required to take the English Classes before taking the Writing Course? Or should we wait until the second QET in November?**

A: You would have to wait until the second QET.

**Q: Will A-level students who took H2 Knowledge and Inquiry (which replaced H1 GP) have to take the QET? Or will anyone who did not take GP automatically have to take the QET?**

**Q: I read somewhere that if I have a CPE certificate, I am exempted from the QET. Is this true?**

A: Please check your eligibility [here](#).

**Q: If I do not get a band 3 for my QET and be exempted from the 1 or 2 extra English courses, will I still be able to take FAS1101 in my first year?**

A: There will be a delay in your case. We cannot exempt you.

**Q: For students who did the QET and are required to do English courses, do these courses count towards the maximum workload of 23 Units in the first semester?**

A: ES1000 carries 0 Unit, hence it will not count towards your workload. As ES1103 carries 4 Units, it will count to your workload.

**Q: Can we still take ES1103 if we are exempted from ES courses?**

A: No.

### [Section C - Timetable Planning](#)

**Q: How can I simulate my timetable before doing CourseReg if I am unsure of what courses will be pre-allocated to me?**

A: You may simulate your timetable and register for courses as the round is ongoing through NUSMods. The CourseReg schedule can be found [here](#).

**Q: Where should I find the schedule for the tutorials/labs when applying for the courses?**

A: You may refer to NUSMods for the tutorials/labs available for each course.

**Q: For the pre-allocated courses, will we be able to choose our preferred timeslot (given the course has different timeslots) and arrange our timetable?**

A: Yes, for the tutorial slots.

**Q: If timetabling on NUSMods only works for very few combinations but due to selection of time slots, it resulted in timetable clashes, what would be a good action plan?**

A: It would be good to plan with backup courses in mind so that you can avoid timetable clashes. Clashes in the timetable are not supported by the faculties, so please register for classes with no clashes.

**Q: If there are timetable clashes in my courses, will my selected courses be allocated according to what I have declared as my primary major and minor? Will I not be able to join my major course because of my minor course?**

A: It is entirely up to you on deciding which course you wish to read, however, we would advise you to read your major course as the primary major consists of 60 Units to fulfil and the minor consists of 20 Units. Please use NUSMods to plan your timetable, check which courses are offered in which semester and whether courses need pre-requisites. This would help you decide on whether the minor course or the major course should be dropped.

**Q: Some pre-allocated courses have E-Learning lecture sessions that clash with tutorials of other courses, is that allowed?**

A: No, do not register for courses with timetable clashes as timetable clash waivers are not allowed.

**Q: If all my 5 courses are pre-allocated, will there be a possibility that my timetable might clash?**

A: We will not be able to pre-allocate courses with clashing timetables, but you have to register for tutorials or labs that do not clash with classes that you are already enrolled in.

**Q: How do we plan our desired timetable if we do not know what courses are pre-allocated to us and what lecture/tutorial slots are available for those courses?**

A: You may refer to the pre-allocation guidelines by cohort [here](#). You will be able to plan from Select Courses

Round 1, and it is not on a first come first serve basis.

**Q: When Select Courses Round 1 begins, do we only need to take note of any clashes in lectures and exams, and not for tutorials and labs?**

A: You will need to take note of all types of timetable clashes, inclusive of tutorial and lab clashes as no waivers are granted for timetable clashes.

#### Section D – CourseReg (Course Registration)

**Q: What courses will be pre-allocated to CHS students and when can I view them?**

**Q: Are students from special programmes (e.g. NUSC/UTCP/RVRC) exempted from some CHS Common Curriculum courses?**

A: Please refer to [this](#) if you have declared a FoS primary major and refer to [this](#) if you have declared a FASS primary major. You may view your pre-allocated courses at the start of the CourseReg exercise under your CourseReg 'view my classes' page.

**Q: Can we appeal to drop some pre-allocated courses and take them in a later semester? I would like to register for courses for my second major/minor earlier.**

A: No, students are required to read the pre-allocated courses in the semester in which they are pre-allocated, unless they have extenuating circumstances. The second major/minor courses can be taken in a later semester. Please write to the [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg) if there are special circumstances that require you to drop a pre-allocated course.

**Q: If I have been pre-allocated 20 Units of courses, do I still need to participate in CourseReg?**

A: Yes. Only the lecture slots are pre-allocated, so students are still required to register for their tutorial/lab classes on their own. The CourseReg schedule and timelines can be found [here](#).

**Q: Can I read another course instead of GEA1000 to fulfil the Data Literacy pillar requirement?**

A: Yes, but only selected courses qualify. Please refer to [Data Literacy Pillar](#) for more details.

**Q: Do we still need to register for courses on our own?**

A: Most of the CHS Common Curriculum courses will be pre-allocated in the first 2 semesters. However, students are still required to register for courses via CourseReg to make up for the recommended workload of 20 Units per semester.

**Q: What courses should I register for during CourseReg?**

A: You may register for your major/second major/minor courses, or any courses you are interested in to make up the recommended 20 Units of workload per semester.

**Q: Can I register for courses offered by another faculty during CourseReg?**

A: Yes, you may register for the courses as long as they are available to you during the different CourseReg rounds, provided that you have met the pre-requisites. You may check on the pre-requisites of courses from NUSMODS. Note that some courses are open to students from another faculty only during the later course selection rounds.

**Q: Is CourseReg on a 'first-come-first-serve' basis?**

A: No. You may refer to [About CourseReg](#) for more information.

#### Section D(i) - Pre-allocation Guidelines

**Q: How does pre-allocation of courses work?**

**Q: What does pre-allocation mean? Will we be allocated a course with a specific timing, or do we get to choose our own timing?**

**Q: Does pre-allocation of courses mean that timings and classes are fixed?**

A: When a course is pre-allocated, it means that students will be assigned lecture groups with fixed timeslots for that course. However, students will have to choose their own tutorial/laboratory timings for the pre-allocated course during the Tutorial Registration exercise. Pre-allocated courses will appear in the "My Courses" list in CourseReg without students having to register for it.

**Q: For the upcoming Round 1, how do I know what courses are pre-allocated to me and do I have to register for any courses, UEs and GEs?**

A: Students can check their pre-allocated courses from "view my classes" via myEduRec during Select Courses Round 1. You will have to register for one or two more courses (possibly from your major) to make up 20 Units of workload in a semester.

**Q: Do we have to register for the pre-allocated courses? How do we view our lecture slots for our pre-allocated courses? Do we have to bid for them?**

**Q: Do we have to bid for the pre-allocated courses through CourseReg?**

**Q: Will the lecture days/tutorial days also be pre-allocated to us?**

A: We will pre-allocate the lecture groups of the pre-allocated courses. Please check your pre-allocated courses from CourseReg when Select Courses Round 1 starts. Please note that you will still need to register for your preferred tutorial groups.

**Q: When will we be notified of the pre-allocation of Common Curriculum courses?**

**Q: When will our pre-allocated courses be shown in CourseReg?**

**Q: When will we know whether we have been pre-allocated FAS1101 if I have declared a FASS major?**

**Q: Where can we find what courses are pre-allocated for a specific major?**

**Q: When do we find out which courses have been pre-allocated to us for the semester? Will it be before CourseReg Round 1?**

**Q: Where can I find the pre-allocated courses?**

A: Please check CourseReg when Select Courses Round 1 starts. You may refer to View My Classes on CourseReg.

**Q: What are the courses that will be pre-allocated to us in Year 1 Semester 1? (I have done the APD and indicated my primary major)**

**Q: I have already declared my major. How many courses will I be pre-allocated in Semester 1?**

**Q: How do we know which CHS Common Curriculum courses are pre-allocated for Year 1 Semester 1?**

**Q: Where can I check what courses will be pre-allocated for the respective majors for each semester?**

**Q: Will the 2 out of 4 Integrated courses be randomly pre-allocated to us?**

**Q: Can I confirm that 4 courses will be pre-allocated per semester in Year 1?**

**Q: Is it true that students, with student ID ending with odd digit, will be allocated HSH, GEA, HSA and those ending with even digit will get HSI, HSS and DTK? I saw this info in a table and wanted to know if it is accurate so that I can begin planning the timetable.**

A: One gateway course will be pre-allocated to you in Semester 1, based on your declared primary major. You will also be pre-allocated 3 to 4 CHS Common Curriculum courses. You may refer to [this](#) for details. Note that there may be changes as it depends on the quota we have and the number of students who eventually matriculate.

**Q: Can we replace some pre-allocated courses with our primary major courses?**

**Q: Can we replace some pre-allocated courses with our primary major courses in Year 1 and spread out the remaining pre-allocated courses over 4 years?**

**Q: Will we be able to drop pre-allocated CHS Common Curriculum courses (specifically the HSH1000 and HSA1000 pair) and take other courses instead?**

**Q: How and when to drop/cancel the pre-allocated courses if they clash with other courses or if I want to**

**take another course under the same CHS pillar?**

**Q: If I drop a pre-allocate course, will I be pre-allocated the same course in my second semester?**

**Q: It is more convenient for me to take certain pre-allocated courses in Year 1 Semester 1 due to timetable clashes with fundamental core courses. Am I allowed to drop those courses?**

A: Students are expected to read courses in the semester that they have been pre-allocated. Furthermore, CHS Common Curriculum courses that are pre-allocated to you cannot be dropped. Please submit an appeal via CourseReg if you have special circumstances that require you to drop a pre-allocated course.

**Q: Will FAS1101 be pre-allocated in the first Semester, to those who declared a primary major or second major in an FASS subject?**

**Q: When will FAS1101 be pre-allocated?**

**Q: Will I have 4 pre-allocated courses in a semester since I am from FASS, and am required to take a writing course?**

**Q: Is it possible to end up with 4 pre-allocated courses (e.g. HSH, HSA, GEA, FAS) and only one gateway course for the major I am interested in?**

**Q: Do we have to apply for FAS1101 ourselves in Semester 1 or 2 even though it is pre-allocated?**

A: For students who have declared an FASS primary major, FAS1101 will be pre-allocated in either the first or second semester of the first year. Please refer to [Pre-allocation of CHS Common Curriculum Courses \(Cohort 2021 Onwards\)](#) for the possible timeline.

**Q: Will all the Common Curriculum courses in CHS be pre-allocated in the first 2 years or will there be some common courses that we have to register for by ourselves during CourseReg?**

**Q: Do I have to register for the Common Curriculum courses or are they pre-allocated?**

**Q: Do we get to choose which 2 out of 4 courses to read every semester?**

A: The Integrated courses, GEA1000, DTK1234 will be randomly pre-allocated. Additional courses may be pre-allocated depending on majors. For courses that will not be pre-allocated, you will have to register for them on your own during CourseReg.

**Q: Will the pre-allocated courses be split between even and odd Student ID according to the table on the website?**

A: There may be changes as it depends on the quota and the number of students we have.

**Q: If more than 5 courses are pre-allocated, is it possible to drop some CHS pre-allocated Common Curriculum courses?**

A: As the maximum workload for regular CHS students is 23 Units, it is not possible to be pre-allocated with more than 5 courses.

**Q: Will all the pre-allocated courses count towards the total 160 Units graduation requirement?**

A: Yes, except for courses that are worth 0 Unit.

**Q: If the lecture for one of my pre-allocated Common Curriculum courses clash with the lecture for my major's gateway course in Semester 1, do I need to drop one of the courses, or can I continue to take both since the lectures will be conducted online?**

**Q: When and how can I appeal to change my pre-allocated courses if there is a timetable clash?**

A: Timetable clash waivers are not supported by the faculty, even if the lectures are conducted online. Your major gateway course should not clash with the courses pre-allocated to you. Please write to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg) if you have checked your courses in CourseReg and find that you have been pre-allocated courses that clash with your primary major's gateway course (although this is highly unlikely).

**Q: I read online that for lectures that have multiple timeslots, we will be randomly allocated any one of the timeslots. Will we know which lecture timeslot we are allocated before we proceed to bid for our tutorial timeslots?**

A: For lectures with multiple timeslots, you have to register which particular class you wish to attend. For



example, if a course has L1 or L2, you will have to select which lecture group to register for.

**Q: Will General Elective courses be pre-allocated for us automatically?**

A: Only the integrated courses, GEA1000 and DTK1234, will be pre-allocated. If you are reading a FASS major, you will be pre-allocated FAS1101 as well.

**Q: After I have done my APD, when will I be able to see my pre-allocated gateway course under "View my Classes"?**

A: You may view the courses pre-allocated when Select Courses Round 1 starts. Please note that only students who have declared their primary major in the APD exercise by the stipulated deadline will be pre-allocated the gateway course. If you were not pre-allocated the gateway course, please register for it on your own during the CourseReg exercise.

**Q: Can I switch the semester grouping for the course pre-allocation? I would very much like to take these Common Curriculum courses with my friends.**

A: No. Students are required to complete the courses in the semester that they are pre-allocated.

**Q: If I declared my academic plan (and I am in UTCP), will I be pre-allocated the CHS Common Curriculum courses, primary major courses, and UTCP courses?**

A: Please refer to [pre-allocation of gateway courses and CHS Common Curriculum courses](#) for more information. UTCP courses will not be pre-allocated to you. For more information, please check with your RC.

[Section D\(ii\) - Gateway Courses](#)

**Q: What is a gateway course?**

A: A gateway course offers an introductory yet comprehensive overview of your desired major. Reading it early on in your academic journey is crucial.

**Q: If we have declared a second major, does this mean that we would be allocated 2 different gateway courses for Semester 1?**

A: Only the gateway course for the primary major will be pre-allocated.

**Q: Will I be able to take gateway courses from 2 majors at the same time?**

**Q: If we have declared a second major, can we take both gateway courses in Semester 1?**

**Q: Can I bid for the gateway course for my second major in Semester 1 or can it only be taken and pre-allocated in Semester 2?**

**Q: How many gateway courses can I optimally take per semester if I am interested in several majors?**

A: You are allowed to read more than one gateway course concurrently, provided that you have course space remaining after being pre-allocated the CHS Common Curriculum courses. Please note that regular CHS students may only read up to a maximum of 23 Units in Year 1 Semester 1.

**Q: Is it compulsory to take the gateway courses?**

A: It is compulsory to take the gateway course for the discipline you want to major in.

**Q: If I apply for a second major in Year 1 Semester 2, can I read the gateway course in Year 1 Semester 2?**

A: Yes. However, you are required to register for the gateway course for your second major on your own.

**Q: Is there a list of gateway courses?**

A: Under the primary major requirements for each subject, the level-1000 course mentioned is the gateway course.

**Q: Is it possible to take a gateway course without declaring any major for the first semester?**

A: Yes, you can still register for the gateway course, provided that there are still vacancies and that you meet the course pre-requisites.

**Q: Will I be pre-allocated the gateway courses for the second major which I declare?**

A: No, you are expected to register for second major gateway courses on your own during the CourseReg exercise.

**Q: If I am not pre-allocated the gateway course in Semester 1, then what course will I be taking to replace the gateway course?**

A: We would encourage you to select the gateway course for a major you are interested in as the gateway courses unlock the pre-requisites to higher level courses in the major. If the gateway course is not pre-allocated to you, you may try to register for it on your own during the CourseReg exercise.

**Q: How should we prepare if our gateway course is only offered in Semester 2 or if the quota for Semester 1 is full? Should we add a backup course?**

A: In the event that you are unsuccessful in registering for your gateway course in your first semester, you may read elective courses in your major (provided that you fulfil the pre-requisites, if any), or unrestricted elective courses, or second major and minor courses.

**Q: How should I avoid receiving my gateway course only in the second semester?**

A: You will only be pre-allocated your gateway course in Semester 1 if you have declared a primary major by the APD deadline. In the event that you were not pre-allocated the course, you may try to register for it on your own in CourseReg.

**Q: If I cannot declare my major by the deadline, will it affect the pre-allocation for my courses? This is because I accepted my offer to NUS late.**

A: Only students who have done their APD by the deadline will be pre-allocated their gateway courses. However, gateway courses will still be offered via CourseReg, and you can register for it on your own. In the event that you are unable to access the system even after Round 1, please write to your home faculty Dean's Office for assistance.

Section D(iii) Workload

**Q: Is the maximum number of Units an undergraduate can take in Year 1 Semester 1, 20 Units or 23 Units?**

A: All students can read up to 23 Units in their first semester except for those in selected special programmes like concurrent degree programmes, double degree programmes, NUSC, or Special Programme in Science who can read up to 27 Units.

Please refer to <https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/fas/ug/currentstd/workload.html> for more information.

**Q: Can we take 24 Units in Semester 1?**

A: Students in selected special programmes like concurrent degree programmes, double degree programmes, NUSC, or Special Programme in Science can read up to 27 Units in their first semester. Otherwise, all students can only read up to 23 Units in their first semester.

**Q: May I know if it is possible for me to take 28 Units in Year 1 Semester 1 if I am a double degree student with a department outside CHS?**

A: No. If you are a DDP student, you are allowed to read up to 27 Units in Year 1 Semester 1.

**Q: Can I appeal for 24 Units as I want to take a bridging course so that I do not lag behind my peers?**



**Q: Can I take more than 23 Units in Year 1 Semester 1?**

A: No, the limit is 23 Units for Semester 1 of the first year. Students can start overloading from Year 1 Semester 2 onwards where they can read up to 32 Units depending on their GPA.

**Q: If a student takes a double degree, will the workload be equivalent to two students taking two degrees separately or different/lesser courses will be taken up by the student taking a double degree?**

A: The workload limit will be in accordance with your GPA under the primary degree.

**Q: Is it possible to be pre-allocated more than 5 courses if you are taking a double degree?**

A: Yes, this is possible since your permissible workload is 27 Units per semester.

**Q: I want to balance the workload over the semesters so which CHS courses will have a higher workload?**

A: In principle, the workload is constant across the 4 years. You will generally take 5 courses each semester, and each course is associated with the same workload (4 Units). Of course, the workload might be more challenging as you take higher level courses.

**Q: May I know what are the exceptions that allow students to overload in Year 1 Semester 1? Can I read PL1101E and PL2131 without exceeding the 20 Units limit?**

A: Students are not allowed to overload in Year 1 Semester 1. We recommend that you read PL1101E in Year 1 Semester 1 and PL2131 in Year 1 Semester 2.

**Q: Must we overload by reading more than 5 courses per semester in order to fulfil a double degree in contrasting majors? Can we extend our candidature by 1 or 2 semesters to complete the requirements?**

A: DDP students typically read 24 Units per semester or some of the semesters. If your DDP subject majors are within CHS, you should be able to complete the DDP in 4 to 4.5 years. There will be an increase in the fees charged if you extend your normal candidature.

**Q: While the number of Units we can take for the first semester is capped at 23 Units, will CHS freshmen still be able to register for a course that is worth 2 Units alongside the 5 pre-allocated common curriculum courses?**

A: Yes, because this will add up to 22 Units.

**Q: As there are more pre-allocated courses for CHS than the previous cohorts, does this mean we have to overload in other semesters (take 6 courses instead of 5) since we cannot really complete as many Units in the first 2 semesters?**

A: No, the recommended workload of 20 Units applies to all students and the 160 Units required for graduation remains the same. Thus, there is no need to overload.

**Q: The first year maximum workload is 23 Units. If I am allocated 20 Units, can I still sign up for 3 Units?**

A: Yes, there are certain 1-Unit or 2-Unit courses that you can sign up for if you wish to do so.

**Q: Which CHS courses have a higher workload?**

A: The number of Units determines the workload of the course. You may find the information on NUSMODS.

**Q: Is it a need to overload if we plan to go for SEP or NOC?**

A: This depends on your course planning and it differs from student to student.

[Section D\(iv\) Tutorial Registration](#)

**Q: What are tutorials?**

**Q: What are tutorials? Are they just introductions to our courses?**

A: Simply put, tutorials are smaller classes that facilitate active discussion of lecture contents and

assignments. They are usually held to revise the topics that were covered in the lectures, to cover some concepts more in depths, or to go through assignments.

**Q: How do we register for tutorials? Do we have choices where we can rank our preferred slots? How are the tutorial groups allocated to us?**

A: You may rank your preferred tutorial slots in CourseReg. CourseReg will then allocate your choices based on your ranking. More details can be found at [CourseReg@EduRec Functions & Rounds](#).

**Q: Do we have to register for tutorial groups for courses that have already been pre-allocated to us?**

A: Yes.

**Q: How many tutorial groups do we have to register for under each course?**

A: Please check NUSMods to see the various components of each course. You will need to be registered to one component each. Typically, you may choose about 4 tutorial groups for each course.

**Q: Can students in different lecture groups in a course register for the same tutorial group?**

A: Yes, for most courses.

**Q: If tutorial slots open up only in August, does that mean that there are no tutorials at all prior to that?**

A: Yes, most tutorials start from Week 3.

**Q: Is it necessary to place tutorial timings after lectures?**

A: No, this is because tutorials typically start from Week 3. Please check NUSMods to see which tutorial timings there are for a particular course.

**Q: How do we know how many tutorials we need?**

A: Please check NUSMods to see the various components of each course. Students are required to register for one component each.

#### Section E - Tuition Fees and candidature

**Q: If I transfer courses, am I still eligible for subsidised fees for the new course?**

A: Yes. However, please note that the [Tuition Fee Policy](#) applies.

**Q: Does this mean that if I take a Leave of Absence (LOA), it will not count as exceeding the 8 semesters limit for subsidised tuition fees? Does this mean that I will actually need to overload for the following semesters in order to not exceed the 4 years?**

A: All approved LOA periods are excluded from the candidature period. You will still be eligible for subsidised fees if you complete your degree within the normal candidature period allowed. However, please note that if you apply for LOA after instructional week 2 of the semester, you will be charged with the whole semester's school fees. All LOA requests will be subjected to review and approval.

**Q: I am a transfer student from another university. Will the university grant subsidised tuition fees for the unsubsidised semesters out of goodwill?**

A: No.

**Q: Are transfer students allowed to apply for scholarships?**

A: You will be eligible for mid-stream scholarships. Do look out for them from the Faculty's website.

**Q: Does I pay more fees when I apply for other minor or major different from my faculty?**

A: Not typically.

**Q: Is a double degree more expensive than a single degree/double major?**

A: The fees charged in a semester are the same. However, a DDP is more expensive as you may take one or two semesters more to complete the degree requirements.

**Q: For the fee payment due date, what if our application for government subsidies e.g. Mendaki is still in process after the due date?**

A: You may refer to [NUS Office of Admission Financial Aid](#) or write to Ask Admissions (via the Contact Us tab).

**Q: If I overload the courses, will it cost more?**

A: You pay per semester, not per course. So, not necessarily.

**[Section F - Advanced Placement Credits \(APCs\) for Polytechnic admits](#)**

**Q: How many Units exemptions will we be awarded if we have graduated from Polytechnics?**

**Q: Will Polytechnic diploma holders be automatically exempted from 20 Units of UE?**

A: For polytechnic diploma holders majoring in a FASS subject, 20 Units will be automatically granted as fulfilling the Unrestricted Elective requirement.

For polytechnic diploma holders majoring in a FoS subject, up to a maximum of 40 Units may be granted, of which 20 Units will be automatically granted as fulfilling the Unrestricted Elective requirement, and up to 20 Units for programme requirements based on performance in placement tests set by the FoS departments.

**Q: Does exemption for Polytechnic student for 20 Units of UE only apply if they are from related diploma course?**

**Q: Does the APCs for diploma holders only apply to diplomas related to the degree?**

A: All incoming CHS freshmen who are polytechnic diploma holders will be granted APCs of 20 Units fulfilling the UE requirement.

**Q: Are there any disadvantages for having APCs?**

A: The advantage is that you can graduate in a shorter time by reading 140 Units of NUS courses. However, should you choose to do so, you will have less UE space to pursue other pathways such as a second major or a double degree, since the APCs will be counted towards the UE requirement. Nevertheless, you are allowed to read 160 Units of NUS courses, if you choose to do so.

**Q: How do we apply for APCs as an A levels holder?**

**Q: If I am granted 20 Units because of A-levels, can I use those credits to satisfy minor requirements without taking courses and when do we know how many APCs we will be given?**

A: Freshmen who have applied to NUS using A-level results will not be automatically granted any APC. However, certain Science departments may offer Advanced Placement tests, which grant credits to students who do well. More details can be found at [Advanced Placement Credits](#).

**Q: If I choose to transfer credits from my H3 course, will there be a transfer of grades? If I got a merit for my H3 subject, what grade will I see in my transcript?**

A: Please refer to the [FAQs on H3](#).

**Q: Will International Baccalaureate Diploma students have any Units exemptions?**

A: Freshmen who have applied to NUS using IB results will not be automatically granted any APCs. However, certain Science departments may offer Advanced Placement tests which grant credits to students who do well. More details can be found at [Advanced Placement Credits](#).

**Q: What does the 20 Units of APCs which were automatically granted mean for the UE space? Does it mean that a diploma holder only needs to fulfil 28 Units out of the 48 Units requirement for UE?**

**Q: If I am a diploma holder with 20 Units of APCs granted, does that mean I only need to complete minimum of 28 Units of UE for graduation?**

A: Yes, the 20 Units granted to polytechnic diploma holders will count towards their UE requirement, meaning that you will only need to complete 28 Units of NUS courses in your UE space.

**Q: If we are coming from an American high school with AP classes, do we also get exempted from Units?**

A: APCs will not be granted to students who have applied to NUS using international qualifications.

**Q: When and how will I know what APCs are granted to me?**

**Q: Where do I check for exemptions?**

A: The APCs will be automatically granted to polytechnic diploma holders, which will be reflected in EduRec in September.

**Q: Do Poly students have fewer S/U credits? Where do we check this?**

A: Polytechnic diploma holders may exercise up to 20 Units of S/U options, of which up to 12 Units can be carried forward. You may refer to [Advanced Placement Credits and Exemption](#) for further details.

**Q: For APCs, if 40 Units are granted, can we graduate within 3 years (since there are only 120 Units left)?**

A: If you are successfully granted 40 Units of APCs, and you are able to plan your timetable carefully such that you can fulfil all the graduation requirements on time, it is possible to graduate in 3 years.

**Q: Is it possible for APCs to count towards courses required for a minor?**

A: APCs granted to polytechnic diploma holders will count as general UE courses and cannot be used to fulfil any major or minor requirements.

**Q: If I want to read a second major, I would need to complete a total of 152 Units in the CHS Common Curriculum, Primary Major, and Second Major requirements. This leaves me with 8 Units of UEs. Since I am a Polytechnic diploma holder, can I use the 20 Units of APCs to fulfil the remaining 8 Units of UE requirements?**

A: As the 20 Units of APCs will count as general UE courses, they will automatically fulfil the 8 Units of UE requirements based on the situation described.

**Q: For polytechnic diploma holders, since 20 Units will be automatically granted as fulfilling UE requirement, is it possible that one could graduate one semester earlier than the rest?**

A: Yes, it is possible, provided that you are able to read the required courses according to your study plan and fulfil all the graduation requirements on time.

**Q: As I am a poly graduate, can I still be able to pursue a second major?**

A: Yes, you are allowed to do so. It just means that your poly APCs will not be fully utilised.

#### [Section G – Drop courses with “W” and “F” grades](#)

**Q: What are the W and F grades?**

A: It essentially means that you have dropped a course late in the semester. Please refer to the information [here](#).

#### [Section H - Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory \(S/U Option\)](#)

**Q: Are there any rules on which courses we can S/U?**

A: Yes, please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: When do we need to declare if we want to use S/U for a course?**

**Q: When can we last declare whether we want to S/U our course?**

A: Within 3 calendar days, immediately upon the release of each semester's exam results. Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: What is the difference between S/U and CS/CU?**

A: You can refer to the information [here](#).

**Q: Do all freshmen receive 32 Units of S/U options on entry?**

A: Not all. If you are a polytechnic diploma holder with 20 APCs (for example), you only get 20 S/U Units. Please refer to [Advanced Placement Credits and Exemption](#) for further details. Please also refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: Can we opt for S/U for courses taken while on exchange overseas?**

A: Only Units (and not grades) are transferred for exchange courses. Therefore, they are not eligible for the S/U option.

**Q: Will the Units we exercise S/U option for be counted towards the graduation requirements?**

A: Yes, if you pass the course (i.e., you get an S grade.)

**Q: Does that mean that if I do not use all 32 Units in the first year, I will not be able to use all 32 Units in the subsequent years?**

A: Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: If I exercise the U grade option for a course, and have already repeated the essential course, will I still be able to use this course as a pre-requisite to other courses?**

A: You may only use the course as a pre-requisite if you manage to read and pass the course after taking it again i.e. a minimum "S" grade.

**Q: Why are some courses under the grade-free scheme?**

A: The answer can be found [here](#). Please also refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: If I take 10 courses in my first Year, I can S/U a total of 8 courses and only use 2 courses to calculate my GPA?**

A: Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: Am I able to S/U a level 2000 major course that has no pre-requisites of other courses?**

A: Yes, if it does not have any NUS courses as pre-requisites. Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: If I exercised the S/U option on a course that I did badly, will this mean that this course will not count towards my GPA and the type of honours that I might attain?**

A: Yes. Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: Will the number of courses you S/U appear on your degree certificate?**

A: Yes, the S/U grades and courses will be reflected on your result slip and transcript.

**Q: Is the S/U option available in Year 3 and Year 4?**

A: Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

**Q: If a course is a requirement to enter a programme (e.g. minimum requirement to enter Computer**

**Science is to receive B and above for CS1101), in the event that I did not attain the minimum grade required and decided to exercise the S/U option, can I retake the course?**

A: Students will not be allowed to retake courses that they have passed.

**Q: If I used all my S/U options in Year 1, can I use this option in Year 2 onwards?**

A: Please refer to the S/U FAQs listed at the [S/U Homepage](#).

## Section I - Degree Requirements

### Section I(i) CHS Common Curriculum

**Q: What does the CHS Common Curriculum consist of?**

A: The CHS Common Curriculum comprises 13 courses. Please refer to [Common Curriculum - NUS College of Humanities and Sciences](#) for more information.

**Q: Must we take all CHS Common Curriculum courses?**

**Q: Are all CHS Common Curriculum courses compulsory for every student?**

A: CHS students are expected to complete all courses in the CHS Common Curriculum, unless they are in special programmes (e.g. NUSC, XDP, SPS etc.) where exemptions are allowed. More information can be found at [Common Curriculum - NUS College of Humanities and Sciences](#).

**Q: May I check if CHS students are required to fulfil the 6 pillars of GE?**

**Q: By taking CHS Common Curriculum courses, does this mean that the GE (General Education) requirements are fulfilled?**

**Q: How many GE courses do we need to take to graduate? I am confused on which one is relevant to CHS students as there is a Common Curriculum and the 6 GE pillars.**

**Q: If we take the Common Curriculum courses (e.g., Scientific Inquiry, Interdisciplinary courses, etc.), do we still have to take the five pillars of GE courses?**

**Q: Do the GE courses overlap with CHS courses or do I have to take the GE courses and CHS courses separately to fulfil the requirements?**

**Q: If I take all 13 courses of the Common Curriculum, will I still have to do GE courses?**

**Q: Is it true that I do not need to focus on the GE requirement anymore and that I just need to complete the CHS Common Curriculum requirements?**

A: CHS students will satisfy the GE requirements with CHS Common Curriculum courses. This means that after completing the CHS Common Curriculum, students need not read any GE-coded courses.

**Q: Does the CHS Common Curriculum comprise GE and faculty core courses, or only GE?**

A: The CHS Common Curriculum comprises 13 courses which includes both GE and CHS-specific courses. Please refer to [Overview](#) to find out more information of the courses in the CHS Common Curriculum.

**Q: Does the CHS Common Curriculum course overlap with the UE courses? If I take a course in Design Thinking, can I fulfil 4 Units in my UE requirement?**

A: No. The UE requirements are separate from the CHS Common Curriculum requirements.

**Q: Do we have a list of recommendations or a study plan for which CHS Common Curriculum or major courses we should take in each semester throughout our university years?**

A: You may refer to this [Sample Study Plan](#) for FASS majors. For Science majors, you may refer to the sample study plan on the respective department's website.

**Q: Are the gateway courses part of the CHS Common Curriculum, alongside the Integrated courses and the Interdisciplinary courses? Will these courses be pre-allocated to us?**

A: A gateway course is an introductory course to the major and is part of the major requirements. The CHS



Common Curriculum consists of 6 Common Core courses, 5 Integrated courses and 2 interdisciplinary courses.

The gateway course will be pre-allocated to students if they declare their primary major by the APD exercise deadline. Students will also be pre-allocated some CHS Common Curriculum courses. More information can be found at [Pre-Allocation of CHS Common Curriculum Modules – NUS Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences](#).

**Q: Is there a minimum number of Common Curriculum courses we have to take in Semesters 1 and 2 of the first year?**

A: There is no minimum number of CHS Common Curriculum courses to take in the first year. However, some common curriculum courses will be pre-allocated to you in your first two semesters. Students are expected to complete the pre-allocated courses in the semester that they have been pre-allocated to.

**Q: Can I take on extra CHS Common Curriculum courses in Year 1?**

**Q: Besides the pre-allocated CHS Common Curriculum courses, can I take more courses under the Common Curriculum as well, for e.g. CS1010S, which is not pre-allocated to us in the first year?**

A: Some CHS Common Curriculum courses will be pre-allocated to CHS students based on the pre-allocation guidelines. For those that will not be pre-allocated, you may choose to register for them in Year 1 if you have enough course space, and there are no clashes between the pre-allocated courses and courses that you intend to register for on your own. You may do so by submitting a CourseReg appeal for them in Round 3.

**Q: Is it possible to clear CHS Common Curriculum by the end of Year 1?**

A: No, there are 13 courses, out of which 11 have to be completed by Year 2. You are advised to have a balance between Major and Common Curriculum courses in your study plan, as higher-level courses in your major may have course pre-requisites that you will need to fulfil before you are allowed to read them.

**Q: Although all CHS courses have 4 Units, which courses in the curriculum are more challenging?**

A: It really depends on your aptitude and interest for the particular subject. From the workload perspective, they are similar.

**Q: Do we select the CHS Common Curriculum courses in Round 1 or 2?**

A: This depends on the course host setting. Some CHS Common Curriculum courses will be pre-allocated to students. You may refer to [Pre-Allocation of CHS Common Curriculum Modules – NUS Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences](#) for more information.

**Q: Are GER1000 and GEQ1000 taken in PGPH included in the CHS Common Curriculum?**

A: There is no longer GER1000 and GEQ1000 in the revised GE requirements. In addition, CHS students who have completed the CHS Common Curriculum will be deemed as having completed the GE requirements. Hence, there is no need to read additional courses on top of the Common Curriculum. More information on the courses or pillars are listed at [CHS Common Curriculum](#).

**Q: How do I appeal through CourseReg for switching of semester grouping?**

A: No, this is not allowed.

**Q: Is it safe to say that all Common Curriculum courses will be pre-allocated to us?**

A: Only Integrated courses, GEA1000, DTK1234 will be pre-allocated. Additional courses may be pre-allocated depending on majors. For instance, FASS majors will be pre-allocated FAS1101. The rest of the CHS Common Curriculum courses are to be registered through CourseReg. You may refer to [Pre-Allocation of CHS Common Curriculum Modules – NUS Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences](#) for more information.

**Q: I was wondering if students are allowed to drop some of the pre-allocated Common Curriculum courses (as it is stated in the website that students will be pre-allocated the Integrated Courses according to their**

**Student ID). If yes, how many can we drop?**

**Q: Why are we recommended to take the Integrated Courses in the first year? If there are lecture timetable clashes with other courses gateway courses like CS1010S, can we take the course in Year 2 instead?**

A: Generally, you are not allowed to drop the pre-allocated Common Curriculum courses. Please write to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg) if there are special circumstances that require you to drop a pre-allocated course. If there are clashes, please read the gateway courses of majors other than your primary major in subsequent semesters.

#### Section I(i)(a)Artificial Intelligence

**Q: What do we learn on artificial intelligence, robots?**

A: Students are expected to learn basic concepts in AI and learn how it may be used in society. You may refer to the course description at NUSMods for more details.

**Q: What are the courses which can be read to fulfil the CHS Common Curriculum AI requirement?**

A: You may refer to [Artificial Intelligence](#) for more information on the courses that can be used to fulfil the Artificial Intelligence requirement in the Common Curriculum, and keep a look out for updates to the list of recognised courses for the AI requirement.

#### Section I(i)(b)Communities and Engagement

**Q: Where can I find more information about the 'Communities and Engagement' pillar under the CHS Common Curriculum?**

A: Please refer to [Communities and Engagement Pillar](#) and **FAQs** for more information.

#### Section I(i)(c)Data Literacy

**Q: Are we supposed to read all four courses under the Data Literacy pillar, or do we choose only one?**

A: Students only need to read one course from the basket of courses offered under the Data Literacy pillar.

**Q: Is Quantitative Reasoning part of the 13 Common Curriculum courses?**

A: Data Literacy is part of the CHS Common Curriculum. GEA1000 Quantitative Reasoning is a course that can fulfil the Data Literacy requirement.

**Q: If I am interested in both DSA1101 and ST1131 which are from the same CHS Data Literacy basket, can one of them be counted as UE?**

A: Yes, you may use one to fulfil the CHS Common Curriculum Data Literacy requirement and the other to fulfil the UE requirements.

**Q: If we do a major in an FASS subject (Economics) and another from FoS (Data Analytics), for our CHS Common Curriculum, will we be pre-allocated courses meant for the FASS major or the FoS major e.g., GEA1000 and DSA1101 from the Data Literacy pillar?**

A: The pre-allocation will depend on what you have declared during the APD. For the Data Literacy pillar, if you have declared a second major in Data Analytics, you will not be pre-allocated GEA1000. However, you will be required to register for DSA1101 on your own. Please refer to the notes under the respective CHS Common Curriculum pillars [here](#).

**Q: I wish to take DSA1101 to fulfil the Data Literacy requirement instead of the pre-allocated GEA1000 but I wish to explore more before settling on a second major/minor. Would I still have the chance of**



**appealing and getting the DSA course, or is it more advisable to declare DSA as my primary major first?**

A: Students will only be pre-allocated the gateway course of their primary major if they declare it by the APD deadline. You may wish to register for the DSA1101 course via CourseReg, subject to quota availability. Students who wish to read ST1131/DSA1101 to fulfil the Data Literacy requirements can drop GEA1000 and select ST1131/DSA1101 instead. Please appeal in via the CourseReg system under "Drop Lec/Tut allocated by admin".

Section I(i)(d) Digital Literacy

**Q: As a student planning to major in Life Sciences, which of the Digital Literacy courses would be suitable for me? Will LSM2302 be more suitable?**

A: For Life Sciences students, you can take any course listed under the Digital Literacy pillar to fulfil the requirement, except GEI1001, GEI1002 and NM2207.

**Q: I am a FASS student. For GEI1001 (Digital Literacy), can I take CS1010 instead, as I am keen in taking Computer Science as a second major?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Will the CHS Digital Literacy courses be pre-allocated to us depending on our primary major/faculty or do we need to register for it ourselves? For example, I am pursuing Life Sciences, will I be reading LSM2302 by default?**

A: You may refer to the pre-allocation guidelines written on the respective websites for [FASS majors](#) and [FoS majors](#). If the courses you wish to read are not listed in the pre-allocation guidelines, then you are expected to register for them on your own in the CourseReg system. For Life Sciences majors, you can choose to take the Life Sciences courses, the CS1010x or the COSxxxx series of courses to fulfil the Digital Literacy pillar.

Section I(ii) Bridging Courses

**Q: Do our 'A' Level / Polytechnic results affect our eligibility to read certain minors or second majors?**

A: Students can declare a subject as their second major or minor. However, students who do not meet the subject pre-requisite (if any) will be required to complete the bridging course before they can read the gateway course. You may check the subject pre-requisites [here](#).

**Q: Will bridging courses be pre-allocated?**

**Q: Since gateway courses are pre-allocated according to our declared major, will bridging courses be pre-allocated too?**

**Q: If I declare a primary major without meeting H2 Math pre-requisite, will I be pre-allocated the bridging course MA1301 in Semester 1 and the gateway course in Semester 2?**

A: Bridging courses will be pre-allocated in Semester 1 if the gateway course cannot be pre-allocated to students who have declared their primary major by the APD deadline.

Please note that from Semester 2 of your first year of study onwards, students are expected to register for their gateway courses on their own.

**Q: Can we take both the bridging course and gateway course concurrently in the same semester?**

A: You will need to read and pass the bridging course before you are allowed to read the gateway course.

**Q: Does bridging courses count towards the Units needed to graduate?**

A: Yes.

**Q: If I take a bridging course to meet the qualifications of H2 Mathematics and a H2 Science, will I be**

**allowed to take other courses that has the requirement of a good pass in H2 Mathematics or H2 Science?**

A: Yes, you can take the bridging course in the relevant subject first if you do not meet the requirements to read them.

**Q: I applied to NUS using my country's national curriculum. Does that count as an equivalent to a H2 subject? How does the faculty decide whether we have met the pre-requisite for a course or we need to take a bridging course?**

A: This is subject to review. Please seek clarification from [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg). If you do not meet the pre-requisite for the course, you will not be able to select the course via CourseReg. Instead, you will be advised to read the bridging course.

**Q: Can I check which bridging courses I am required to take on CourseReg?**

A: If you do not meet the [subject pre-requisites](#) for your intended major, second major or minor, you may check NUSMods for the course pre-requisites that you have to fulfil before you can read the gateway course. If you are unable to register for the major courses in CourseReg because of pre-requisite issues, you will have to take the relevant bridging course.

**Q: Can bridging courses be selected in Round 1 of CourseReg?**

A: Yes.

#### [Section I\(iii\) - Writing courses](#)

**Q: Are FASS students still required to take FAS1101 in CHS? Is it considered a UE or GE requirement?**

A: FASS students in CHS are required to complete FAS1101. FAS1101 fulfils the Writing pillar (GE requirement) under the CHS Common Curriculum requirements. It is not a UE.

**Q: Can I take the Writing and Community and Engagement courses in Year 3?**

A: It is not advisable to take the writing courses so late in your study. For FoS majors, SP1541 is necessary in order to apply for SEP. For FASS majors, you will be pre-allocated FAS1101 in your first year (unless you are enrolled in a special programme which exempts you from taking FAS1101).

**Q: Is it possible to take FAS1101 if I have declared my first major in Science?**

A: Please note that FAS1101 will only be pre-allocated to FASS majors. FAS1101 will not be open for selection during CourseReg except for BES students.

#### [Section I\(iv\) Integrated & Interdisciplinary Courses](#)

**Q: Are integrated courses and interdisciplinary courses compulsory? Are they counted towards the Units required for the Common Curriculum?**

A: Yes, they are part of the CHS Common Curriculum. Students who belong to certain special programmes (e.g., NUSC, UTCP, RVRC, PPE-XDP) may be exempted from some CHS Common Curriculum courses. More information can be found under the [CHS Common Curriculum](#).

**Q: If I am not intending to join SPS, can I still take SP2274 instead of HSI1000 for Scientific Inquiry 1?**

A: SP2274 would usually be taken by SPS students or those who intend to take the SPS. However, if you choose to drop SPS or no longer wish to pursue SPS after that, SP2274 would still count as fulfilling the Scientific Inquiry I pillar.

**Q: What does interdisciplinary courses mean? What courses can I choose under this?**

A: The interdisciplinary course aims to expose students to interdisciplinarity and impart students with the ability to think, synthesise, and integrate knowledge and insights across disciplines which are integral to

solving complex problems. More information can be found at [Interdisciplinary courses](#).

### [Section I\(v\) Unrestricted Electives \(UEs\)](#)

**Q: What are UEs? Are they courses that I can take under my first major / second major? Or do they refer to any course not related to any of my majors?**

A: An UE course is any course that does not count towards the CHS Common Curriculum or your primary major requirement. Therefore, second major and minor courses are considered UE courses.

**Q: Can I take language courses for my Units, e.g. Korean language?**

A: Yes. Any language courses that you take carry Units and count towards your graduation. It will typically be parked in your UE space.

**Q: Can I use only 5% of my UE space for non-major courses, and use the remaining space to read major courses?**

A: Yes, students are free to plan how they would like to use their Unrestricted Elective space.

**Q: Does internship take up unrestricted electives space?**

A: Internships like UPIP and FASSIP falls under the UE space. However, some majors may require students to embark on disciplinary internships as part of their major requirements. Please refer to the curriculum structure for the individual majors for more information.

**Q: Do special programmes and internships take up UE space? If yes, will I be able to complete a primary major with specialisation, a special programme, a second major and an internship within 160 Units?**

A: This is dependent on the special programme you are enrolled in as well as whether you are able to double count any courses. It is likely that you may need more than 160 Units, and may need to overload or extend your candidature. Please consult your faculty's Dean's Office for advice.

Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: Are minor courses counted as UEs?**

**Q: Do minors fall under UEs?**

A: In general, Minor courses will come from the UE unless it is a double-counted course. Please refer to [this](#) for a better understanding on double-counting.

**Q: Do the CHS Common Curriculum courses overlap with the UE courses? Can DTK1234 Design Thinking fulfil both CHS Common Curriculum requirements and UE requirements?**

A: UEs are courses read over and above CHS Common Curriculum, Major, and Minor/Second Major courses to meet the minimum 160 Units graduation requirements. So, design thinking cannot be used to fulfil the UE requirement.

**Q: Do we have to choose UEs outside of our Faculty?**

A: No. Students can choose to read courses within or outside their Faculty as their UE, subject to them meeting the course pre-requisites.

**Q: Can I read courses outside of CHS as Unrestricted Electives?**

**Q: Can I do courses from Yong Loo Lin, or School of Public Health Dean's Office? Will they be under unrestricted electives?**

**Q: Is it possible to take a course from Law as UE?**

A: Yes, if the courses are available for you to select in CourseReg.

**Q: Will the English courses take up my UE space?**

**Q: Can bridging courses and CLS English courses (i.e. ES1000/ES1103) be counted as unrestricted electives?**

A: The ES courses will be counted under the UE space.

**Q: Is there a limit to the number of Units we can take for the UE?**

**Q: How do we proceed if our UE space is used up? Can we still take UE courses?**

**Q: Must the number of courses for the second major and the UE be exactly 10 and 2 courses? What if we want to take more UEs?**

**Q: Does taking second major mean that I am in the double major programme? Can I still take unrestricted electives?**

A: Students are allowed to read extra UE courses. However, this means that you may have to overload, as you still have to fulfil the primary major and CHS Common Curriculum requirements. Please note that there is a 60 Units limit on Level 1000 courses, and the grades for all excess Units read will still be computed towards your GPA, even if the excess courses do not count towards your degree requirements.

**Q: If I intend to take the specialist route, what happens to my UEs?**

A: If you are keen on pursuing the deep specialist pathway, you will likely utilise your UE space to read more higher-level courses in the major you are keen on acquiring deeper knowledge in.

**Q: Can unrestricted electives be any courses from level 1000 to 4000?**

A: Yes, students can read any course from Level 1000 to 4000 as UE, subject to them meeting the course pre-requisites. Please note that there is a 60 Units limit on Level 1000 courses.

**Q: Can I choose to complete the Writing and Digital Literacy courses during my first year instead of reading UE courses?**

A: The sample study plans on the faculty/department's websites only serve as a rough guide, so it is not compulsory to follow the study plans exactly. Please register for your desired courses via CourseReg. Note that the courses that you wish to register for are not guaranteed.

**Q: Can I take a course as a UE in the first semester, then count it towards a minor in subsequent semesters?**

A: Yes, it is possible to use the UE course to fulfil your minor requirement in your second semester onwards.

**Q: How many unrestricted electives do students usually take in a semester?**

A: You can space out the UEs you need to take over the course of your 4 years of studies (8 semesters). There is no fixed rule on the number of UEs you can take in each semester.

**Q: How do I find/search for courses to fulfil my UEs if I do not intend to take a minor or double major?**

A: You may refer to NUSMods, CourseReg, and the department websites for more details on courses that are offered.

#### Section I(vi) – Graduation requirements

**Q: On the NUS website, it says the graduation requirements for NUS itself for the major is 88-110 Units. So do we have to complete a minimum of 60 Units or 88-110 Units?**

A: The modular requirements for a primary major in CHS is 60 Units. For cross-disciplinary programmes, the modular requirements typically exceed 60 Units, depending on each programme.

**Q: Can I take more than 160 Units in the four years?**

A: Yes. You can take courses during special term or take extra courses in a semester. Please note that there is a 60 Units limit on Level 1000 courses, and the grades for all excess Units read will still be computed towards your GPA even if they do not count towards your degree requirements.

Please also note that students are required to graduate when they have completed their requirements.

**Q: If we are doing double major and planning to graduate with honours, what is the minimum requirement for our primary and second major?**

A: For second majors, students need to complete 40 Units (10 courses). You can refer to [Double Major Programmes](#) for more information.

For Double Degree programmes, students need to complete 60 Units each for both primary majors. For more information, please refer to [Double Degree Programmes](#).

**Q: There are 15 courses in the major. If I take a minor (5 courses) in the same major subject, does that mean that I will now have to take another 10 courses only?**

A: No. A minor and a major cannot be from the same subject. Students are required to read 60 Units, or fifteen 4-Unit courses, in their primary major. To complete a minor, students are required to read 20 Units, or five 4-Unit courses. In the event that you are able to double count a course to both primary major and minor requirements, you will have to read an additional course in your UE space to make up so that you can complete the 160 Units degree requirement.

Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: Are CHS students expected to complete 160 Units in 4 years?**

A: Yes. All students admitted into CHS will embark on a 4-year direct honours programme. The recommended workload for each semester is 20 Units.

**Q: Is it possible to graduate early in 7 semesters if I meet all the graduation requirements?**

**Q: If I successfully complete 160 Units in Semester 7, do I need to read Semester 8?**

A: Students are allowed to graduate in 7 semesters and need not do an 8<sup>th</sup> semester if they have fulfilled all requirements on time.

**Q: What is the difference between an honours programme and a non-honours programme?**

A: All CHS degrees are 4-year honours programmes. Students from a non-honours programme can graduate in 3 years with a Bachelor's degree, but this is not applicable in CHS.

**Q: Will we graduate with honours no matter what combination of major / minor we take?**

A: Yes, as long as your GPA meets the [criteria for degree classification](#).

**Q: What is the difference between Units and GPA?**

A: Units refer to workload whereas GPA refers to the average grade received over all the courses you have taken in NUS.

#### [Section I\(vii\) Honours Thesis](#)

**Q: Must the Honours Thesis be related to our major?**

A: Yes. You can only pursue an Honours Thesis for your primary major.

**Q: Will the Honours Thesis count as part of the 60 Units for my primary major?**

A: Yes. Do note that for some majors, the Honours thesis is not compulsory and students may read Honours courses in place of it.

**Q: Is it compulsory to complete an Honours Thesis to graduate with an honours degree in FASS?**

A: The honours thesis is generally optional; you can take Level-4000 courses instead if you do not wish to do an Honours Thesis.

**Q: Do I have to do 2 Honours Theses if I wish to earn a double degree (i.e. in Political Science and History)?**

A: You may do 2 Honours Theses or an integrated HT if the topic overlaps with both majors or not at all; or replace the 8 Units of HT with level-4000 courses for both subject majors.

### Section I(viii) GPA

**Q: Is it easy to fall below 2.0? If I consistently study would there still be a chance of that happening?**

A: No, don't worry! If you are doing consistent work, that is very unlikely to happen. However, do talk to your instructors if you are facing issues.

**Q: How difficult is it to attain a GPA of 4.00 and above? Do most people graduate with that GPA?**

A: Many do, so just do your absolute best! Nevertheless, university is more about gaining experience and exposure. A good GPA alone is not as important as gaining a whole repertoire of experience, exposure and having an outstanding 4 years that prepares you for life.

If you are having difficulty with studies (e.g., lower GPA), do come and talk to us to see how we can help you along your journey. Remember that you can exercise your [S/U option](#) as well.

**Q: Is the GPA calculated after each semester, or do you only have 1 GPA number that is calculated after all your semesters? For example, at the end of Year 4, will my GPA be calculated based on the grades of all Units I have taken in 4 years or only the grades in Year 4?**

A: Your GPA is the cumulative average point of all the courses taken in your 4 years. Your class of honours that you eventually graduate with will be dependent on your GPA.

**Q: How common is it to graduate with Honours (Highest Distinction?)**

**Q: What is the percentage of students who get a GPA of 4.5 and above?**

A: There is no quota. It is based solely on your GPA. It depends on the cohort; we encourage you not to be overly focused on GPA but to immerse yourself in the learning journey and enjoy university life which has so much more to offer than just grades (which are important but not the be all and end all).

**Q: If I fail a course and repeat it, will the previous grade still be used in my GPA?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Will CS/CU courses be counted in my GPA?**

A: No, they are not factored into the GPA computation. Please refer to the information [here](#).

**Q: If we take Units above the minimum requirement (e.g. for first majors, > 60 Units), will the grades from all the courses we have taken be counted towards our GPA or can we choose only the top 15 courses that we have gotten the highest grades in to be counted to the GPA?**

A: All courses taken throughout your candidature will be computed towards your GPA except for courses with no assigned Units or grade points. More information can be found [here](#).

### Section (J) Special Programmes

#### (i) Overview

##### (a) Double major/ second major

**Q: What is the shortest time needed for us to complete a double major?**

A: Within the CHS majors, double majors can be completed within 4 years. If your double degree is within CHS, it can be completed within (8 - 9) semesters for double honours.

**Q: Can I do two gateway courses for my double major simultaneously in my first semester?**

A: Yes, you can as long as the total number of Units does not exceed 23 Units for your first semester (for regular CHS students) and there are no timetable clashes. Please note that only the gateway course for your primary major will be pre-allocated to you. You will have to register for your second major's gateway course on your own during CourseReg.

**Q: If we choose to do a second major in Year 3, will we still be able to finish our degree in 4 years?**

A: Yes, this is possible if you are able to follow your study plan consistently and complete the required courses on time. Please note that you have to declare your second major before the end of your 5<sup>th</sup> semester of study.

**Q: If I declare a second major in Semester 1, is it necessary to read the courses from the declared major in Semester 1?**

A: You need not read courses from the second major in Semester 1 even if you have declared it.

**Q: Can I take a second major in another faculty in Year 2?**

**Q: Am I allowed to take a major that is outside CHS?**

A: CHS students can read a second major or minor offered by other faculties/schools. This is subject to approval, where required, by the respective host department of the second major/minor.

**Q: Is it possible to do a specialisation along with a second major?**

A: Yes, this is possible, but you will probably need to use all your UE space to achieve this.

**Q: Where can I find more information about specialisations with second major?**

A: The second majors and specialisations offered in CHS can be found [here](#). Only certain primary majors offer specialisations. Please note that second majors are not offered with specialisations.

**Q: Is it possible to do the honours thesis as a double major student?**

A: Only for the first major but not for the second major.

**Q: Can we pursue any second major/minor offered by CHS?**

**Q: Are there only a select few combinations of majors and minors that we are allowed to choose from (as shown on the specific department websites)?**

A: You are free to decide which second major or minor to take. To clarify, pursuing a second major/minor is optional. The combinations found on department websites are usually common combinations chosen by past students.

**Q: If we do a double major, can we graduate with honours?**

A: You will graduate with an Honours degree associated with your primary major, subject to a minimum GPA attainment.

**Q: How do I tell whether my second major is a contrasting major or not?**

A: Contrasting majors refer to majors that are associated with different degree types (i.e. Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Sciences, or Bachelor of Science). Do note that the first and second majors need not be contrasting for a double major programme. Only DDPs require contrasting primary majors.

**Q: What is the difference between double degree and a double major / second major?**

A: In short, students enrolled in double degree programmes will have to complete 60 Units for each major, and they will earn two degrees. On the other hand, students pursuing a double major programme have to complete 60 Units for the primary major and 40 Units for the second major.

Double major students will only earn one degree, and the degree type will be based on the primary major.



**Q: How many Units do we have to fulfil for a second major?**

**Q: How many Units are there in total for a double major?**

A: A second major requirement is 40 Units (i.e. ten 4-Unit courses). Double major students are expected to complete a total workload of 160 Units to graduate.

**Q: What is the difference between Path 1 and Path 2 found at [Multiple Pathways to Graduation](#).**

A: Path 1 gives you two degrees (e.g., BSc and BA), whereas in Path 2, you get a single degree (BSc) and two majors. For example, if your primary major is Life Sciences and your second major is Psychology, and you choose to follow Path 2, you will have one degree but two majors. However, if you are reading two contrasting primary majors (15 courses each) and choose to follow Path 1 by applying for a DDP, you can earn a double degree.

**Q: For FASS double major students, are we only able to take one course from our first major in the first semester?**

A: This depends on whether you are pre-allocated FAS1101 in your first semester of study.

**Q: If we have declared a second major, does this mean that we would be allocated two different gateway courses for Semester 1?**

A: No, only the gateway course for the primary major will be pre-allocated.

**Q: If we were to take 60 Units in our second major, similar to our primary major, would it then be reflected on the degree scroll?**

A: A second major/minor will only be reflected on your transcript but not on your degree scroll. There will not be any special mention if you have read more courses than required for the second major/minor.

**Q: Will my second major (or minors) be shown on my degree?**

A: The second major or minor will be reflected on the official academic transcript, but not on the degree scroll itself.

**Q: What is the difference between a primary major and second major? Is the “placing” important?**

**Q: What is the difference in credit for primary major and second major? How does it affect our transcript and job prospects in the placing?**

A: Primary major comprises 60 Units (i.e. fifteen 4-Unit courses). Second majors are optional and comprises 40 Units (i.e. ten 4-Unit courses). The second major will be reflected on the official academic transcript, but not on the degree scroll itself. Yes, so the “placing” is therefore important.

**Q: How can I know the courses I need to take for the second major?**

A: You may check the requirements for your second major on the website of the department offering it.

**Q: Does taking a second major mean that I am in the double major programme? Can I still take unrestricted electives?**

A: Yes. If you are doing a second major (on top of your first major), you will be pursuing a double major. You may still read Unrestricted Electives, as a second major usually takes up 40 Units, which is smaller than your UE space of 48 Units.

**Q: I just read that it may be possible to do a second major as well as a specialisation from the primary major. Is this only possible if double-counted courses are read?**

A: You can do a primary major specialisation and a second major regardless of whether there is double-counting. However, it is likely that you may have to overload and do more than the regular workload of 160 Units.

Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.



**Q: Is there a minimum GPA to take a second major?**

A: No, students may declare a second major as early as in the first semester. However, if a student is not doing well and GPA is low, we would advise the student to drop the second major and focus on the primary major, as the degree is associated with the student's primary major.

**Q: Is the workload of a double major student heavier than that of a single major student by 3 courses?**

A: No, both single major and double major students are expected to complete 160 Units in total.

**Q: If there are pre-requisites to taking the second major, will the pre-requisite courses be counted towards the 40 Units second major requirement?**

A: This is dependent on the department offering the second major requirements. Please kindly check the respective department's website for more details.

**Q: Is Psychology & Life Sciences a double major or double degree since one is a social science subject, and the other is a science subject.**

**Q: If a second major is taken from a different faculty, will that automatically be considered a double degree? If not, what would you have to do to declare it as a second degree?**

A: Psychology and Life Sciences can be pursued as a double major or a double degree requirement. Do note that the requirements for a second major and a double degree are different. Second major requires 40 Units of courses in the second major requirements, while a double degree requires you to complete both sets of primary major requirements for two contrasting majors. Please write to your home faculty if you wish to pursue a double degree.

**Q: Can I declare a second major in my second year?**

A: Yes, students have up to their fifth semester to change their major, second major, or minor.

**Q: How do I apply for a major outside of CHS?**

A: Please find out from the respective faculties' websites.

**Q: Can I declare a second major so that I will get higher priority for a course that I would like to try?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Will I be able to retract a Second Major under my declaration plan at any time?**

A: You may only do so in the APD exercise, up until your fifth semester.

**Q: If I had indicated Business as a second major in my application, will the courses I need to take to fulfil the Business major appear in CourseReg Round 1? Or do I have to manually choose the Business courses in CourseReg?**

A: You would have to manually choose the Biz courses in CourseReg.

**Q: If I want to take up a second major or minor, should I declare it first? Are the second major or minor courses pre-allocated to me?**

A: You are advised to declare it so that you are able to see the courses ahead of other students in certain rounds (subject to course host settings). However, even if you do not declare it as your second major or minor, you will still be allowed to register for most courses, provided that you meet the pre-requisites. Please note that second major or minor courses are not pre-allocated. This means that you will still have to register for them on your own during the CourseReg exercise.

[\(b\) Restricted Minor / Second Major](#)

**Q: Are all majors and minors in CHS unrestricted?**

A: Please refer to this [page](#) for more information.

**Q: Can we declare a restricted minor/second major in Semester 1?**

**Q: How do we declare a restricted second major/minor?**

**Q: Can I declare a restricted second major during the APD?**

**Q: When should I apply for restricted second majors/minors (e.g. Nutrition)? Before Year 1 Semester 2 or Year 2 Semester 1?**

**Q: As a FASS student, how can I declare a second major/minor in business?**

**Q: Do we have to declare interest in a restricted minor in this round of academic plan declaration, even though we have yet to take the pre-requisite course?**

A: For restricted minors/second majors, the earliest you can apply for it is during the Reading Week of Semester 1 for admission into the programmes with effect from Semester 2. Please refer to [Academic Plan Application/Declaration](#) for more information for enrolment into a restricted programme (e.g. Restricted Minor or Second Major).

It is up to you to decide which semester you wish to join the restricted programme. However, please do ensure that you will be able to complete the requirements of the programme in time. Please check the respective Faculties/departments websites for the application timeline and instructions.

For the Academic Plan Declaration held at the start of the semester, you may only declare second majors or minors that are open programmes.

**Q: I would like to pursue a restricted second major. How can I bid for the courses (pre-requisite courses for that major)? Can I declare it as a minor first so that priority is given to me during bidding?**

A: You may only apply for the restricted second major in Reading Week. Meanwhile, you can register for the courses during CourseReg, provided that you meet the pre-requisites required of the minor.

**Q: If my tagged second major is restricted, would I be able to drop it to a minor via the Academic Plan Declaration or would I still need to seek permission?**

A: You would be able to drop it totally during the Academic Plan Declaration exercise. However, please note that once you have dropped a restricted programme, you will have to apply for it should you wish to pursue the programme again. Acceptance into the programme is dependent on the host department and is not guaranteed, even if you had been accepted into it before.

#### [\(c\) Minor](#)

**Q: Is it possible to take two languages as minors (e.g. German and French)?**

**Q: Is a language minor an open or restricted minor (e.g. Malay)?**

A: You may take two languages as minors. Language minors are open minors.

**Q: How many minors can I take per semester? What do you think is the recommended number of minors?**

A: In principle, you have enough unrestricted elective space to do up to two minors. You can take courses associated with a minor across your candidature.

**Q: Can I take more than two minors?**

A: You may declare up to three minors.

**Q: If I declare a minor in Semester 1, is it necessary to take minor courses in Semester 1?**

**Q: Can I start taking courses to fulfil my minor in Year 1?**

**Q: Can I start to do a minor from Year 2 or Year 3?**

A: For open minors, students will be able to declare them in the APD exercise as long as they have fulfilled the pre-requisites, if any. You may declare a minor before the end of your second year. Taking two minors

does not require special approval. Minor courses can be taken in Year 1 if you still have course space remaining after the pre-allocation of the CHS Common Curriculum courses and the primary major gateway courses. While you need not start reading the minor courses upon declaration of the minor, you do need to ensure that you can complete the minor requirements in time before graduation.

For restricted minors, you will have to apply separately before being able to declare it.

**Q: Can I take a course as an Unrestricted Elective in the first semester and decide to declare the minor using that course in the second semester?**

A: Yes, it is possible to use the course to fulfil your minor requirement in your second semester.

**Q: Is there a difference if I take up language courses under UEs versus taking up language studies as a minor?**

A: No. They will all be classified as UEs. However, your transcript will list your minor if you have declared and completed it.

**Q: How are the grades for the minor courses counted?**

A: They will be included in your GPA computation.

**Q: Are minor courses counted as UEs?**

**Q: Do minors fall under UEs?**

A: In general, Minor courses will come from the UE if they are not double-counted. Please refer to [this](#) for a better understanding on double-counting.

**Q: Can I do a minor in Nutrition? It is not available as an option in the APD.**

A: Nutrition is a restricted minor that is not opened for declaration at the moment. The earliest you can apply to be in the minor program would be during reading week of Semester 1, and if accepted, you will be enrolled in the minor program from Semester 2.

**Q: If I want to pursue double minors, how do I plan my timetable and how many Units do I have to take for these two minors?**

A: If you take 2 minors (20 Units each), it will be a total of 40 Units in total (about ten 4-Unit courses) which you can still fit within the 48 Units of UE space in general. Hence, you could still plan with the typical workload of 20 to 24 Units per semester.

**Q: Is it possible to take a gateway course for a minor/major in the second or third year of the course?**

A: While you may read a gateway course for a minor or major in the second or third year of the course, you are advised to read it earlier as most higher level courses may require the gateway course as a pre-requisite.

**Q: What is the difference between a restricted minor and a typical minor?**

**Q: What are the differences between open and restricted Majors/Minors?**

A: A restricted minor requires a separate application to the department offering the minor. An Open minor does not require application; you can simply declare it in the University's APD system. Please refer to [Academic Plan Application/Declaration](#) for more information.

**Q: When will we know the pre-requisites for restricted minors?**

A: Please check the department's website hosting the minor.

**Q: How many courses are we supposed to read each semester? Will taking minors increase the number of courses we have to take each semester?**

A: Normally, students read a workload of 20 Units (five courses) per semester. You may read minor courses to fulfil your UE requirements so your workload does not necessarily have to increase with careful planning.

(d) [Double Degree](#)

Please refer to this [page](#) for more information on Double Degree Programmes (DDP). Other useful resources – [DDP Framework and Guidelines](#) and [CHS website](#) (for CHS-DDPs).

**Q: What is the difference between double degree and a double major / second major?**

**Q: How many Units do I have to take in total for a double degree vs a double major?**

A: In short, students enrolled in double degree programmes will have to complete 60 Units for each major, and they will earn two degrees. The total workload may range from 160 Units to 172 Units.

On the other hand, students pursuing a double major programme have to complete 60 Units for the primary major and 40 Units for the second major. Double major students have to complete a minimum of 160 Units, and they will only earn one degree associated with the primary major.

**Q: What defines a contrasting major?**

**Q: What are the requirements of a contrasting major?**

A: They are majors associated with different degree types, i.e., Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Science, or Bachelor of Science.

**Q: Why are we not allowed to take a double degree in two non-contrasting majors?**

A: If two majors are non-contrasting, then it means that they are associated with the same degree type. It is not possible to earn two degrees of the same type in CHS. For example, it is possible to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree, or a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Science degree, but it is not possible to earn two Bachelor of Arts degrees.

**Q: If I am doing a structured DDP and there are clashes between pre allocated courses from two different faculties, who do I contact? If I need help planning my study plan, where can I seek help?**

A: You may send an email to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg), [fashelp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:fashelp@nus.edu.sg) (for FASS DDPs) or [askscience@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askscience@nus.edu.sg) (for FoS DDPs).

**Q: Who should we reach out to when designing our own double degree combination?**

A: You may email [fashelp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:fashelp@nus.edu.sg).

**Q: Who do I talk to if I want to take a DDP, for example, Life Sciences with Geography?**

A: If your primary major is Life Sciences, then you can apply for DDP (self-designed) by writing in to [askscience@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askscience@nus.edu.sg) at the end of completing 60 Units with your study plan. For more information on self-designed DDP, please refer to [this](#).

**Q: Can I do a specialisation together with a double degree?**

**Q: Can we take double majors and 2 specialisations?**

A: Yes. Depending on the majors, you may have to read extra courses, beyond 160 Units, and possibly take an extra semester.

**Q: May I check if it is possible to declare a second major and apply for a second degree in the declared second major?**

A: Yes, so long as the second major is a contrasting major.

**Q: Am I allowed to take double degree in Psychology and Business?**

A: Yes.

**Q: How and when can we apply for a double degree? Can we apply for it in my second year of study?**

**Q: When do I need to declare my double degree? Can I first declare it as a second major first before declaring it as double degree?**

**Q: Who should I contact to talk about self-designed DDPs?**

A: You can apply for a double degree by emailing the respective faculties of both majors (and note that you can only do a double degree with contrastive majors within CHS). Students should have completed between 60 Units and 80 Units (or around your 3rd or 4th semester of study) and have fulfilled the requirements listed at [CHS website](#) (for CHS-DDPs) at the point of application.

You may also choose to declare a double major first. For CHS DDPs, if you wish to upgrade your double major to a second degree, please write in to [fashelp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:fashelp@nus.edu.sg) after completing 60 Units and meeting the requirements listed at [CHS website \(for CHS-DDPs\)](#).

**Q: Will there be any requirements (e.g. interviews or tests) for us to have a double degree or minor in a different school from CHS?**

A: Please check with the department hosting the second degree or minor.

**Q: For the application of double degree programme, do we have to take courses from the intended second degree in the first semester?**

A: Not strictly necessary. However, there are ways to optimize study plans for double degree programs. You can consult an academic advisor at the Dean's Office for more information.

**Q: If we are already taking a double degree with CHS and another faculty, are we still able to further take a second major or minor with CHS?**

A: If you are a double degree student, your workload will already be heavier than that a single degree student. It is theoretically possible but you should focus on the two sets of degree requirements first.

**Q: What is the shortest timeframe needed to complete a double degree? Can we finish double degree within four years?**

**Q: After we successfully apply for a double degree (one in FoS and another in FASS), how many years will I be given to complete the graduation requirements?**

**Q: How long does a double degree program normally take?**

**Q: Are DDPs still typically completed in 5 years, or does CHS enable us to expedite it in 4 years?**

**Q: Will going for a double honours in a double degree with a contrasting major result in requiring 5 years of study to graduate?**

A: The normal candidature for double degree programmes is 5 years but it is possible to complete a CHS double degree in 4 to 4.5 years. If your double degree is within CHS, it can be completed within (8 to 9) semesters for double honours. Thus, you may not need 5 years to complete a double degree given the new curriculum structure and major requirements. You are allowed to take longer but please note that there are [tuition fee implications](#).

**Q: Is a double degree more expensive than a single degree/double major?**

A: The fees charged in a semester are the same. However, a DDP is more expensive as you may take one or two semesters more to complete the degree requirements.

**Q: What is the Units requirements for double degree?**

**Q: Do we complete 60 Units from two contrasting majors to be considered a double degree?**

**Q: For a double degree (both majors in CHS), is the required number of Units 360? Would we need to take the CHS Common Curriculum twice?**

**Q: What is the course requirements for double degrees?**

**Q: For a double degree, do we need to clear 15 courses for each degree?**

**Q: To qualify for a double degree, do we read 10 courses for the contrasting major? Or do we need to fulfil 15 courses like our primary major?**

**Q: If I take two contrasting majors, how does the double degree programme work? Do I have to take 60 Units for both majors?**

**Q: If I pursue a double degree (and have to read 2 contrasting majors at the "first major" level), does that**

**mean I will end up doing a minimum of 180 Units?**

A: Double degree students have to complete both sets of Primary major requirements (60 Units for each CHS major) and one set of CHS Common Curriculum courses (52 Units). Students will have to apply if they wish to do a DDP (for two contrasting majors).

**Q: What is the maximum number of Units a DDP student can take in Year 1 Semester 1?**

**Q: What is the maximum number of courses that a Biz-Economics DDP student take in each semester?**

A: For students who have been admitted to the structured DDPs, the maximum workload is 27 Units for the first semester of study.

**Q: Do DDP students need to do all 13 CHS Common Curriculum courses, if the first or second degree is not from CHS?**

A: DDP students are expected to fulfil only one set of CHS Common Curriculum requirements. However, depending on the host faculty of your other degree, you may be allowed to map core courses to the CHS Common Curriculum. Please check with the DDP coordinator of your home faculty for more details.

**Q: If I want to pursue a double degree/double major, should I take gateway courses for both majors this semester?**

A: You may do so if you still have course space after the CHS Common Curriculum courses and gateway courses have been pre-allocated to you.

**Q: Do we need to complete the Honours level courses for both majors in a double degree programme?**

A: If both degrees are offered in CHS, then both degrees have to be completed till the Honours level. If you are pursuing a DDP with CHS and another faculty, then it may be possible that the non-CHS degree may be pursued either as an honours or non-honours degree. If it is a non-Honours degree, you will not need to complete the Honours level courses for that degree.

**Q: Is my honours year project based on the combination of two majors if I am pursuing a double degree?**

A: Depending on the double degree programme (DDP), it may be possible to do an integrated Honours project. Please check with the DDP coordinator when applying for DDP.

**Q: What is the difference between Path 1 and Path 2 at [Multiple Pathways to Graduation](#)?**

A: Path 1 gives you two degrees (e.g., BSc and BA), whereas in Path 2, you get a single degree (BSc) and two majors. For example, if your primary major is Life Sciences and your second major is Psychology, and you choose to follow Path 2, you will have one degree but two majors. However, if you are reading two contrasting primary majors (15 courses each) and choose to follow Path 1 by applying for a DDP, you can earn a double degree.

**Q: What would happen if we do not maintain a GPA of 3.50, in a double degree program?**

A: You will be issued with a warning letter. Please refer to the [continuation requirements for DDPs](#) for the continuation policy for DDP.

**Q: If I apply to go overseas for a year under the NUS Overseas College program, will that make me fall behind in taking Units contributing to my double degrees?**

A: Yes. As the second degree will take up your UE space, the NOC credits earned will be counted towards your UE requirements instead of the primary major requirements in your first or second degree. Hence, you will have an excess of UE courses, and you may need to overload before or after you embark on your NOC programme to make up for your major requirements. Furthermore, there will also be [tuition fee implications](#).

[\(e\) Specialisations](#)



**Q: Can I declare a specialisation only in my second year?**

**Q: Do we need to declare our specialisation in the first year during the APD?**

**Q: Are we allowed to change our specialisation declaration after declaring it in the first year?**

A: Specialisations can always be added or dropped at the beginning of each semester all the way until your graduating semester. However, you should plan what specialisation you wish to pursue from Year 2.

**Q: Is it compulsory or optional to take a specialisation?**

**Q: Is selection for a specialisation mandatory?**

A: Optional.

**Q: Is it possible to take more than one specialisation?**

**Q: Can I have double specialisation?**

A: Yes, so long as you can cope. Your additional specialisation will count under your UE space. In addition, please ensure that there are no more than 8 Units overlapping between the specialisations.

**Q: I just read that it may be possible to do a second major as well as a specialisation from the primary major. Is this only possible if courses that I read are double-counted?**

A: You can do a primary major specialisation and a second major regardless of whether there is double-counting. Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: Is it possible to take major (with specialisation) + minor, or major (with specialisation) + second major? If so, is it possible to graduate with 160 Units, or do I need to read more courses?**

**Q: Can we take double major and two specialisations?**

**Q: Is it possible to take a primary major with two specialisations plus a second major without overloading?**

A: If you pursue a major (with specialisation) and a minor, it is possible to graduate with 160 Units. However, to complete a major (with specialisation) and a second major, it is most likely that you have to read more than 160 Units, meaning that you may have to overload or do an extra semester.

**Q: Can you do both a specialisation and double degree? I am planning to do a specialisation in Life Sciences with a second major in Psychology.**

A: Yes. However, you will most probably need to overload or extend your candidature.

**Q: If I want to take a specialisation in my primary major, can I still take a second major or even a second degree?**

**Q: Are there students who specialise (e.g. Life Sciences with a Specialisation in Biomedical Science) and then use the remaining UE to study a second major/minor? Do they use up all their Units on their specialisation?**

A: A specialisation only consists of 20 Units, whereas CHS students have 48 Units UE space. Therefore, it is possible for students with specialisations to use their remaining UEs to do other courses. However, you will most likely be required to overload or extend your candidature if you wish to pursue a second major.

**Q: If I do a second major in Life Sciences, will I be able to specialise in it?**

A: Yes, specialisations are only for primary majors.

**Q: Can I do a specialisation with a minor?**

A: Yes.

**Q: When can we start choosing our specialisation?**

A: As early as Semester 1, through the APD exercise.

**Q: If we pursue a specialisation, can we complete our degree within 4 years (160 Units)?**

**Q: How many additional semesters are required for specialisation?**

A: Students who have declared a specialisation can complete their degrees within the normal candidature of 4 years (160 Units). Courses read for a specialisation will fall under the UE space.

**Q: If I choose to do a specialisation, will it be indicated in my degree?**

**Q: Will our degree scroll show our specialisations together with the primary major?**

A: Specialisations will appear on your official transcript but not on your degree scroll.

**Q: Will selecting a specialisation in Semester 1 mean that the specialisation courses will be pre-allocated to us?**

A: No, declaring a specialisation does not result in more courses under the specialisation being pre-allocated to you. That being said, you are allowed to declare your specialisation in your later years.

**Q: If I take the Deep Specialist pathway, does this mean that I can use the UE space to pursue my specialisation, such as taking specialisation elective courses?**

A: Yes.

#### [\(f\) Concurrent Degree Programmes \(CDP\)](#)

**Q: How can I sign up for the concurrent degree program? Is it hard to get in? Are there pre-requisites?**

A: It depends on which concurrent degree program you would be interested in. Please refer to [Concurrent Degree Programmes](#) for the details.

**Q: Is it possible to take a second major if we plan to do the vet program?**

A: Please consult the department offering the Concurrent Degree Programme on the feasibility of doing so.

#### [\(g\) Cross-disciplinary Programmes \(XDP\)](#)

##### [General](#)

**Q: Would a XDP and NUSC student take fewer Units for CHS courses than a typical CHS student?**

A: Students in XDP and NUSC can fulfil some of their CHS Common curriculum courses through their respective programmes. Please refer to website [here](#).

**Q: Does a primary major in XDPs require only 60 Units? I saw on the website that for DSE, 96 Units are required.**

A: No, the XDPs are around the size of a double major (or just below that). They are different.

**Q: Can we declare a XDP as a major in the APD if we did not apply for it at the point of admission to NUS?**

A: XDPs cannot be declared during the APD exercise if you did not apply for it during the admissions exercise. However, there is midstream admission for the XDPs, and more information can be found [here](#).

##### [PPE-XDP](#)

**Q: What are the steps to enter the PPE-XDP, as I was not offered direct admission?**

**Q: Can we pursue PPE-XDP and a Social Science major as a double degree, since they are associated with different degree types?**

**Q: If I want to pursue PPE based on Year 1 results, do I need to declare PPE as my major in the first semester?**

A: Please refer to the [programme website](#) or contact the programme host for further clarifications.



(h) [NUS College \(NUSC\)](#)

**Q: Would a XDP and NUSC student take fewer Units for CHS courses than a typical CHS student?**

A: Students in XDP and NUSC can fulfil some of their CHS Common curriculum courses through their respective programmes. NUSC students may refer to website [here](#).

**Q: For NUSC students, will the overlapping CHS courses be automatically mapped to our special programme, or do we need to map them ourselves?**

A: Certain courses read for NUSC requirements can be used to satisfy CHS Common Curriculum requirements automatically. No special mapping will be required.

**Q: What is the maximum Units that a NUSC student could take for the first semester?**

**Q: I understand that the max Units a Year 1 student can take in first semester is 23 Units, however if I am in other programmes (such as NUSC), will I be able to overload?**

A: Students in selected special programmes like concurrent degree programmes, double degree programmes, NUSC or Special Programme in Science can read up to 27 Units in their first semester.

**Q: Will NUSC students still be pre-allocated CHS courses from which they are exempted?**

**Q: Some pre-allocated CHS courses mentioned are exempted for students taking NUSC. Does this mean that NUSC students will not be pre-allocated these courses?**

A: NUSC students who are exempted from the CHS courses will not be pre-allocated those courses.

**Q: For NUSC students, since we need not take HSS1000/HSI1000 and DTK1234, we will not be pre-allocated these courses? Do we need to register for the NUSC courses on our own or will they be pre-allocated to us too?**

A: NUSC students will not be pre-allocated with CHS courses that they are exempted from. DTK1234 will still be pre-allocated based on your Student ID. For Cohorts 2025 and after, HSA1000 will also be pre-allocated based on your Student ID. You may refer to the [pre-allocation guidelines by cohort](#) for more information. For NUSC course registration, please contact NUSC for more details.

(i) [Residential Colleges \(UTCP & RVRC\)](#)

**Q: If I am in the UTCP, do I have to take the CHS Common Curriculum courses?**

A: Please refer to the latest Bulletin page for UTCP for information about how UTCP interfaces with CHS Common Curriculum. The link to Bulletin for AY25/26 is [here](#).

**Q: For UTCP students, will the overlapping CHS courses be automatically mapped to our special programme, or do we need to map them ourselves?**

**Q: Will we be pre-allocated certain core courses if we are enrolled into special programmes that offer courses in the same area (e.g. UTCP, NUSC)?**

A: Certain courses read for the UTCP/RVRC requirements can be used to satisfy CHS Common Curriculum requirements automatically. No special mapping will be required. Students will be exempted from reading the corresponding CHS Common Curriculum course and will not be pre-allocated it. Please refer to this [page](#) for more information.

**Q: How do you slot in a UTCP course in Year 1 Semester 2 according to the study plan?**

**Q: How are we able to take the UTCP course in Semester 2, if we have to take the pre-allocated courses and courses for our major? Do we have to overload too?**

A: The study plan provided is just a guideline. You are allowed to overload if necessary. Please note that the maximum workload you can have from the second semester onwards is dependent on your GPA.

**Q: If I want to apply for UTCP in my second year, what will happen to my CHS Common Curriculum courses**

**that I have already taken in the first year?**

A: The courses read will be considered as UE.

**Q: Will Data Literacy be exempted for students under UTCP?**

A: Please refer to the latest Bulletin page for UTCP for information about how UTCP interfaces with CHS Common Curriculum. The link to Bulletin for AY25/26 is [here](#).

**Q: If I am under the RVRC programme, will I have to drop the pre-allocated CHS Common Curriculum courses, since some RVRC courses can be mapped onto the CHS Common Curriculum?**

**Q: RVRC offer courses that map to the Writing requirement of the CHS Common Curriculum. Can I read the relevant RVRC course in place of FAS1101?**

A: Only the integrated courses, GEA1000 and DTK1234, will be pre-allocated. These courses do not map to the RVRC curriculum. If you find that you have been pre-allocated a course that you should be exempted from, please write to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg).

#### [\(j\) Language Preparation Programme \(LPP\)](#)

**Q: What are the course differences for LPP students?**

A: LPP students have to start their language training from the first semester of study so they may have to tweak their study plans.

**Q: LPP students will only take the writing course in Year 2 Semester 1. Would we be disadvantaged?**

A: We do not think so. However, if you are concerned, you may submit an appeal to do the writing course earlier, if you still have Units space to read it in Year 1.

**Q: Do LPP students take the language course in Year 1 Semester 1?**

**Q: If I signed for German LPP, will that also be pre-allocated to my courses as well?**

A: The language courses will be pre-allocated to you. If not, you will not be able to complete the proficiency level for your SEP.

**Q: If I am under the LPP, where are the language courses parked under?**

A: They will be parked under the Unrestricted Electives space.

**Q: Is there a difference if I take language courses under UEs versus taking up language studies as a minor?**

**Q: If I am under the LPP, will the language course be seen under UE?**

A: They will all be classified as UEs.

**Q: If I declare my Major and am in the LPP, does this mean I will have only 3 pre-allocated courses from the Common Core/Integrated Courses on-top of the introductory course for my declared Major and pre-allocated language course since we can only have a maximum of 5 courses in Semester 1 Year 1?**

A: Yes, possibly. You only need to register for the tutorial slots.

#### [Section J\(ii\) Double Counting](#)

**Q: I saw from the website that some Units can be double-counted. Does it mean that I can do a total of less than 160 Units?**

A: No, students need to accumulate at least 160 Units to graduate. If there is double-counting, students will need to make-up in their UE space by reading other courses to accumulate 160 Units of unique Units. Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: Can courses from my primary major be counted as part of UE courses?**

A: If you have completed over and beyond the 60 Units of primary major requirement, the excess major courses you have taken will be counted towards your UE requirement.

**Q: How do I know which courses will be double counted?**

A: Please check the websites of the departments for the list of recognised courses. Depending on the major/second major/minors, courses that are listed in both programmes can be "double counted". The Units are only counted once.

For more information on double counting rules, you can refer to [Double Major Programmes](#) and [Minor Programmes](#). For further explanation on double-counting, please refer to this [page](#).

**Q: If one of the CHS Common Curriculum courses is also part of my major requirement, can I double count that course to both my CHS and major requirement?**

A: Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: If I am planning to take two majors and they both require the same course, am I allowed to double count it to both requirements?**

**Q: If some of my courses in primary major are double counted for my second major, does that mean I still have to take more courses in my second major to fulfil my minimum 40 Units requirement, or can it be courses from my primary major, as long as it is 160 Units minimum?**

A: Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: I read that a maximum of 2 courses can be double counted (e.g. Geography course under Urban Studies minor). Does this mean if I read that Geography course, 4 Units can be counted to my Geography major requirement and 4 Units to my Urban Studies minor requirement? Does this also mean that a total of 8 Units out of 160 Units can be fulfilled?**

**Q: I understand that double-counting of courses is possible (e.g., MNO1706X from Management can be counted as a CNM Level 2000 course). However, I heard that it is still 4 Units counted towards 160 Units. Does this then mean that instead of reducing the total number of courses you need to take in your 4 years of study, it instead frees up your UE slots for other courses?**

A: Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: I understand that up to 2 courses can double count towards both major and minor requirements. If I would like to take 2 minors, can I double count 2 courses per minor or 2 courses in total?**

A: You may double count up to two courses per minor, if there is indeed so much overlap. For further explanation on double-counting, please refer to this [page](#).

**Q: How many courses can be double counted for a double major in Mathematics and Economics?**

A: Please refer to this [page](#) for more information on double major in Mathematics and Economics. You may also refer to [Double Major Programmes](#) and this [document](#) which offers an in-depth explanation of double-counting.

## [Section K - General Questions](#)

### [Section K\(i\) Course Transfer](#)

**Q: How do I check if I can transfer some Units I took in another university to cover some of the common core courses in NUS?**

A: Units taken from another university can at most fulfil the major courses if you have obtained approval

for the mapping. Mapping to CHS common courses is not allowed. If you wish to seek major course mapping, please write in to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg) before the start of the term for your request to be evaluated in a timely manner.

**Q: As most of the courses will be pre-allocated in the first year, does it mean that we cannot transfer to other faculties due to the fact we did not read any of their pre-requisites?**

**Q: If almost all courses are pre-allocated in the first year, does it mean that it is impossible to transfer to other faculties because we did not read their gateway courses?**

A: Not all courses will be pre-allocated in the first semester. You will normally have 3 or at most 4 courses pre-allocated so there is still space to choose at least one more course of your choice. You still may seek a transfer. The CHS Common Curriculum courses will count towards your General Education or UE requirement of the new degree.

**Q: If I am appealing to transfer to another Faculty/School, and the result will only be given in the next 1-2 weeks, should I complete my APD first or await the result? In the latter, does it mean I am at a disadvantage for CourseReg?**

A: Yes, please proceed assuming the worst-case scenario.

#### Section K(ii) Study Plan

**Q: Will there be a comprehensive guide to planning the courses we take throughout our future with NUS?**

**Q: Where and when can I check the sample study plan?**

A: You may refer to the department's website for detailed on the courses offered. For FASS majors, please refer to [here](#). For FoS majors, please refer to the respective department websites for major-specific sample study plans.

**Q: How does pairing of courses work?**

A: If you are referring to the [pre-allocation of CHS Common Curriculum Courses](#), the pairing is related to how courses are pre-allocated. For example, if you are pre-allocated HSS1000 in Semester 1, you will be pre-allocated HSH1000 in Semester 2.

**Q: I am interested in taking a double major with my primary major in FASS and second major in FoS. Does that mean that I follow the FASS study plan and am pre-allocated 1 gateway course for my primary major in Year 1 Semester 1 and I wait for Semester 2 to try the gateway course for my second major? In addition, will we be pre-allocated courses for second majors?**

A: Yes. However, please note that the sample study plans serve only as a general guide. Note that students will not be pre-allocated courses for their second major.

#### Section K (iii) Miscellaneous

**Q: Will the contents of the slides be available elsewhere for reference later?**

A: The recording of the orientation will be uploaded to the NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences YouTube channel. Please look out for that in the coming weeks after the orientation.

**Q: Where do I log in to check my student email?**

A: Please refer to the NUS IT website [here](#).

**Q: Who should I contact for course planning queries?**

A: You may refer to the respective major department's website for the sample study plan. Please email to [askchs@nus.edu.sg](mailto:askchs@nus.edu.sg) if you still require clarification.

**Q: If I fail a pre-requisite course, will I be allowed to repeat the course?**

A: Yes, students can read any course that they have failed previously. However, do note that the previous failed courses will still appear on your transcript and be computed into your GPA.

**Q: Where do we find the list of courses needed to fulfil our primary major requirements?**

A: Please refer to the department website of your primary major.

**Q: Certain majors are popular, such as Data Science and Psychology. Is there a limit for students for each major to ensure a more balanced learning environment?**

**Q: If there is a major which is oversubscribed, will CHS try to reduce the number of people who can declare this major? In other words, is there a possibility that we do not get the major that we declare?**

A: There is no quota for any of the CHS unrestricted majors. However, for restricted programmes, an application is required for entry into the programme. However, class sizes are capped to ensure a balanced learning environment.

**Q: For Economics major, will we miss out important knowledge related to Economics if we take ST1131 instead of EC2303?**

A: Unlikely.

**Q: Is Psychology very competitive? Do they always resort to balloting due to high demand?**

A: The department would have planned for sufficient places for all major students.

**Q: What are the common combinations students take if they are majoring in Psychology?**

A: Many Psychology majors do a second major in Social Work or Life Sciences, but you should not feel constrained by what others have done. The choice is yours.

**Q: I read on the website for information on Psychology graduation requirements and one of it is "A minimum of 4 Units at levels-2000 or 3000 (excluding the courses above), with a maximum of 1 PL-recognised course." Does this mean I can only double count 1 course from another major, say social work?**

A: Yes, this is correct. The Psychology website contains such a list of recognised courses. Please refer to this [document](#) which has an in-depth explanation of double-counting for more information.

**Q: Will reducing 100 Units major requirement to 60 Units make CHS students less competitive in their professional fields?**

A: If the job you are applying to really needs you to have that much training in the particular major, then, do not be shy to max out your UE with that major. However, many jobs do not actually need that kind of specialisation. On the other hand, having some additional contrasting skillsets can be a big advantage.

**Q: Will I be at a disadvantage if I want to pursue PhD but I do not take the deep specialist track?**

A: This depends on the particular subject. You are advised to do more research about the particular subject(s) you have in mind and speak to your professors with PhDs in that subject.

**Q: Is it possible to read a PhD directly in NUS after getting the BA degree?**

A: It is possible; however, please seek the advice of professors teaching the relevant programs/subjects.

**Q: If I plan to take a Master's in Clinical Psychology, would it be more beneficial if I am a deep specialist compared to a versatelist?**

A: There is no one correct answer here. You should have a good honours degree, but what is really important is evidence of research skills and experience, as well as work/research experience that is relevant to clinical Psychology. You should also have strong interpersonal and communication skills.

**Q: What if I want to take courses or an internship during the December break, will I get an exemption from ICT?**

A: This is not permissible.

**Q: Can we do internships not linked to the majors through the NUS portal?**

A: Yes.

**Q: What is the weightage of each component "A", "B", "C" since it is multiplicative? For example, a year 3 student selecting a minor course versus Year 1 having selecting it as part of their major.**

A: This is an algorithm not made known to students.

---