

Freshman Seminar (FS) Module

FSD 1201 Policies for Building Sustainable Cities

The above module will be launched in Semester 2 of AY08/09. This module is intended for SDE students who are in their first year at NUS (i.e. including diploma holders). Unlike mass lectures, the class size will be kept to a maximum of 16 students to provide an opportunity for SDE students from the various programs to interact with professors in a seminar-style environment. The assessment will be based on students' research into an area of interest and seminar presentations, and will be marked on a CS/CU basis. Students will use their Program points to bid for this module.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the module, students should be able to conduct independent learning, synthesize different ideas, collect data, analyze the available evidence, and present their findings on issues such as:

1. The threats posed to building sustainable cities by climate change, energy crisis, desertification and volatile economic conditions.
2. Inadequacies of the current efforts to deal with the above challenges and possible alternatives.
3. Integrating measures to policy and legal frameworks in order to develop public awareness and participation in sustainable development initiatives.
4. The conflicts between sustainable development goals and the relevant mitigation and adaptation measures to deal with challenges to such development.

The importance of framing policies dealing with areas such as climate change and alternative energies within a larger framework of sustainable development policies and regulations.

Module Structure

The Freshman Seminar module (FSD1201) is of 4 modular credits and may be used to satisfy unrestricted elective requirements.

This module is open only to freshman of the School of Design and Environment in their first two semesters at NUS.

Grading

The module is 100% continuous assessment. To encourage the relaxed exchange of ideas and information, this module will be graded 'Completed Satisfactory/Completed Unsatisfactory' (CS/CU) which will not shave off from the S/U entitlement.

Class Size

To promote interaction, the maximum class size is 16. The minimum class size is 10.