



# IS

## SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

The **School of Interdisciplinary Studies (IS)** enhances Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP) students' learning experience by giving them a broad-based education beyond the boundaries of their diplomas' core disciplines and equipping them with relevant soft skills for their careers.

[www.np.edu.sg/is](http://www.np.edu.sg/is)

Accounting for about 15 per cent of the curriculum, Interdisciplinary Studies modules give students an edge by expanding their expertise and perspectives, promoting an innovative mindset, sharpening their thinking skills and increasing their versatility. Students will therefore be better equipped not only to handle the challenges of a globalised economy but also shape the future.

Today, NP is at the forefront of broad-based learning with the IS programme, offering a total of 11 prescribed modules and about 70 elective modules to cater for students' diverse interests.

In Year 1, students take prescribed modules comprising Innovation Toolkit, Sports & Wellness, one of the Communication modules, and Exploring Contemporary Issues (for School of Film & Media Studies students). In Year 2, students select elective modules from any of these four categories – Arts and Humanities, Business, Design, and Science and Technology. The School of Business & Accountancy students take two prescribed modules, namely Culture Quotient at Work and Exploring Contemporary Issues: Business and Society. In Year 3, students take a prescribed module - World Issues: A Singapore Perspective – and select a third elective from the above mentioned categories.

In addition, IS offers the Overseas Merit Fellowship module for students participating in The Christieara Programme. The three-week programme takes students to different countries, most recently, United States and New Zealand.

### CERTIFICATE IN CHINA READINESS

IS offers a Certificate in China Readiness Programme aimed at equipping students with the mindset, knowledge and skills to engage China. The programme comprises three elective modules, namely China: The Global Game Changer, Decoding China: A Cultural Perspective, and Engaging the Dragon: An Immersion Trip. These three modules run sequentially and students are required to complete all three modules in order to be conferred the certificate. Upon completion, they will also have fulfilled their Year 2 and 3 IS elective requirements.

### MATHEMATICS IN IS

IS supports the teaching of Mathematics in NP, especially for the School of Engineering and the School of Life Sciences & Chemical Technology. IS lecturers also conduct Bridging Mathematics classes for students who have weaker grades in 'O' Level Mathematics, and for ITE graduates. This helps students improve their Mathematics proficiency so that they can cope with the mathematics curriculum in their respective disciplines.

## DIPLOMA PLUS PROGRAMMES

IS currently offers three Diploma Plus Programmes in Foreign Language, Advanced Engineering Mathematics and Business (jointly offered with the School of Business & Accountancy).

The Diploma Plus Certificate in Foreign Languages (FL) is open to all students as an enhancement programme. Students may choose from three languages - Japanese, French and Korean. In this programme, students take six modules and attain a level of competency that enables them to take external qualifications such as the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, the Diplôme d'études en langue française and the Test of Proficiency in Korean, which are internationally recognised.

The Diploma Plus Certificate in Advanced Engineering Mathematics helps students in their future university studies by strengthening their mathematical foundation. This programme covers part of the Pure Mathematics Section of the H2 'A' Level Mathematics syllabus. NP students who attain this Diploma Plus Certificate will be exempted from the NUS foundation mathematics module MA1301 when they pursue a degree at NUS, and may proceed to read modules carrying A-level mathematics as prerequisite.

The Diploma Plus Certificate in Business provides students with a basic understanding of the environment in which a business operates, and the management of a business and its critical resources. It helps to prepare non-business students for work in a business environment, and provides a head start to those who wish to pursue a business degree after graduation.

## ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMMES

In addition to the Diploma Plus Certificate in Foreign Languages, other languages such as German and Mandarin are also offered as enhancement programmes.

## BREAKING CULTURAL BARRIERS

Frequently, IS also offers immersion trips to France, Japan and Korea to enable students of our language programmes to learn about the culture and language of the country. These trips also enable NP students to reflect more on Singapore and its place in the world.