

PRESS RELEASE

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NUS To Offer Double Honours Degree In Economics And Law

The National University of Singapore Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) and the Faculty of Law will jointly offer a five-year double honours degree programme in Economics and Law from the Academic Year 2005/2006.

This is the first double degree of its kind in Singapore and the first undergraduate double degree programme between two faculties within NUS. Built around the core modules of NUS' existing Economics and Law degrees, it also has specially designed modules that draw on both subjects. Graduates will be awarded a Bachelor of Social Sciences (B.Soc.Sc.) (Honours) degree, and Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) (Honours) degree, which is recognized for admission to the Singapore bar.

Economics and Law are, in some areas, complementary disciplines. Increasingly, the combined use of the methodologies from both disciplines is becoming important, as is the examination of the places where they intersect. For example, most Corporations Law and Business Law subjects in leading law schools now include economic analysis.

Associate Professor Tan Cheng Han , Senior Counsel, Dean of the Faculty of Law said: “ Singapore is growing fast as a regional centre for legal services, and a great deal of our international legal work involves commercial, corporate and financial law. This means there is – and will continue to be -- a demand for lawyers with a strong background in economics, as well as for economists trained in law. Likely future employers are law firms with an international presence, large commercial banks, and government bodies .”

Associate Professor Tan Tai Yong , Dean of FASS commented: “ This programme combines the core essentials of two degrees and includes classes that make connections between the subjects. In other words, students will have the benefits of two full undergraduate programmes, as well as of exploring some of the places where they meet. It's a tough course of study, and a demanding one for students. But we believe it's also a very exciting programme, which makes fascinating and significant connections. And we're sure it will prepare students very well for future careers in commercial and corporate law, and in finance .”

About the programme

The new double degree programme will commence in July 2005 and is designed to be completed in five years . The faculties plan to have around 22 students for the first intake. Students may be admitted to the programme in one of three ways:

1. By direct application from Junior College. These students will spend the first year in the Faculty of Law
2. By application during their first or second year in the Faculty of Law
3. By application during their first year or second in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

Applicants to the programme must meet the admission requirements of both Faculties. Students in the programme will pay the same fees that apply to other Economics or Law students for each semester of study.

Students who successfully complete the programme requirements will obtain a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) degree and Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) degree conferred by NUS.

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