

MY STUDY PLAN

The BLA curriculum is flexible, therefore it is the responsibility of each student to plan for the courses they want to take based on their own interests and professional goals. Here is a step-by-step guide on how to create your Study Plan and keep updating it each year as you progress in your studies.

There are 2 documents included at the end of this handbook:

1. A checklist of courses required to graduate
2. A roadmap template for you to plan which courses to take when

To create your Study Plan, follow these steps:

Step 1: Update your graduation checklist

1. **Get a sense of how many courses you need to take**
 - a. *If you do not hold any Diploma, skip this part.*
 - b. If you hold a Diploma, consult page 34 to find out how many Advanced Placement Credits (APCs) you are entitled to (either 40, 36, or 20 units) and which courses you do not need to take. For each of these courses, write down the number of units gained through APCs in the “Units earned” column of the graduation checklist below. To help you, courses eligible for APCs have their units marked with *. However, you may not be entitled to all of them.
2. **Keep a record of the course you’ve taken so far**
 - a. *If this is your first year at NUS, skip this part.*
 - b. Otherwise, in the graduation checklist below, write down the units earned for the courses you have already passed so far.
3. **Choose your BLA Recognise Elective**
 - a. Check on page 17 the list of BLA Recognised Elective that applied to your cohort.
 - b. Write down choice after “BLA Recognized elective: LAD” in the checklist below.
 - c. If you are not sure which one to choose yet, write it down in pencil and decide later.
4. **Choose your General Education Courses**
 - a. Choose 3 or 4 General Education Courses from the list [here](#).
 - b. Write down the course codes and titles after “Other GE 1 to 4” in the graduation checklist below.
 - c. If you’re not sure yet, write it down in pencil, and change it later.

5. Plan how to use your Unrestricted Electives

- a. Check how many units of Unrestricted Elective you must complete: generally, it is either 20 units if you are granted APCs (see page 34), or 40 units if you are not.
- b. Choose one or combine two of the following options:
 - i. Take one of the two **landscape specializations** in Landscape Practice or Landscape Studies using 20 units of Unrestricted Electives (see page 20).
 - ii. Declare a **Minor** of your choice using 20 units (see page 22). Note that some of the courses you have already taken or plan to take for your Major can also count towards your Minor requirements. However:
 1. *Only up to 8 units can be double counted and used to meet the Minor requirement and another requirement.*
 2. *At least 12 units for any Minor must be taken from outside the entire set of courses that are listed for the major(s) or another minor that the student is taking or has taken.*
 - iii. Declare a **Second Major** of your choice using 40 units (see page 22). Note that some of the courses you have already taken or plan to take can also count towards your Second Major requirements. However:
 1. *Only up to 16 units may be double counted and used to meet the Second Major requirement and another requirement. Meaning that at least 24 units of the Second Major must be distinct and not overlapping.*
 2. *At least 12 units must be at Level 3000 or above.*
 - iv. Obtain **MLA Advanced Placement Credits** using 40 units of Unrestricted Electives to enter MLA at NUS in Year 2 (see page 21).
- c. Based on your choices, write down the codes and titles of the courses you plan to take under “Unrestricted Elective 1 to 10”. If you are taking more than 10 Unrestricted Electives, please add them to the “Additional Courses” list.

Step 2: Plan your academic roadmap semester by semester

Now that you have decided which courses you need to take to graduate, you should plan your academic roadmap semester by semester using the template provided below. Before you start, write which Academic Year (AY) is Year 1, 2, 3, and 4 for you depending on when you were admitted to NUS (for example, Year 1: AY2026/2027).

1. Write down all the courses taken so far

- a. *If this is your first semester at NUS, skip this part.*
- b. If not, write down in each semester which courses you have already passed, and how many units you have earned for each of them so far.
- c. Calculate the total for each semester.

2. Plan your mandatory courses

- a. Based on both your graduation checklist and the Recommended Roadmap provided on page 14, fill-in the list of courses to be taken each semester in the following order:
 - i. Design Studios: to be taken in order
 - ii. Core courses, excluding the BLA Recognised Elective
 - iii. Common Curriculum courses
 - iv. General Education, excluding those you choose
- b. If you are not sure which courses are offered which semester, check the List of Courses offered in AY26/27 on page 24. Check [NUSMods](#) for the latest updates on course timetabling.

At this point, calculate the total number of units for each semester and identify which one have less units. During their first semester at NUS, students can only read up to a maximum of 23 units. Please note that the recommended number of units each semester is between 20 and 24.

3. Plan your elective courses

- a. BLA Elective:
 - i. Check on NUSMods which semester your chosen BLA elective is offered and mark it down in either Semester 1 or Semester 2 of Year 3 (or Year 2 if you have 40 APCs). If you chose LAD3005 Internship Programme, then write it in Semester 2, but note that it will take place in Special Terms 1 and 2.
- b. General Education Electives:
 - i. Check on NUSMods which semesters your chosen GE courses are offered and mark them down in either Semester 1 or Semester 2 of Year 3 (or Year 2 if you have 40 APCs).
- c. Unrestricted Electives:
 - i. If you chose to obtain a Landscape Specialization or MLA Advanced Placement Credits, mark down the necessary Unrestricted Electives in Semester 1 and 2 of Year 4 (of Year 3 if you have 40 APCs). If you are not sure which courses are offered which semester, check the List of Courses offered in AY26/27 on page 31.
 - ii. If you choose a Minor or a Second Major, plan to take the necessary courses every semester following the course level (Level 1000 in Year 1, Level 2000 in Year 2, Level 3000 in Year 3, etc.). Check on NUSMods and EduRec which courses are offered which semester and if any prerequisite courses are required before you can enrol.

My Graduation Checklist

For students admitted in AY2025/26 and after

		Units earned	Approved substitution
Core Courses		Units	
LAD1001A Design 1	8*	-----	-----
LAD1003 Introduction to Landscape Architecture	4	-----	-----
LAD1005 Design 2	8*	-----	-----
LAD2003 Landscape Construction I	4	-----	-----
LAD2004 Planting Design and Horticulture	4*	-----	-----
LAD2005 Introductory GIS for Landscape Architecture	4	-----	-----
LAD2006 Design 3	8	-----	-----
LAD2007 Design 4	8	-----	-----
LAD2008 Landscape Representation	4	-----	-----
LAD2009 History and Theory of Landscape Architecture	4	-----	-----
LAD2010 Landscape Ecology	4	-----	-----
LAD3001 Design 5	8	-----	-----
LAD3002 Design 6	8	-----	-----
BLA Recognized elective: LAD-----	4	-----	-----
Total	80	-----	
Common Curriculum Courses		Units	
DTK2234 Advanced Design Thinking	4*	-----	-----
EG1311BE Design and Make	4*	-----	-----
CDE2212 AI for Design	4	-----	-----
PF1101A Project Management and Finance	4	-----	-----
Total	16	-----	
General Education Courses		Units	
AR2524 Spatial Computational Thinking	4	-----	-----
CDE2501 Sustainable Systems for Liveable Cities	4	-----	-----
GEA1000 Quantitative Reasoning with Data	4	-----	-----
Other GE 1: -----	4	-----	-----
Other GE 2: -----	4	-----	-----
Other GE 3: -----	4	-----	-----
Total	24	-----	
Unrestricted Electives		Units	
Unrestricted elective 1: -----		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 2: -----		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 3: -----		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 4: -----		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 5: -----		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 6: -----	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 7: -----	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 8: -----	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 9: -----	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 10: -----	4*	-----	-----
Total	40	-----	
Additional Courses:			
-----		-----	-----
-----		-----	-----
TOTAL UNITS (minimum 160)		-----	

Specialisation in:

Minor(s) or Second Major in:

For students admitted in AY2024-25 and before

		Units earned	Approved substitution
Essential Courses		Units	
LAD1001 Design 1	4*	-----	-----
LAD1003 Introduction to Landscape Architecture	4	-----	-----
LAD1004 History and Theory of Landscape Architecture	4	-----	-----
LAD1005 Design 2	8*	-----	-----
LAD2003 Landscape Construction I	4*	-----	-----
LAD2004 Planting Design and Horticulture	4*	-----	-----
LAD2005 Introduction to GIS for Landscape Architecture	4	-----	-----
LAD2006 Design 3	8	-----	-----
LAD2007 Design 4	8	-----	-----
LAD3001 Design 5	8	-----	-----
BLA Recognized elective: _____	4	-----	-----
Total	60	-----	

Common Curriculum Courses		Units	
CDE2000 Creating Narratives	4*	-----	-----
CDE2212 AI for Design	4	-----	-----
DTK1234A Design Thinking	4*	-----	-----
EG1311 Design and Make	4*	-----	-----
CDE2501 Liveable Cities	4	-----	-----
IE2141 Systems Thinking and Dynamics	4	-----	-----
PF1101 Fundamentals of Project Management	4	-----	-----
LAD3002 Design 6 (Integrated Project/Studio)	8	-----	-----
Total	36	-----	

General Education Courses		Units	
AR2524 Spatial Computational Thinking	4	-----	-----
GEA1000 Quantitative Reasoning with Data	4	-----	-----
Other GE 1: _____	4	-----	-----
Other GE 2: _____	4	-----	-----
Other GE 3: _____	4	-----	-----
Other GE 4: _____	4	-----	-----
Total	24	-----	

Unrestricted Electives		Units	
Unrestricted elective 1: _____		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 2: _____		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 3: _____		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 4: _____		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 5: _____		-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 6: _____	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 7: _____	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 8: _____	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 9: _____	4*	-----	-----
Unrestricted elective 10: _____	4*	-----	-----
Total	40	-----	

Additional Courses:

Specialisation in:

Minor(s) or Second Major in:

TOTAL UNITS (minimum 160)

My Academic Roadmap

Course Code	Course Name	Units (4 or 8)	Course Code	Course Name	Units (4 or 8)
Year 1: AY ____ / ____					
Semester 1			Semester 2		
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		Total (max. 23)			Total

Year 2: AY ____ / ____					
Semester 1			Semester 2		
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		Total			Total

Year 3: AY ____ / ____					
Semester 1			Semester 2		
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		Total			Total

Year 4: AY ____ / ____					
Semester 1			Semester 2		
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		Total			Total