



**NUS**  
National University  
of Singapore

College of Design  
and Engineering



# CDE Freshman Welcome 2025

## Academic Briefing

Office of Undergraduate Programmes  
CDE Dean's Office

# Outline



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National University  
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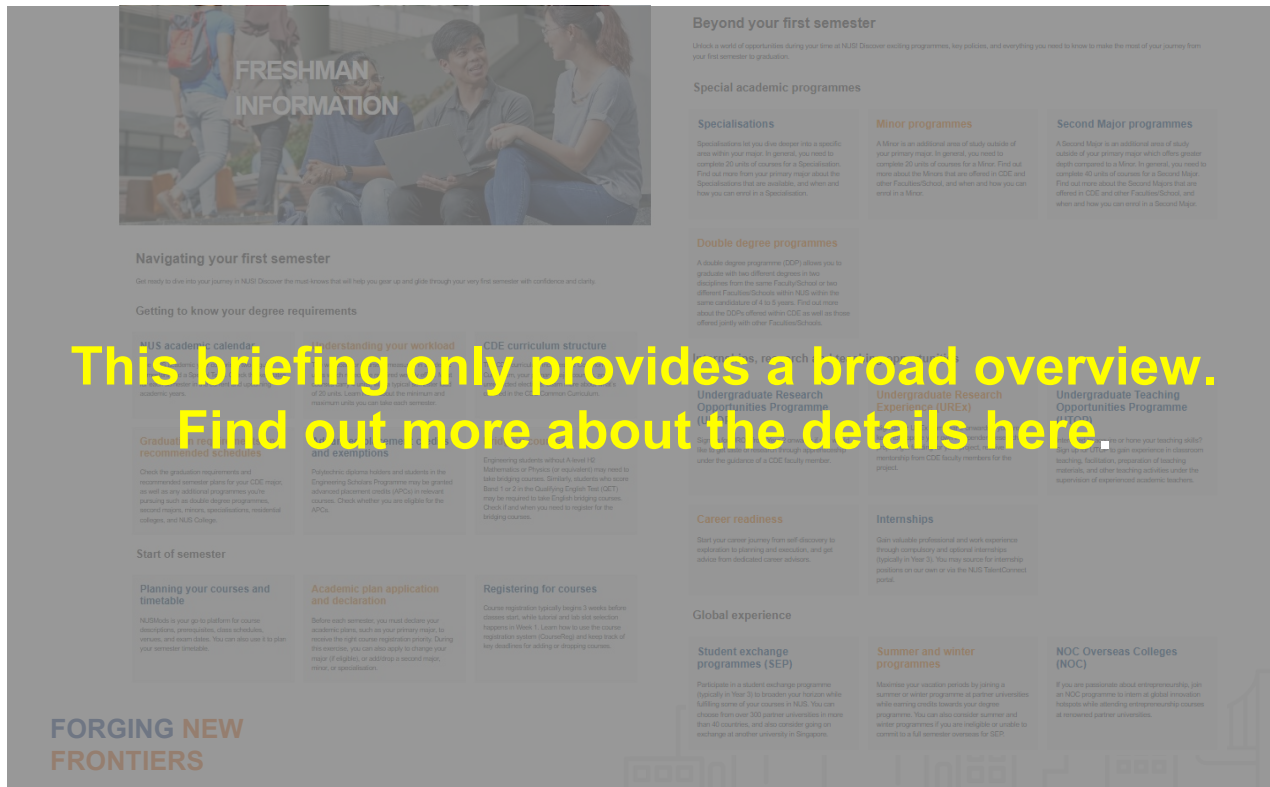
College of Design  
and Engineering

- 1. CDE Curriculum Structure**
- 2. Navigating Your First Semester**
- 3. Build Your Own Degree**
- 4. Academic Resources and Services**



# Bookmark this page!

<https://cde.nus.edu.sg/undergraduate/freshman-information/>



The screenshot displays the 'FRESHMAN INFORMATION' page from the NUS website. The page is organized into several sections: 'Navigating your first semester', 'Getting to know your degree requirements', 'Understanding your workload', 'CDE curriculum structure', 'Start of semester', 'Planning your courses and timetable', 'Academic plan application and declaration', 'Registering for courses', 'Beyond your first semester', 'Special academic programmes', 'Double degree programmes', 'Specialisations', 'Minor programmes', 'Second Major programmes', 'Career readiness', 'Internships', 'Global experience', 'Student exchange programmes (SEP)', 'Summer and winter programmes', and 'NOC Overseas Colleges (NOC)'. A large yellow text overlay is positioned in the center of the page, reading: 'This briefing only provides a broad overview. Find out more about the details here.'



This slide deck will be posted here later.

# CDE Curriculum Structure

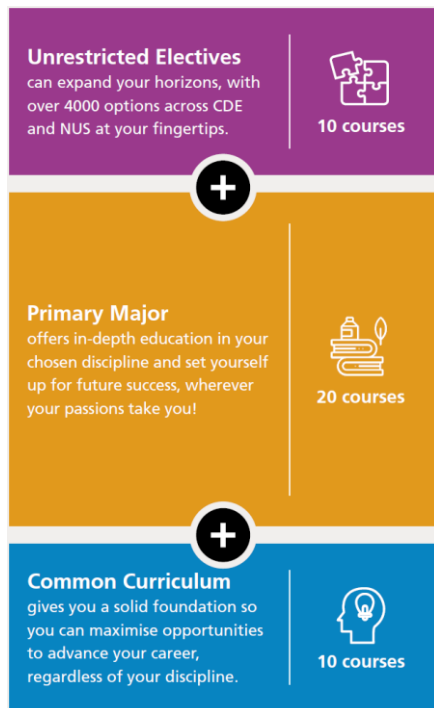


# CDE Curriculum Structure



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**40  
units**

**Self-directed planning**  
*“Build-your-own-degree”*

**80  
units**

**Primary discipline of focus**  
*Details to be covered by your Department later today*

**40  
units**

**Structured foundation**  
*Courses taken by all CDE students  
21<sup>st</sup> century skillsets*

**160 units**

**Minimum for graduation**

# CDE Curriculum Stakeholders

**professional engineers board**  
singapore



INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS  
SINGAPORE

**board of architects** singapore



SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



Singapore Institute of  
Surveyors and Valuers

**You – our students!**

*Experience, Flexibility, Employability*

**Us!**

*Dedicated teaching and support staff*

**Your future employers**

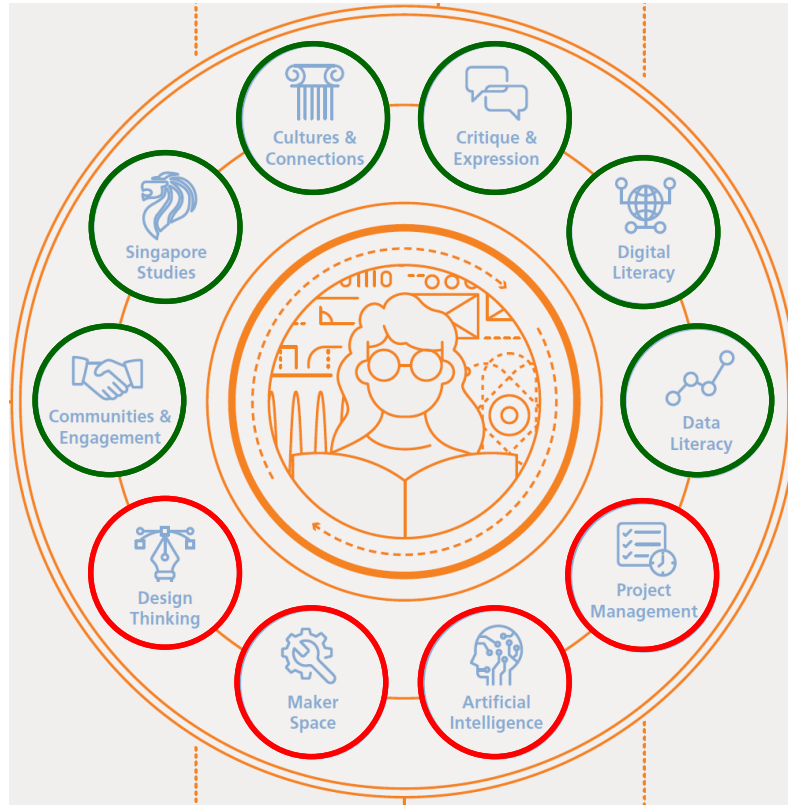
*We want you to get a great job*

**Accreditation & Registration bodies**

*Recognising your qualification*



# CDE Common Curriculum (40 units)



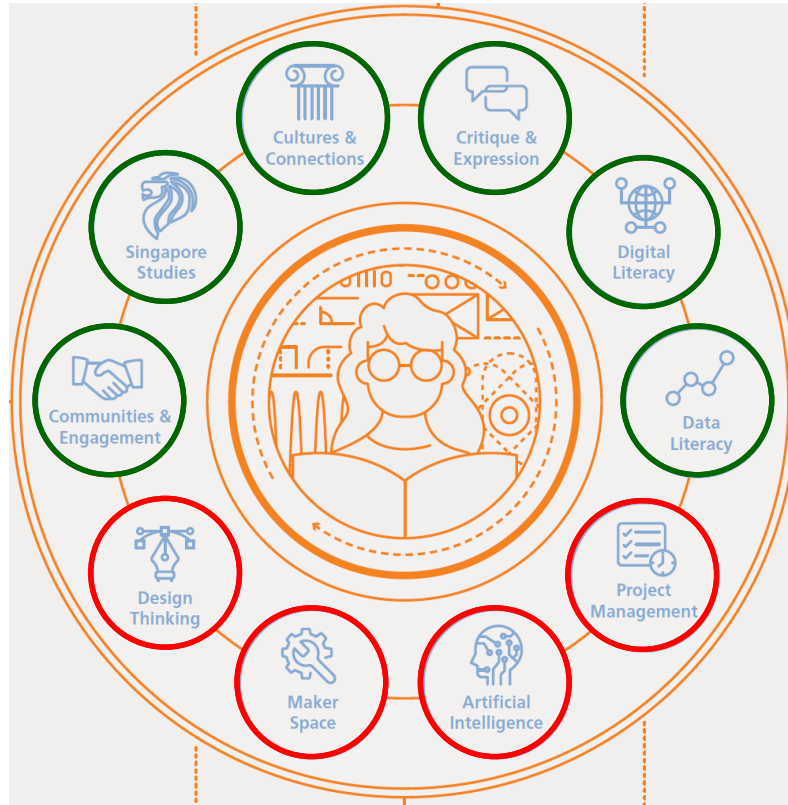
## Read by all NUS undergraduates

- May have **specific options** based on your major
- May be **pre-allocated** each semester based on your major
- Some can be fulfilled by **UTCP, RVRC, NUSC** courses

## Read by all CDE undergraduates

- Essential knowledge and skills for designers and engineers
- May have **specific options** based on your major
- May be **pre-allocated** each semester based on your major

# CDE Common Curriculum (40 units)



INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS  
SINGAPORE

## Critique & Expression

### ES2631 Critique and Communication of Thinking and Design

- i) **Communication:** Communicate effectively and inclusively on complex engineering activities with the engineering community and with society at large, such as being able to comprehend and write effective reports and design documentation, make effective presentations, and give and receive clear instructions, taking into account cultural, language, and learning differences.

## Project Management

### PF1101A Project Management and Finance

- j) **Project Management and Finance:** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of engineering management principles and economic decision-making, and apply these to one's own work, as a member and leader in a team, to manage projects and in multidisciplinary environments.



# Navigating Your First Semester



# Your first semester journey ...



Know your degree  
requirements



Plan your courses  
and timetable



Declare your  
academic plans



Register for  
courses



Access learning  
materials



Sit for exams



View your grades



Exercise  
S/U option



Check degree  
progress



# Plan your courses and timetable

## NUS academic calendar:

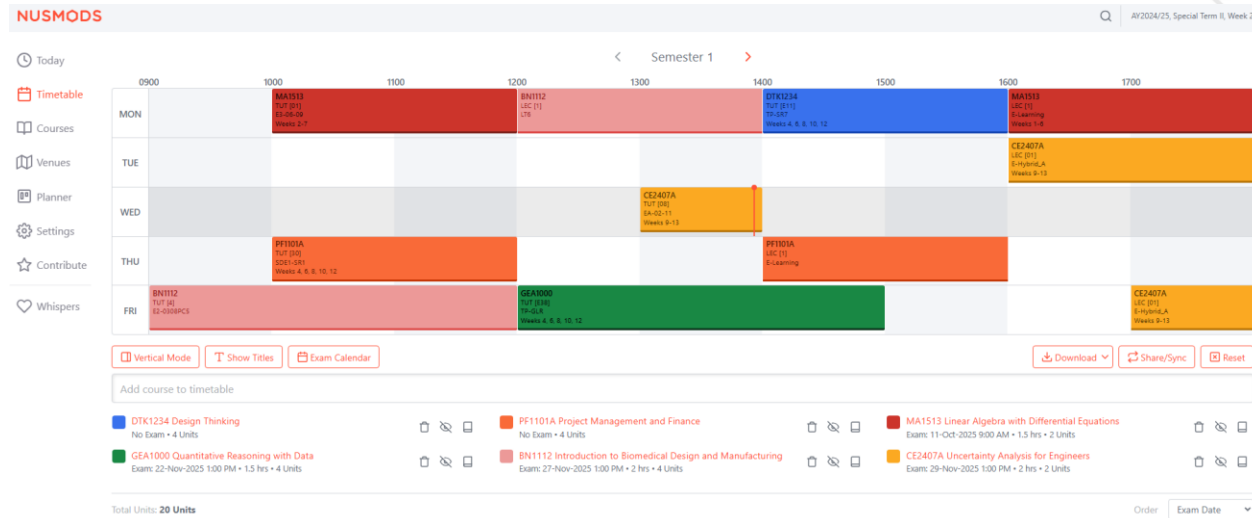
- 2 regular semesters per academic year
- (Optional) special term during long vacation after Semester 2
- No classes on public holidays and NUS Well-Being Days
- Refer to **sample study plans** to check courses to read in each semester

Semester 1					Semester 2			
Regular Semester (18 Weeks)	Orientation (1 week) <sup>1</sup>				-		-	
	Instructional Period <sup>2</sup> (6 weeks)	Mini-semester A	Instructional Period <sup>2</sup> (6 weeks)	Regular Semester (17 Weeks)	Instructional Period <sup>2</sup> (6 weeks)	Mini-semester A	Instructional Period <sup>2</sup> (6 weeks)	
	Recess <sup>3</sup> (1 week)		Reading Week <sup>3</sup> (1 week)		Recess <sup>3</sup> (1 week)		Reading Week <sup>3</sup> (1 week)	
	Instructional Period (7 weeks)		Examination <sup>5</sup> (1 week)		Instructional Period (7 weeks)		Examination <sup>5</sup> (1 week)	
	Reading <sup>4</sup> (1 week)	Mini-semester B	Instructional Period <sup>2</sup> (6 weeks)		Mini-semester B	Instructional Period <sup>2</sup> (6 weeks)		
	Examination <sup>5</sup> (2 weeks)		Reading <sup>4</sup> (1 week)			Reading <sup>4</sup> (1 week)		
		Examination <sup>5</sup> (2 weeks)	Examination <sup>5</sup> (2 weeks)			Examination <sup>5</sup> (2 weeks)		
Vacation <sup>6</sup> (5 weeks)				Vacation <sup>6</sup> (12-13 weeks)				

# Plan your courses and timetable

## NUSMods for timetable planning:

- Check courses you are supposed to read in your first semester
- Ensure no clashes in classes and exams
- Ensure sufficient time to travel between classes



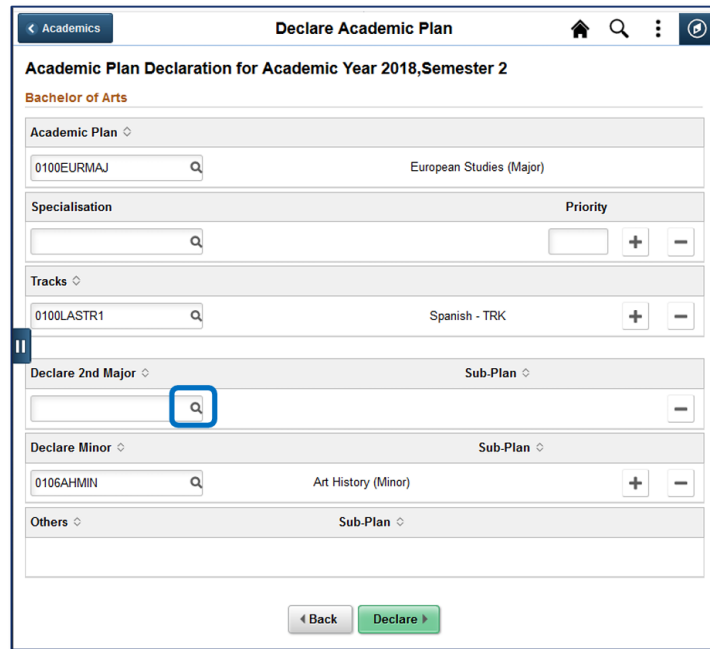
# Declare your academic plans

Complete your declaration via **EduRec**:

- Confirm / change **major** (selected majors)
- Apply for restricted **second majors** / **minors**
- Add / drop open **second majors** / **minors**
- Add / drop **specialisations** (selected majors)

**Can only declare ONCE per semester.**

Starts on **14 July 2025** and must be completed **at least 24 hours** before registering for courses.



The screenshot displays the 'Declare Academic Plan' web interface for Academic Year 2018, Semester 2. The interface is titled 'Academic Plan Declaration for Academic Year 2018, Semester 2' and 'Bachelor of Arts'. It features several sections for declaring academic plans:

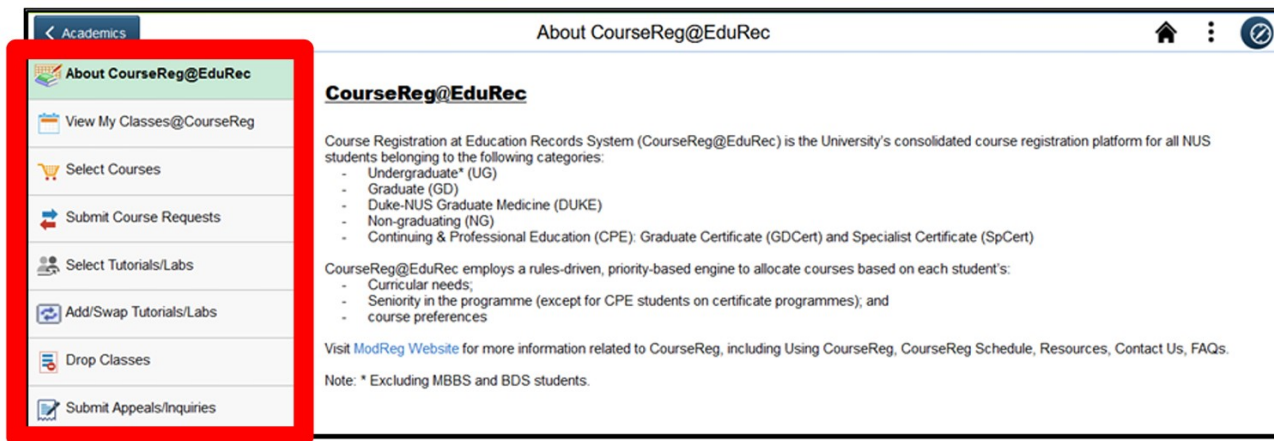
- Academic Plan**: A dropdown menu showing '0100EURMAJ' and 'European Studies (Major)'.
- Specialisation**: A dropdown menu with a search icon and a 'Priority' section with '+' and '-' buttons.
- Tracks**: A dropdown menu showing '0100LASTR1' and 'Spanish - TRK' with '+' and '-' buttons.
- Declare 2nd Major**: A dropdown menu with a search icon and a '-' button.
- Declare Minor**: A dropdown menu showing '0106AHMIN' and 'Art History (Minor)' with '+' and '-' buttons.
- Others**: A dropdown menu with a 'Sub-Plan' dropdown.

At the bottom, there are 'Back' and 'Declare' buttons.

# Register for courses

## CourseReg@EduRec for course registration:

- 3 rounds for courses and lecture classes, 2 rounds for tutorials and labs
- Rules-driven, priority-based allocation
- Check allocated classes, add/drop classes, submit appeals
- Starts on **21 July 2025**



# Advanced placement credits (APCs)

- Most **poly-intake students** would have been given **up to 40 units** of APCs (i.e. exemptions):
  - APCs are **automatically given** based on poly diploma (you don't need to apply).
  - Check list of APCs on CDE website.
- Students who have passed **advanced placement tests** for selected courses will also be granted APCs.
- Students who have read and passed courses with NUS prior to enrolling will also be granted APCs with **grade transfer**.

# Bridging courses

Some students may need to take **bridging courses**.

## Mathematics bridging course (MA1301)

Those in Engineering majors without H2 Mathematics or equivalent.

*Will be pre-allocated for you in Semester 1.*

## Physics bridging course (PC1201)

Those in selected Engineering majors without H2 Physics or equivalent.

*Will be pre-allocated for you in Semester 1 or Semester 2.*

## English bridging courses (ES1000 & ES1103)

Those who are required to sit for Qualifying English Test (QET) and obtained Band 1 and/or Band 2.

*Enrol on your own via CourseReg.*

**Registration for QET ends today (10 July 2025)**



# Dropping courses

## What if ...

- You change your mind about taking a particular course after signing up for it?
- You are unable to handle the number of courses you have signed up for?

## Before end of Week 2:

😊 No penalty and no record on transcript!

## Between Week 3 and end of Recess Week:

😐 'W' grade (no impact on GPA but will be recorded on transcript)

## After end of Recess Week:

😞 'F' grade (will have impact on GPA and recorded on transcript)

**Check the deadlines for every semester.**

# Access learning materials



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## Canvas for learning materials and assessments:

- Lecture notes, course readings, videos, etc.
- Submit assignments and quizzes
- View course calendar (deadlines, events)
- Sign up for project groups
- Announcements



**PF1101 > Modules**

[2220] 2022/2023 Semester 2

- Home
- Announcements
- Assignments
- Discussions
- Pages
- Files
- Syllabus
- Quizzes
- Modules
- Collaborations
- New Analytics
- Zoom
- Videos/Panopto

- **Announcements:** Read the latest and previous announcements posted by the Course Coordinator
- **Discussions:** Post your comments and engage in meaningful discussions
- **Files:** Access lecture slides, readings, and other downloadable resources
- **Quizzes:** Attempt online weekly quizzes
- **Zoom:** Attend online Zoom lecture. Cloud recordings of the past lecture sessions are organized (under **Cloud Recordings** tab)
- **Videos/ Panopto:** View video vignettes and other online resources

# AI Best Practices in Academic Work

## Acknowledge & Attribute Your S(AI)dekick



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**Representing an AI's output as your own work is plagiarism.**  
**Please refer to [NUS Plagiarism Policy, Appendix 3](#) for more information.**

[https://libguides.nus.edu.sg/new2nus/ai\\_guidelines\\_infographics](https://libguides.nus.edu.sg/new2nus/ai_guidelines_infographics)

FORGING NEW  
FRONTIERS

### Institutional Guidelines and Resources:

- [NUS's Policy for Use of AI in Teaching and Learning](#)
- THE1005 on AI Use for Students on the [NUSOne page](#)

# Sit for exams



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Final exams are typically held after Reading Week.

- Some courses may not have **final exams**.
- Some courses may have mid-term and/or final **quizzes**.
- Some courses may have **digital assessments**.
- Apply for **Accessibility Support and Accommodations** (if required) – at start of semester.
- Apply for **Special Consideration** (if required) – after exams.



- Take digital assessments in a secured environment
- Internet lockdown option
- Best to check for laptop compatibility

**Academic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated!**

Check and obey the rules regarding assessments.



# View your grades

Use **EduRec** or **uNivUS** app to view your grades.

- Final grades are usually released about a month after exams.



# Grade Point Average (GPA)



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## Units & Expected Workload

2 units	5 hours per week (~ 65 hours per semester)
4 units	10 hours per week (~ 130 hours per semester)
8 units	20 hours per week (~ 260 hours per semester)

### NOTE:

Includes time for classes, assignments,  
preparatory work and revision

## Grade Points

A+	5.0
A	5.0
A-	4.5
B+	4.0
B	3.5
B-	3.0
C+	2.5
C	2.0
D+	1.5
D	1.0
F	0

## Grade Point Average (GPA)

**Sum (grade point x unit) for each course**

**Sum (units for all courses)**

Typical workload per course:

**4 units**

Average workload per semester:

**20 units (i.e. 5 courses)**

# Grade Point Average (GPA)



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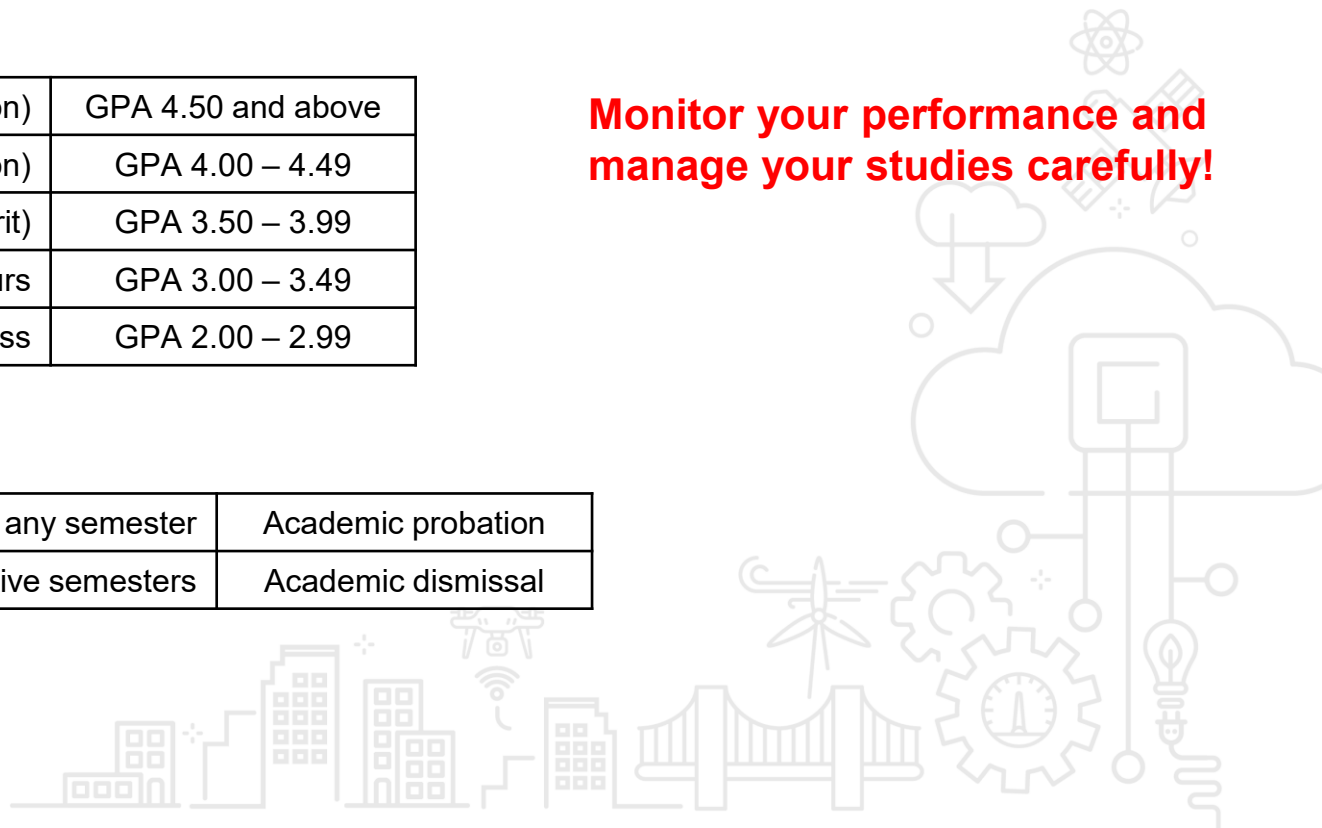
## Degree Classification

Honours (Highest Distinction)	GPA 4.50 and above
Honours (Distinction)	GPA 4.00 – 4.49
Honours (Merit)	GPA 3.50 – 3.99
Honours	GPA 3.00 – 3.49
Pass	GPA 2.00 – 2.99

**Monitor your performance and  
manage your studies carefully!**

## GPA for Continuation

GPA < 2.00 for any semester	Academic probation
GPA < 2.00 for two consecutive semesters	Academic dismissal



# Exercise Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory (S/U) Option



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## What is S/U option?

- Retain your letter grade or change to '**S**' or '**U**' (i.e. pass or fail).
- 'S' and 'U' grades do NOT contribute to GPA.

## Why should you use the S/U option?

- **Safety net** in case you do not do well.
- Take courses **outside your comfort zone**.
- Improve your GPA.

## What happens if you get a 'U'?

- Compulsory course: **retake** in another semester.
- Non-compulsory course: retake or choose a different course in another semester.

## Grade Points

A+	S
A	
A-	
B+	
B	
B-	
C+	
C	
D+	
D	U
F	



# Exercise Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory (S/U) Option



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## Which courses can you S/U?

- ALL **Level 1000** courses (with or without pre-requisites).
- **Level 2000** courses without other NUS courses as pre-requisites.

## When can you exercise the S/U option?

- At the **end of each semester**.

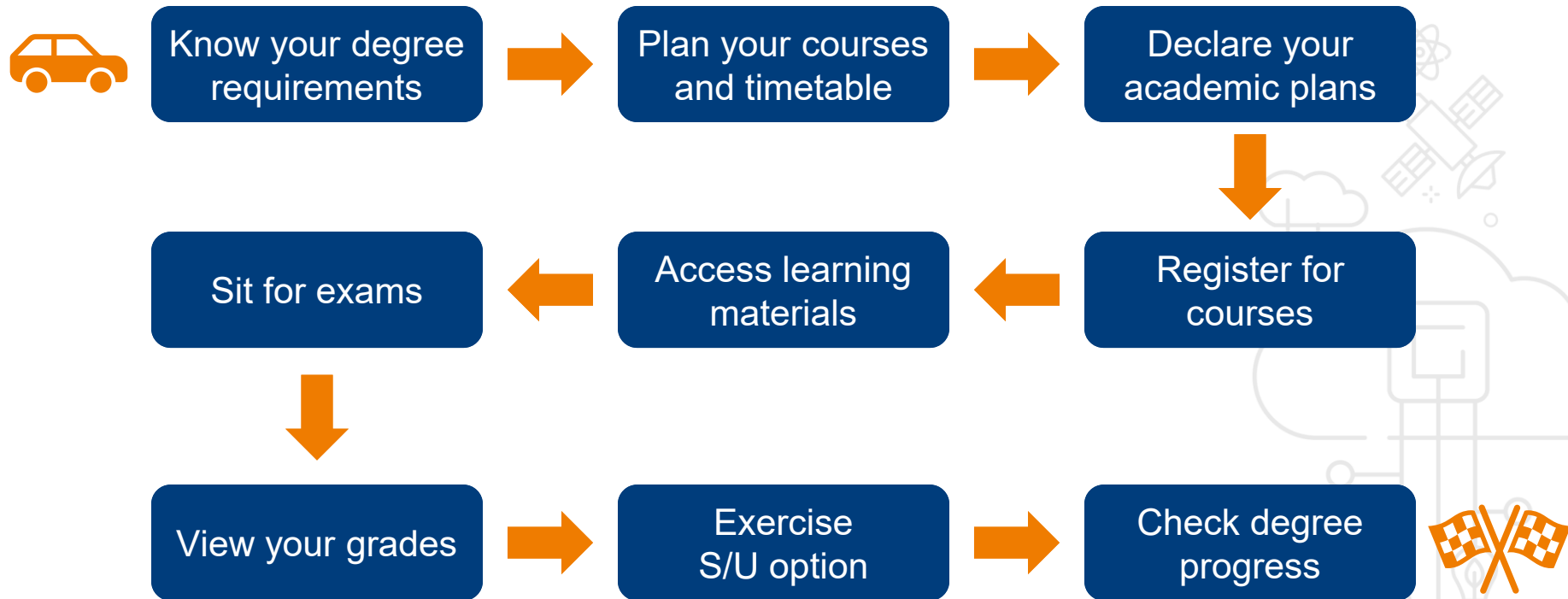
## How many courses can you S/U?

- Generally up to **32 units**.
- S/U limit can vary e.g. students with APCs.
- Find out more about the validity period of your S/U units.

## Grade Points

A+	S
A	
A-	
B+	
B	
B-	
C+	
C	
D+	
D	
F	U

# Recap: your first semester journey ...



# Outline

- 1. CDE Curriculum Structure**
- 2. Navigating Your First Semester**
- 3. Build Your Own Degree**
- 4. Academic Resources and Services**



# Build Your Own Degree

What to do with your  
unrestricted electives?



# Recap: CDE Curriculum Structure



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**What can you  
do with this?**

## Unrestricted Electives

can expand your horizons, with over 4000 options across CDE and NUS at your fingertips.



10 courses

**40  
units**

**Self-directed planning**  
*"Build-your-own-degree"*



## Primary Major

offers in-depth education in your chosen discipline and set yourself up for future success, wherever your passions take you!



20 courses

**80  
units**

**Primary discipline of focus**  
*Details to be covered by your Department later today*



## Common Curriculum

gives you a solid foundation so you can maximise opportunities to advance your career, regardless of your discipline.



10 courses

**40  
units**

**Structured foundation**

*Courses taken by all CDE students*  
*21<sup>st</sup> century skillsets*

**160 units**

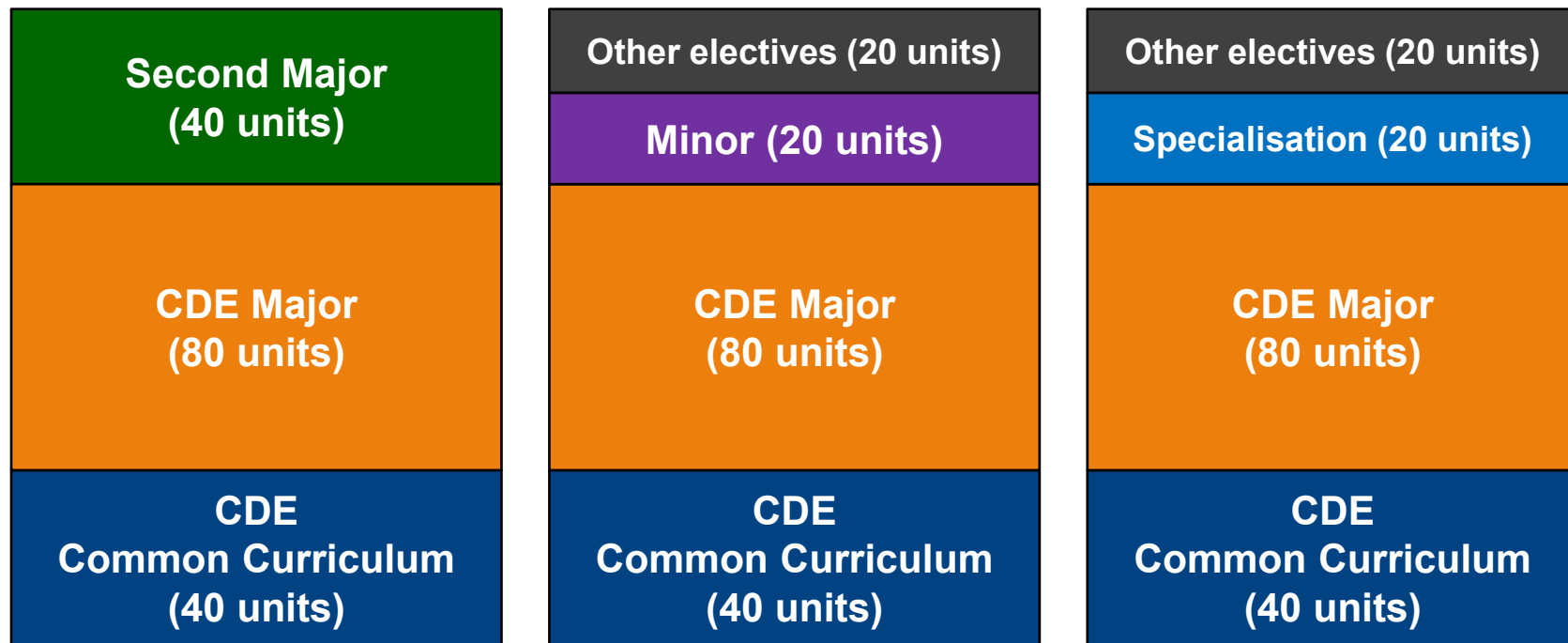
**Minimum for graduation**

# Build Your Own Degree



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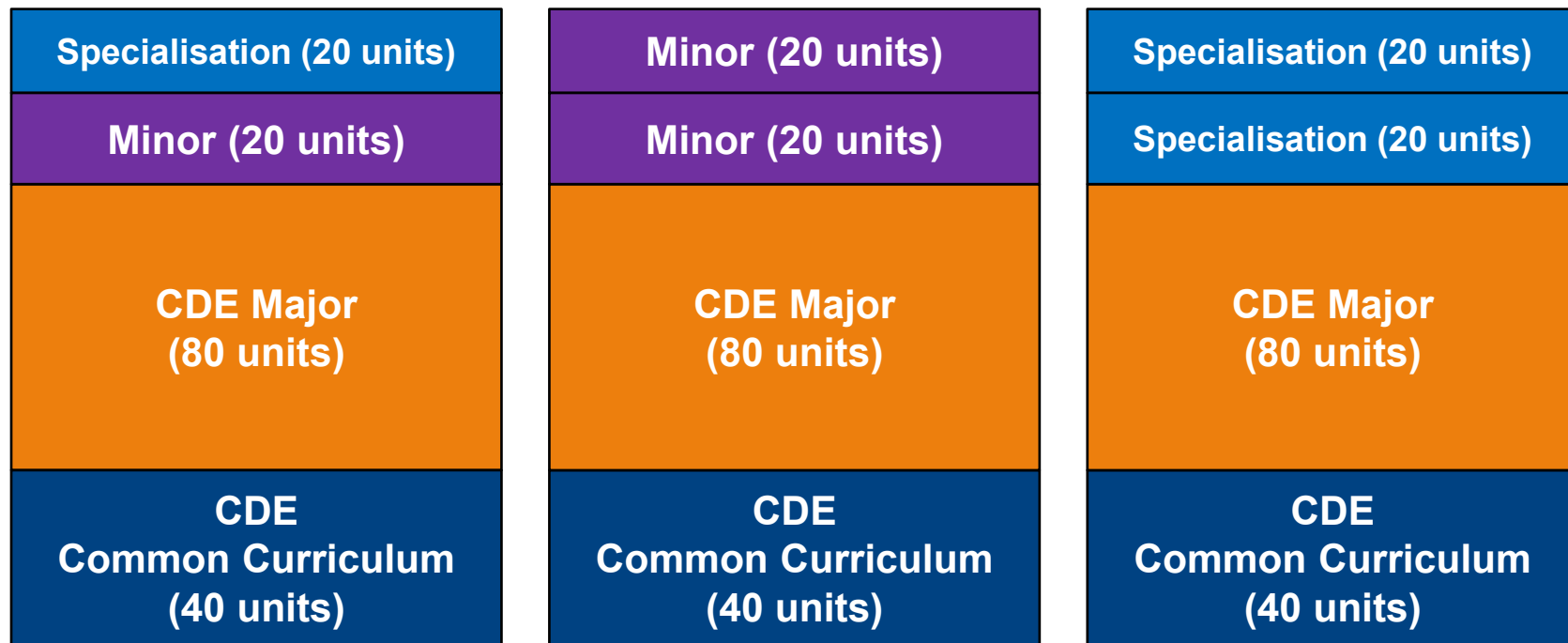


# Build Your Own Degree



**NUS**  
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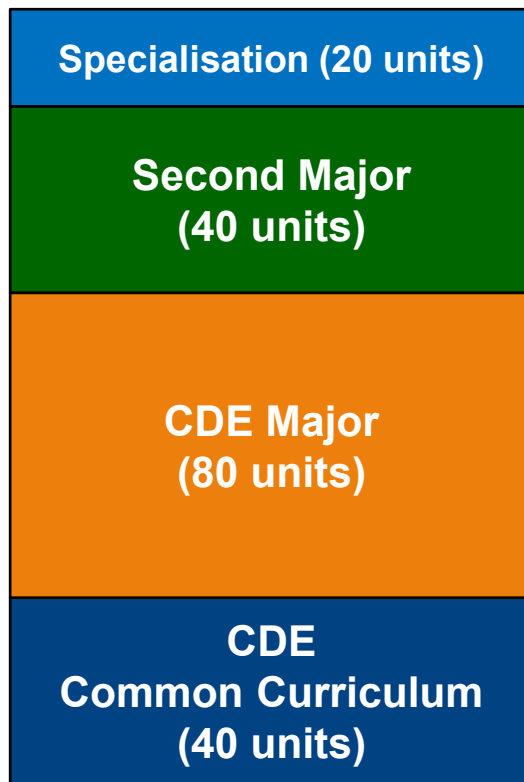
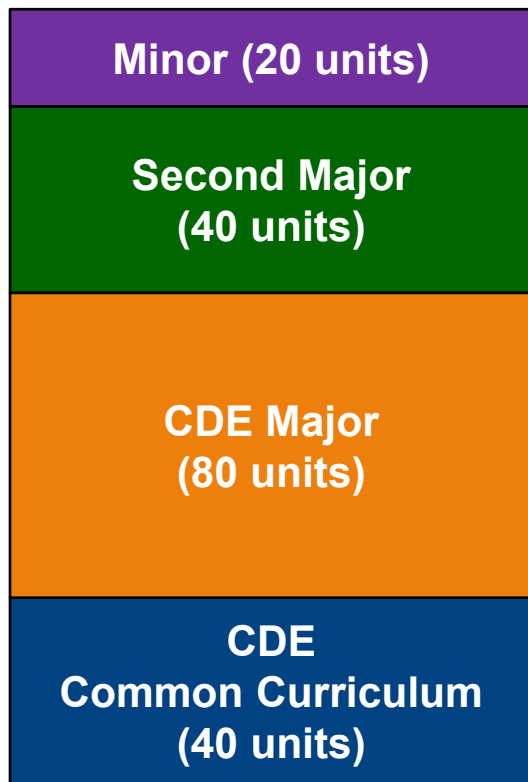


# Build Your Own Degree



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**You can take more than 160 units if you can manage!**

Some combinations may allow for double-counting of courses.



# Build Your Own Degree



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and Engineering

## Second Major (40 units)

Gain **depth** in a **different discipline** than your primary (main) major

*4 from CDE, > 40 from outside CDE*

## Minor (20 units)

Gain **breadth** in a **different discipline** than your primary (main) major

*15 from CDE, > 70 from outside CDE*

## Specialisation (20 units)

Gain **depth** in your **primary** (main) **major**

*Check with your home Department during the briefing later today*

# Second Majors and Minors offered by CDE

## Second Major (40 units)

- Computing (Design & Engineering)
- Innovation & Design
- Systems Engineering
- Sustainable Urban Development

**Use your first semester to find out more about these and other second majors and minors!**

## Minor (20 units)

- Architectural Studies
- Artificial Intelligence (Design & Engineering) **\* NEW \***
- Biomedical Engineering
- Cities
- Computing (Design & Engineering)
- Data Engineering
- Engineering Materials
- Hydrogen and Low Carbon Technology **\* NEW \***
- Infrastructure Management & Finance
- Innovation & Design
- Landscape Architectural Studies
- Management of Technology
- Project Management
- Systems Engineering
- Visual Communication Design

# Top Second Majors and Minors selected by CDE students

## Second Major (40 units)

### Design majors

- Economics
- Innovation & Design
- Management
- Quantitative Finance
- Sustainable Urban Development

### Engineering majors

- Computing (Design & Engineering)
- Data Analytics
- Economics
- Innovation & Design
- Management
- Mathematics
- Quantitative Finance
- Sustainable Urban Development

## Minor (20 units)

### Design majors

- Cities
- Computing (Design & Engineering)
- Entrepreneurship
- Infrastructure Management & Finance
- Psychology

### Engineering majors

- Computer Science
- Computing (Design & Engineering)
- Data Analytics
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Innovation & Design
- Mathematics
- Quantitative Finance

**You can consider other options too:  
there are >100 to choose from!**

# Double degree programmes (DDPs)

## What are DDPs?

- Diversify your knowledge, skills, and career options in two **complementary** or **contrasting** fields.
- Get **two degrees**: one from CDE and the other from another Faculty.
- Complete within **4 to 5 years**.
- Pay tuition fee for **primary degree** programme only.
- Choose from pre-approved combinations or propose your own.



# Double degree programmes (DDPs)

## Design and Engineering + Humanities and Sciences:

- **One major from CDE** (15 options) and the **other major from CHS** (32 options) – more than 400 possible combinations of majors between the two Colleges!
- Examples:
  - Engineering (all majors) and Mathematics
  - Engineering (all majors) and Economics
  - Engineering Science and Physics
  - Industrial Design and Psychology



# Double degree programmes (DDPs)

## Engineering and Business Administration:

- One **Engineering** major (12 options) + one **Business** major (8 options).
- Examples of Business majors:
  - Applied Business Analytics
  - Finance
  - Innovation & Entrepreneurship
  - Marketing
  - Operations & Supply Chain Management



# Double degree programmes (DDPs)

## Internal DDPs within CDE:

- Two **Design** and/or **Engineering** degrees from CDE.
- Examples:
  - Civil Engineering and Architecture
  - Industrial Design and Electrical Engineering
  - Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering
  - Computer Engineering and Engineering Science
- Good option if you have a hard time choosing between two Engineering programmes!





# Double degree programmes (DDPs)



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## Number of units for graduation:

Design and Engineering + Humanities and Sciences	168 to 192 units	4 to 5 years
Engineering and Business Administration	194 to 210 units	5 years
Internal DDPs within CDE	168 to 200 units	4 to 5 years

Actual number will vary based on double-counting arrangement  
(if any) between majors in selected degree programmes.





# Double degree programmes (DDPs)

## Admission criteria (for mid-stream entry):

- Apply at **end of 3<sup>rd</sup> semester or 4<sup>th</sup> semester** after completing between 60 and 80 units.
- Complete **at least three courses** from major of the second degree programme with minimum **average grade of B+**.
- Minimum GPA of **4.00**.
- Admission is subject to **vacancies** and other factors.



# Internship and research opportunities



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## Internships

- Credit-bearing vs. non-credit bearing
- Part time vs. full time
- Summer internships vs. full-semester internships
- Self-source or choose from NUS TalentConnect
- Generally Year 2/3 onwards
- Get career readiness support from NUS Centre for Future Graduates

## Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP)

- Research apprenticeship under the guidance of a CDE faculty member
- 1-2 semesters
- 4 units graded on CS/CU basis
- Generally Year 2 onwards

## Undergraduate Research Experience (UREx)

- Propose your own independent research
- Get funding for your project and mentorship from CDE faculty members
- 1-2 semesters
- 4 units graded on CS/CU basis
- Generally Year 2 onwards

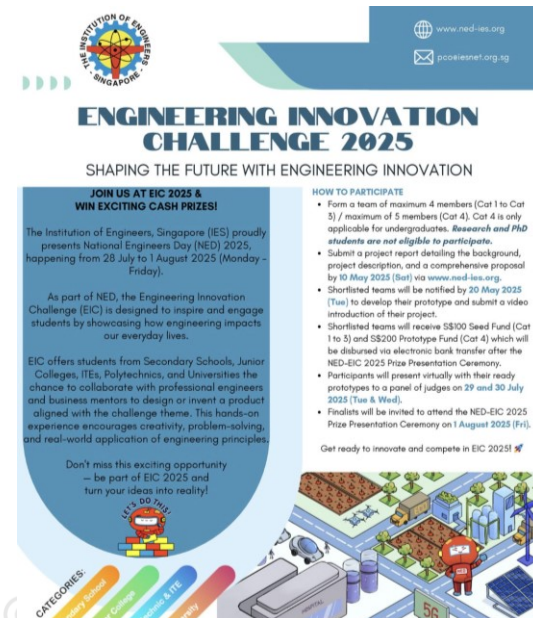


# Competitions and hackathons



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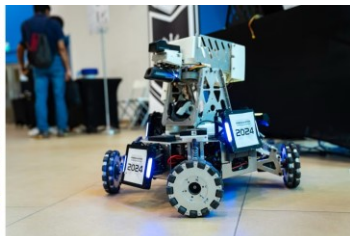
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Opportunities to build your network, apply your design and engineering skills, and win attractive prizes!



# Interdisciplinary projects



Joint studio projects between  
Architecture, Industrial Design  
and Engineering

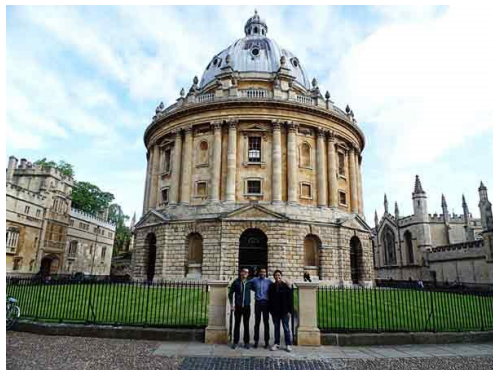
Innovation & Design  
Programme (iDP)  
*Offered as Second Major or Minor*



CDE2001 Innovation and Design for Communities



# Global experience programmes



## Student exchange programmes (SEP)

- One semester at a partner university
- Map courses to your major or unrestricted electives
- Generally in Year 3



## Summer and winter programmes

- Short programmes during vacation periods
- Map courses to your major or unrestricted electives
- Generally in Year 2/3



## NUS Overseas Colleges

- Internships in entrepreneurial hotspots across the globe
- 3 months or 1 semester or 1 year
- Fulfills internship requirement for Engineering majors
- Generally in Year 3

# Restrictions to note

- Limit on Level 1000 courses

*How many Level 1000 courses can you count towards your graduation requirement?*

- Double-counting rules

*How many courses can you double-count between two programmes?  
Is triple-counting allowed?*

- Candidature and residency

*How to apply for leave of absence? How long can you extend your studies?  
What is the impact on tuition fees if you need to extend your candidature?  
What is the limit for courses that can be completed outside of NUS?*

- Minimum and maximum workload

*How many courses can you take in each semester?*



**Make sure you are aware of  
the restrictions so that you  
can graduate on time!**

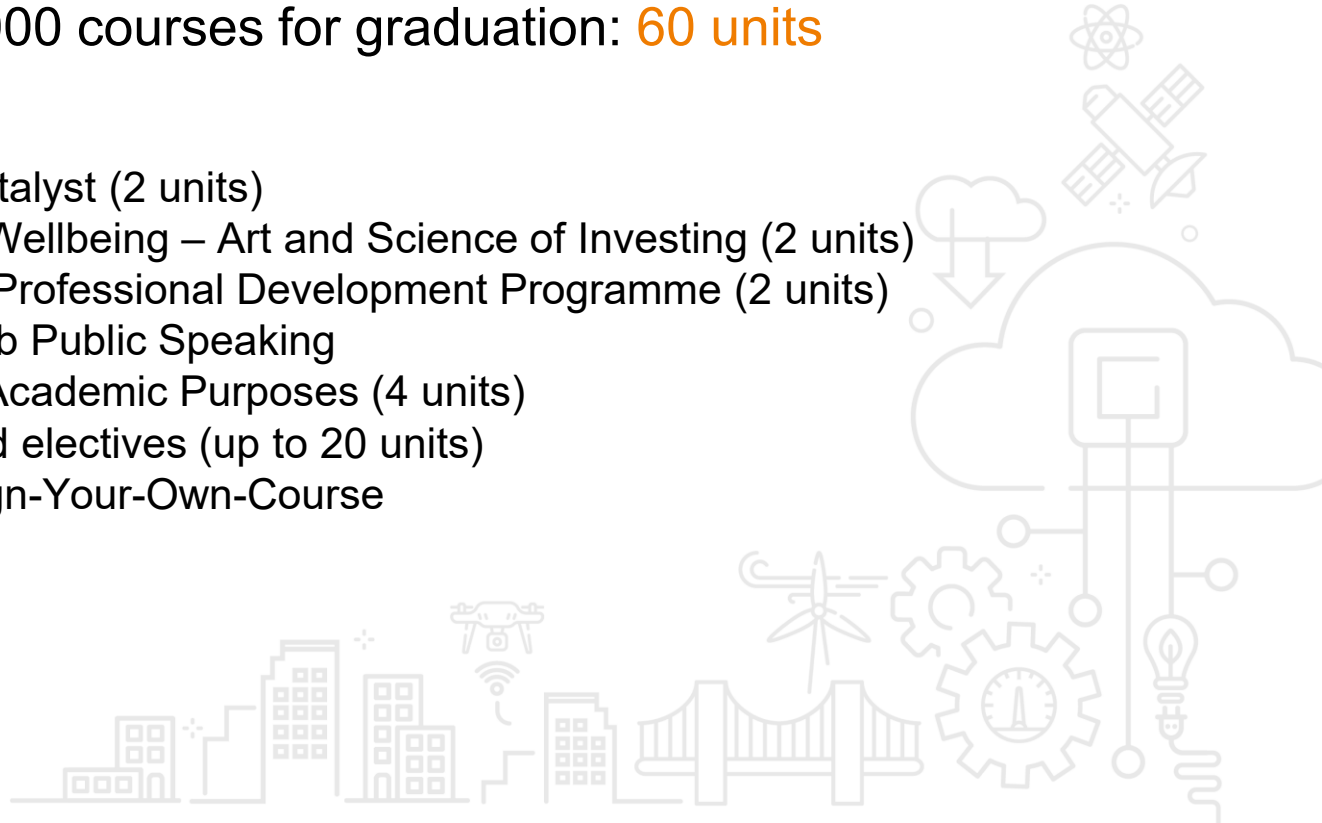


# Limit on Level 1000 courses

Maximum Level 1000 courses for graduation: **60 units**

## Exclusions:

- CFG1002 Career Catalyst (2 units)
- CFG1004 Financial Wellbeing – Art and Science of Investing (2 units)
- CFG1500 Women's Professional Development Programme (2 units)
- CFG1600 CommsLab Public Speaking
- ES1103 English for Academic Purposes (4 units)
- APCs for unrestricted electives (up to 20 units)
- Courses under Design-Your-Own-Course

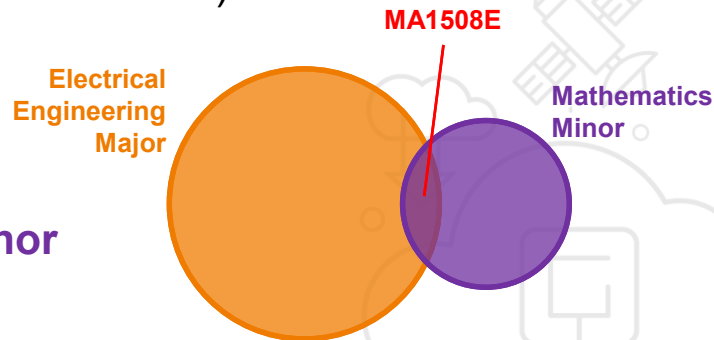


# Double-counting rules

Some courses can be counted towards **two requirements**:  
(common curriculum, major, second major, minor, specialisation)

## Examples:

- MA1508E Linear Algebra for Engineering:  
Electrical Engineering **Major** and Mathematics **Minor**



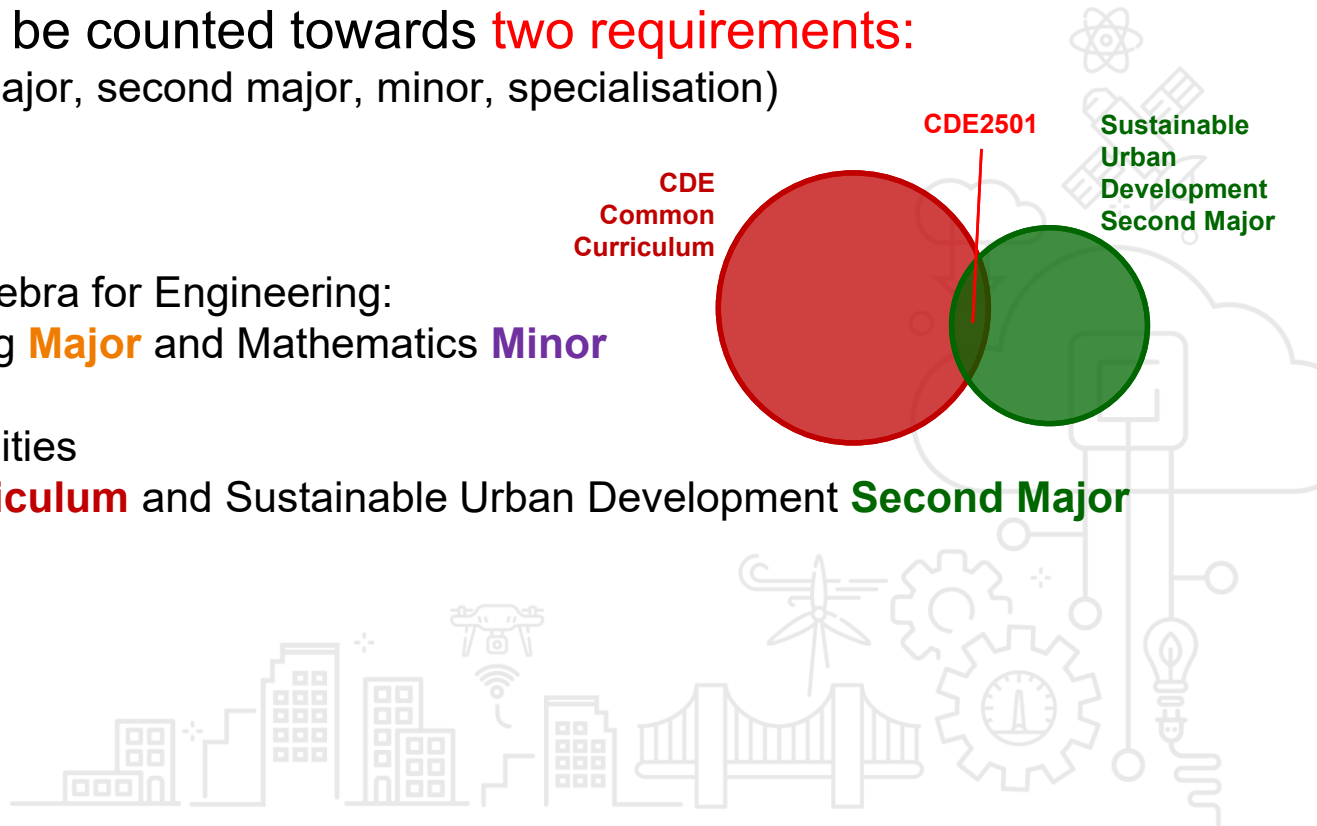


# Double-counting rules

Some courses can be counted towards **two requirements**:  
(common curriculum, major, second major, minor, specialisation)

## Examples:

- MA1508E Linear Algebra for Engineering:  
Electrical Engineering **Major** and Mathematics **Minor**
- CDE2501 Liveable Cities  
CDE **Common Curriculum** and Sustainable Urban Development **Second Major**

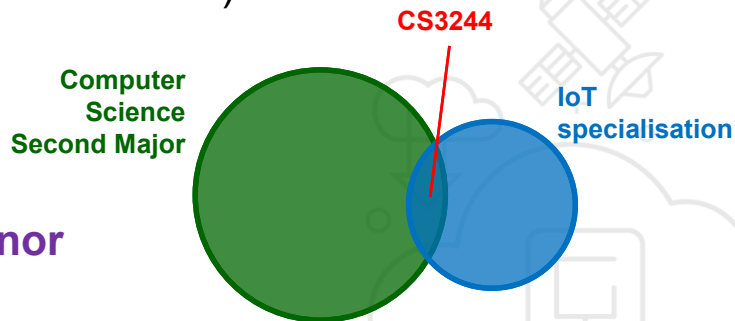


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- CDE2501 Liveable Cities  
CDE **Common Curriculum** and Sustainable Urban Development **Second Major**
- CS3244 Machine Learning  
Computer Science **Second Major** and IoT **Specialisation**



# Double-counting rules

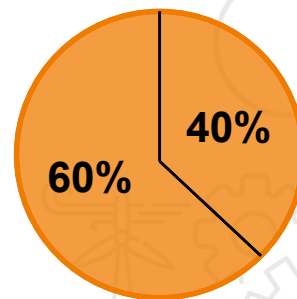
## Double-counting limits:

- Not more than **16 units for Second Major** (i.e. 24 units must be distinct)
- Not more than **8 units for Minor** (i.e. 12 units must be distinct)
- Not more than **8 units for Specialisation** (i.e. 12 units must be distinct)  
*(excludes overlaps between Specialisation and its Major)*

## Strictly no triple counting!

*(excludes overlaps between Specialisation and its Major)*

≥ 60% must  
be distinct



≤ 40% can be  
double-counted

# Candidature and residency

Normal candidature: **8 consecutive semesters**

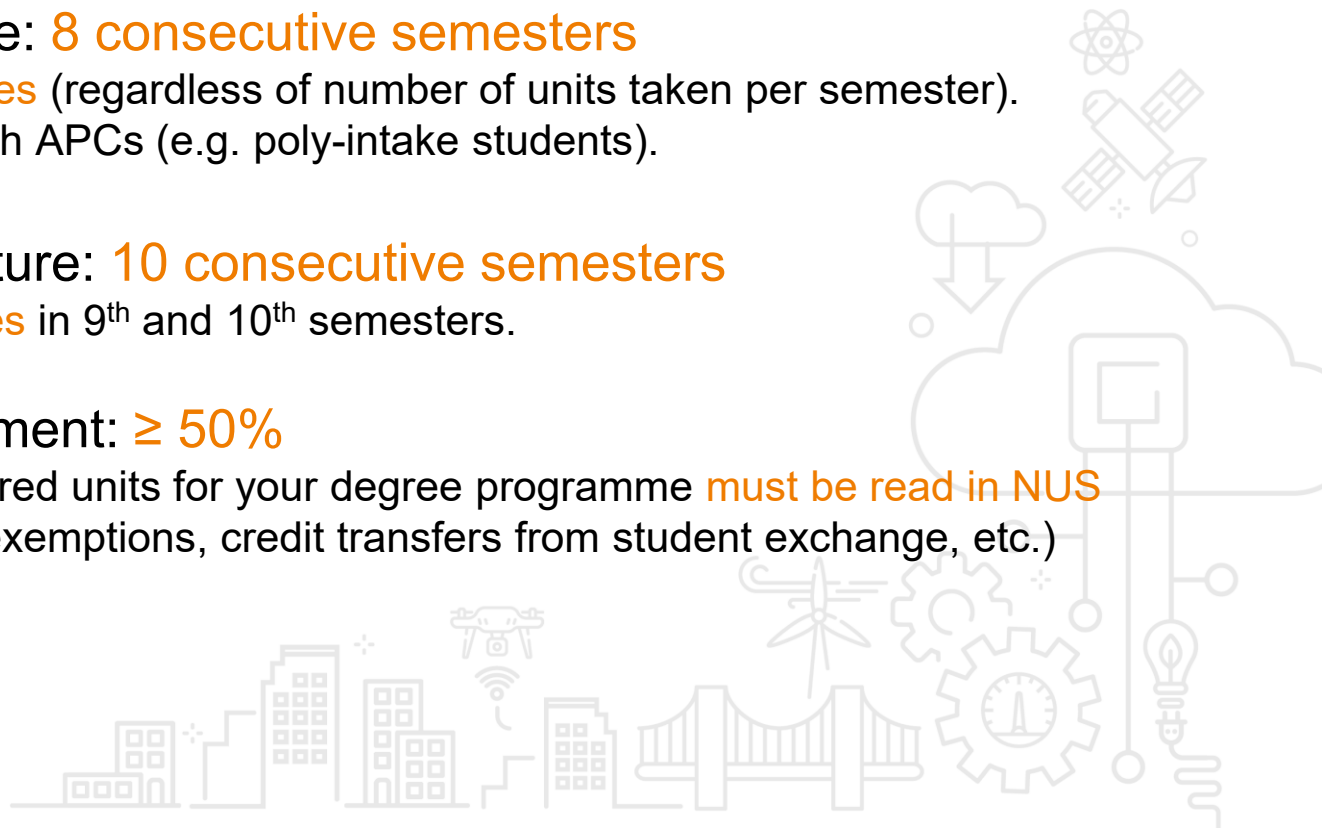
- Pay **normal tuition fees** (regardless of number of units taken per semester).
- Includes students with APCs (e.g. poly-intake students).

Maximum candidature: **10 consecutive semesters**

- Pay **higher tuition fees** in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> semesters.

Residency requirement: **≥ 50%**

- At least 50% of required units for your degree programme **must be read in NUS** (i.e. exclude APCs, exemptions, credit transfers from student exchange, etc.)



# Minimum and maximum workload



**NUS**  
National University  
of Singapore

College of Design  
and Engineering

Average workload per semester: **20 units** (5 courses, 4 units each)

Minimum workload per semester: **18 units**

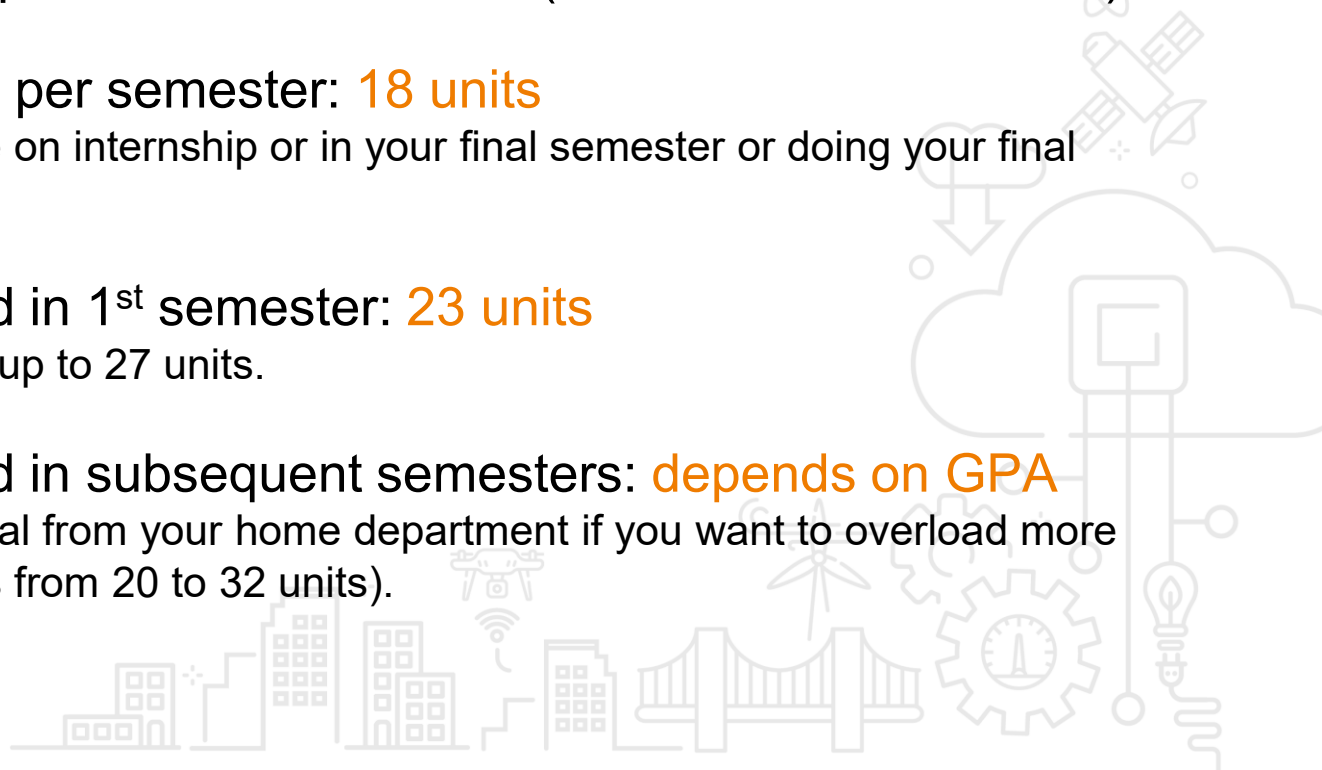
- Except when you are on internship or in your final semester or doing your final year project.

Maximum workload in 1<sup>st</sup> semester: **23 units**

- E-Scholars can take up to 27 units.

Maximum workload in subsequent semesters: **depends on GPA**

- Need to seek approval from your home department if you want to overload more than the limit (ranges from 20 to 32 units).



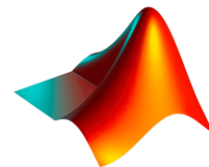
# Academic Resources and Services



# Student software



**EndNote 20**  
Citation Management Software



**MATLAB®**



**AUTODESK®**

Sign up using your **NUS credentials**  
for free education access



# NUS Libraries

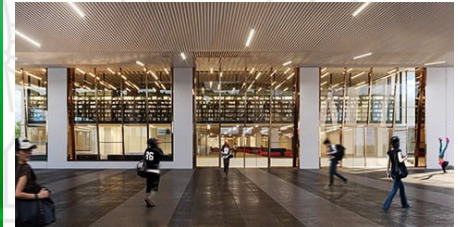
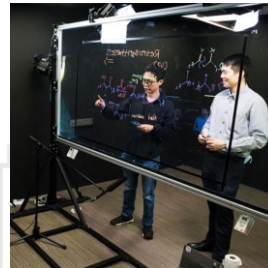
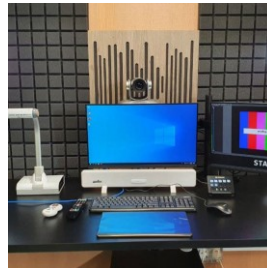


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## More than just a place to loan books!

- Wide variety of study spaces
- Learn new skills through workshops
- Access to digital gems & e-resources
- Your playground for knowledge discovery
- Unlock your imagination @ Tech Central

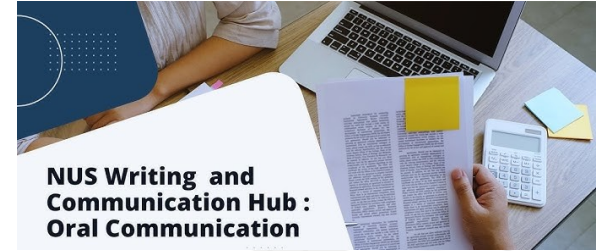


**FORGING NEW  
FRONTIERS**



# NUS Writing & Communication Hub

- Individual **consultations** and **workshops** on rhetorical skills, revision strategies, and the conventions of style and structure appropriate to different modes of **writing**.
- Support for writing and communication in academic **courses** as well as **co-curricular** and **extra-curricular** writing endeavours.
- Supported by graduate and undergraduate **peer tutors**.



# Prototyping facilities and services



**NUS**  
National University  
of Singapore

College of Design  
and Engineering

- **Fabrication** equipment and services for your **academic** and **personal** projects.
- Book **consultations** with our **makers-in-residence**.
- Only **material cost** is charged for student projects.

Website (to be launched soon):

<https://cde.nus.edu.sg/student-life/makers>



**FORGING NEW  
FRONTIERS**

# Career readiness

- Certified **Career Advisors** to support your career ambitions.
- Career consultations, resume critique, mock interviews, internship and networking advisory.
- Attend **workshops** and **events** by NUS Centre for Future-Ready Graduates (CFG).



**Dorothy Fong**

Architecture, Industrial Design, Infrastructure and Project Management, Landscape Architecture, Project & Facilities Management, Civil & Environmental Engineering

[Schedule Appointment](#)



**Goh Ze Li**

Electrical & Computer Engineering, Industrial Systems Engineering & Management

[Schedule Appointment](#)



**Kirby Mark**

Electrical & Computer Engineering, Industrial Systems Engineering & Management

[Schedule Appointment](#)



**Shaun Kang**

Architecture, Industrial Design, Infrastructure and Project Management, Landscape Architecture, Project & Facilities Management, Civil & Environmental Engineering

[Schedule Appointment](#)



**Shirlyn Ong**

Material Science & Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Engineering Science, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering

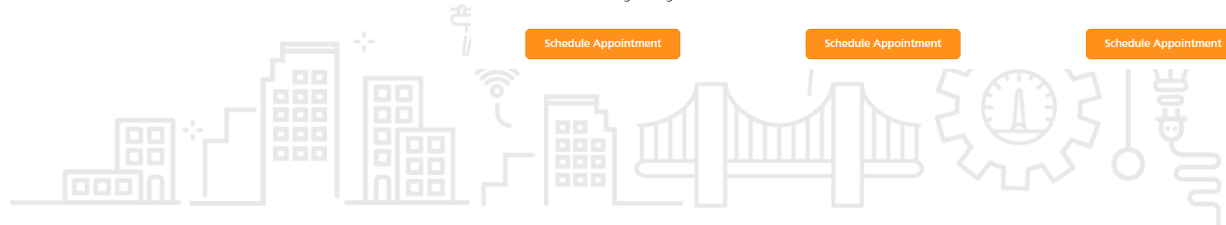
[Schedule Appointment](#)



**Wu Hung Yee**

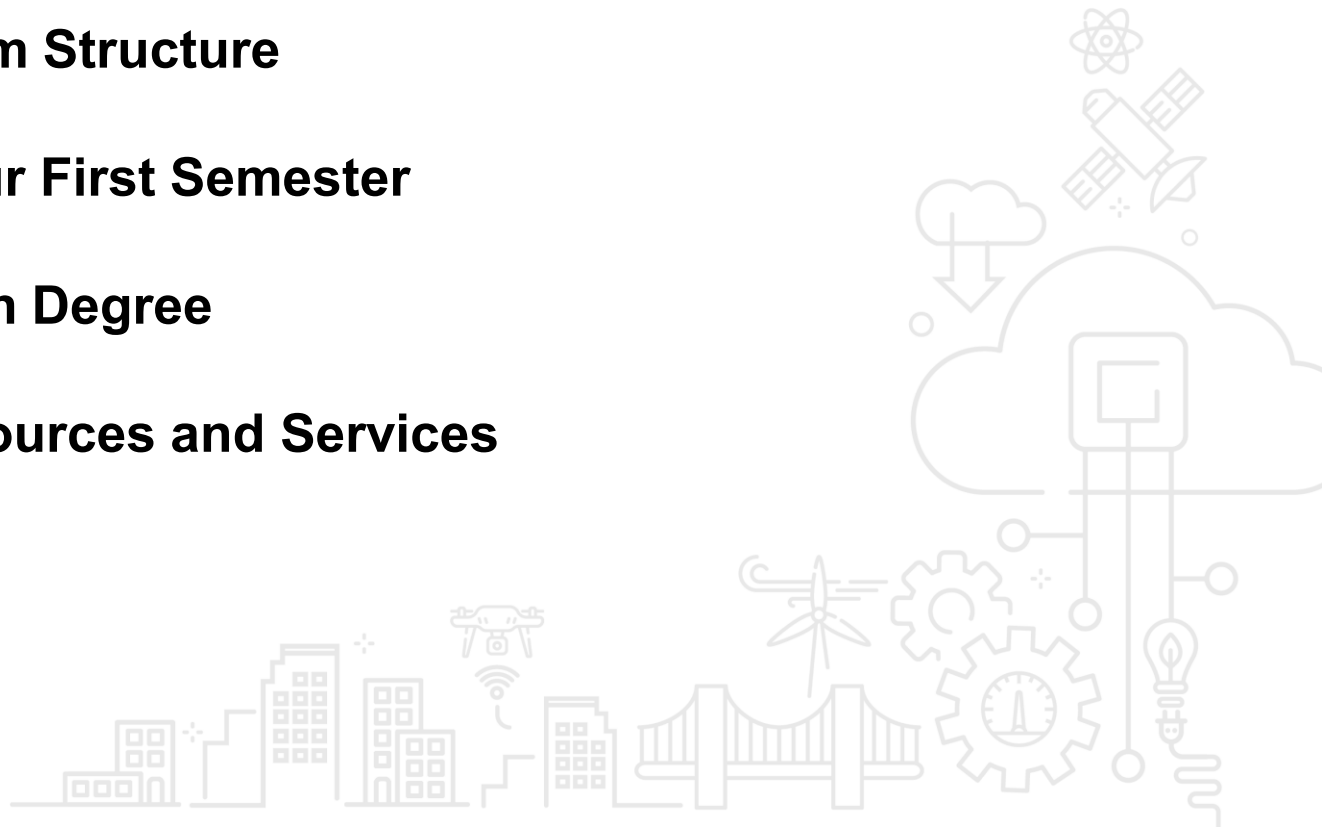
Material Science & Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Engineering Science, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering

[Schedule Appointment](#)



# Recap: outline

1. **CDE Curriculum Structure**
2. **Navigating Your First Semester**
3. **Build Your Own Degree**
4. **Academic Resources and Services**





# Reminder: bookmark this page!

<https://cde.nus.edu.sg/undergraduate/freshman-information/>



## FRESHMAN INFORMATION

### Navigating your first semester

Get ready to dive into your journey in NUS Discover the must-knows that will help you gear up and glide through your very first semester with confidence and clarity.

#### Getting to know your degree requirements

<b>NUS academic calendar</b> <p>The NUS academic year comprises two regular semesters and a Special Term. Check the key dates for each semester in the current and upcoming academic years.</p>	<b>Understanding your workload</b> <p>The workload for course is measured in academic units which reflect the required weekly effort. Most courses carry 4 units, with a typical semester load of 20 units. Learn more about the minimum and maximum units you can take each semester.</p>	<b>CDE curriculum structure</b> <p>The CDE curriculum includes the Common Curriculum, your primary major courses, and unmetacred activities. Learn more about what's covered in the CDE Common Curriculum.</p>
<b>Graduation requirements and recommended courses</b> <p>Check the graduation requirements and recommended semester plans for your CDE major, as well as any additional programmes you're pursuing such as double degree programmes, second majors, minors, specialisations, residential colleges, and NUS College.</p>	<b>Advanced placement credits and exemptions</b> <p>Polytechnic diploma holders and students in the Engineering Scholars Programme may be granted advanced placement credits (APCs) in relevant courses. Check whether you are eligible for the APCs.</p>	<b>Bridging courses</b> <p>Engineering students without A level H2 Mathematics or Physics (or equivalent) may need to take bridging courses. Similarly, students who score Band 1 or 2 in the Qualifying English Test (QET) may be required to take English bridging courses. Check if and when you need to register for the bridging courses.</p>
<b>Start of semester</b> <b>Planning your courses and timetable</b> <p>NUSMod is your go-to platform for course descriptions, pre-requisites, class schedules, venues, and exam dates. You can also use it to plan your semester timetable.</p>	<b>Academic plan application and declaration</b> <p>Before each semester, you must declare your academic plan, such as your primary major, to receive the right course registration priority. During the semester, you can also apply to change your major (if eligible), or add/a second major, minor, or specialisation.</p>	<b>Registering for courses</b> <p>Course registration typically begins 3 weeks before classes start, while tutorial and lab slot selection happens in Week 1. Learn how to use the course registration system (CourseReg) and keep track of key deadlines for adding or dropping courses.</p>

### Beyond your first semester

Unlock a world of opportunities during your time at NUS Discover exciting programmes, key policies, and everything you need to know to make the most of your journey from your first semester to graduation.

#### Special academic programmes

##### Specialisations

Specialisations let you dive deeper into a specific area within your major. In general, you need to complete 20 units of courses for a Specialisation. Find out more from your primary major about the Specialisations that are available, and when and how you can enrol in a Specialisation.

##### Minor programmes

A Minor is an additional area of study outside of your primary major. In general, you need to complete 20 units of courses for a Minor. Find out more about the Minors that are offered in CDE and other Faculties/Schools, and when and how you can enrol in a Minor.

##### Second Major programmes

A Second Major is an additional area of study outside of your primary major which offers greater depth compared to a Minor. In general, you need to complete 40 units of courses for a Second Major. Find out more about the Second Majors that are offered in CDE and other Faculties/Schools, and when and how you can enrol in a Second Major.

##### Double degree programmes

A double degree programme (DDP) allows you to graduate with two different degrees in two disciplines from the same Faculty/School or two different Faculties/Schools within NUS within the same candidature of 4 to 5 years. Find out more about the DDPs offered within CDE as well as those offered jointly with other Faculties/Schools.

#### Internships, research and teaching opportunities

##### Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme (UROP)

Sign up for UROP from Year 2 onwards if you would like to get taste of research through apprenticeship under the guidance of a CDE faculty member.

##### Undergraduate Research Experience (UREX)

Sign up for UREX from Year 2 onwards if you are keen to propose your own independent research project, get funding for your project, receive mentorship from CDE faculty members for the project.

##### Undergraduate Teaching Opportunities Programme (UTOP)

Interested to acquire or hone your teaching skills? Sign up for UTOP to gain experience in classroom teaching. Facilities, preparation of teaching materials, and other teaching activities under the supervision of experienced academic teachers.

##### Career readiness

Start your career journey from self-discovery to exploration to planning and execution, and get advice from dedicated career advisors.

##### Internships

Gain valuable professional and work experience through compulsory and optional internships (typically in Year 3). You may source for internship positions on our own or via the NUS TalentConnect portal.

#### Global experience

##### Student exchange programmes (SEP)

Participate in a student exchange programme (typically in Year 3) to broaden your horizon while fulfilling some of your courses in NUS. You can choose from over 200 partner universities in more than 40 countries, and also consider going on exchange at another university in Singapore.

##### Summer and winter programmes

Maximise your vacation periods by joining a summer or winter programme at partner universities while earning credits towards your degree programme. You can also consider summer and winter programmes if you are ineligible or unable to commit to a full semester overseas for SEP.

##### NOC Overseas Colleges (NOC)

If you are passionate about entrepreneurship, join an NOC programme to intern at global innovation hotspots while attending entrepreneurship courses at renowned partner universities.



This slide deck will be posted here later.



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