



University
Scholars
Programme



Welcome to the University Scholars Programme (**USP**).

Here, you will belong to a diverse community. A place of ideas and passions. Of intellectual integrity, curiosity, and exploration. Of synthesis, creation, and collaboration. A world that goes beyond the norms, a world of interdisciplinary thinking that transcends boundaries.

Each year, 180 incoming NUS students are admitted to the **University Scholars Programme (USP)**. The USP is a multidisciplinary academic programme that offers the freedom to explore across disciplines, a wide range of extracurricular and overseas opportunities, and a community of exceptionally motivated and talented students in a residential college.

My Major and USP

70% + 30%

Students admitted to USP are concurrently enrolled in one of six faculties or schools in NUS – Arts and Social Sciences, Business, Computing, Design and Environment, Engineering, and Science. USP students earn 70% of their academic credits in their home faculty, and 30% in USP. The total workload is the same as that of other undergraduates.

USP Curriculum

USP's interdisciplinary modules introduce students to a broad spectrum of skills and new ways of thinking. The foundations modules focus on writing, critical thinking, and quantitative reasoning skills, which form the framework for complex ideas and arguments. The inquiry and reflection modules hone independent thinking, encouraging students to delve more deeply into their areas of interest through research, expeditions, overseas academic exchanges, and entrepreneurial internships.

USP Residential College

All USP students will stay at the USP residential college (RC) for two years: year one and another year of their choice. Some will stay on thereafter. This is an important component of the students' orientation and integration into USP, and will help them to experience the benefits of life in a closely-knit learning community.

USP Overseas Experiences

USP encourages and provides financial support for numerous overseas initiatives. These include exchange programmes at universities such as Harvard, Yale, Delhi, Waseda, Princeton, Sciences Po, Beida, and the Australian National University. We also have expeditions to destinations such as the Himalayas, Cambodia, as well as Turkey; and overseas field trips.

Applying to USP

Students submit a separate USP application when applying to NUS. Admission is based on academic potential, co-curricular achievements, passion, motivation, and curiosity. Application is by transcript, essay, and an interview with USP professors. NUS students in their first semester may also join during USP's second admissions process from October to November each year.

INTERDISCIPLINARY CURRICULUM

ACTIVE STUDENT COMMUNITY

RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE

INDUSTRY ALUMNI NETWORK

DIVERSE OVERSEAS EXPERIENCES



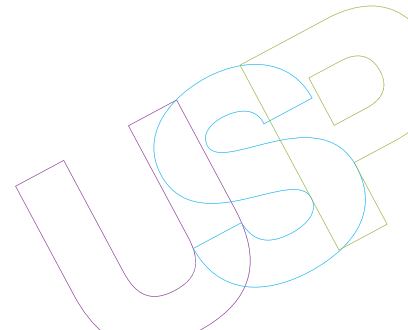


Photo courtesy of Shaun Quek



Residential College

Located in NUS University Town (UTown), the **USP residential college (RC)** offers an integrated learning and living experience through which students develop a sense of belonging to USP. Students take classes at the RC; they share meals with peers and professors and hold thoughtful discussions in the Master's and their own lounge – fondly known as Chatterbox. They are immersed in an environment conducive to their personal and intellectual growth. Here, students have many resources available to them, including classrooms, study rooms, student areas, the Reading room, the multi-media lab, the Writing Centre, the multi-purpose hall, USP offices, the dining hall, and the lounges. All the buildings and resources are available to everyone in USP, resident and non-resident alike.



All USP students will stay at the USP RC in year one and a second year of their choice. The residency encourages and enables USP students to partake in opportunities beyond the classroom, both local and overseas. The learning opportunities in the USP are not limited to its formal curriculum and programmes, but also include the USP RC that enhances USP's present offerings through more informal learning, greater exposure, and interactions with new people.



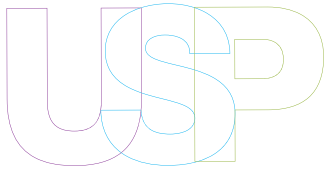
Photo courtesy of Yibin Wang

Students can choose when to take their second year of residency, thus making it possible for the college community to be composed of not only newly entering students, but also of those who are further along in their USP journey. Students can also choose to live at the RC for three and/or four years if they wish. A community of residents from different cohorts, disciplines, and backgrounds forms an intellectually diverse environment for students to live and learn in.



All USP students (residents and non-residents alike) have the freedom to participate in an extensive number of intellectual and social activities held at the USP RC, including seminar talks, Master's teas, workshops, inter- and intra-college sports, social campaigns, movie nights, and formal dinners. This membership of a closely-knit community fosters close bonds of friendship and mentorship among peers, professors, and staff. More than just a place to eat and sleep, the RC is a space for students to live, imagine, and make their own.





USP Interdisciplinary Modules

USP believes that students who attend closely to complex issues using a broad range of interdisciplinary tools will be better equipped to face the challenges of the modern world. Learning in the modules takes place in seminars that rely on strong interpersonal interaction and vigorous discussion. In this environment, all students are encouraged to share their perspectives and thoughts, and to learn through questioning their own assumptions and exposing themselves to new and competing ideas. This style of learning is accomplished by limiting class sizes to 12 to 35 students to facilitate meaningful interactions with professors and among students.

We highlight three modules from a roster of more than 70 interdisciplinary modules in USP on the following pages.

Uniform =
power?



Clothing Identities

UWC2101N

Investigates how clothing relates to identity from the points of view of literature, history, and sociology.

We often think that the clothes we wear express some fact about ourselves, some aspect of what we consider our “identity.” For instance, many of us dress to indicate that we are men or women, or to express our masculinity or femininity. But we also say that “clothes make the man” (or woman), as if clothes do not so much express some sort of innate truth about us, but rather help construct our sense of identity. We seem to feel, for example, that we become more ethnic when we wear a traditional ethnic costume. Why do we think this? How, in fact, is it possible to “become” more ethnic?

Are clothes therefore an expression of who we are, a construction of who we want to be, or something else altogether?

Created or
evolved?



Evolution

ULS2202

Investigates why scientists accept evolution while the theory is controversial with many non-scientists.

The theory of evolution is controversial, though surprisingly no opposition comes from within science, where evolution is accepted as a unifying cornerstone of natural sciences.

In this module, students are challenged to separate science from religion, fact from preconception. We will examine phenomena seemingly incompatible with natural selection, like “altruism,” where individuals risk their own lives to help others, and “sexual selection,” which leads to excessive (and life threatening) ornamentation such as the peacock’s tail. Above all, we will focus on and challenge evolution as the theory that explains the amazing diversity of life on Earth today, all as the result of natural selection and the observation that DNA – the blueprint for life – replicates itself almost, but not quite, perfectly.



Development or
exploitation?

Politics of Heritage

UCV2207

Explores how individuals and communities understand and negotiate the relationship between their cultural heritage and contemporary political, economic, and social situations.

Amongst other things, the module explores critical questions related to cultural heritage in Asia: What role does the past play in modern societies like Singapore? Is the commodification of culture a vehicle for economic development, or a form of exploitation? How do societies reconcile heritages of conflict, civil war, and genocide? How are narratives of the past shaped in accordance with projects of nationalism?

This module aims to untangle and analyse contradictory agendas that make different strategic uses of the region's heritage and culture. Students are introduced to the dynamics of cultural heritage from a multidisciplinary perspective through extensive real world engagement, including field trips, student projects, and a week-long excursion to Cambodia.

List of USP Modules offered in Academic Year (AY) 2011/12

Semester One



Writing and Critical Thinking

Danger and National Security
Language, Culture and 'Native' Peoples
The Idea of the University
Colonialism and Cosmopolitanism
Civic Discourse in a Fractious World

Humanities and Social Sciences

Sinbad, Shipwrecks and Singapore
Virtue and Leadership
Leadership in a Complex World
Topics in Lit. 2: The Subject of Reading
Nationalism and the Arts
Ethics and the Environment
Creative Thinking: Innovation and Deal-Making
HIV/AIDS: From Microbes to Nations
New Media and Politics
Ordinary Politics
Cyberart
Writing and Research: Globalising Food
Law and Violence

Sciences and Technologies

Biodiversity and Conservation Biology
Biosemiotics: Signs in Nature
Space, Time and Matter
Nature's Threads
Simplicity
Quantitative Reasoning Foundation: Epidemics
Quantum Computing and Information
The Importance of Being Formal

University Scholars Seminar

University Scholars Seminar

Semester Two



Writing and Critical Thinking

Clothing Identities
Technologies of Home
Issues in and around Justice
Colonialism and Cosmopolitanism
Civic Discourse in a Fractious World

Humanities and Social Sciences

Politics of Heritage: Singapore and the Region
The Quest For Moral Excellence
Modern Cities: Problems and Perspectives
Historicising the Black Pacific
Singapore: The Making of a Nation
Disasters and Responses
Cyberart
The Politics of the Body
Reflective Practice in Leadership
Religions in the Contemporary World
Language, Cognition and Culture
Imagining War

Sciences and Technologies

The Biomolecular Revolution
Evolution
Biodiversity and Conservation Biology
Space, Time and Matter
Waves in Nature
Nature's Threads
Chemicals and Us
Nanoscale Science and Technology
Computer Science and The Information
Technology Revolution

University Scholars Seminar

University Scholars Seminar

International Programmes

USP International Programmes are designed to give students the opportunity to explore interdisciplinary modes of thinking and understanding beyond the conventional classroom setting in Singapore, and relate and translate their learning to the wider world. Students are encouraged to become active participants in the experience, whether by proposing and organising international programmes, or by demonstrating leadership skills and resourcefulness throughout. In doing so, USP hopes to foster an environment wherein students, with support from professors and administrative staff, take both initiative and ownership of their personal and professional endeavours.

The USP International Programmes, thus, aim to offer students opportunities that will enable them to become sensitive to and familiar with a global context by helping them gain cross-cultural understanding and depth of perspective in looking at modern global issues.



Legend:



USP Student Exchange Programme



Joint Degree Programme
Double Degree Programme



Cultural Immersion Programme
Summer Programme



Module Study/Field Trip
Study Programme
Youth Expedition Community
Service/Learning Project
Others



Conference/Symposium/Dialogue
International Internship

Our Overseas Experiences



USP offers and supports a wide range of international programmes every year.
A selection of trips taken by USP students within a typical year is shown here:

Cultural Immersion & Summer Programmes

Canada

University of British Columbia
11 May – 12 Jun 2009
Academic summer programme
12 students

Mexico

Technologico de Monterrey
Jun – Jul 2011
Mayan Route and AcquaSummer programme
3 students

China

Peking University Yuanpei College
Sep 2011 – Jul 2012
Cultural immersion programme
2 students

India

University of Delhi
Lady Shri Ram College for Women
Jul – Dec 2011
Cultural immersion programme
1 student

India

University of Delhi
Hindu College
Jul – Dec 2011
Cultural immersion programme
4 students

USA

Yale University
29 May – 1 Jul 2011
Study programme
10 students

USP Exchange Programmes & Internships

India

SP Jain Institute of Management & Research
Jul – Aug 2011
5 students

USA

Carleton College
Jul 2011 – May 2012
1 student

USA

Pennsylvania State University
Jul – Dec 2011
1 student

USA

University of Arizona
Jul – Dec 2011
1 student

USA

University of Connecticut
Honours College
Jul – Dec 2011
2 students

USA

University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill Honours College
Jul – Dec 2011
1 student

USA

University of Oregon
Clark Honours College
Jul – Dec 2011
1 student

Joint & Double Degree Programmes

Japan

Waseda University
Sep 2011 – Jul 2012
7 students

Australia

The Australian National University
Jan 2010 – Jul 2011
1 student

Field Trips, Study Trips, Youth Expeditions

Thailand and India

6 – 22 Dec 2010
Buddhism in Asia study trip
10 students

Thailand and Laos

18 Jul – 5 Aug 2011
State-Minority Relations in Southeast
Asia field trip
6 students

Cambodia

17 – 25 Jul 2011
Politics of Heritage study trip
17 students

Vietnam

6 – 23 Dec 2010
Niem Vui Viet Nam youth expedition
13 students

Indonesia and Brussels

11 May – 3 Jun 2010
EU-ASEAN study trip
11 students

Philippines

12 – 27 May 2011
Builders' Connect learning programme
18 students

China

7 – 31 Dec 2009
Venture Yunnan youth expedition
18 students

Japan

22 Jul – 2 Aug 2009
USP Module study trip
28 students

Malaysia and Turkey

Sep & Dec 2010
Inter-Civilisational Dialogue study programme
14 students

Conferences, Symposiums, Dialogues

USA

Harvard University
30 Jan – 7 Feb 2010
Exchange conference
8 students

USA

George Washington University
16 – 25 Feb 2011
Dialogue programme
6 students

USA

Tufts University
22 – 28 Feb 2011
International symposium
10 students

USA

Princeton University
21 – 28 Feb 2010
Crisis simulation conference
10 students

South Korea

14 – 17 Aug 2009
Academic conference
1 student

Latvia

27 Apr – 1 May 2010
International business conference
1 student

Others

UK

Imperial College London
Jun – Jul 2011
Undergraduate research programme
2 students

Venture Yunnan is part of the "Venture" series of service-learning expeditions initiated by USP undergraduates. The team's objective was to address the immediate needs of the village, including finding a fresh water supply in the mountainous regions and building a new library.

"I first signed up for Venture Yunnan, expecting it to be just another overseas service learning trip. However, this expedition made me realise that the notions of poverty and happiness differ among individuals, and while we used material benefits to measure our impact, what really matters to the villagers are the ties that we have forged with them."

- Chong Li Yue, Year 3, Business + USP

Venture Yunnan (China)



Inter-Civilisational Dialogue (Malaysia and Turkey)

The fourth Inter-Civilisational Dialogue (ICD) study trip was held in 2010 in Penang, Kuala Lumpur, and Istanbul, with a central theme of Islam and Cosmopolitanism.

"We visited organisations and also religious sites to better understand the process of interfaith dialogue. The vibrancy of Penang and the charm of Istanbul were suitable backdrops that allowed us to explore and experience interfaith dialogue in play. We fell in love with the dynamism of the cities, the warmth of their people, and most importantly, the wealth of knowledge they had to offer."

- Siti Hazirah Binte Mohamad, Year 4, Malay Studies + Sociology + USP

Princeton Simulation (PicSim) is a two-day conference held at Princeton University in New Jersey, with the aim of using interactive crisis simulation to train delegates to respond to and resolve crises.

"I gained very specific knowledge about the interworking of governments and how they deal with such a broad range of issues. I also realised how important it is to possess knowledge from a variety of disciplines in order to make informed decisions."

- Hannah Bull, Year 2, Joint Degree Programme, ANU + Maths + USP

Princeton Interactive Crisis Simulation (USA)



USP Alumni



I am not doing what I am supposed to do. But I am doing **what I want to do.**

Aseem K Thakur ('09)

Mechanical Engineering + USP

"I majored in mechanical engineering with a minor in technology entrepreneurship. But during my experience in USP, it became clear that being an entrepreneur was what I truly wanted to be.

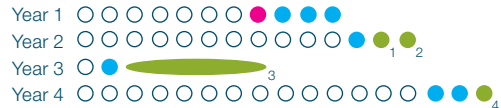
In USP there are a lot of opportunities to do many things. Like a blank white board, you can draw and shape your own education. There is always something to write about, a movie to make, a conference to organise. It doesn't matter what the topic is. What matters is that you have the freedom to discover what you are passionate about and that you will be given a chance to meet mentors along the way. I met mentors and entrepreneurs who impacted and inspired me.

Today I am working on exciting projects that give back to the community and forming partnerships with companies at the venture I co-founded called GIVE.sg. USP helped me not only in creating the path I want, but also in connecting me with like-minded people who have helped me in that path.

Following your passion may not be the sufficient condition to succeed, but it is definitely the necessary condition for success."

To hear more from Aseem, go to usp.sg/aseem

NUS Experience : Aseem K Thakur



○ Home and other faculty module

● USP module

● USP Writing & Critical Thinking module

● USP-supported/organised programmes

1. Study Programme on Contemporary Muslim Society: Between Tradition & Progress 2006
2. Harvard College in Asia Project (HCAP) Exchange Conference 2007
3. NUS Overseas College at Silicon Valley (1 year)
4. CapitaLand-USP Prize

USP makes you believe you can be a jack of all trades and yet a **master of all**.

Kelly Tay ('11)

English Literature + USP



“People may think that Literature majors like myself can only write about the arts, theatre or movie reviews. But when I started working in The Business Times I was able to pick up things very quickly and not be daunted by the unknown. USP molded me to be an individual who is not afraid of trying new things, and it has brought me to this point where I can tackle something outside my field and be confident that I can do well.

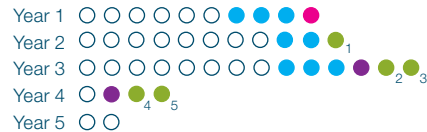
Because of USP, I had the opportunity to explore an academic world beyond Literature and learned about engineering and transportation in Singapore, the politics of heritage in Cambodia, what makes a national theatre in Ireland, and the value of compassion in a maximum-security prison in Oregon.

USP has a way of inculcating this mindset: that though having a strong opinion and standing by your conviction is valuable, keeping an open mind and being compassionate are equally important. With USP

I moved away from seeing things merely in black and white to seeing things beyond the obvious and having a broad understanding that everyone, and everything, has a back-story.”

To hear more from Kelly, go to usp.sg/kelly

NUS Experience : Kelly Tay



○ Home and other faculty module

● USP module

● USP Writing & Critical Thinking module

● USP Independent Study module

● USP-supported/organised programme

1. Field Trip to China: Chinese Thought and Culture
2. Exchange: University of Oregon Clark Honours College
3. Summer School: National University of Ireland, Galway
4. The Washington Center – Overseas Internship 2010
5. Study Trip to Cambodia: Politics of Heritage



USP is a brand that will **distinguish you from the rest** and help you stand out from the clutter of resumé.

Ray Ong (*10)

Chemistry + Business + USP

“While I was doing Chemistry, I concurrently took on a Business degree. USP broadened my perspective in the sense that I learned how to transfer and apply a skill from one discipline to another.

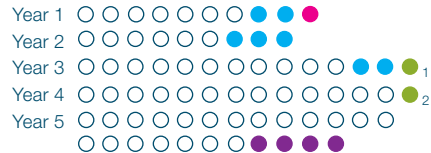
Now that I am working in J.P. Morgan, I realise how essential being multidisciplinary is. Employers seek people who are not only good at what they are hired to do, but are also open and flexible, and able to make connections between different disciplines. Also, my multidisciplinary training in USP helped me create better synergies in my career. When I face people, I am able to understand the psychology behind how they think.

USP also gave me the opportunity to interact with business leaders and Ivy League students during a Harvard business conference. Though the quality of participants was initially daunting, my training in USP helped me look beyond their titles and communicate

with them as peers. Through USP, you will hone your communication abilities and have the confidence to rise to any occasion.”

To hear more from Ray, go to usp.sg/ray

NUS Experience : Ray Ong



- Home and other faculty module
- USP module
- USP Writing & Critical Thinking module
- USP Independent Study module
- USP-supported/organised programme
 1. The Harvard Project for Asian & Int'l Relations Conference
 2. The Harvard Project for Asian & Int'l Relations Business Conference

There are students who didn't know the full extent of their **potential at the start**, but have blossomed and matured at the end because of USP. I was one of those.

Mustafa Izzuddin ('05)

Political Science + USP



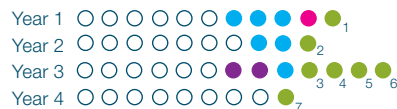
"If you were to tell me ten years back that I would one day pursue a PhD or win a Fulbright Award, I would have said you were crazy. I was an introverted person with low self-confidence. But because of USP's supportive culture, I overcame my fears and learnt from what needed to be done.

Through USP I was given the opportunity to intern with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS). ASEAN has always been close to my heart, and doing analysis and research about the region made me realise that being an academic is what I wanted to pursue. USP encouraged me on this path and arranged sessions for students looking for scholarship possibilities. This led me to clinch two postgrad awards from prestigious institutions. I was the youngest recipient of the Visiting ASEAN Fulbright Award which enabled me to do research at Georgetown University. Now I am completing my doctorate in International Relations at the London School of Economics on an ISEAS scholarship.

USP provides opportunities and cultivates thinking skills but it is ultimately up to the students how they use them. I believe the kind of students that USP hones are those who are committed to learn, not just to enrich themselves but also those around them."

To hear more from Mustafa, go to usp.sg/mustafa

NUS Experience : Mustafa Izzuddin



- Home and other faculty module
- USP module
- USP Writing & Critical Thinking module
- USP Independent Study module
- USP-supported/organised programme

1. 5th Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative in Singapore 2002
2. Asian Youth Summit in Hongkong 2003
3. 1st Sino-Singapore Undergraduate Exchange Programme 2004
4. United Nations Youth Assembly in New York 2004
5. USC Academic Symposium: "Youths in Singapore: The Diminished Torch of Idealism?" 2004
6. Student Seminar on Int'l Affairs: Challenges Facing Singapore: Borderless Threats, Boundless Enemies?
7. East-West Center Global Seminar in Honolulu (Hawaii) 2005

Partner Faculties and Schools

Students admitted to USP are concurrently enrolled in one or more of six faculties or schools in NUS:

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS)

One of the oldest faculties in the university with origins dating back to the founding of Raffles College in 1928, FASS offers the most comprehensive education in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Asian Studies in Singapore, and the region. Its three divisions of Asian Studies, Humanities, and Social Sciences house 15 departments, 19 major subjects, a host of minor programmes, and a Centre for Language Studies offering both Asian and European languages.

Faculty of Engineering (FoE)

Repeatedly ranked among the world's Top 20 by the Times Higher Education Survey, FoE aims to nurture Engineer-Leaders who will have the ability to solve complex problems and to apply innovation and technology to make a better world. This objective is reflected in the disciplines offered, such as Bioengineering, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Materials Science Engineering, Engineering Science, and Mechanical Engineering.

Faculty of Science (FoS)

The faculty offers a multidisciplinary education and prepares students to meet the increasingly complex needs of the future. Students have the flexibility to choose from diverse Science modules that cater to varied academic interests. Courses offered include Chemistry, Computational Biology, Life Sciences, Food Science and Technology, Mathematics, Quantitative Finance, Pharmacy, Physics, and Statistics.

NUS Business School (BIZ)

As Asia's Global Business School, BIZ is a leading authority on business in Asia, known for providing management thought leadership from an Asian perspective. The school offers a broad portfolio of academic programmes, including BBA, MBA, Executive MBA, MSc and PhD programmes in the fields of Accounting, Decision Sciences, Finance, Marketing, Management and Organisation, as well as Strategy and Policy. It also offers a wide range of customised and open enrolment Executive Education courses.



School of Computing (SoC)

SoC offers six undergraduate degree programmes, as well as double and concurrent degree programmes offered in conjunction with other faculties. Courses offered include Communications and Media, Computational Biology, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Computing, Electronic Commerce, and Information Systems.

School of Design and Environment (SDE)

SDE emphasises innovation and enterprise in the disciplines of Architecture, Industrial and Urban Design, Building and Real Estate. Students are given opportunities to collaborate with relevant industries and gain valuable hands-on industrial experience locally and overseas.

Career Services

The USP Career Services is committed to supporting students at every stage of their career process, from when they first enter USP to life as an USP alum. In recognising the value of early exploration, the USP Career Services adopts a personal and targeted approach with a focus on active engagement with students, industry partners, and alumni. This involves recognising students' career needs, understanding the industry partners' employee criteria, and inviting USP alumni to share in career activities and events. USP seeks to help students make informed decisions about their futures, be it a career in the private sector, the public sector, non-profit organisations, or graduate studies, by providing them with comprehensive and individualised resources and counsel.

Making Connections

The USP Career Services organises networking events, industry mentorship, and presentations for students to connect with research institutes, think tanks, organisations with internship programmes, alumni, and other industry partners. Sharing sessions on postgraduate studies in our partner universities are also available. We strongly encourage students to draw on these resources as the exposure to different areas will help to open them up to new opportunities for their career development and futures.

Empowering Students for Success

To prepare students for a competitive global economy, USP Career Services conducts workshops and courses to help students develop relevant skill sets to complement their existing knowledge and experiences.

Resources we offer

- One-on-one consultation
- Career profiling
- Assessment tools
- "Lunch and Learn" sessions
- Company presentations and networking events
- Internships/research tie-ups
- Industry mentorship
- Postgraduate studies sharing sessions
- Career development workshops
- Personal development workshops



Frequently Asked Questions

How much does USP cost?

NUS tuition fees are based on the home faculty you join. There are no extra tuition fees to enroll in USP.

Is USP a scholarship?

No, but USP students may apply for NUS or other scholarships. For details, please visit nus.edu.sg/oam/scholarship.

Can any NUS applicant apply to USP?

USP admits students from six partner faculties and schools in NUS.

What is interdisciplinarity?

An interdisciplinary approach examines a subject using knowledge and methods from multiple disciplines.

Why is interdisciplinarity important?

Many significant problems are believed to be solvable only by interdisciplinary approaches. For example, a solution to global warming is likely to involve science, economics, and international relations. Apple attributes the success of the iPad to the way it integrates design, engineering, and marketing.

What is a writing module?

All USP students choose one of USP's renowned writing modules in their first year. The writing module provides the tools to craft compelling arguments and expositions, and forms a foundation for work in university and beyond. Writing modules are taught seminar-style with a maximum of 12 students per class, and include ample one-on-one tutorials with USP professors.

Can I switch major?

USP students may apply to switch major and/or faculty up until the end of their second year. (Non-USP students may apply to switch faculty up until the end of their first year.) For advice on switching criteria and process, simply consult your USP academic advisor.

What other for-credit options can I pursue in USP?

Apart from USP's interdisciplinary modules, students also earn academic credit in the following ways:

Academic Research

USP students with an interest in research may embark on independent study under the mentorship of a professor. This gives a head start in a research or research-based career. Other academic options open to USP students include double-degree and double-major programmes.

Cultural Immersion

USP students who are keen to develop cultural capabilities and networks in a foreign country have the option to pursue cultural immersion at an overseas partner university.

Entrepreneurial Development

USP students who want to experience an entrepreneurial culture have the option of spending a year in one of NUS's Overseas Colleges in leading entrepreneurial and academic hubs in the world such as Silicon Valley and Philadelphia (USA), Stockholm (Sweden), Beijing and Shanghai (China). They may also do so locally at the NUS iLEAD.

What facilities does USP offer?

In addition to other campus facilities, USP students have access to:

- USP Writing Centre
- USP Reading room
- Chatterbox
(a 24-hour study lounge in the USP residential college)
- USP Multi-media lab
- Educational Resource Centre (ERC)
- Dining hall
- Multi-purpose hall
- Computer clusters
- Seminar rooms
- Theme rooms

What is the USP community like?

USP students, professors, staff, and alumni have diverse backgrounds and talents, yet are united by their passion and motivation to pursue their interests and create significant outcomes. The USP community bonds over intellectual and social activities and events held in the residential college, many of which are organised by the University Scholars Club, its student club, and Scholars Programme Alumni Network, its alumni society.

What degree will I graduate with?

USP students will graduate with an honours degree in their home faculty. They will also receive a USP certificate designating them as a University Scholar.

Is student housing available?

Student housing for two years will be guaranteed for USP students in the USP RC. From AY2011/12, all USP students will stay in the USP RC in year one and a second year over the course of their undergraduate studies. They may choose to stay on thereafter.

When do you apply to live in the USP RC?

You may proceed to apply to live in the USP RC after you have accepted USP's offer of admission.

Is there a meal plan?

All RC residents will participate in the dining hall experience; this includes a meal plan.

Is financial support available?

Financial support is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. If you have concerns about your financial standing, please contact the USP office.

How to Apply?

USP application is submitted at the same time as the NUS application. Each application will be processed separately. To apply to USP, complete and submit the USP Online Application Form (that includes a 400 – 600 word essay, and personal statement) available at **usp.sg/apply**. Please also submit your co-curricular activities (CCA), community involvement, and leadership supporting documents.

Application Timeline

The application timelines for applicants with 'A' level results, local polytechnic diplomas, and international qualifications are shown below.

Applications with 'A' level results

Apply to **NUS** by **1 Apr**

Apply to **USP** by **2 Apr**

Apr - Jun: USP interviews

Applications with local polytechnic diplomas

Apply to **NUS** in **Feb**

Apply to **USP** by **2 Apr**

Apr - Jun: USP interviews

Applications with international qualifications

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