
18 July 2014

To: All Science students matriculating in July 2014

Welcome to the Faculty of Science (FoS). You have made the right choice! Besides rigorous training in your choice of major discipline, you will also acquire life skills that will make you a versatile, articulate, IT-savvy, and highly employable Science graduate. We have many interesting activities and people in the Faculty awaiting you to engage with. For a start, we are providing you with important dates of key events and other useful and relevant information below for your attention.

DEAN'S WELCOME TEA 2014 & COURSE BRIEFING

We have organized a series of briefings on **22 July 2014** for you. The briefings will cover the following areas:

- NUS Modular System & Science Curriculum
- Centralized Online Registration System (CORS)
- Student Life in Faculty of Science
- Department Academic Talks

All freshmen are strongly encouraged to attend this tea session.

REGISTRATION EXERCISE for Academic Year (AY) 2014/15

The Registration Exercise for all Science & Pharmacy freshmen will be held in 2 parts and both parts are compulsory. You should have received an email from the Registrar's Office (RO) detailing the registration procedures by now. For your recap, you may refer to the following links for important details on the Registration Exercise.

- *Registrar's Office Registration Information:*
<http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/event/registration.html>
- *Registration Guide:*
<https://share.nus.edu.sg/registrar/info/info/Registration-Guide-for-Undergraduate-Students.pdf>

Registration (Part One)

All freshmen regardless of citizenship should have completed registration (Part One) and obtained your Student ID, Student PIN, NUSNET ID & NUSNET Password by now. You will need to use the NUSNET ID and NUSNET password to access the various online systems in NUS. Freshmen who are under 18 years of age at the point of completing Part One, please refer to the Registration Guide above for other instructions.

Registration (Part Two)

You need to read up the Registration Guide for detailed instructions on this process. Briefly, the Part Two registration process will differ among freshmen with various age and citizenship profiles as follows:

- *Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents above 18 years of age and with Singapore address*

Your student card will be sent to your address between 23 and 29 Jul 2014. Please activate your Student Card via myISIS immediately upon receiving your card so that you can access the Centralized Online Registration System (CORS) when it opens from 25 Jul 2014 to declare your major(s)/minor(s).

- *Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents below 18 years of age, above 18 years old without Singapore address, and International Students*

Please attend the Registration in person at Multi-Purpose Sports Hall (MPSH) 4 on **24 Jul 2014, 9am – 9.30am**, to collect your student card and other documents (where applicable). You can then access the CORS system to declare your intended major(s)/minor(s) from 25 Jul 2014.

Note: Freshmen will conduct actual modules bidding in CORS from 31 Jul 2014.

If you encounter difficulty in completing the above-mentioned registration processes, please write to the RO at UGRegistration@nus.edu.sg or call them at Tel: (65) 6601 2749, to seek their advice. Please refer to the Registration Guide for other RO's operation hours and contact details.

NUS BULLETIN 2014/15

The bulletins contain details of modules offered in NUS. Visit the online version at:

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/nusbuletin>.

Please note that the contents of the bulletins are accurate as at the date of printing. Students are strongly advised to refer to the **Science website** and individual **Department websites** for the latest updates:

<http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/>.

The Science Website also provides information on graduation requirements and frequently asked questions etc.

CENTRALISED ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM (CORS)

The schedule for online registration of modules via CORS for Semester 1, AY2014/15 is as follows:

Module registration period	23 July 14 (Wed) – 12 August 14 (Tue)
Lectures begin	11 August 14 (Mon)
Tutorial registration for selected Physics Level 1000 Modules	11 August 14 (Mon) – 15 August 14 (Fri)
Tutorial registration for all other modules	15 August 14 (Fri) – 22 August 14 (Fri)
Tutorials begin	25 August 14 (Mon)
Drop with 'W' & no refund of points	25 August 14 (Mon), 0000hrs – 28 September 14 (Sun), 2359hrs
Drop with 'F' & full refund of points	29 September 14 (Mon), 0000hrs onwards

Do note that you cannot exercise the S/U option on modules dropped with 'F'. You may refer to the FAQs at http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/edu/UG/graduation.html#su_quicklinks for more information.

CORS Guide

Please refer to the CORS website at <http://www.cors.nus.edu.sg/index.html> for detailed schedules and activities of each bidding round. You can also refer to the CORS briefing video, which is produced to guide freshmen on how to use the CORS system. The URL is as follows.

[http://vidcast.nus.edu.sg/camtasiarelay/CORS_Briefing - Flash %28Large%29 - 20100702_04.44.17PM.html](http://vidcast.nus.edu.sg/camtasiarelay/CORS_Briefing_-_Flash_%28Large%29_-_20100702_04.44.17PM.html)

Major/Minor Declaration

You will be prompted by the system for declaration of Major/s and Minor/s upon the first login. The minimum requirement of your candidature is to read 1 Major Programme and the maximum allowance is 2 Major Programmes with 2 Minor Programmes. You may amend your declaration (Major and Minor setting) each semester during the first login to CORS. However, there shall be no amendment allowed beyond the 5th semester of study. Please refer to the following link for more information.

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/edu/UG/graduation.html>

Workload per semester

All Single Degree students can select and bid up to a maximum of **23** modular credits only while Double Degree students and students involve in Special Programmes will be allowed to select and bid up to a maximum of **27** modular credits. Proposal for *selected* Single Degree students from Residential Colleges to assume workload higher than 23 modular credits is pending approval. Updates will be disseminated via NUS Email when it is available.

Bidding

Always bid for module/s in earlier rounds. If you are able to see your desired non-Science modules available for bidding under the 'Regular' modules category, please proceed to select them for bidding. The category under which you bid for the module and the module type code set for CORS will **not** affect how the module will be used for your graduation requirements later.

Assistance

You may register for modules online via any computer with internet access. For students who prefer to do the online registration in the Faculty, please proceed to S16-05-101 Computer Lab. Should you require any assistance, please approach the Science Computer Based Learning Centre (CBLC) during the module registration period at S16 Level 2.

The contact information and operating hours of Science CBLC for this exercise are as follows:

Hotline - 6516 8701

Email – helpdesk@science.nus.edu.sg

Monday – Thursday	0900 – 1730 hours
Friday	0900 – 1630 hours
Weekends & University/Public Holidays	Closed

Please bring along your NUSNET ID and NUSNET Password, and O-level & A-level certificates during the module registration (Centralized Online Registration) period. Your NUSNET ID and NUSNET Password will be issued to you ONLY after you have completed your pre-registration online.

Students should not reveal their login/email passwords and NUS Smartcard PIN number to anyone. Disciplinary action will be taken against those who do so.

TIMETABLE

The class and examination timetables for Semester 1, AY2014/15 can be found at the following URL:

<https://myaces.nus.edu.sg/cors/jsp/report/ModuleInfoListing.jsp>

The onus is on the students to map out their study plan and avoid registering for modules with clashes in class or examination timetable. To find out time-table clashes among modules, freshmen could use the Timetable Builder for this purpose. The Timetable Builder is available at this URL:

<https://webrb.nus.edu.sg/ctt/builder.aspx>

OVERLAPPING MODULES

There are modules that may overlap substantially in content with each other. Students are discouraged from reading overlapping modules unless both are required for attaining a double major, for example.

Students are expected to exercise personal responsibility to check whether their modules overlap with one another. When in doubt, students should consult the module coordinator or an academic advisor. For updated information on overlapping (and precluded) modules, please refer to the online version of the NUS Bulletin 2014/15 at <http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/nusbuletin> and the list of overlapping modules on Faculty of Science website via the link below:

<http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/undergraduate-studies/ugreq/curriculum-structure/186-undergraduate/ugreq/curriculum-structure/218-overlapping-modules>.

If, for some reasons, you have been given approval to read an overlapping or precluded module, please note that the modular credits of the overlapping or precluded module will not count towards your graduation requirements.

QUALIFYING ENGLISH TEST (QET)

You will be notified by the Centre for English Language Communications (CELC) directly of your QET results. Students who do not pass the QET will be required to take either ES1000 (Basic English Course) and/or ES1102 (English for Academic Purpose). Students who are required to read both ES1000 and ES1102 may read ES1000 in Semester 1, AY2014/15 and ES1102 in Semester 2, AY2014/15. For students who are required to read only ES1102, you may read it during Semester 1 or Semester 2 of AY2014/15.

Please refer to the CELC website for more information on QET at:

<http://www.nus.edu.sg/celc/programmes/get.php>.

COMPULSORY COMMUNICATION MODULE

Science students matriculated from AY2013/14 onwards (except Pharmacy students, Environmental Studies students, USP students and students from any Residential Colleges) are required to read **ES1541 Exploring Science Communication through Popular Science**. This module is compulsory and forms part of the graduation requirement. Students are strongly advised to complete the module within the first year. Students who are required to read ES1000 and/or ES1102 should try to read this module in Semester 2 of AY2014/15 or latest by Semester 1 of AY2015/16. For more details on this module, please refer to

<http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/undergraduate-studies/ugreq/curriculum-structure/186-undergraduate/ugreq/curriculum-structure/708-es1541>.

S/U OPTION POLICY AFFECTING COHORT MATRICULATING AFTER AY2014/15

Due to the launch of 'Grade-Free Semester' in AY2014/15 Semester 1, the following details on S/U Option will be applicable for students matriculated from AY2014/15 onwards.

Students will be entitled 32 modular credits (MCs) worth of S/U Option of which 20MCs are applicable only in the first semester of study. The other 12 MCs of S/U Options are applicable throughout the candidature. The abovementioned entitlement may be applied on the following:

- Level 1000 NUS modules, except non-credit-bearing English proficiency modules - ES1000 and ES1102
- Level 2000 NUS modules without other NUS modules as part of the pre-requisite.

Proposal for specific Major Programmes to allow up to 8MCs of the Semester 1 20MCs S/U Option entitlement to be carried over to Semester 2 is pending approval. Further updates will be disseminated to you via the NUS email in due course.

ACADEMIC WARNING, PROBATION & DISMISSAL

With the launch of Grade Free Semester 1, students will not be subjected to academic penalty such as being given academic warning, be put on probation or be dismissed based on the Semester 1 result. However, it is important for all new students to be aware of the following rules, which will be applicable from Semester 2 onwards.

Please note that if a student's CAP falls in the range $1.50 \leq \text{CAP} < 2.00$ for any semester, the University will issue the student with a warning. If the CAP falls below 2.00 again in the following semester, the student will be placed on probation. If the CAP is below 1.50 for any semester, the student will be placed on probation immediately.

Students will not be able to continue the undergraduate studies and their request for readmission to the University will not be considered if they have obtained:

- CAP below 1.50 in two consecutive semesters; or
- CAP below 2.00 in three consecutive semesters.

The Table below summarizes the abovementioned rules on Academic Warning, Probation and Dismissal.

Academic Status	CAP
Academic Warning	$1.50 \leq \text{CAP} < 2.00$ for the first time
Probation	CAP < 1.50 for the first time OR CAP < 2.00 in subsequent semester for students with $1.50 \leq \text{CAP} < 2.00$ in the previous semester OR $1.50 \leq \text{CAP} < 2.00$ in subsequent semester for students with CAP < 1.50 in the previous semester
Dismissal	CAP < 1.50 for 2 consecutive semesters CAP < 2.00 for 3 consecutive semesters

Upon dismissal, the student will be issued a letter of dismissal by the Registrar's Office. The student may appeal against the dismissal if there are extenuating circumstances. However, each student is only allowed to appeal **once** during his/her candidature.

Students who face difficulties in coping with their studies are encouraged to approach their academic mentors for guidance and support. The respective mentors will be able to guide and advise students of

the various avenues where help is available. More information on the Science Academic Mentorship scheme is provided at <http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/students/ams>.

PROGRAMMES OF INTEREST

1) Second Majors offered by FoS

Science students who wish to enhance and broaden their undergraduate studies may opt for a second major. Currently, FoS offers five second majors: Chemistry, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physics and Statistics. Please refer to the following website for more information:

<http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/undergraduate-studies/ugprog/second-majors>.

2) Freshman Seminar

This module presents opportunities for freshmen to explore Science and to work closely with members of the Faculty or prominent visiting professors on topics of current interest in contemporary research and in small class settings. Students will acquire independent learning as well as oral and written communication skills. Please access the following link for more information on this module.

<http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/undergraduate-studies/ugenh/fsm>.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Important information will be transmitted to students through the Faculty of Science webpage (<http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/>) or via electronic mail (NUS Webmail). Please note that **it is your responsibility to check these channels regularly for latest updates**. You are also reminded to clear your NUS Email Account regularly so that important emails will be delivered promptly to you.

We wish you a pleasant stay in the Faculty of Science and we look forward to seeing you at the Dean's Welcome Tea and Science Freshman Orientation Briefing on 22 July 2014.

Yours sincerely,

A/Prof Chua Tin Chiu
Associate Dean
Science Dean's Office

Cc Dean, Vice Deans, Associate Deans & Assistant Deans, Faculty of Science
Registrar
Dean, Office of Student Affairs
Director, Centre for English Language Communications
Director of Programme, Quantitative Finance
Director of Programme, Special Programme in Science
Director of Programme, Food Science & Technology
Coordinators, Life Sciences Undergraduate Programme Committee
Coordinators, Computational Biology Undergraduate Programme Committee
Heads of Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics & Applied Probability, Pharmacy, Physics, Faculty of Science
Heads of Departments of Anatomy, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Pathology, Pharmacology, Physiology, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
Director, IT Unit
Masters of Halls of Residence
Presidents, Science Club & Science CBLC