

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY - FALL 2022

COLGATE IN SINGAPORE

**Director:**

Vijay Ramachandran,
Department of Computer Science

Tentative Program Dates:

July 16 to December 3,
2022

Learn about the 2022-23 Colgate Study Groups and talk with Faculty Directors at the Study Group Fair at the Hall of Presidents on Wednesday, October 6th, 2021, 4:00–5:00: <https://www.colgate.edu/academics/off-campus-study/campus-opportunities/virtual-study-group-fair>

For more information about the program, or to chat remotely/in-person if you can't attend an info session, please contact Prof. Ramachandran at vramachandran@colgate.edu

Information Sessions will be held on:

Thursday, October 21 at 11:20am in 101 Gregory Hall and
Tuesday, October 26 at 4:15pm in 104 Olin Hall

The Singapore Exchange Program

at the National University of Singapore (NUS) is an opportunity for students majoring in the natural sciences and mathematics to study at a leading global university while becoming immersed in the rich culture, history, and tropical setting of Southeast Asia. Students will take two or three courses counting towards their academic programs and will have the opportunity to engage in a research project with world-renowned faculty. Students will also take one course related to the cultural heritage of the region. All classes are in English, so students do not need language skills prior to participation; but, opportunities to learn or expand language skills in Chinese, Malay, Tamil, or other Southeast Asian languages will be offered. Students also take a three-week half-credit extended study course with the program director prior to the start of the semester as an orientation to the region and initial bonding time for the group.

**Goals:**

- [1] To engage in research at one of the best universities for natural science research in Asia.
- [2] To take courses within a field of study that provide new opportunities and outlooks.
- [3] To introduce students to Singaporean culture and history.
- [4] To meet students from around the world and broaden social and cultural perspectives.
- [5] To consider the ways in which science and research cross cultural and national boundaries.

The program provides the equivalent of a full semester's work on campus, and students on the program will meet the Global Engagements requirement. Up to eight Colgate students can participate in the program, and Prof. Ramachandran will recruit and select students to form a full cohort.



The program will begin with an approximately three-week extended study led by Prof. Ramachandran, exploring Southeast Asia as a diverse and dynamic region, including a weeklong excursion to Bali, Indonesia. After the beginning of the term, students will be engaged in coursework and research at NUS, and they will stay in touch with Prof. Ramachandran via regular videoconference sessions. At NUS, students will be directly involved with the Faculty of Science or School of Computing. Students will be able to select courses in their discipline from the diverse offerings at NUS, and students interested in research opportunities can be placed in research groups according to their interest. Students will also be included in various activities with the NUS student body and international students at NUS.

Description of the Courses in the Program:

Students will receive a total of four credits for their term in Singapore (which will appear as transfer credits on your transcript). All courses will be taught by National University of Singapore professors and will be offered in English. At least two of the four courses will be for credit in the student's major field of study. Students interested in conducting research may receive course credit for this research, counting towards any departmental research requirements for the major. Students not receiving research course credit may take a third course toward their major. The fourth class is a course about the region's history and culture (e.g., Singapore Studies) that will count towards a general Colgate credit. **In addition, the pre-term extended study exploring Singapore and Bali and led by Prof. Ramachandran will provide a half credit and will satisfy Colgate's Global Engagements Core requirement.**

Students who wish to conduct research in the natural sciences as part of this study group will enroll in the NUS Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme in Science (UROPS), providing most students with one course credit for that work. Students will be coached on finding a research lab or group appropriate to the student's field and background.

All four courses and their grades will be reported on the student's Colgate transcript. However, the grades will not factor into the Colgate GPA. The four courses taken at NUS will count toward the six course limit for transfer credit.

Prerequisites:

The NUS Study Group is designed for majors in the division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Current sophomores and juniors are encouraged to apply for admission. As part of the application process, all applicants will be interviewed by the director. All participants must have completed the requisite introductory sequences for their major prior to participating and ideally will have some intermediate or advanced elective experience to prepare for departmental courses and any research component. Up to eight Colgate students will travel with the program this year. This program requires no foreign language skills.

Living Arrangements:

Students will likely reside in student residence halls at the National University of Singapore. Breakfast and dinner will be provided in the student residences; students will be responsible for lunch, but there are many inexpensive dining options on campus. The residence halls are located on campus, and are conveniently located by cafeterias, grocery stores, athletic facilities, banks, etc. Downtown Singapore is easily reached on the subway that has several stops near the NUS campus.

Costs in Singapore:

Students will be billed Colgate tuition and housing (if they live on-campus at NUS). Students will be responsible for their airfare, student visa, and food. Living expenses are generally low in Singapore, so students can expect to spend less on living expenses than what they spend at Colgate for the semester (not including any personal travel, etc. while abroad). For details of student expenses on this exchange program, please see the student cost estimate sheet on the Off-Campus Study website.

Passports and Visas:

You must confirm that your passport is valid through July 2023. All students participating on the Fall 2022 Singapore Exchange will be required to obtain a student visa. If you will not be traveling on a U.S. passport it is imperative that you contact an adviser in Off-Campus Study and International Student Services, 101 McGregor, to learn as much as you can about the visa requirements. For some students there are significant requirements to be met that take time, advance planning, and incur costs.

Calendar and Deadline:

The fall semester at NUS begins in early August and goes until early December; the pre-term extended study will tentatively begin July 16, 2022. Colgate students will need to remain on-campus in Singapore until their exams are finished on December 3, 2022, returning to Colgate in time for the Spring 2022 semester. The study group application will open on Wednesday, October 6, 2021, and will close on Wednesday, November 3, 2021. All applications are on the Colgate University Off-Campus Study website and are submitted online at offcampusstudy.colgate.edu. Only finalists in the selection process will be interviewed. Interviews will be arranged by e-mail in November/December, and admissions decisions will take place late December/early January.