Dear Prospective International Exchange Students,

The faculty, staff and students at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU) extend to you a sincere and hearty welcome to our Virtual Semester Exchange AY2021-2022.

Ranked 13th globally*, NTU places you in an academically stimulating environment that is both culturally enriching and socially fulfilling. Our comprehensive and innovative approach towards education and research will help contribute to your future success and inspire you to realise your full potential.

This is the pilot run of our GEM Trailblazer Virtual Semester Exchange programme and we hope that through the diverse courses we offer, NTU could play a part in the attainment for some of your academic objectives and aspirations.

Welcome to the start of a wonderful journey of learning and self-discovery!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Chong Mei Eng
Director
Office of Global Education and Mobility
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

* QS World University Rankings 2021
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ABOUT SINGAPORE

Singapore – A Garden City

Singapore is made up of 63 surrounding islets with a total land area of more than 719 square kilometers with an estimated population of 5.7 million people.

Although its compact size belies its economic growth, within 150 years, Singapore has grown from a fishing village into a thriving centre of commerce and industry. Singapore is home to one of the busiest ports in the world with over 600 global shipping lines sharing Singapore’s waters with coastal fishing vessels and wooden ships.

Over the years, Singapore has managed to diversify and strengthen its economy, becoming the economic giant of South-East Asia. Singapore is a major financial centre in Asia (with more than 130 banks and multinational financial companies) and it is the location of one of the world's major oil refining and distribution centres. It possesses a robust electronic components sector, and leads the course in shipbuilding and repairing – all facilitated through a world-class communications network which links the nation to the rest of the world.

Singapore's strategic location, excellent facilities, fascinating cultural contrasts and tourist attractions contribute to its success as a leading destination for both business and pleasure.
NTU is world's top young university for sixth consecutive year

NTU leads the dominance of Asian and technological universities in QS' latest young universities league table

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has topped the rankings for young universities for the sixth straight year. In Quacquarelli Symonds’ (QS) latest rankings of the world’s top 50 universities under 50 years old, NTU retained the No. 1 spot. The rankings show the performance of universities focused on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The rankings regularly show top performance from our engineering faculty.

NTU offers courses in engineering, science, business, humanities, medicine, arts and social sciences, with the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine being a jointly directed school between NTU and Imperial College London.

With an excellent network of top overseas universities and industry leaders, NTU’s academic and research partners include Imperial College London, Rolls-Royce, BMW, Lockheed Martin and more.

The University’s main campus has been named one of the Top 15 Most Beautiful in the World.

The NTU community comprises more than 30,000 students and over 4,000 researchers and faculty staff, all hailing from a 100 different nationalities – a testament to Singapore’s values of multiculturalism and openness.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Study Level</th>
<th>Open to Undergraduates (UG)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exchange Period</td>
<td>One Semester Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Calendar</td>
<td>The semester dates for AY2021-2022 are:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 1 (Fall): 09 August 2021 – 03 December 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 2 (Spring): 10 January 2022 – 06 May 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Notes</td>
<td>For Virtual Exchange, students will not be allowed to change their pre-registered courses or request for new courses after add/drop period.</td>
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<td>• For a detailed breakdown of our academic calendar, see: <a href="#">NTU Academic Calendar</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>(Trimester calendar is not applicable for exchange students)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language of Instruction</td>
<td>The main language of instruction is English.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workload per Semester &amp; Courses Selection</td>
<td>Undergraduates (UG)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>All UG students may take maximum of 8 AUs for Virtual Semester Exchange (subject to home university's and NTU’s approval).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Direct Masters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Direct Masters students are advised to apply as Undergraduate</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For access to the full course list for exchange students, please refer to Virtual Semester Exchange Course List File.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courses Offered Virtually</td>
<td>Do note that due to the limited number of places offered, students are advised to remain flexible in their options.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTU Academic Unit (AU) &amp; Grading System</td>
<td>NTU’s courses are assigned credits based on academic units (AUs). Most courses offered in NTU are 3 to 4 AUs.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NTU uses the Grade Point Average (GPA) system in awarding grades.</td>
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### NTU ACADEMIC & EXCHANGE INFO SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Exchange</th>
<th>Virtual Exchange AY 21/22 Semester 1</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Inbound students are allowed to take maximum of 8 Academic Units (AUs) subject to availability of course places.</td>
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</table>

| Withdrawal        | Students who wish to withdraw from the exchange program will need to inform their home university and NTU Office of Global Education and Mobility (OGEM) to ensure that their academic records and standing are updated. |

| Academic Transcripts | Upon completion of the Study exchange, two copies of the official NTU transcript will be mailed to the student’s home university within two months of the release of examination results. One of the copies will be for the student’s retention while another will be retained by the home university. Electronic transcripts are not available. |

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Virtual Exchange (Study)</th>
<th>Nomination Deadlines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester 1 (Fall)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Application Period</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Semester 1 (Fall)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 15 May 2021 (deadline)</td>
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<td>- 30 May 2021 (deadline)</td>
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NOMINATION AND APPLICATION DEADLINES

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<th>APPLICATION PROCEDURES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Application Procedure for</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Study</td>
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</table>

Nominated students participating in virtual exchange must adhere to the following application criteria and procedures:

1. Partner universities **must** nominate the student to NTU via our nomination portal:
   - Nominated students participating in the exchange programme must be a full-time, matriculated student in one of NTU’s exchange partner institutions; and have completed at least two semesters of study at their home university prior to the exchange semester, with proof of results.
   - Nominated students must have an average B grade or equivalent.

2. Upon successful nomination, students can apply to NTU via the Online Application Portal. Students will receive a link to the Online Application Portal via email.
   - Direct Masters students will be classified as an Undergraduate student and read UG courses.
   - At the moment, we are unable to offer courses for Post Graduate students.
### Documents to Prepare

**Mandatory documents to be submitted with your online application**

*Submission of hardcopy applications is not required*

1. **Latest official transcript in English** (signed by the Registrar and stamped with the home university’s seal), reflecting all courses taken. Students also need to include a **list of current courses** (if they are not shown in the transcript). The official transcript and list of current courses should be submitted in one file, in PDF format (<2MB). Postgraduate students would need to include their Bachelor’s Degree certificate and Bachelor’s transcripts, as well as most recent postgraduate transcripts.

2. **Clear, coloured passport-size photo in JPG format for your matriculation card.** Kindly adhere to the **photo guidelines** (section iii) as incomplete applications may be delayed or rejected.

3. **Clear, coloured, scanned copy of your full passport information page** The image provided must display all details on the bio-page of the passport. These information must be available as proof of identification. (JPG format, <200kb)

### English Proficiency

Proof of English language proficiency is not required for students who are native speakers of English, or where English is the core language of instruction in the home institution.

Below are the guidelines for the level of English proficiency best suited to studying at NTU:

- General Paper of the Singapore Cambridge GCE 'A' Level Examination (sat in 2007 onwards): A, B, C, D, E
- General Paper of the Singapore Cambridge GCE 'A' Level Examination (sat in 2006 or earlier): A1, A2, B3, B4, C5, C6
- IELTS: a minimum of 6 for the Writing sub-test
- TOEFL: a minimum of 570 (paper) or 90 (internet) or 237 (computer)
- SAT1: a minimum of 600 for the Verbal section; or 7 for the Essay section
- IB: a minimum of 4 for Higher Level English or 4 for Standard Level English
- MUET: Band 6 and a minimum of 50 for writing
- GEPT: High intermediate Stage 2 consisting of writing and speaking modules (applies to students from Taiwan universities only)

The guidelines are in place to ensure exchange students are suited to cope with the rigorous curriculum conducted in English. **If you do not have any of the tests above, you may request for a letter from your home university, confirming your English proficiency and ability to follow classes in English.**
## Courses Selection

During application, exchange students are required to select **at least five courses per semester** (in order of preference) for approval. Course approval is subjected to vacancies and pre-requisites.

- This is to ensure that you have an adequate number of approved courses to take for virtual exchange.
- Please ensure that the courses you select are suitable for credit transfer back at your home university.
- Selected courses are subject to approval by the offering Schools in NTU. However, approval does not mean a guaranteed enrolment in the courses, as courses are subjected to vacancies and class/exam timetable.
- Once approved, you are strongly encouraged not to deviate from the list of approved courses. It is imperative that you select courses which are approved by your home university and are deemed necessary for your academic progression.
- Requests to reselect courses once registered in NTU will only be processed if there are valid reasons.

### UG Courses Selection

Please refer to the Virtual Semester Exchange Course List File for reference. In your online application, you may select 5 courses as options. The Office of Academic Services will review your selection and assign courses to you accordingly (maximum of 8 AUs) subject to availability and meeting course requirements.

### Direct Masters

Direct Masters students may select UG courses from the UG Virtual Semester Exchange Course List.

## Restricted Programmes

Exchange students are not allowed to take restricted programmes and courses.
# GEM TRAILBLAZER EXCHANGE/STUDY ABROAD PORTAL

## RECEIVING APPLICATION RESULTS (EMAIL)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1 (Fall)</th>
<th>Late May/June</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 2 (Spring)</td>
<td>Late October/November</td>
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</table>

If you are successful in your application, you will receive the E-Welcome email together with the login details to the GEM Trailblazer Exchange/Study Abroad Portal, sent to the email address provided in your online application. Your exchange coordinator will also be notified of the acceptance via email.

In the portal, you will have access to the following:

- View and accept Offer of Admission
- View Letter of Enrolment/Admission
- Retrieve course information and registration details
- Update personal particulars
- Submit health & medical information
**COURSE INFORMATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workload per Semester</th>
<th>Undergraduates (UG): Exchange students may take maximum of 8 AUs for Virtual Semester Exchange subject to course matching approval of home university and available course places in NTU.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Direct Masters</strong> Due to unavailability of post graduate courses that could be read virtually, Direct Masters students are advised to apply as Undergraduate. You may choose Year 3 or 4 courses from the list subject to your home university’s and NTU’s approval.</td>
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</table>

| NTU Academic Unit System | NTU Academic Unit System  
NTU's courses are assigned credits based on the Academic Unit (AU) System. For a typical one-semester course, the number of academic units is calculated as follows:  
a) One hour of lecture/tutorial per week : one AU  
b) Three hours’ laboratory/fieldwork per week : one AU |
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Grading System</strong> NTU uses the Grade Point Average (GPA) system in awarding grades.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
|                         | **Letter Grade** | **Grade Point**  
|                         | A+              | 5.0  
|                         | A               | 5.0  
|                         | A-              | 4.5  
|                         | B+              | 4.0  
|                         | B               | 3.5  
|                         | B-              | 3.0  
|                         | C+              | 2.5  
|                         | C               | 2.0  
|                         | D+              | 1.5  
|                         | D               | 1.0  
|                         | F               | 0.0  
|                         | Please refer to student [handbook](#) (page 8) to know more about NTU’s Grading System. |
## Study Programmes

Exchange students on Study programmes are advised to take courses of the same level as their degree.

Courses are subject to approval from the NTU School(s). Selection of courses during online application does not automatically guarantee approval and availability of courses for exchange students.

**Undergraduates (UG):**
UG exchange students are only able to read UG courses from the Virtual Semester Exchange Courselist.

**Direct Masters:**
Exchange students pursuing a Direct Masters degree at their home university shall be nominated as an Undergraduate student.

*Note: All incoming exchange students should take at least 50% of courses from the NTU School that they had selected at the point of application.*

## Courses Selection

**Undergraduates (UG):**
The undergraduate course catalogue may be found at this link. You may use this course catalogue to plan your studies and course match for AY2021-2022. Do note that you may only select courses in the Virtual Semester Courselist File.
## Register for Courses

| Course Registration | Undergraduates (UG): You will be able to obtain information on UG course registration, and view the list of your approved UG courses through the GEM Trailblazer Exchange/Study Abroad Portal.

Exchange students will be pre-allocated a number of their approved UG courses during NTU course registration. You may still register for additional approved UG courses during the Add/Drop period in the first two weeks of the semester.

Please note that some UG courses are highly popular and vacancies are limited. While the University will try to meet the demand where possible, exchange students should expect that not all demands can be met, and students are encouraged to be flexible with their study plan.

**Direct Masters:**
Refer to the UG information section for UG courses. |
| Academic Transcripts | Upon completion of the Study exchange, two copies of the official NTU transcript will be mailed to the student’s home university within two months of the release of examination results. One of the copies will be for the student’s retention while another will be retained by the home university. Electronic transcripts are not available. |
Application for GEM Trailblazer opens
Semester 1 (Fall): 1 to 30 April
Semester 2 (Spring): 1 to 30 Sep

Exchange Partner nominates student for exchange at NTU
Semester 1 (Fall): By April
Semester 2 (Spring): By 15 Sep

Student to submit missing documents and/or information.

OGEM/OAS reviews student’s online application

Letter of Enrolment and Login Access to GEM Trailblazer Exchange/Study Abroad Portal
Semester 1 (Fall): May/June
Semester 2 (Spring): Oct/Nov

International Exchange Student submits online application with all required documents

Missing documents or issues with course selection

All required documents and information received

Course Registration
Exchange students will be pre-allocated a number of their approved UG courses. Details to be emailed to students by OAS nearer to date.
Semester 1 (Fall): July
Semester 2 (Spring): Dec

Sufficient approved courses

Add/Drop Period
First 2 weeks of the semester

Insufficient approved courses

Notification of course approval status via GEM Trailblazer Exchange/Study Abroad Portal

Student to submit additional courses via E-Request

Sufficient approved courses

Online release of exam result

Mailing of Transcript
2 months after release of exam result

Semester exchange and examination at NTU

Student completes the programme

Letter of Enrolment and Login Access to GEM Trailblazer Exchange/Study Abroad Portal
## Office of Global Education and Mobility (OGEM)
*Office-in-charge of Student Exchange Programme – GEM Trailblazer*

| **Mailing Address:** | **Web:** [https://www.ntu.edu.sg/education/student-exchanges/inbound-programmes](https://www.ntu.edu.sg/education/student-exchanges/inbound-programmes)  
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42 Nanyang Avenue  
Student Services Centre, Level 1  
Singapore 639815  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NTUGEM](http://www.facebook.com/NTUGEM)  
Email: GEM-Trailblazer@ntu.edu.sg |