

BA(ED)/BSc(ED) PROGRAMMES

STRUCTURE OF PROGRAMMES

The BA(Education)/BSc(Education) programmes comprise 8 areas of study for the Primary track and 9 areas for the Secondary track.

a) Education Studies

Student teachers will learn the key concepts and principles of education that are necessary for effective teaching and reflective practice in schools. They will also have the opportunity for in-depth study of some significant aspects of education.

b) Curriculum Studies

BA(Ed)/BSc(Ed) student teachers will specialise in the methodology for teaching at either the primary or secondary school level. These are designed to give student teachers the pedagogical skills in teaching specific subjects in Singapore schools. The choice of Curriculum Studies (CS) subjects depends on the track and strand to which the student teacher belongs.

Primary Track

General (Option A)	<p>Any 3 CS subjects from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art ○ English ○ Mathematics ○ Music ○ Science ○ Social Studies <p><i>For each CS, the number of modules is one more than that in Option B.</i></p>
General (Option B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English Language ● Mathematics ● And 1 more CS from the following list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art ○ Music ○ Science ○ Social Studies <p><i>A set of Lower Primary Integrated Modules worth 8 AUs is available in this option.</i></p>
Chinese specialisation	<p>CS1: Chinese Language CS2: Moral Education (Chinese)</p>
Malay specialisation	<p>CS1: Malay Language CS2: Moral Education (Malay)</p>
Physical Education and Sports Science (PESS) specialisation	<p>CS1: PESS CS2: English Language or Mathematics CS3: any one below (if not selected for CS2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Art ○ English ○ Mathematics ○ Music ○ Science ○ Social Studies

Secondary Track

General	<p>Student teachers will offer 2 CS subjects which are aligned with the choice of Academic Subjects (AS) chosen. CS1 will align with AS1 and CS2 will be aligned with AS2. For a full list of AS subjects, see section on Academic Subjects.</p>
Chinese specialisation	<p>CS1: Chinese Language CS2: Chinese Literature</p>
Malay specialisation	<p>CS1: Malay Language CS2: Malay Literature</p>
Physical Education and Sports Science (PESS) specialisation	<p>CS1: PESS CS2: aligned with AS2</p>

c) **Subject Knowledge**

This group of modules helps to reinforce subject content mastery for primary school teaching. Student teachers in the primary track must offer Subject Knowledge modules aligned with their choice of CS subjects.

For each CS subject, there will be two Subject Knowledge (SK) modules for those in the primary track in Option B while those who select Option A will have three SK modules for further deepening their subject knowledge. In the case where the student teacher's Academic Subject (AS) is related to the CS subject, he/she will only be required to do only 2 SK modules if Option A is selected and either 1 or 2 SK modules if Option B is selected as determined by the Academic Group.

For PESS specialisation in the primary track, student teachers will offer SK modules aligned with the CS2 and CS3 subjects and will read 3 SK modules per subject.

Those in the Secondary track will not be reading SK modules as it is assumed that they would have obtained this knowledge from the 2 AS subjects offered.

d) **Essential Module**

There will only be 1 essential module that introduces student teachers to the implications of living in a diverse society entitled 'Multicultural Studies: Appreciating & Valuing Differences'.

e) **Practicum**

Student teachers will be attached to schools for 2, 5, 5, 10 week blocks so that they can develop teaching competencies in a variety of contexts and at different levels.

- (i) School Experience (SE) : This is 2 weeks long, with 1 week in a primary school and 1 in a secondary school. The purpose for this is to provide student teachers opportunities to observe lessons in the primary and secondary classrooms.
- (ii) Teaching Assistantship (TA): This comprises 5 weeks and its purpose is to provide student teachers opportunities to observe their CTs teach and to reflect on the roles and responsibilities of a teacher. Student teachers are assessed only in terms of whether they have passed or failed.
- (iii) Teaching Practice 1 (TP1): This is 5 weeks long and its purpose is to help student teachers to begin to teach independently. They will learn to plan their own lesson segments to teach, prepare relevant resources and to manage pupils independently while still being able to consult their CTs and to observe their CTs teach.
- (iv) Teaching Practice 2 (TP2): This is the final component and it lasts for 10 weeks. Besides focusing on independent teaching, TP 2 allows for a more holistic school attachment experience which could include exploring other aspects of a teacher's life such as the management of CCAs. Student teachers are assessed and graded in TP2.

For all 4 school attachments, student teachers will be closely supervised by NIE's lecturers and will also learn

from experienced teachers in the schools about the schooling process. They will use the knowledge and skills obtained from the Education Studies and Curriculum Studies components to integrate theory with practice.

f) **Language Enhancement and Academic Discourse Skills (LEADS)**

The modules in this component equip student teachers with the basic language and voice skills that they require for teaching, as well as for successfully engaging in academic writing of assignments and theses. BA/BSc (Ed) student teachers will have to offer 2 compulsory modules, Communication Skills for Teachers (CST) and Academic Discourse Skills (ADS).

g) **Group Endeavours in Service Learning (GESL)**

Group Endeavours in Service Learning (GESL) Project is a compulsory project work that all student teachers are required to undertake. Student teachers in an assigned group are to collaboratively complete a project in a community service within the course of study. Student teachers will benefit from the GESL experience in acquiring generic knowledge and skills of project management in service learning. Groups will showcase their completed projects and a record of student teachers' involvement in GESL will be issued at the end of the programme.

h) Academic Subjects

This area of study covers knowledge of the content and fundamental concepts and principles of either one or two subjects depending on the programme enrolled for.

In the case of a BA(Ed) (Primary) student, the choice of the first Academic Subject must be an Arts subject while in the case of a BSc(Ed) (Primary) student teacher, the Academic Subject must be a Science Subject.

All BA (Ed) (Secondary) student teachers must read an arts subject as Academic Subject 1 but can choose an Arts or Science subject as Academic Subject 2. Similarly, all BSc (Ed) (Secondary) student teachers must choose a Science subject as Academic Subject 1 but can choose an Arts or Science subject as Academic Subject 2. The lists of subjects for the different programmes are shown below. However, due to the nature of workload for some subjects, the subject combinations allowed will have to be necessarily limited.

BA(Ed) (Primary/Secondary): Academic Subjects

ACADEMIC SUBJECT	BA(Ed) (Primary)	BA(Ed) (Secondary)	
	AS	AS1	AS2
Art	√	√	√
Biology	X	X	√
Chemistry	X	X	√
Chinese Language*	√	√	X
Chinese Literature*	X	X	√
Drama	√	√	√
English Language	√	√	√
English Literature	X	√	√
Geography	√	√	√
History	√	√	√
Malay Language**	√	√	X
Malay Literature**	X	X	√
Mathematics	X	X	√
Music	√	√	√
Physics	X	X	√

* Chinese Language and Chinese Literature must be offered as AS1 and AS2 together and not with another Academic Subject in both the primary and secondary specialisations.

** Malay Language and Malay Literature must be offered as AS1 and AS2 together and not with another Academic Subject in the primary specialisation. In the secondary specialisation, Malay Language must be offered as AS1 and Malay Literature as AS2. However, student teachers can opt to offer Malay Language as AS1 and any other Arts subject as AS2 but they will then not be considered as specialising in Malay Language.

BSc(Ed) (Primary/Secondary): Academic Subjects

ACADEMIC SUBJECT	BSc(Ed) (Primary)	BSc(Ed) (Secondary)	
		AS1	AS2
	AS	AS1	AS2
Art	X	X	√
Biology	√	√	√
Chemistry	√	√	√
Drama	X	X	√
English Language	X	X	√
English Literature	X	X	√
Family & Consumer Sciences	X	√	X
Geography	X	X	√
History	X	X	√
Mathematics	√	√	√
Music	X	X	√
PE and Sports Science	√	√	X
Physics	√	√	√

i) General Electives

Only BA(Ed)/BSc(Ed) student teachers in the Secondary track have the option of taking 3 AUs of General Electives, a full listing of which can be found in the section under 'General Electives'.