

MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE THAN A DIPLOMA

Ngee Ann Polytechnic's Personalised Learning Pathway offers students opportunities to take on minors to forge greater career resilience

Singapore, 03 May 2021 - Starting from Academic Year (AY) 2021, Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) students from the AY 2020 intake can choose to take on an extra minor, on top of their major. At the end of their three-year diploma programme, they will be awarded a minor certificate on top of their diploma. This comes under a pilot programme called Personalised Learning Pathway (PLP).

A total of 10 minors will be offered in the pilot run to allow about 1,000 students to gain broader exposure beyond their core discipline –in emerging areas like data analytics and internet of things (IoT) as well as entrepreneurial and global readiness skills.

The PLP, which began its pilot in April 2021, is expected to be fully rolled out in AY 2023 for all full-time diploma students in NP. The skills and competencies gained will strengthen the career resilience of NP students and empower them to seize new job opportunities in an increasingly dynamic operating environment where complex problem solving often requires cross-discipline expertise. Students will also have the dexterity to pivot to another industry or even start their own business, if they wish to. By 2023, all new intakes of NP students will have to complete at least one PLP learning unit as a minimum graduating requirement.

Four pathways to gain expertise in another discipline

The minors can be undertaken through four pathways: a) **professional skills**, b) **entrepreneurship**, c) **global readiness** and d) **social leadership**. To graduate with a minor in any of the pathways, students need to complete three learning units to allow them to gain greater depth or breadth of learning in a discipline that is outside of their core discipline.

To illustrate, film & media studies students taking the “professional skills” pathway may opt to complete a minor in data analytics and artificial intelligence by taking one learning unit each from the basic, intermediate and to advanced levels, as seen in Illustration 1:

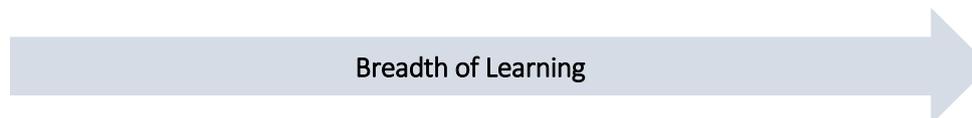
Illustration 1: “Professional Skills” Pathway – Minor in Data Analytics & Artificial Intelligence



Proficiency Level	Learning Units
Basic	1. Fundamentals of Data Analytics & AI
Intermediate	2. Programming for AI
Advanced	3. Project in Data Analytics & AI

Alternatively, engineering students may opt for a minor in entrepreneurship by completing three learning units out of a basket of eight (see Illustration 2). The learning units range from entrepreneurship basics and mentorships to accelerator programmes and incubation. Taken together, the learning units will broaden their entrepreneurial skillset, and students will obtain a minor in entrepreneurship when they graduate.

Illustration 2: Entrepreneurship Pathway – Minor in Entrepreneurship



Learning Units under different stages of business growth			
Seed	Start	Sprout	Scale
1. Entrepreneurship First Steps 2. Starting Your Side Hustle	3. Startup Immersion Project 4. eCommerce for Entrepreneurs	5. Startup Competition 6. Global Startup Challenge	7. Accelerator Programme 8. Incubation

Explaining the move to launch the PLP, NP Principal and CEO Mr Clarence Ti, said: “As every student is unique and has his own aspirations, it is hard to find a one-size-fits-all approach to learning. At the same time, we see the future workplace becoming more complex and diverse, with people taking on new jobs that didn’t exist in the past. It is thus our hope that the PLP will not only empower students to pursue their aspirations, but also enable them to acquire new areas of expertise outside of their core discipline. These additional competencies will give them an extra edge in the future economy where they need multi-disciplinary knowledge to tackle complex challenges. It will open doors to more career or academic opportunities for them, as well as strengthen their personal and career resilience.”

He added: “This new initiative is also in line with our vision towards just-in-time learning where students will learn the core skills of the day. In today’s fast-changing economy, skills and knowledge can become obsolete very rapidly. We hope to see students continue to learn and upskill throughout their lives. While our core curriculum provides a good start to train them in their domain expertise, the PLP can beef up their resume with competencies that gives them additional leverage.”

- End -

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[About Ngee Ann Polytechnic](#)

Ngee Ann Polytechnic started in 1963 and is today one of Singapore's leading institutions of higher learning with over 14,000 enrolled students in close to 40 disciplines. It seeks to develop students with a passion for learning, values for life, and competencies to thrive in a global workplace.

<http://www.np.edu.sg>



Annex A: Overview of PLP

NP PERSONALISED LEARNING PATHWAY

Increasing your career resilience
 Seizing Opportunities

Pursue **Learning Units** from **4 different pathways** outside of your core curriculum

Complete **3 Learning Units** to graduate with a **Minor** on top of your diploma

From AY2023 cohort, **minimum graduation requirement** is **1 Learning Unit**

+ 10 MINORS ACROSS 4 PATHWAYS +

1

Professional Pathway

Minor in

- Data analytics & AI
- Internet of Things
- Social Media Marketing
- User Experience Design
- Cybersecurity
- Applied Psychology

2

Entrepreneurship Pathway

Minor in

- Entrepreneurship

3

Global Readiness Pathway

Minor in

- Global Readiness
- Foreign Languages

4

Social Leadership Pathway

Minor in

- Social Leadership

ACQUIRE DEPTH & BREADTH OF LEARNING

EXAMPLES

Depth of learning

Professional Skills Pathway

Minor in
Data Analytics & Artificial Intelligence

Proficiency Level	Learning Units
 Basic	Fundamentals of Data Analytics & AI
 Intermediate	Programming for AI
 Advanced	Project in Data Analytics & AI

Breadth of learning

Entrepreneurship Pathway

Minor in
Entrepreneurship

Learning Units in Entrepreneurship				
MINOR	ENTREPRENEURSHIP			
	SEED	START	SPROUT	SCALE
Stages of business growth				
Learning Units	Entrepreneurship First Steps Starting Your Side Hustle	Startup Immersion Project eCommerce for Entrepreneurs	Startup Competition Global Startup Challenge	Accelerator Programme Incubation

To obtain a minor, students may choose 3 learning units out of the 8.

Annex B: PLP Minors

Pathway	List of PLP Minors
Professional Skills	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Data Analytics & Artificial Intelligence2. Internet of Things3. Social Media Marketing4. User Experience Design5. Cybersecurity6. Applied Psychology
Entrepreneurship	<ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Entrepreneurship
Global Readiness	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Global Readiness9. Foreign Languages
Social Leadership	<ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Social Leadership