Exchange Scheme with the National University of Singapore

Where is NUS?
Founded in 1905 - the publicly-funded university is the highest ranked in Asia and also has the highest student enrolment in the country with a student population of 38,000. NUS’s main campus is located in South-West Singapore adjacent to Kent Ridge.

Who can go?
- Two places will be made available to York undergraduate students to study for the full 2019/20 academic year.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York (or the 2nd/3rd year of study if you’re on a 4 year programme) for credit-replacing programmes. Please speak to your department about the availability of extended degrees that allow you to take an additional year to study abroad.
- Please consult the Opportunities by Subject webpage to see if your department is eligible for exchange.
- Please note that Economics, PPE and Education students are excluded from this exchange due to the incompatibility of modules.

Courses
- Students will be expected to take 32 credits during their year at NUS (i.e. 16 credits per semester). All 32 credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- If a student wishes to take extra courses in other non-degree related subjects, they should limit this to an additional 4 credits per semester.
- The course catalogue serves as a general guide to the courses available. However, not all courses may be available in each semester and some may be restricted. You should check the NUS scheduling for a directory of courses available in the following academic year.
- The course catalogue for 2018/19 can be accessed here as a guide: nus.edu.sg/registrar/info/ng/NG-Modules.pdf

How will my marks be assessed/converted?
- Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants.
- University of York staff can access Grade Conversion Tables here: york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5
- Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be converted on your return to York. Students on additional years will have different arrangements to those on credit-replacing exchange.

Costs
Please note that the costs below are based on previous years and are provided for guidance only. Exact costs may vary due to exchange rates, inflation, personal circumstance and/or other reasons.
- Tuition Fees: Students will pay no tuition fees to NUS and in 2018/19 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
Visas: The Student’s Pass application fee ranges from S$90 –S$120 (Singaporean $)

Medical insurance and waiver: Every international student must take up the compulsory International Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme. Please note that not all health services are covered by the scheme (for example normal outpatient treatment, pre-existing conditions or dental work) so you may wish to enrol with a private health insurance organisation that offers services not covered by the scheme. There is also Student Service Fee for exchange students.

Additional costs to consider: flights, accommodation, travel insurance and visas (see below), living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

Visa/Student Pass

Please be aware that Centre for Global Programmes staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.

- NUS will apply for the Student’s Pass (and entry visa, if required) on your behalf once you are offered admission. You will then be given the necessary information via email to log into the Singapore’s Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) web-based Student’s Pass Online Application and Registration (SOLAR) system to verify the accuracy of certain information and submit Form 16 online before your Student’s Pass application can be processed.
- Once the Student’s Pass application has been approved, you will receive an In-Principle Approval [IPA] letter, which will be given to you during the registration exercise at NUS. If you are from a visa-required country, your IPA letter will be mailed to your address (as provided in your online application) as it will serve as a single-trip entry visa when you arrive in Singapore.
- All incoming international students who are applying for a Student’s Pass to support a full-year exchange are required to complete a medical examination using the form provided by Singapore’s immigration. It is highly recommended that full-year exchange students arrive in Singapore earlier to do their medical check-up at NUS or print out the given medical form and have the check-up done at their home country. Details will be provided in the NUS Registration Guide.

What’s it like to study there?

“Living and studying abroad was the most difficult and rewarding experience of my life. The academic environment in National University of Singapore (NUS) is similar to York with the lectures and seminar format, but the workload is far greater. At the beginning, this was incredibly daunting and I thought I would get lost in the big department, but as the year progressed professors gave valuable feedback and guidance and in my second semester I achieved some of my best grades since being at university.”

“Studying in Singapore provided a stable and safe base from which we travelled with friends to Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Myanmar and Malaysia. Those travelling experiences forced me outside of my comfort zone and subsequently, introduced me to incredibly complex and beautiful cultures. While studying in Singapore I met some inspiring international and local students, and those connections have given me further reason to travel and explore.”

Pippa, Environment, Year Abroad 2016/17

“I think personally I have changed a lot, especially my attitude to making friends (I have definitely become more confident!) and spending my time wisely day to day. The past semester has also helped me realise where my priorities are, or should be, concerning my balance between work and play in daily life.”
Another wonderful thing about Singapore is that there are so many events going on and attractions to visit – not only on campus, but around the city too. I have been to a few already and they have been very enjoyable, especially the HERE Arts Carnival at the university and the Singapore Night Festival.

Aishwarya, Computer Science, Year Abroad 2017/18

Where will I live?
- NUS offers on-campus accommodation to exchange students, but it is NOT guaranteed.
- On-Campus Housing will cost around S$2,000 - S$2,790 per semester depending on the room. More information on the NUS website here.
- Students staying in halls are required to subscribe to meal plans which will cost around S$430 – S$475 per semester.
- Off-Campus Housing is also available to students. More information on the NUS website here.

Is it the right choice for me?
- When thinking about choosing your destination for studying abroad please look through the Considerations Checklist on our web pages.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

Contact details at NUS
- National University of Singapore, Registrar’s Office (Non-Graduating Programme)
- University Hall, Lee Kong Chian Wing, #UHL-04-01, 21 Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 119077.
- Web: nus.edu.sg/registrar/edu/ng.html.
- Email: nghelp@nus.edu.sg

Useful web links
- Main NUS Website
- NUS Incoming Exchange Students
- NUS Information Sheet for Incoming Students 2018/19
- NUS International Relations Office
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Singapore Travel Information

Please note: The websites listed here are not intended to represent a comprehensive list. The Centre for Global Programmes cannot be held responsible for the content of external websites.
Students are responsible for researching their own exchanges and making sure that they have considered all costs and the compatibility of the overseas programme to their own degree, in discussion with their departments and supervisors. The Centre for Global Programmes are here to offer support.