**Academic Requirements by Cohorts**

**Students Matriculated in 2016 and onwards**

A student in the Scholars Programme **must read and pass**:

* 3 compulsory foundation-tier modules worth 12 MCs
* 8 Inquiry-tier modules worth 32 MCs
* 1 reflection-tier module worth 4 MCs

**Foundation Tier -- Level 2000 --**contains three modules. The first of these, Writing and Critical Thinking, has long been a mainstay of the USP curriculum, encouraging students to engage in a complex and sophisticated way with the texts that they read, and to produce complex and inflected texts of their own. While the module has relevance to all students, its focus on the academic essay means that it develops verbal reasoning skills most often associated with the humanities and social sciences but nonetheless of broad relevance and importance. The second foundation module, Quantitative Reasoning Foundation (QRF), introduces students to the basics of quantitative reasoning, defined broadly as "the way in which we can use numbers to provide evidence for our arguments." It does so by examining a specific substantive topic whose claims can be assessed quantitatively. Such substantive topics include: evaluating our individual eco-footprint (UQF2101E), quantifying nuclear risk (UQF2101G) or environmental quality (UQF2101I), and assessing the relationship between democracy and war (UQF2101H). The third foundation module is the University Scholars Seminar. Organized as a two semester lecture series, students will be introduced to key ideas, thinkers, and paradigm shifts over the course of five intellectual periods: Pre-Enlightenment, the Enlightenment, Post-Enlightenment, Modernity, and Post-modernity. Each period maps the shifting social, political, and material contexts in which these questions have been raised, challenged, and raised again. The aim is to introduce students to a history of intellectual enquiry that is neither singular nor complete but contesting and contestable.

**Inquiry Tier -- Level 2000 & 3000 --**consists of eight modules. Students take interdisciplinary modules, with a small class size, in two domains, Humanities & Social Sciences (H&SS), and Sciences & Technologies (S&T). The overall goal of the second tier, as its name suggests, is to promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary inquiry, so that students can make intellectual connections outside of their majors. The curriculum is thus designed to encourage students in broad intellectual inquiry beyond their chosen majors, and incorporates the requirement to take at least one (and maximum of three) independent study modules on topics of their choice. This part of the curriculum comprises most of our existing modules, and preserves something of the progressive movement towards the Major which has always characterised our structure. While modules are categorised into domains, and indeed into sub-categories within the domains, they differ from the kinds of module that students might take in their major by being based around a concept or an issue, rather than aiming to cover content. Each module will be taken by students from a variety of faculties, and thus will inevitably acquire an interdisciplinary perspective through interactive pedagogy.

All USP students will take four modules in the H&SS and four modules in the S&T domains, including one ISM but no more than three.

We encourage students to have international experience, and indeed we aim to have all of our students undergo some form of study, whether formal or informal, outside Singapore. We thus allow the substitution of modules in a number of cases. Students going on USP and their faculties’ Student Exchange Programmes, subject to approval, can substitute two modules per semester. Those on a Double Degree Programme, our own Cultural Immersion Programmes in Japan, China, and India, and on NOC or iLEAD, can gain exemptions up to four modules in total. In each case, we consider that the intellectual experiences the students undergo, whether broadening across disciplines, cultural facility in a new academic environment entrepreneurship, partially fulfil the goals of the second tier of modules in stimulating broad-based inquiry. In order to preserve the sense of the Scholars Programme as a learning community, however, we impose an overall requirement of eight USP modules across the three tiers.

**Reflection Tier -- Level 4000 --**consists of one module, the senior seminar. It is designed to bring students together towards the end of their degree to reflect on the conditions of their own disciplinary knowledge and the assumptions developed in disciplinary framework to approach discourse and ideas with. Taught by a multidisciplinary faculty of three to four, this senior class examines a theme from several disciplinary perspectives. Students are challenged to critically read and productively respond to assumptions, evidence and methods from sciences, social sciences and humanities. Themes on “Future Times” and “Violence” have been examined. Assignments include weekly blog, ePortfolio, and eMagazine contribution.

**Singapore Studies Requirement**

Students in the Scholars Programme must also fulfill one Singapore Studies (SS) requirement during his/her duration in the Programme. This requirement may be satisfied by a choice of modules designated as fulfilling the Singapore Studies requirement in the Inquiry Tier. Students are advised to plan ahead the SS module to read, and to ensure that they fulfil the SS requirement at an early stage of their studies in NUS. You may refer [here](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/academic-structure/singapore-studies) for this list of designated modules.

**S/U Options**

Students may exercise the S/U option for up to 32MCs towards their degree requirements.The S/U option will apply to Level 1000 modules and Level 2000 modules offered without other NUS modules as pre-requisites, unless otherwise stipulated by the Faculties/Departments.

USP modules (Level 2000, with the exception of WCT and QRF modules) will be eligible for S/U for USP students matriculated in AY2014/15 and onwards. USP students enrolled in either the writing and critical thinking (WCT) or the quantitative reasoning foundation (QRF) module will not be allowed to exercise their S/U options.

The University Scholars Seminar (USS) is read on a Completed Satisfactory/Completed Unsatisfactory (CS/CU) basis, and does not count towards the MCs limit of S/U options.

In general, students may exercise the S/U option for up to 32 MCs in the first two regular semesters; if this is not fully utilised, the S/U option may still be exercised in subsequent semesters, for up to 12 MCs.

Variations on the limit of S/U options that can be exercised may apply for specific groups of students, such as the following:

1. Students without prior university experience but are granted 20 or more Advanced Placement Credits (APCs) at the point of admission to NUS may exercise the S/U option for up to 20 MCs in the first two regular semesters; if this is not fully utilised, the S/U option may still be exercised in subsequent semesters, for up to 12 MCs.
2. Students with some prior university experience (which are being recognised towards the NUS degree) may exercise the S/U option for up to 12 MCs anytime during their candidature, including the first two regular semesters.
3. Students with a prior university degree are not eligible for the grade-free scheme.

The S/U option will apply to all Level 2000 USP modules with the exception of WCT and QRF modules. All WCT and QRF modules are not eligible for S/U.

**Continuation Requirements**

At the end of their second year, students are required to have completed at least 6 USP modules. Those who have not will be asked to produce justification, and a study plan on how they aim to complete the programme.

**Graduation Requirement**

A student in the Scholars Programme must read and pass:

* 3 compulsory foundation-tier modules worth 12 MCs
* 8 Inquiry-tier modules worth 32 MCs
* 1 reflection-tier module worth 4 MCs

Of the **twelve** USP modules, USP students must read a **minimum of eight USP modules**(the 8 USP modules exclude substituted modules and directly recognised non-USP modules). They must also ensure that they have at least **six** USP modules which are letter-graded, and obtained at least an Honours (Merit) degree.

**GE Pillar: GER1000 Quantitative Reasoning**

With effect from AY2016/2017 onwards, all NUS students (including USP students) on the modular system are required to read GER1000 to fulfil the GE Quantitative Reasoning Pillar.

For USP students admitted in AY2016/2017 onwards, the USP modules will be read in place of GE pillars (4 out of 5 pillars), faculty/major and/or unrestricted electives requirements. USP students do not have to read four GE pillars, namely Thinking and Expression, Singapore Studies, Human Cultures and Asking Questions.

**USP Dismissal Policy**

To graduate with a USP certificate, an undergraduate student must achieve at least an Honours (Merit) degree, i.e. have a minimum CAP of 3.5. USP students should note the following:

* should a student’s CAP fall below 3.0 (but ≥ 2.5) for three consecutive semesters, the student will be dismissed from USP in the next semester of study; and
* should a student’s CAP fall below 2.5 for two consecutive semesters, the student will be dismissed from USP in the next semester of study.

**NUS-ANU (FoS) Joint Degree Programme**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Mathematics course for NUS students (applicable to students matriculated in 2006 and after) | |
| Semesters 1-3 (NUS) | Completion of 15 modules including:   * A minimum of 6 in mathematics, * 3 Special Programs in Science (SPS) modules and * 6 University Scholars Programme (USP) modules:   For Students matriculated in 2012 or after: 3 Compulsory Foundation Modules and 3 Inquiry modules, two of which must come from the Humanities and Social Sciences domain  Or   * 7 in mathematics, * 2 Special Programs in Science (SPS) modules and * 6 University Scholars Programme (USP) modules:   For Students matriculated in 2011 or before: 6 First Tier modules including 'Writing and Critical Thinking' and 2 modules from the Humanities and Social Sciences domain  For Students matriculated in 2012 or after: 3 Compulsory Foundation Modules and 3 Inquiry modules, two of which must come from the Humanities and Social Sciences domain  [Total: 60 modular credits] |
| Semesters 4-6 (ANU) | Completion of 12 6-unit courses, including:   * A minimum of 6 courses in mathematics plus * Advanced Studies Courses 1, 2 and 3   [Total: 72 units] |
| Semesters 7-8 (NUS) | Honours in mathematics.  Completion of 10 modules, including:   * A minimum of 9 mathematics modules.   [Total: 40 modular credits] |

Honours in Mathematics or Physics will comprise project work (between 40% and 50%) and coursework. Joint Honours project work between NUS and ANU are encouraged in the JDP.

The JDP requires completion of at least 100 modular credits at NUS and 72 units at ANU. Students are expected to maintain a CAP of at least 4.2 at NUS and an average mark of 80 at the ANU. Students who fail to meet the expected CAP or average mark for more than two consecutive semesters will be required to leave the JDP, with borderline cases referred for decision to the JDP Committee.

Students in the Scholars Programme must also fulfill one Singapore Studies (SS) requirement during his/her duration in the Programme. This requirement may be satisfied by a choice of modules designated as fulfilling the Singapore Studies requirement in the First-Tier or Advanced Modules curriculum. Students are advised to plan ahead the SS module to read, and to ensure that they fulfil the SS requirement at an early stage of their studies in NUS. You may refer here for this list of designated modules.

**USP Modules**

Foundation Tier

**Writing and Critical Thinking**

[Writing and Critical Thinking: Civic Discourse in a Fractious World](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101b)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Colonialism and Cosmopolitanism](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101a)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Danger and National Security](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101s)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Human Trafficking](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101f)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Interpreting Consumerism](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101i)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Issues in and Around Justice](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101y)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Monuments, Memorials, and Commemoration](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101c)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on "Mind"](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101r)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Narrative in Everyday Life](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101d)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Site of Tourism](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101j)  
[Writing and Critical Thinking: Technologies of Home](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uwc2101u)

**Quantitative Reasoning Foundation**

[Quantitative Reasoning Foundation: Quantifying Environmental Quality](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/qr2101i)  
[Quantitative Reasoning Foundation: Quantifying Nuclear Risks](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/qr2101g)  
[Quantitative Reasoning Foundation: Quantifying Our Eco-Footprint](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/qr2101e)  
[Quantitative Reasoning Foundation: War and Democracy](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/qr2101h)

**University Scholars Seminar**

[University Scholars Seminar](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uss2105)

Inquiry Tier

**Humanities and Social Sciences**

[Cyberart](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uar2201)  
[Theatre and the World](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uar2207)  
[From Lab to Stage: Writing the Science Play](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uar2208)  
[Singapore Studies: The Heterogeneous Indians of Contemporary Singapore](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/ucv2209)  
[Virtue and Leadership](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uhb2204)  
[Language, Cognition and Culture](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uhb2207)  
[Polycentric Governance: Possibilities and Pitfalls](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uhb2209)  
[Emotion in Daily Life](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uhb2210)  
[Welcome to the Anthropocene: Agency in the Era of Climate Change](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uhb2211)  
[Singapore Studies: Singaporean Nostalgia](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uhb2212)  
[Representing War](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/ult2298d)  
[The Subject of Reading](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/ult2299c)  
[Singapore Studies: The Politics of Language and Literacy in Singapore](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/ult2299d)  
[Ethics and the Environment](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/upi2205)  
[Creative Thinking](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/upi2206)  
[Creation of Value](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/upi2209)  
[Singapore Studies: The Making of a Nation](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2304)  
[New Media and Politics](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2308)  
[Ordinary Politics](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2309)  
[Singapore Studies: Nationalism and the Arts](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2312)  
[Satires and (Un)Serious Histories](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2316)  
[Singapore Studies: Multiculturalism in Singapore and Its Contested Meanings](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2317)  
[Singapore Studies: Managing Cultural Difference: Theorizing the Spore Model](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2318)  
[Singapore Studies: Transitional Justice and War Crime Trials: Case Studies from Singapore and Asia](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/use2320)  
[The Problematic Concept of "Gender"](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/usp3501)  
[Singapore Studies: Asianism and Singapore](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/usp3505)  
[Reason, Secularization & Multiculturalism](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/usp3510)

**Sciences and Technologies**

[Hormesis and Life](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/ubm2201)  
[Computer Science and the IT Revolution](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uit2201)  
[Quantum Computation](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uit2205)  
[The Importance of Being Formal](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uit2206)  
[Computational Thinking and Modelling](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uit2207)  
[The Biomolecular Revolution](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uls2201)  
[Evolution](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uls2202)  
[The Biology and Phenomenology of Pain](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uls2207)  
[Space, Time and Matter](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/unl2201)  
[Nature's Threads](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/unl2206)  
[The Nature of Natural Law](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/unl2207)  
[Complexity and Recursion](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/unl2208)  
[Quantum Reality and Appearance](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/unl2209)  
[Nanoscale Science and Technology](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/upc2206)  
[Molecular Courtship](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/upc2208)  
[Singapore Studies: Understanding Environmental Pollution in Singapore](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/upc2209)  
[Passing Time: Processes, Temporality, and Econometrics](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uqr2211)  
[The Science and Art of Business Analytics](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/uqr2213)  
[Mathematics and Reality](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/unl2210)

Reflection Tier

[Intellectual Responsibility in a Complex World](http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/module-timetable/usr4002a)