



AY2025/2026 Student Exchange Programme

Why go on SEP?



Local Education with a Global Experience

1. Complement or enhance your NUS education
2. Develop yourself into a mature student, a potential employee and a better person
3. Build up your networking skills



Which university is suitable for you?

- NUS has more than 180 partnerships with universities worldwide from more than 25 countries
- Do your own research and take charge of your student exchange journey
- Look at partner universities' (PU) website
- Look at [Global Relations Office \(GRO\)'s factsheets](#) for details on each PU (for U-wide placements)

Administrative Matters

SEP Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ Full-time NUS students
- ✓ Completed at least 2 semesters of study at NUS
- ✓ Complete and pass **SP1541 or its equivalent** by Year 2 Sem 2*
- ✓ Maintain a **minimum GPA of 3.0**
- ✓ Have a good disciplinary record**

Some partner universities (PU) require a higher GPA than 3.0. Do check!

^The above are the minimum requirements. As SEP application is highly competitive, students will be evaluated based on academic and non-academic considerations

*If you have not completed SP1541 or its equivalent by Year 2 Sem 1, you may still apply in round 1

**Good conduct from end-to-end (from application to return from SEP). Your internal offer may be retracted or credit transfers may be affected if your conduct becomes unbecoming.

Note: FoS students are not allowed to participate in SEP in their final semester or final year (for students scheduled for year-long projects or internships)

Year 2 students going on SEP in Year 3 are prioritised during allocation of places.

SP1541 Equivalents

- SP2271
- For BES students: SP1541 or FAS1101
- University Town College Programme: UTW courses
- NUS College: NTW courses
- Ridge View Residential College: RVRC Programme
- Students who changed from FASS primary major to FoS primary major: FAS1101

Major-Specific Information

- Data Science and Economics XDP
 - Only allowed to participate in SEP in Semester 1 as DSE3101 cannot be mapped and is only offered in Semester 2
- Quantitative Finance
 - Advised to participate in SEP in Semester 1 as QF2103 and QF3103 (pre-requisites of QF4104) are only offered in Semester 2. There is no guarantee that these courses can be mapped.
 - Refer to sample study plans:
<https://www.math.nus.edu.sg/ug/majmin/primajors/qf/>

Major-Specific Information

- Pharmaceutical Science

- Only allowed to participate in SEP in Semester 2 as it is the only semester where there is flexibility to move two major essential courses (PHS3102 and LSM3211) to another academic year.
- PHS3102 can be read in Y2S2 or Y4S2.
- LSM3211 can be read between Y2S1 and Y4S1.

SEP Estimated Cost



- SEP students will only **pay tuition fees to NUS**
- Most PUs require exchange students to pay exchange related fees (e.g. medical insurance fee, facility usage fee)
- Students are responsible for their own airfare, visa, accommodation and personal expenses while on exchange
- For information on financial aid and estimated cost of living:
 - [GRO's website](#)
 - Partner Universities' website

Application Procedure



DO NOT
submit your application
at the last minute

Step 1: Application

- Opens from **Tuesday, 27 August to Tuesday, 10 September 2024, 2359H Singapore time**
- Complete both EduRec (Part 1) and Qualtrics (Part 2) applications
- **Incomplete and/or late applications will NOT be accepted**

Note: Please contact us via [SCI UG Queries](#) **before the deadline** if you encounter technical issues and think you are not able to submit your application in time. Our office closes at 6pm. Students should approach the office no later than 5.30pm. Students are advised not to submit their application at the very last minute.

Application Procedure

- In your application, indicate up to FIVE (5) choices in order of preference or ranking. Choice 1 being your most preferred choice.
- You will be considered for all your choices and hence, **Only apply for universities you are happy 😊 to receive offers for.**
- As exchange application is highly competitive, students are strongly encouraged to broaden their choice of PUs beyond the usual popular places.
- You will not be allowed to change your choices after application has closed.

Travel Preparedness Course (TPC)

- The TPC provides students with information on anticipating and mitigating risks, and handling emergencies while abroad. This is a **compulsory** course for all students who intend to embark on any NUS-endorsed overseas programme.
- You can only apply for SEP in EduRec **at least 24 hours after completing the TPC**. Within the first 24 hours upon completion of the TPC, the following error will prevent you from applying:

Message

Please complete the Travel Preparedness Course prior to your study abroad programme application. To access the course, please visit this link: <https://canvas.nus.edu.sg/enroll/LECK9W>. Please wait for 24 hours after completion of the course before applying for your study abroad programme.

OK

Travel Preparedness Course (TPC)

- For more information, FAQs and technical questions regarding TPC, please refer to <https://www.nus.edu.sg/gro/travel-preparedness-course>.

Reading of Courses at Partner University

- Take note of course restrictions (if any)
 - Certain partner universities require students to take a certain percentage of courses from their primary major
 - Certain partner universities only allow students to read courses within the school/faculty of their primary major
- Not all courses are open to exchange students
- Fulfilment of pre-requisites at NUS does not necessary equate to meeting the pre-requisites at the partner university. Fulfilment of course pre-requisites are reviewed at the discretion of the PU

Application Procedure

- The Initial Study Plan is for the purpose of application and is **tentative, non-binding and unofficial**, i.e., there is no official approval given.
- Students are required to formally seek approval for course mapping in EduRec after they have been selected to go for SEP. Instructions to do so will be provided after students have been selected.

Application Procedure

Step 2: Allocation and acceptance

- Students are allocated according to their preferences, with placement prioritized for undersubscribed Partner Universities (PUs) (assuming the applicants meet the eligibility criteria)
- For oversubscribed PUs, students are considered on competitive basis, taking into consideration their academic performance, non-academic achievements (e.g. participation and roles in CCAs, performance in international competitions etc.) and personal statement. Students may be subjected to an interview process on case-by-case basis.

Application Procedure

Step 2: Allocation and acceptance

- An internal offer will be made to successful students.
- Please note that internal selection by NUS **does not constitute a confirmed place at the partner university.** Students also need to meet the admission criteria set by the Partner University.

Note: If you withdraw from the programme after accepting the internal offer in myEduRec, a withdrawal penalty of S\$300 will be imposed.

Application Procedure

Step 3: Course mapping and approvals via EduRec

- Refer to Course Mapping Instructions in the [FoS SEP website](#).

Step 4: Submission of application documents to Partner University for assessment of admission (around one semester before SEP)

Step 5: Official admission offer from Partner University

Major-coded dummy course to fulfil Major Elective requirement

(For Cohort AY2021/2022 onwards)

- Only **ONE** 4 units major-coded dummy course (i.e. xx3991 or xx4991) can be used to fulfil major **elective** requirements (i.e. not an essential/compulsory course)

Programme/Major	Exchange Enrichment Course
Biological Sciences	LSM3991 or LSM4991
Chemistry	CM3991 or CM4991
Environmental Studies XDP [#]	ENV2991 or ENV3991 or ENV4991
Food Science & Technology	FST4991 (for specialisation only)
Pharmaceutical Science	PHS4991
Physics	PC3991 or PC4991

[#]For BES-XDP, a maximum of **two** exchange enrichment courses can be counted towards BES Major requirements. Refer to [BES website](#) for more information.

CHS Common Curriculum Course Mapping

- All mapping requests are subject to approval
- Students are strongly encouraged to complete all CHS Common Curriculum courses in their first two years of study except for the Communities and Engagement course and two Interdisciplinary courses.
- CHS courses are uniquely created in NUS and in general will be difficult to map

Writing	FAS1101, SP1541, SP2271	Cannot map
Data Literacy	GEA1000, BT1101	Possible to map
Digital Literacy	GEI1001, GEI1002, NM2207, CS1010x, CS1101S, COS1000, CM3267, ZB2201, SP2273	Possible to map (Except for SP2273)
Design Thinking	DTK1234	Cannot map
Artificial Intelligence	HS1501, HS1502, IT1244, CS2109S	HS1501, HS1502: Cannot map IT1244: Possible to map CS2109S: Check with SOC
Communities and Engagement		^Refer to remarks below
Integrated Asian Studies	HSA1000	Cannot map
Integrated Social Sciences	HSS1000	Cannot map
Integrated Humanities	HSH1000	Cannot map
Scientific Inquiry 1	HSI1000	Cannot map
Scientific Inquiry 2	HSI20xx	Cannot map
Interdisciplinary Course 1 & 2	HS29xx	Cannot map

^ Students are advised to read the C&E course in NUS as it will be difficult to map from taking overseas courses. For course mapping, the learning objectives of the C&E course needs to be met. For further enquiries, please email to AskCnE@nus.edu.sg.

Flexibility in your Study Plan

Save some of your unrestricted elective space for SEP

ADVICE

Plan to map back a mixture of major courses and unrestricted electives



BE PREPARED THAT THINGS MAY NOT GO AS PLANNED

- Be prepared that you may not secure the courses you plan to read and want to map back, due to
 - Limited course vacancies
 - Courses not being offered in your SEP semester/not offered to exchange students/no longer offered
 - Did not meet PU's pre-requisite
(fulfilment of NUS pre-requisite \neq fulfilment of PU's pre-requisite)

Reading Computer Science Courses at Partner Universities

- **Take note** – For students majoring in DSA (1st and 2nd major), 2nd major/minor in computer science and any student intending to read computer science courses:

Computer Science courses are in high demand, and course availability cannot be guaranteed

NUS Scholarship

(NUS Global Merit Scholarship & NUS Merit Scholarship)

- Guaranteed an offer of a semester-long Student Exchange Programme (SEP) with **one of NUS' overseas partner universities**, provided all eligibility criteria have been met.
- Please note that the allocation of universities is merit-based. Hence, scholars may not receive an offer from their top choices, or even choices in Round 1 of SEP applications.
- If an offer is declined, the scholar will no longer be guaranteed a placement in future application rounds.

Points to Note

- Changing of partner university or SEP semester will not be entertained after application has closed.
- If a student rejects the NUS internal offer, it will be deemed that the student has withdrawn his/her SEP application entirely. The student will not be eligible to re-apply for any remaining SEP places.
- Thus, students are advised to think through and select their partner university choices carefully before application closes.

Credit Transfer

- Courses have to be taken on **a graded basis** at the partner university.
- Students have to obtain **at least a passing grade** for the course read at the partner university in order to be eligible for credit transfer.
 - Only "Overseas Satisfactory" (OVS) grades will be awarded.
 - "OVS" grade carries units but does not affect GPA.
- Sample of what is reflected on the transcript:

ACADEMIC YEAR 20XX/20XX SEMESTER X

PARTICIPATED IN A STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMME AT **NAME OF PARTNER UNIVERSITY**

CREDITS TRANSFERRED FROM **NAME OF PARTNER UNIVERSITY** - **XX.00**

BACHELOR OF NAME OF DEGREE

GRADE POINT AVERAGE: GPA BEFORE GOING ON SEP/SWP

REMARKS:

PLEASE REFER TO THE TRANSCRIPT OF **NAME OF PARTNER UNIVERSITY** FOR DETAILS OF COURSES TAKEN AND GRADES/UNITS OBTAINED.

Credit Transfer

- If students have read, mapped and passed a full workload at the partner university, 20 units will be transferred back to NUS. Credits will be transferred accordingly for courses mapped and any remaining units will be topped-up using a SX-coded dummy course that counts towards unrestricted electives.
- Refer to [this page](#) for information on full workload.
- Refer to Credit Transfer Instructions in the [FoS SEP website](#).

Credit Transfer

Minimum Unit Requirements for Programme/ Major/Second Major, Minor and Specialisations

- Programme/Major/Second Major/Minor/Specialisation: A maximum of 40% of the requirements may be earned through credit transfers, advanced placement and exemptions, provided these units are earned from courses deemed relevant to the particular Major/Programme/Minor/Specialisation.
- Refer to [this page](#) for more information.

Financial Aid

NUS Awards for Study Abroad – NASA Bursary

- NASA Bursaries are available on **needs basis** to undergraduate students participating in overseas programmes
 - NASA Enhancement Bursary → Overseas summer, winter and research attachment programmes
 - NASA Exchange Bursary → Overseas Student Exchange Programme

For a list of bursaries available, please refer to [GRO's website](#).



Financial Aid

NUS Awards for Study Abroad – NASA Scholarship

- NASA Exchange Scholarships are available on a [competitive basis](#) to undergraduate students who are going overseas to participate in Student Exchange Programme (SEP).

For a list of scholarships available, please refer to [GRO's website](#).



Financial Aid

Science Student Overseas Exposure Fund (SSOEF)

- The SSOEF was set up to provide financial support to needy students for special academic programmes conducted overseas which will enhance students' learning experience and exposure:
 - Students exchange programmes;
 - Summer programmes;
 - Conferences;
 - Competitions;
 - Community and other academic related programmes



Withdrawals

SEP Withdrawal Penalty Fee

- If you withdraw AFTER accepting the internal offer in EduRec, a SEP withdrawal penalty of \$300 will be imposed.

Should I go for SEP?

- Think of this before you apply,
NOT after accepting the offer!



Withdrawals

Opportunities for you to think & decide...

1st Opportunity – Before the start of official application, students will be asked to complete:

- Initial Study Plan Form: help in your thoughts of the courses you will take/miss while on SEP for an entire semester, without delaying your graduation.
- Statement of Estimated Cost of Study: provides an estimate in ensuring that the cost is manageable and poses a chance to discuss with your parents.

2nd Opportunity - Before accepting the internal offer in EduRec

Some Unacceptable Withdrawal Reasons

Unable to map core courses!

Unable to fulfil major requirements!

Students should be flexible in their study plan as not all courses you wish to read can be mapped or are offered at the partner university. The aim should be to read a variety of courses, hence you should be prepared for the scenario where you will not be able to map all your major requirements.



I want to stay back and raise my GPA.

Students should plan your road map well ahead before application.



I have other commitments and cannot afford time for SEP

If SEP is not your top priority, you should not have applied for it.



SEP will deplete my savings

Students were asked to consider carefully if they could afford to go on SEP before applying.



Thanks!

Any questions?



Submit your query via [SCI UG Queries](#)