ELECTIVES - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ELECTIVE COURSE REQUIREMENT

1. Are electives compulsory?
   - Yes, electives are compulsory for students enrolled from Academic Year 2019 onwards.

2. How many electives do I need to complete in order to graduate?
   - You would need to complete 3 or 5 elective modules to graduate, depending if you are in the 3-electives or 5-electives pathway. However, the number of elective modules to complete depends on the requirement of your full-time Diploma Course. You may check with your Course Manager.

3. How many electives do I need to do in a semester?
   - The norm is 1 elective per semester. For students on the 5-electives pathway, they may take up to 2 electives during the internship semester.
   - If you had failed an elective in the past semester, you may be required to take an additional elective in the following semester, which may mean having to take 2 electives in the same semester.

4. Can I take more than the elective requirement in a semester or course of study?
   - You may apply to your school for additional elective after the release of the posting results. Please note that this is subject to approval.

5. Can I defer from taking an elective?
   - You may apply to your school to defer from taking an elective after the release of the posting results. Please note that this is subject to approval.

6. If I defer an elective, do I need to take the same elective module in a subsequent semester?
   - Students who are approved to defer an elective shall take the same elective module in a subsequent semester.

7. If I transfer to another Diploma course, how will my elective registration/completion be affected?
   - If you had been registered to a poly-wide elective, you may continue with the elective.
     If you had been registered to a school-based elective, your new course management would review whether you could continue with the elective.
   - If you had completed an elective, it will be counted towards your elective requirement for graduation regardless of your new course.

ABOUT ELECTIVE MODULES

8. Do I need to pay module fees for the electives?
   - No payment is required.

9. How much time will I spend on Electives?
   - Each elective is 3 or 4 hours per week which is a total of 45 (3 credit units) or 60 (4 credit units) hours per semester.

10. When are the elective classes held?
    - Most classes will be held during the two common elective timeslots:
      - Friday: 8 am – 12 pm or 2pm – 6pm

ASSESSMENT & GRADING

11. How are electives assessed?
    - Assessment could consist of in-course assessments, and/or end-of-semester examination.

12. Are electives graded?
    - Yes, the grading system for core modules also applies to electives.

13. Will my elective module performance affect the GPA of my diploma course?
    - Yes, your elective grades will be included in the computation of your cumulative GPA score.

14. Can I exclude elective modules from my GPA?
    - From academic year 2024/2025, up to two elective modules will be automatically excluded from cGPA computation by the system in your final phase of study, provided that such exclusion(s) improves your final cGPA.
    - The improved cGPA will be reflected in the final semester exam results and academic transcript upon completion of the course of study. Excluded elective modules and their corresponding grades will still be listed in the exam results and academic transcript.
    - Please refer to this link for more information. You may also approach your Personal Tutor and/or lecturers for clarifications.

15. Will the elective module grades be reflected in my diploma results slip and transcript?
    - Yes, the elective grades will be reflected.

16. What happens if I fail my elective module?
    - If you fail an elective module, you may apply to take a different elective or the same elective again in subsequent semesters.
    - Note that if you fail the same elective twice, you will be removed from the course of study.

APPLICATION

17. How do I apply for electives?
    - You will receive an SP ichat email, inviting you to apply when you are required to take an elective in your next semester of study. The email will contain a link to the application page.

18. When do I apply for electives?
    - Depending on your school/course, you may be invited to apply in Semester 1 (December/January) and/or Semester 2 (June/July).

19. What are the electives that I can apply for?
    - You may apply for the electives displayed on your application page. Please note that your list may not include all the electives displayed on the SP Electives Webpage. This is because the list displayed on your application page has been filtered according to your eligibility.

20. How many choices do I need to submit?
    - You must fill in 8 choices in order of your preference.
    - You may change your elective choices by resubmitting your application within the application period.

21. What if I miss the application period?
    - You will be given another opportunity to apply for elective modules after the release of the examination results.

22. Why am I invited to re-apply for my elective choices?
    - You will be invited if you are no longer eligible for all your elective choices after exam processing or course specialisation posting.

POSTING

23. How will I be posted to an elective?
    - You will be posted to an elective module based on the order of your choices.
    - Posting to an elective module is not on a first-come-first-serve basis. All students who applied for an elective module would be given an equal opportunity to be posted to that module. In situations where there are more applicants than the number of vacancies, posting to the elective module will be assigned randomly by the system.
    - Students who are not allocated an elective of their choice will be posted to electives with vacancies.

24. When will I know the outcome of my elective application?
    - You will be informed of your elective posting outcome after the release of the examination results.

25. Why am I not posted to any elective although I have submitted my choices?
    - After exam results release, you no longer meet the requirements for your elective choices (e.g. you did not progress to the stage of study where you're required to take electives).

26. Can I appeal to change the elective that I am posted to?
    - After the release of the posting results, you can apply to change your elective during the appeal period. Your appeal is subject to availability of vacancies.

ELECTIVES LEADING TO CERTIFICATION/MINOR

27. Will a separate certificate/Minor be issued if I complete the requisite elective(s)?
    - A separate certificate will be issued upon your completion of the requisite elective(s) during full-time or part-time study (under PACE). Click here for more information.
    - The Minor will be awarded as part of the Diploma Certificate.

28. If I have completed the 1st elective in a suite that leads to a certification/Minor, will I be guaranteed a place in the next elective?
    - You would be given a place in the next elective if you rank it as your first choice and there are sufficient students to launch the class.

5 ELECTIVES SCHEME

29. Are 5 electives compulsory?
    - 5 electives is not compulsory. Students have a choice between 3 or 5 electives.

30. Is there a quota for the number of students that can be accepted for the 5-elective pathway?
    - As this is an inaugural programme, please check with your schools for more details.

31. How many electives do I need to complete in order to graduate?
    - If you are on the 5-elective pathway, you would need to complete 5 elective modules to graduate.

32. Are results of the additional 2 electives included in CGPA calculation?
    - Yes, your elective grades will be included in the computation of your cumulative GPA score.

33. When do I take the additional 2 electives?

- It depends on your course curriculum. Please contact your school for more details. In general, most students on the 5-elective pathway will take the 2 additional electives during their internship semester. This means that students need to return to campus on Fridays for elective lessons while doing internship from Mondays to Thursdays.

34. Is there a difference in the internship credit unit for students on 5-elective versus 3-electives?
    - Students on 5-elective will do internship from Monday to Thursday. Hence, there is a difference in the internship credit unit as stated below:
        - 22-weeks internship at 5 days/week: 17 CU
        - 22-weeks internship at 4 days/week: 14 CU

35. Compared to a 5 days internship, will there be a difference in the choice of companies and other benefits such as allowances and leave?
    - It is likely that there will be fewer companies offering 4 days internship compared to 5 days internship. In terms of internship allowance and leave benefits, it is expected that they will be pro-rated due to the fewer days interned.

36. Can I self-source for my own internship company offering 4 days/week?
    - Please check with your school for more details.

37. Can I subsequently withdraw from the 5-elective pathway?
    - Students accepted into the 5-elective pathway are expected to fully commit to their choice. Hence, please consider carefully as the 5-elective pathway requires a student to balance between internship and studies in the same semester.
    - Withdrawal from 5-elective pathway will be subject to your school's approval.

38. What happens if I fail any of the additional electives?
    - If you fail an elective module, you may apply to take a different elective or the same elective again in a subsequent semester.
    - Note that if you fail the same elective twice, you will be removed from the course of study.
    - If the additional electives are done during the internship semester and you failed the elective during the internship semester in Year 3 Semester 2, your graduation will be delayed.

For more information on the electives offered, please refer to the Elective Website.
If you have any queries on electives, you may contact your Personal Tutors.