

FAQ for New BBA Curriculum for Admission Cohort 2023 Students

This set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) seeks to further advise BAC, BBA and BSc RE students from Admission Cohort 2023 relating to the New BBA Curriculum that will be implemented from AY2024/2025. The FAQs should be read concurrently with the Townhall slide deck shared on 3 January 2024.

Note: Cohort 2022 and earlier students will not be affected by the New BBA Curriculum.

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29. I am a BAC/BSc RE student switching to Accountancy/Real Estate as my primary major under the New BBA Curriculum and will be pursuing a second major in Finance. If I complete the requirements for the Finance second major before completing the requirements for the Accountancy/Real Estate primary major, am I allowed to graduate?
30. I am a current BBA/BAC student and I have not completed BPM1701/1702/1705 courses. If I choose to switch to the New BBA Curriculum, do I still need to complete these courses to graduate?

1. How are the current Cohort 2023 BIZ students affected by the New BBA Curriculum?

Cohort 2023 students will be given the option to switch to the New BBA Curriculum with the mandate that their primary major must be equivalent to the degree they were admitted for in August 2023, or they can choose to remain in the existing BBA/BAC/BSc RE curriculum.

A Townhall briefing was held to share about the New BBA Curriculum on 8 December 2023. The slide deck was also circulated to students via email on 3 January 2024. Cohort 2023 students will need to make their choice to switch to the New BBA Curriculum or stay on the current BBA curriculum by end of January 2024.

2. What are the key changes under the New BBA Curriculum? What are the major options offered under the New BBA Curriculum? Can I change my mind after selecting a primary BBA major?

The New BBA will have nine BBA majors. Students must graduate with one primary or first major, chosen from the nine. It will be a 4-year direct honours degree.

The following nine BBA majors available under the New BBA Curriculum are:

- Business majors#
 - Applied Business Analytics
 - Business Economics
 - Finance
 - Innovation & Entrepreneurship
 - Leadership & Human Capital Management
 - Marketing
 - Operations & Supply Chain Management
- Accountancy*
- Real Estate**

Cohort 2023 BBA students who opted to switch to the New BBA Curriculum must eventually choose one of these business majors as their primary majors by the end of AY2024/25 Semester 2 or the student's 4th active semester (whichever the later). Students will not be able to change their selection of the primary business major from their 5th active semester onwards.

* Cohort 2023 BAC students who opted to switch to the New BBA Curriculum must retain Accountancy as their primary major.

** Cohort 2023 BSc (RE) students who opted to switch to the New BBA Curriculum must retain Real Estate as their primary major.

In addition, students who switched to the new curriculum can pursue any of the other eight BBA majors as their second major or up to two other BBA minors on top of their primary major by completing 40 Units for the major and 20 Units per minor respectively. There are no quotas or minimum GPA requirements to do such a second BBA major/minor.

3. What is the difference between a major and a specialisation?

A major allows for students to develop deeper expertise in their chosen fields and under the New BBA Curriculum, a primary major has a unit requirement of at least 60 Units.

In contrast, a specialisation requirement provides students the opportunity to learn about a sub-discipline within their major. The unit requirement for a specialisation under the existing BBA curriculum is 20 Units. While the term “specialisation” will be defunct under the New BBA Curriculum, there would be BBA minor (20 Units) introduced, which fulfils a similar objective as the specialisation.

4. What are the new requirements introduced to the New BBA Curriculum?

RE1707 Introduction to Real Estate (2 Units) – applied to Cohort 2024 onwards

Real estate is an important input factor of business, particularly in land-scarce Singapore. This course serves as an exposure to the real estate sector so that students have basic information to decide whether to take up the real estate major (or second major or minor).

Real estate is vital to the Singapore economy as it does not merely inquire into land and homes. In reality, there are many different classes of real estates and different strategies in managing them. It is a thriving and vibrant sector. If you do not wish to do a major, you can do a minor to be exposed to this interesting sector.

MNO2707 Business Ethics (2 Units)

This course will provide a framework to discuss ethical issues and practices in business scenarios. Given that Singapore is an open economy, it is important that every business philosophy is underpinned by sound ethical principles.

Global Experience Milestone (GEM, 0 Unit)

The objective of this milestone is to expose BIZ students to a foreign country to experience a different academic, work, social and/or cultural environment. GEM aligns with Singapore’s positioning as a global/regional business hub in which more future job roles will be regional or international in nature.

To complete the GEM, the student needs to complete a significant and approved overseas experience. The minimum will be a 5-day study trip with deliverables (excluding the days expensed for international travel). The most common way to complete GEM will be through an overseas exchange stint (through the Student Exchange Programme) or an overseas summer/winter school. Other alternatives are overseas internships, overseas community projects, overseas competition, etc. Financial assistance is available for financially challenged students.

The GEM is already a requirement under the existing BBA and Accountancy curriculum under the Global Immersion Scheme (GIS) requirement. The GEM will be extended to the Real Estate major under the New BBA Curriculum. Real Estate students will be able to tap the many exchange places that BIZ has with overseas partner universities.

Work Experience Milestone (WEM, 0 Unit)

The objective is to equip BIZ undergraduates with workplace-ready skills before graduation. This is welcomed by prospective employers. WEM is a milestone and is

not a course by itself. To complete the milestone, the student needs to complete the following:

- Career Compass Workshops (STR1000 & STR2000), which are conducted by BIZCareers during the first and second years. The workshops prepare the students for securing internships and a job upon graduation. These workshops are currently already compulsory for BBA, BAC and BSc (RE) (from 2022 cohort).
and at least one type of internship
- **One full-time or part-time approved internship**, whether credit-bearing or not. The full-time internship must be at least 8 weeks and the part-time internship must be at least 16 weeks. Students need to register for the internship with BIZCareers and must provide evidence of completion of the internship.
- **Work-Study Internship Program (WSIP)**. Students on WSIP will work full-time internships with the WSIP host over a span of 32 to 40 weeks while returning to campus to study approved courses (during the regular semester) that complement the workplace needs of the WSIP host. It is designed to allow students to have a much deeper dive into the industry or professional sector that they are interested in; and be able to find immediate application of what they have learnt in the classroom. In addition, students are able to accumulate work experiences that may possibly be counted towards their seniority in their careers if they accept a graduate job offer from the same WSIP host. The program specifics of WSIP vary from firm to firm as they are usually customized according to the talent acquisition plan of the firm.

The WEM requirements are still currently being refined.

5. Where can I obtain more information about the New BBA Curriculum? Can we obtain the course listings under the New BBA Curriculum?

The compulsory courses in the New BBA Curriculum may be found in the Townhall slide deck shared with affected students on 3 January 2024. More information on the elective courses will be published on the BBA website progressively.

6. How do I choose to switch to the New BBA Curriculum? What if I want to remain on the existing BBA/BAC/BSc RE curriculum?

A Townhall briefing was conducted on 8 December 2023 and you should have received the Townhall slide deck sent earlier to your NUS email on 3 January 2024.

The BIZ Undergraduate Studies Office will conduct a one-time exercise to allow students to indicate their choice by 31 January 2024 through an online survey.

Students invited to the exercise but did not respond to the survey by the deadline will remain in their existing degrees enrolled in August 2023.

For cohort 2023 students who decide to continue with the current curriculum, the school will ensure all students that they can complete the respective existing BBA, BAC or BSc RE degree and graduate accordingly.

7. Are there any disadvantages to switching to the New BBA Curriculum?

As the degree with the New BBA Curriculum has been approved by the Ministry of Education (MOE) as a 4-year honours degree, a possible disadvantage of switching is that there will no longer be an option to exit the BBA programme without honours in 3 years. Students considering the switch should weigh the benefits and costs carefully before deciding.

8. I am a current Cohort 2023 BSc RE (or BAC) student. Can I switch to the New BBA Curriculum and choose Finance as my primary major?

When you choose to switch to the New BBA Curriculum, you are mandated to complete Real Estate (or Accountancy) as your primary major. Hence, you will not be allowed to switch your primary major from Real Estate (or Accountancy) as a Cohort 2023 student. However, you will be able to choose Finance as your second major/minor.

Likewise, Cohort 2023 BBA students cannot switch to the New BBA Curriculum and choose their primary major as Accountancy or Real Estate.

9. How can existing student change their primary major upon switching to the New BBA Curriculum? What if I am an existing BAC/BSc RE student and I want to choose a Business major as my primary major?

If you want to complete a different first major under the New BBA, you must first indicate that you want to switch to the mandated first major by 31 January 2024. You will then apply for a transfer in degree before the end of AY23/24. If you are unsuccessful with the transfer in degree, you will stay with the mandated first major under the New BBA.

Students who seek a transfer in their degree program will have to submit a transfer application through the Office of Admissions. For more information, please visit: <https://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/apply-to-nus/transfer-applicants>

10. Are there cut-off point/GPA requirements for transferring between degree programmes (e.g. BSc (RE) to BBA)?

Please refer to the requirements stipulated on the Office of Admissions website: <https://www.nus.edu.sg/oam/apply-to-nus/transfer-applicants>

11. Will the current Real Estate Finance major be offered under the New BBA Curriculum?

No, but a student reading the BBA programme with a primary major in Real Estate under the New BBA Curriculum may consider reading Finance as a second major (or minor) to be similarly equipped with the necessary knowledge.

12. What would be the difference between the Applied Business Analytics major from NUS Business School and the Business Analytics degree/major from the School of Computing?

The major offered by NUS Business School, named Applied Business Analytics, comprises business function courses and is geared towards *applications* of analytics and analytic tools in the business world.

For more information about the degree/major in Business Analytics offered by School of Computing, please refer to

<https://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/programmes/ug/majorc/ba-secmajor/>

13. What would be the difference between the Business Economics major from NUS Business School and the Economics major from the College of Humanities and Sciences?

The major offered by NUS Business School, named Business Economics, combines economic courses with analytics and marketing and aims to develop students to be well-versed in business and management practices with a strong economic sense for careers in management and/or economic consulting.

For more information about the major in Economics offered by the College of Humanities and Sciences, please refer to <https://fass.nus.edu.sg/ecs/requirements-for-economics-major/>.

14. As a current RE student, how can I apply for SEP under the New BBA Curriculum?

All students under the New BBA Curriculum will have to go through the same SEP selection process. As part of the application process, students may submit records of CCA and volunteer activities for consideration.

More details on the SEP selection criteria can be found on the SEP website under 'What's New':

<https://bba.nus.edu.sg/student-experience/exchange-programmes/whats-new/>

15. Is there any compulsory internship for students under the New BBA Curriculum?

Internship is a compulsory component under the **Work Experience Milestone** (WEM, 0 Units) that is introduced under the New BBA Curriculum. For more details on WEM, please refer to question 4.

16. Does the removal of the honours thesis in the New BBA Curriculum affect our employment competitiveness?

There are few BBA/BAC students pursuing honours thesis in the recent years as it is no longer a requirement for honours with highest distinction under the current BBA/BAC curriculum. Hence, we have removed the honours thesis requirement.

For the Real Estate major, the honours thesis requirement has been replaced by Field Service Project, which provides more relevant cross-disciplinary learning.

Though honours thesis is not a compulsory requirement, it will be offered as an 8-unit course under Restricted Electives and Unrestricted Electives for all majors under the New BBA Curriculum. Please note that for the honours thesis to count towards the Restricted Electives requirement, the topic of research for the thesis will need to be related to the appropriate major.

17. Are there still 2 pathways for honours for the seven business majors and the Accountancy major - one through a Field Service Project (FSP) and the other through a thesis?

No. The New BBA is structured as a single pathway to a direct-honours degree. The new structure can be found in the Townhall slide deck.

18. When will the New BBA curriculum take effect?

The new curriculum will be officially rolled out in AY2024/25, Semester 1. Cohort 2023 students who choose to switch will be entering into Year 2 of the New BBA Curriculum.

19. Are there any changes to the tuition fee for students who have opted to switch to the New BBA Curriculum?

No. Students will continue to pay the existing [tuition fee](#) rate based on the degree they were admitted to for the Admission Year 2023.

20. Is there any graduation delay if I switch to the New BBA Curriculum?

The school has carefully planned and designed the new course structure whereby there should be no difference to the graduation timeline for students from cohort 2023 who choose to switch to the new curriculum.

21. I am BAC student who is keen to take up the Work Study Internship Programme (WSIP). Do I still have sufficient UE space to pursue a French language course as part of SEP preparation?

The WISP will take up 16 to 20 units of the UE space. The remaining UE space may be used for other pursuits within NUS.

22. What will happen to the Advance Placement Credits (APCs) for cohort 2023 students who switched to the New BBA Curriculum?

All APCs granted will continue to remain in your student record and will not be affected by the switch.

23. What degree title will be reflected on my degree scroll for students who switched to the New BBA Curriculum?

Primary Major	Degree title
Business majors <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Applied</u> Business Analytics• Business Economics• Finance• Innovation & Entrepreneurship• Leadership & Human Capital Management• Marketing• Operations & Supply Chain Management	Bachelor of Business Administration with Honours
Accountancy	Bachelor of Business Administration (Accountancy) with Honours
Real Estate	Bachelor of Business Administration (Real Estate) with Honours

24. I have completed a primary and second major. Are employers able to distinguish between my primary/first vs second major? Will it be perceived as a double major?

Both primary and second majors will be reflected accordingly in your transcript. A student who satisfies the requirements of two majors will be considered a graduate with double majors.

For instance, it would be possible for a student with an Accounting primary major and a Finance second major to work as an accountant just as a student with a Finance primary major and an Accounting second major.

25. As a RE student who switched to the New BBA Curriculum, can I still do a second Major or Minor in Management?

No. The second Major or Minor in Management is offered only to non-business students. Within the New BBA Curriculum, students whose primary major is Real Estate may do a second Major/Minor from within the other eight BBA majors.

26. Can the current Real Estate-related Minors or second Majors be taken with this New BBA Curriculum?

With the curriculum change, the existing Minor in Real Estate and the second Major in Real Estate Finance have been discontinued.

Students can still read the Minor in Urban Studies and the Minor in Infrastructure Management and Finance.

27. I am a DDP student. How will the New BBA Curriculum affect me if I switch to the New BBA Curriculum?

All the questions in this FAQ (which applies to Cohort 2023) will apply to DDP students as well (home and non-home faculty students), subject to the next question on DDP, listed below.

While the overall DDP structure will remain the same, there could be some changes.

DDP students contemplating the switch to the New BBA Curriculum should consider the following three additional points.

1. There could be a change in the number of Units required to complete the DDP (ie: more Units or fewer Units). The new curriculum was just approved by MOE in November 2023, and we are in the process of negotiating with the various faculties. The final proposal relating to DDPs has also to be approved at the University Level. This could take up to a year. Thus, if DDP students wish to have more certainty, they should stick to the current BBA/BAC/BSc RE curriculum.
2. The main advantage of the new curriculum is that it allows students to do another internal major or minor. However, since DDP students would not have

UE space in their curriculum to do this, this advantage is of no value to them, unless they are not sure whether they want to remain in the DDP.

3. For students whose home faculty is not business, currently, there is a possibility of completing the BBA programme without honours, the effect being the DDP can be completed more quickly. However, under the new curriculum, there is no option to complete the BBA degree without an honours.

If you require further information, please approach Ms Zainab Abdul Ghani (zainabag@nus.edu.sg).

28. I am a DDP student. Do I need to graduate with a Primary Major?

Note: The below answer applies to DDP-BBA students. There are currently no DDP-BAC/BSc RE students.

For the current BBA curriculum, DDP students need not specialise but must complete 20 Units (plus 12 Units for the Coursework Honours route) of electives (from courses across the 7 “specialisations” in the current BBA Degree). Students who wish to specialise in a business area may have to read extra courses to meet the respective specialisation requirements (if needed).

Similarly, for students who switch to the New BBA Curriculum, it is not compulsory for students to major in any of the 7 business majors for the BBA degree. Still, students must complete the general management major of 36 Units (with 12 Units of Level 4000 courses). Students who wish to complete a Business major may have to read extra courses to meet the respective major requirements (if needed).

If you require further information, please approach Ms Zainab Abdul Ghani (zainabag@nus.edu.sg).

29. I am a BAC/BSc RE student switching to Accountancy/Real Estate as my primary major under the New BBA Curriculum and will be pursuing a second major in Finance. If I complete the requirements for the Finance second major before completing the requirements for the Accountancy/Real Estate primary major, am I allowed to graduate?

No. Admission Cohort 2023 students who switch to the New BBA Curriculum can only graduate with their mandated primary major.

30. I am a current BBA/BAC student and I have not completed BPM1701/1702/1705 courses. If I choose to switch to the New BBA Curriculum, do I still need to complete these courses to graduate?

Yes, BBA/BAC students who choose to switch to the New BBA Curriculum must still complete the whole set of BPM courses to graduate. This does not apply to the current BSc RE students as these courses are not part of the BSc RE curriculum.