



Frequently Asked Question

HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT

Geography and History

FAQ #1 : I have no pure History/Geography background, can I offer GE/HT at 'A' Level?

Yes, most of our students don't have pure background. What is needed more is the interest in the subject, the readiness to read and write essays.

FAQ #2 I did Combined Humanities with GE/HT at 'O' Levels, can I cope with 'A' Level GE/HT?

No different from effort required for any other 'A' Level subject.
Slight advantages only as topics are either new or done at surface level at 'O' Level.

FAQ #3 : I have never taken GE/HT at 'O' Level, will I be at a disadvantage as those who did pure or Combined Humanities GE/HT?

No, as long as there is the interest and effort put into the subject and you are interested in writing essays at length.

FAQ #4 : Can I do both H2 Geography and H2 History?

As both H2 History and H2 Geography are content-heavy subjects and highly demanding, the College does not advise students to take both subjects together. Moreover, this combination is not offered in the list of subject combinations as it is not a popular request, with the possibility of a class not being to form. On top of that, Geography and History lectures/tutorials are concurrent so it will pose as a constraint to timetabling matters as well.

FAQ #5 : Are there any pre-requisites for the Humanities subjects?

No, but these subjects require essay writing so choose them if you like to write, can write in length and have a linguistic advantage which is important for analysis and evaluation. There are specific prerequisites for H2 Art. You need to take a short test which will be arranged by the Art tutor to ascertain your suitability. You do not need to have offered Art at 'O' Level to offer it at 'A' Level. The tutor will ascertain your suitability.



FAQ #6 : Does the college offer H3 for the Humanities subjects?

Yes, but this offer is conditional upon the student's performance in the specific subject and overall performance after the JC 1 Promotional examination and his/her research interests. It is also subjected to the recommendation by the relevant tutors.

ART

FAQ #1 : What is the difference between 'O' and 'A' Level Art?

Ans: 'O' Level Art consists of Coursework and either Drawing and Painting paper or SOVA.

While 'A' Level Art consists of Coursework (H2 Art only) and SOVA (Study of Visual Art) which is a written paper (both H1 and H2 Art).

FAQ #2 : What is the difference between H1 and H2 Art?

There is no coursework for H1 Art. H1 Art is a pure theory paper.

FAQ #3 : Are there any prerequisites for taking Art?

There are no prerequisites for H1 Art but for H2 Art there is a selection test conducted by the art teacher.

FAQ #4 : Why is there a need for a selection test for H2 Art?

The selection test is only for those who are interested in taking H2 Art. The test allows the teacher to have a better understanding of your current technical skills and your readiness to tackle the A-Level coursework. From the test, the teacher will advise you on your level of readiness to take H2 Art, and help you decide if you wish to take H2 Art or consider other subject combinations.



FAQ #5 : What is the coursework like? What is expected of us and what is the duration? Are there any pre-requisites for the Humanities subjects?

Coursework is 60% of the A Level Examinations. Students are required to submit 8 A2 preparatory boards to show their process of investigating and developing their chosen theme. Students are expected to be very self-directed in the process of coursework and consistently update their progress with their coursework supervisor (art teacher) across the duration of approximately 9 months.

FAQ #7 : Is there H3 for Art and does your college offer it?

*Yes there is H3 for Art, however our college does not offer it.

Note: For questions on the syllabus, please refer to SEAB website for the details of the details of the syllabus and assessment.

China Studies in English (CSE)

FAQ #1 : What is China Studies in English?

It is the in-depth study of **contemporary China** with regard to her economic, political, social and cultural developments. Time frame is very current.

In terms of examination format, H2 CSE consists of case studies and essay questions.

FAQ #2 : What is the difference between H1 and H2 CSE?

As of 2023, MOE does not offer H1 CSE anymore, so nationally, only H2 CSE is offered and the first year of examination is in 2024.

FAQ #3 : Is CSE like Histor? Is it the study of the history of China?

No. China Studies focuses on the transformation of China since 1978 and its future. As such, it is the study of current developments and challenges in contemporary China.

FAQ #4 : Do I have to know Chinese?

No. However, you do need a deep interest in China's developments.

**FAQ #5 : How is CSE useful to me?**

It will allow you to develop the relevant knowledge and critical thinking skills to pursue a holistic understanding of contemporary China and also a greater awareness of larger global trends. In the future, you can also potentially contribute, in your own capacity, to further Singapore-China interactions.

FAQ #6 : Can I pursue CSE in University?

You can pursue modules related to China's development offered both at NUS / NTU.

FAQ #7 : Are there any pre-requisites for studying CSE?

There is no pre-requisite.

Note: Questions on the syllabus can be redirected to asking the student/parent to go to SEAB's website to have a look at the details of the syllabus and assessment.

Thank you