

3.5.3 Special Programme in Science (SPS)

SPS is an intense programme designed for a small cohort of undergraduates who have a strong aptitude and passion for science. It is directed at students who delight in rigorous training of the mind and character. The programme introduces participants to some of the broad areas of contemporary scientific concerns through an inter-disciplinary approach. Opportunities abound for participants to participate in scientific investigations and to embark on in-depth studies of advanced topics that are at the forefront of modern scientific endeavour. Participants get to enjoy close interaction with their peers and mentors through project work and seminar discussions. The programme also provides students with a rare opportunity to interact with renowned scientists visiting the university. With the goal of encouraging a free exchange of opinions and ideas, it is hoped that students will imbibe among other things, some of the wit and wisdom that these visitors may bring.

Students in the programme will read six modules in all:

SP2171 Discovering Science (4 MCs) - read over two semesters in the first year of study

SP2173 Atoms to Molecules (4 MCs) - read in semester I of the first year of study

SP2174 The Cell (4 MCs) - read in semester II of the first year of study

SP3175 The Earth (4 MCs) - read in semester II of the second year of study

SP3176 The Universe (4 MCs) - read in semester II of the second year of study

SP3172 Integrated Science Project (4 MCs) - read in semester I of the second year of study

SP3277 Nano: from Research Bench to Industrial Applications

SP3277 Nano: from Research Bench to Industrial Applications is a new elective SPS module offered with effect from Sem 2 AY2013/14.

This module exposes senior students to nanoscience research and nanotechnology-based industry. This is done through a series of weekly seminars by principal investigators and industrial experts in the field, laboratory and industrial visits, and by completion of nanosynthesis/nanocharacterization-related mini projects. The course culminates in an intensive one-week study tour to Japan, organised in collaboration with La Trobe University and Tokyo University.

For both SPS and non-SPS students, this module can be counted towards the Multidisciplinary & Interdisciplinary Sciences subject group of the Faculty Requirements. This module can count towards requirements for Nanoscience minor.

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Special Arrangements for SPS Students in USP

With effect from **2017 cohort**, USP students enrolled in Special Programme in Science (SPS) will be granted a waiver of 4 USP Inquiry modules (2 HSS + 2 ST). The waiver includes the ISM requirement.

• **Students Matriculating From AY2012-13 and onwards:**

From this AY onwards, USP will be under the revised curriculum. The Advanced Curriculum will cease to exist, and SPS modules will be used to fulfill USP inquiry modules. For USP students matriculating from this AY onwards who are in SPS:

- Any two of SP2173, SP2174, SP3175 and SP3176 will count as regular Inquiry modules in the Sciences & Technologies (S&T) domain; in addition,
- SP3172 will count as an ISM in the S&T domain

Please refer to USP website

<http://www.usp.nus.edu.sg/curriculum/academic-structure/independent-study-module#special-arrangements-esp-and-sps-students> for the details.