

**“Being exam-smart is not enough. One should be able to think from first principles, venture out of one’s comfort zone and join dots across different domains.”**

**- Professor Lily Kong,**  
President of Singapore Management University, The Straits Times,  
“What Does Singapore Need from Its Next Generation?”,  
1 March 2024



## **The ADVANCED CLASS FOR INTEGRATIVE STUDIES (ACis)**



<https://www.acsindep.moe.edu.sg/talent-development>



## **HUMANITIES TALENT DEVELOPMENT AT ACS (INDEPENDENT)**



## **ADVANCED CLASS FOR INTEGRATIVE STUDIES**



## ADVANCED CLASS FOR INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

The Advanced Class for Integrative Studies (ACis) is for Year 5 and 6 students in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. The ACis aims to help students develop a deeper knowledge of the Humanities subjects through structured opportunities for inter-disciplinary and collaborative learning within a course of study which nurtures their passion in the Humanities. The ACis is one of two Humanities Talent Development Programmes offered by ACS (Independent), the other being the Humanities Scholarship & Programme.

### Who Can Apply?

#### Eligibility:

The ACis is open for application to students of all nationalities who:

- Have done consistently well in school and obtained outstanding results in their GCE O-Level examinations or Y4 IP Results (>70% overall);
- Obtained at least a B3 in English Language or equivalent;
- Have good co-curricular activities record; and
- Have good conduct record.

#### Subject Combination

Students enrolled in ACis will offer the following subject combination (relevant subject pre-requisites apply):

HL Economics	Group 3 - Individuals & Societies
HL History or Geography	Group 3 - Individuals & Societies
HL Mathematics	Group 5 - Mathematics
SL Language & Literature	Group 1 - Language A
SL Biology or Chemistry or Physics	Group 4 - Experimental Sciences
SL CLB/MLB/TLB or Ab Initio	Group 2 - Second Language

#### Overseas Enrichment

At Year 5, students in ACis will have the option to undertake an Overseas Enrichment Programme (OEP) with students in the Humanities Scholarship Programme (HSP). Through study and immersion opportunities beyond the borders of Singapore, the OEP will offer intentional opportunities for inter-disciplinary learning through curated learning activities and discussions facilitated by teachers.

#### Signature Local Enrichment

As part of talent development, students in ACis will be involved in curricular enrichment activities and learning experiences relating to the Humanities, with a multi- and inter-disciplinary focus. Students will have access to curricular enrichment opportunities, including local learning journeys, plays, dramas, musicals, Parliament sessions, and dialogues with Political Office Holders, industry leaders, and other distinguished persons and thought leaders. Additionally, they will benefit from exclusive engagements with various tertiary institutions, such as the College of Integrative Studies at SMU.

## STORIES FROM CURRENT STUDENTS IN THE HUMANITIES TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



From watching Shakespeare in the Park on a picnic mat with my classmates and Literature teacher to interacting with the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Singapore in Tokyo, I am thankful for the opportunity to see clearly the relevance of the subjects I learn to our lives. Even small things like conversations with my teachers and classmates have genuinely grown my love for learning, and interacting with like-minded and passionate individuals is extremely energising.

- Clarabelle Tan Shih Jieh, Class of 2024

My teachers inspire personal growth, constantly challenging us to go beyond in our critical thinking. The opportunities for learning are endless, with learning journeys and overseas trips that create a classroom without walls. Being in HSP broadened my understanding of what it means to value-add, to love God, and to love people.

- Ian Lim Rae Jed, Class of 2024



The programme provided me with a like-minded community of peers passionate about the Humanities, holistic experiences that are inter-disciplinary such as sitting in for a Singapore parliamentary debate which deepened my understanding of real-life applications and the relevance of the subjects I study. With a conducive environment to learn and challenge myself, classes and teachers always push me to think beyond the syllabus and classroom.

- Shana Lam Kai Xin, Class of 2024

"The Humanities teach us who we are and what we can be." - Ronald Reagan. The numerous enrichment opportunities deepened my grasp of various fields such as History and Literature, expanding exploration of my interests and conviction that words and ideas are powerful enough to transform the world! The robust learning environment cultivated by my engaging teachers and open-minded classmates engendered fruitful and spirited debate, helping us develop ideas for the betterment of society.

- Jonavon Yeo Shen Yi, Class of 2024



## HOW TO APPLY FOR THE HUMANITIES TALENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

#### Timeline to note:

- For prospective IP students, the application period for the upcoming cycle will commence in October.
- For prospective JAE and other students, the application period for the upcoming cycle commences the following January.
- This timeline applies to **both HSP and ACis applicants**.

#### Application essay:

- You will need to submit an essay of about 500-600 words on a topic that will be provided to you. In your essay, you should provide cogent arguments, with relevant analysis, in support of your stand.
- When submitting your essay, please indicate the question you have selected and provide a title that captures what your essay is about.
- This essay is a requirement for **both HSP and ACis applicants**.

#### School interview:

- A school interview will be conducted in early November (for IP applicants) and January (for JAE and other applicants).
- The school interview is conducted for **both HSP and ACis applicants**.
- Successful candidates for ACis will be notified by the school in late November (for IP applicants) and early February (for JAE applicants).

#### MOE interview:

- For those applying for HSP, the school interview will be followed by an MOE interview conducted in January (for IP applicants) and March (for JAE and other applicants).
- You will be invited for the scholarship selection interview based on your examination results at Year 4 and the school's recommendation, which is in turn dependent on your school interview (in Step 3).
- The MOE interview is conducted **only for HSP applicants**.
- Successful candidates for HSP will be notified by MOE in February (for IP applicants) and April (for JAE applicants).

## Connect with Us

#### For IP students:

The application period commences in mid-October of Year 4.

#### For JAE students:

The application period commences in mid-January of Year 5.

Indicate your intent to apply for the upcoming intake of the ACS(I) Humanities Talent Development Programmes at:

[www.tinyurl.com/ACSIHTDP](http://www.tinyurl.com/ACSIHTDP)