



PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

prepares students for the GCE 'A' Level examination at the end of the 2-year junior college or 3-year centralised institute course. Students who complete their pre-university education will receive a School Graduation Certificate (see p14).

HIGHLIGHTS

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FAST FACTS

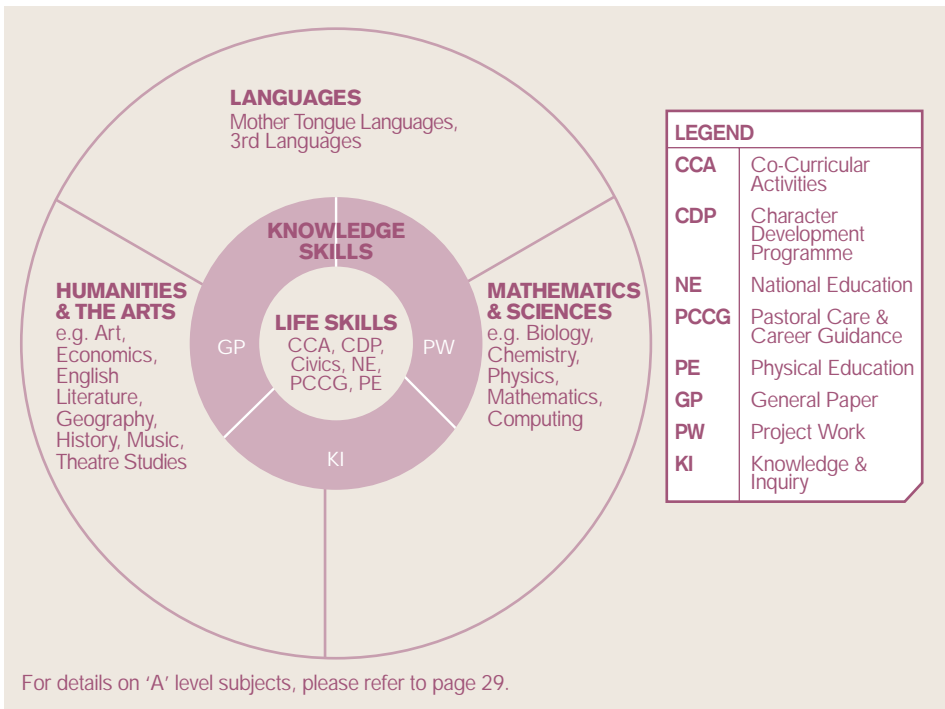
1. 2-3 years of education
2. School fees after subsidy: \$6.00
Miscellaneous fees: \$11.00
Second-tier miscellaneous fees*: \$11.00
3. National examination: GCE 'A' Levels
4. All students take part in at least 1 CCA; CCA performance is considered for university admission
5. Pre-university school calendar from 2006:
Pre-U 1
Mid-Mar - Dec
Pre-U 2-3
Mid-Jan - Dec

* Second-tier miscellaneous fees are decided by schools. They are capped at 100% of the standard miscellaneous fees. Students may use their Edusave accounts to pay the second-tier miscellaneous fees.



FRAMEWORK FOR THE **NEW 2006 'A' LEVEL CURRICULUM**

From 2006, a broader and more flexible GCE 'A' Level curriculum will be introduced for Pre-U 1, to foster new approaches to learning and develop in students a wider range of skills. Students will be challenged to think critically and creatively.



THE INNER CIRCLE centring on **life skills** ensures that students acquire sound values and skills to take them through life as responsible adults and active citizens. It comprises the non-academic curriculum.

THE MIDDLE CIRCLE on **knowledge skills** seeks to develop students' thinking, process and communication skills. It comprises skills-based subjects.

THE OUTERMOST CIRCLE covers the **content-based subject disciplines** i.e. Languages, Humanities & the Arts, and Mathematics & Sciences. It ensures that students acquire a multi-disciplinary grounding.

DIFFERENT LEVELS OF STUDY

Key changes

- Students may select subjects at 3 different levels of study: Higher 1 (**H1**), Higher 2 (**H2**) and Higher 3 (**H3**).

H1 Equivalent to half of H2 in breadth but similar to H2 in depth.

For broadening purposes, to pursue an area of interest in which students do not intend to specialise, or to acquire foundational knowledge and skills in a subject area which will support their future studies at university level.

H2 Equivalent to rigour of current 'A' Level subjects.

H3 Subjects with a variety of learning opportunities (e.g. advanced content, research paper, university module).

For students to pursue a given subject which they excel in at a higher level. Students who wish to take up a H3 subject will have to offer the corresponding subject at H2 level.

- Besides GP, PW, and MTL* at H1 level, students are required to offer 3 H2 and 1 H1 content-based subjects, at least one of which is a subject from a contrasting discipline. E.g. a student offering 3 subjects from the Mathematics & Sciences group would have to offer 1 subject from the Humanities & the Arts group, and vice versa. The contrasting subject can be at H1 or H2 level.

AT A GLANCE

All students will offer:

GP, PW and MTL at H1 level)	at least 1 from a contrasting discipline [∞]
3 H2 content subjects)	
1 H1 content subject)	

Total no. of subjects: 7 (3 H2 + 4 H1)

Examples of subject combinations

Example A

H2 Physics
H2 Chemistry
H2 Mathematics
H1 Art (contrasting subject)
MTL
GP
PW

Example B

H2 Economics
H2 History
H2 Mathematics (contrasting subject)
H1 General Studies in Chinese
MTL
GP
PW

[∞] KI may be offered as a contrasting subject, in place of GP.

* Students are exempted from taking MTL if their HMTL grade in the GCE 'O' Level examination is D7 or better.



- Students will be examined in all their subjects in a single sitting at the end of their pre-university education. However, they can choose to do one H1 content-based subject (in addition to MTL) a year earlier.
- Able students who are interested in broadening their range of subjects and intellectual horizons can offer an expanded curriculum:
 - Take on an additional H1 or H2 subject, or
 - Further specialise by offering up to 2 H3 subjects.

Why are we doing this?

- To provide students with the flexibility to choose subjects with different scope of content and depth of coverage.
- To allow students to maintain a greater breadth of learning across disciplines by offering a contrasting subject.
- To ensure that students have room to explore their academic subjects in greater depth, as well as to develop their interests in the non-academic curriculum.

KNOWLEDGE SKILLS

Key changes

- New area of learning that focuses explicitly on developing higher order skills: conceptual thinking, other knowledge process skills and communication skills.
- Subjects include Project Work (**PW**) and Knowledge and Inquiry (**KI**).

PROJECT WORK (PW)

Students will synthesise knowledge from various areas of learning and apply it to real-life situations.

Encourages collaboration, independent learning and communication skills.

Offered as an H1 subject.

Compulsory for all students.

KNOWLEDGE & INQUIRY (KI)

Students will interpret and synthesise knowledge gathered from different fields.

Encourages investigation and evaluation work in the construction of knowledge in areas like the sciences, the humanities, mathematics, and the aesthetics.

Develops critical reasoning skills.

Offered as an H2 subject in place of GP.

Why are we doing this?

- To give greater focus to knowledge skills, especially thinking and communication skills.





'A' LEVEL SUBJECTS AT H1, H2, AND H3 LEVELS
FOR 2006 CURRICULUM

SUBJECT	LEVEL H1	LEVEL H2	LEVEL H3
Art	Orange	Orange	Blue
Biology	Brown	Brown	Blue
Chemistry	Brown	Brown	Blue
Chinese Language	Red		
Chinese Language & Literature		Orange	Blue
Computing		Brown	
Economics	Orange	Orange	Blue
French	Red	Orange	
General Paper (GP)	Red		
General Studies in Chinese	Orange		
Geography	Orange	Orange	Blue
German	Red	Orange	
History	Orange	Orange	Blue
History of Chinese Literature	Orange		
Japanese	Red	Orange	
Knowledge & Inquiry (KI)		Purple	
Literature in English	Orange	Orange	Blue
Malay Language	Red		
Malay Language & Literature		Orange	Blue
Management of Business*		Orange	
Mathematics	Brown	Brown	Blue
Music		Orange	Blue
Physics	Brown	Brown	Blue
Principles of Accounting*		Brown	
Project Work (PW)	Red		
Tamil Language	Red		
Tamil Language & Literature		Orange	Blue
Theatre Studies and Drama		Orange	

* Offered only in Millennia Institute

H1/H2 subjects under the Mathematics & Sciences group

H1/H2 subjects under the Humanities & Arts group

Subject that can be used as a contrasting subject for both the Mathematics & Sciences group and the Humanities & the Arts group

H1 subjects that do not count as contrasting subjects

H3 subjects

NOTE: Areas that are not coloured denote that the subject is not offered at that level.





FROM PRE-UNIVERSITY TO UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

There are 3 publicly-funded universities in Singapore: the National University of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU). Students with GCE 'A' Level, polytechnic or other recognised qualifications may apply for admission to the universities.

NUS and NTU conduct separate admission exercises under the following broad university admission framework:

FOR 'A' LEVEL APPLICANTS*

- GCE 'A' Level results:
 - Minimum criteria:
 - Passes in at least 2 'A' Level subjects
 - Attempted General Paper (GP) and Mother Tongue Language (MTL)
 - Applicants must meet minimum MTL proficiency, i.e. a D7 in MTL or pass in MTL 'B'. MTL grades need not be included in applying for admission, but applicants who have done well in MTL can include their MTL grades.

- Project Work
- CCA performance
- Additional faculty admission criteria such as interviews or aptitude tests
- For admission in 2005, SAT I results could also be considered if this helps applicants

FOR POLYTECHNIC GRADUATES

- Polytechnic results
- GCE 'O' Level results
- CCA performance
- Additional faculty admission criteria such as interviews or aptitude tests
- For admission in 2005, SAT I results could also be considered if this helps applicants

* Criteria applicable for admission to NUS and NTU for 2005 - 2007

NUS and NTU also have the autonomy to admit up to 10% of their respective intakes based on their own independent criteria.

SMU is a private university and determines its own admission criteria.

For more information on applying to NUS, NTU and SMU, please refer to the universities' respective websites:

- <http://www.nus.edu.sg>
- <http://www.ntu.edu.sg>
- <http://www.smu.edu.sg>

