

# WHAT IS QUEST?



QUEST IS A FULL-DAY, YEAR-LONG PROGRAM FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS THAT INSPIRES A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS TO PURSUE THEIR PASSIONS THROUGH PERSONALIZED LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND AUTHENTIC, MEANINGFUL, AND RIGOROUS ACADEMIC WORK.

Experiential learning is the foundational approach to learning within the Quest program. The flexibility of the daily schedule is leveraged within Quest to build in more off-campus opportunities such as field trips, community service, partnerships with industry and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for unpaid internships and mentoring, attending conferences, and conducting field work. These are opportunities are often not possible in many traditional courses due to the time constraints of the daily bell schedule.

Quest is an incredible opportunity to enhance student learning in a very personalized way as it allows learning to be tailored to students' passions and talents. This allows them to craft and hone their skills to get ready to step out into the world of undergraduate work and the world beyond high school.

## WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR QUEST?

THERE ARE TWO OPTIONS FOR QUEST FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR.

THERE IS A 1-DAY QUEST OPTION FOR JUNIORS AND SENIORS, AND A 2-DAY QUEST OPTION FOR SENIORS THAT MEET THE CRITERIA.

Students of both the One-Day and Two-Day options have opportunities for the unpaid internship and the year-long in-depth research. Both options also fulfill the Catalyst graduation requirement.

**THE 1-DAY QUEST OPTION** allows students to be part of either an A-Day cohort or a B-Day cohort. This option allows students to still be able to take up to three additional SAS classes along with the Quest coursework. For example, a student in the A-Day cohort would receive credit for four Quest courses and would have their B Day free to take up to three classes outside of Quest. The One-Day option of Quest serves as an enhancement to the standard High School SAS courses.

|                                    | ONE-DAY QUEST  | TWO-DAY QUEST                        |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| OPEN TO...                         | Juniors & Seniors  | Seniors only                         |
| NUMBER OF CREDITS WITHIN QUEST     | 4  | 6                                    |
| NUMBER OF CREDITS OUTSIDE OF QUEST | 2-3  | 0                                    |
| FULL-DAY?                          | Yes (A or B day cohort)                                  | Yes (A and B days)                   |
| OFF-CAMPUS UNPAID INTERNSHIP       | Yes<br>11 weeks, every other day                         | Yes<br>8 weeks, potentially everyday |
| STUDENT-DESIGNED STUDY             | Yes  |                                      |
| LAUNCH TRIP                        | Yes<br>1-2 weeks before the beginning of the school year |                                      |
| FULFILLS CATALYST REQUIREMENT?     | Yes  |                                      |

**THE 2-DAY QUEST OPTION** allows for a highly-motivated senior to be "all-in". Students in this senior-only option should desire to fully immerse themselves as self-motivated and independent learners. These seniors would earn six credits within Quest and they would be scheduled to be in Quest on both their A and B days. The benefit of the Two-Day option is the opportunity to maximize their time for off-campus experiential learning such as completing an unpaid internship up to five days per week, or in-depth research. In the second semester, these seniors will continue to have the flexibility and time for other off-campus (or even off-island) opportunities.

## WHAT CREDITS WILL I EARN IN QUEST?

A TRADITIONAL TRANSCRIPT WILL BE SENT TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OFFICIALS.

Students earn grades in Quest through the assessment of interdisciplinary projects and experiences and are scored with the applicable standards from the Quest courses. So for one task a student may receive grades in science, math, English, and social studies. However, the transcript will still reflect the official course titles.

Overall, Quest offers a lot of options for students, including: Advance Topics (AT) or College Prep level courses, opportunities for AP submission, and access to courses offered at SAS outside of Quest.

|                                    | CREDIT (1 EACH) | COURSE TITLE ON TRANSCRIPT  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| 1-DAY & 2-DAY QUEST                | ENGLISH         | English: Composition & Research -OR- AT Research                              |
|                                    | MATH            | Data Analysis & Visualization -OR- AT Data Analysis & Visualization           |
|                                    | SCIENCE         | Conservation & Resource Studies -OR- AT Conservation & Resource Studies       |
|                                    | SOCIAL STUDIES  | Society, Governance & Civic Action -OR- AT Society, Governance & Civic Action |
| ADDITIONAL COURSES FOR 2-DAY QUEST | QUEST ELECTIVE  | Ethics and Leadership   |
|                                    | GOA ELECTIVE    | Global Online Academy [course title depends on GOA course]                    |

Every student in Quest completes the Student-driven Study (SDS) which satisfies the Catalyst requirement. AT Research students may elect to submit their thesis essay and presentation for the AP Research exam. SDS is based on individual interest and includes components of college level research while providing structure and guidance from Quest Advisors.

# WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE QUEST COMMUNITY?

QUEST STUDENTS BECOME PART OF A SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITY.



Starting from the first day, students form tight bonds with their fellow Quest-mates through the Launch week orientation. Quest provides students with a safe, comfortable space to be themselves, to engage in meaningful discussions to further their critical thinking, to explore creativity, and to deepen their cultural awareness. Throughout the year, there are ample opportunities for students to work in different groups for collaboration and feedback. There is built in time for daily mentorship and support from Quest Advisors; and community members make time to celebrate occasions, share meals and music, and swap life stories together. All of this helps support the social-emotional wellbeing of learners. Many students describe the Quest community as feeling more like family and the Quest room becomes their home away from home.

## WHAT DOES A DAY IN QUEST LOOK LIKE?

EVERY DAY MAY LOOK A LITTLE DIFFERENT IN QUEST. BY DESIGN, THE SCHEDULE HAS STRUCTURE YET IS HIGHLY FLEXIBLE.

Below (left) is a snapshot of what a schedule for a student in the One-Day A-Day cohort of Quest might look like while internships are running in Semester One; while (right) is what a snapshot of a student in the Two-Day option might look like during internships. A Semester Two schedule would look different from these snapshots.

|              | A DAY (QUEST DAY)                             | B DAY (NON-QUEST DAY) | C DAY (QUEST DAY)                      |
|--------------|---|-----------------------|--|
| 7:30-8:00    | N/A   | N/A                   | AT RESEARCH<br>EARLY-BIRD ONLINE CLASS |
| 8:00-9:20    | PUBLIC POLICY<br>GUEST SPEAKER                | NON-QUEST COURSE      | WORK EXPERIENCE<br>(OFF-CAMPUS)        |
| 9:30-10:45   | GROUP PROJECT                                 | NON-QUEST COURSE      |  |
| 11:35-12:50  | STUDENT-DRIVEN STUDY:<br>MENTORING & RESEARCH | STUDY HALL            |  |
| 1:05-2:30    | MATH LESSON: CODING                           | NON-QUEST COURSE      |  |
| 2:30-3:00    | STUDY HALL IN QUEST                           | ADVISORY              |  |
| AFTER SCHOOL | CO-CURRICULARS                                | CO-CURRICULARS        |  |

**ONE-DAY QUEST: SCHEDULE SNAPSHOT**  
Sample Schedule for a JUNIOR or SENIOR in the A-Day cohort of Quest in Semester 1.  
Schedules for students in the B-Day Cohort would look similar, however the days would read as B-C-D cycle in the top row.

| KEY          | COMMUNITY                          | GROUP WORK  | INDIVIDUAL TIME                          | NON-QUEST |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---|--|-----------|
|              | A DAY                              | B DAY   | C DAY                                    |           |
| 7:30-8:00    | N/A                                | AT RESEARCH<br>EARLY-BIRD ONLINE CLASS  | N/A                                      |           |
| 8:00-9:20    | LESSON: ETHICS &<br>LEADERSHIP     | WORK EXPERIENCE*<br>(OFF-CAMPUS)  | WORK EXPERIENCE*<br>(OFF-CAMPUS)         |           |
| 9:30-10:45   | GOA ONLINE COURSE                  | <small>*Seniors in the 2-Day Quest program will be able to complete a Monday-Friday partnership (unpaid internship). Students can opt to have up to 5 days per week working 1/2 days in the internship and 1/2 days on campus or they may elect to scale back to 3-4 days per week in the internship and 1-2 day on campus to manage their school work load and co-curriculars. Their schedule is flexible and partnership days and daily schedules can be negotiated based on the needs of the student and the organization.</small> |  |           |
| 11:35-12:50  | STUDY HALL                         |   | AP STATISTICS STUDY GROUP<br>(ON CAMPUS) |           |
| 1:05-2:30    | SUSTAINABLE<br>DEVELOPMENT PROJECT |   | QUEST ADVISOR<br>ONE-ON-ONE MEETING      |           |
| 2:30-3:00    | ADVISORY                           |   | CO-CURRICULARS                           |           |
| AFTER SCHOOL | CO-CURRICULARS                     |   |  |           |

**TWO-DAY QUEST: SCHEDULE SNAPSHOT**  
Sample Schedule for a SENIOR in the TWO-DAY Quest.

## HOW WILL QUEST HELP PREPARE ME FOR COLLEGE AND THE REAL WORLD?



QUEST CONNECTS AUTHENTIC, REAL WORLD EXPERIENCES WITH ACADEMIC RIGOR.

The flexible schedule affords Quest students the time to pursue passions and do in-depth project work. Students are therefore able to showcase and discuss these unique endeavours in their college applications as potential differentiators from other college applicants. Additionally, former students express how Quest helped them build professional networks, and develop the habits of mind and adulting skills that made transitioning to college life easier for them.

A MAJOR HIGHLIGHT OF THE QUEST PROGRAM IS THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AN OFF-CAMPUS UNPAID INTERNSHIP.

Each year students are placed in a wide range of professional fields from both the corporate and nonprofit sectors including: marketing, finance, environmental education, software development, video game design, music and film production, engineering and robotics, urban agriculture, and the performing arts. Placement is tailored to the career interests and aspirations of each individual student. Students also learn invaluable networking skills by creating business cards, resumes, and cover letters, and by interacting with colleagues and supervisors in the workplace, as well as in professional networks on LinkedIn. Former Quest students often report that the internship was among their most meaningful and impactful high school experiences.

## ARE YOU READY TO TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LEARNING?



Room: H309  
Email: [quest@sas.edu.sg](mailto:quest@sas.edu.sg)  
Instagram: [sasquest](https://www.instagram.com/sasquest)  
Website: <https://www.sas.edu.sg/quest>  
FAQs: <https://bit.ly/QuestFAQs>

