

CCC, UWE, MAJOR ELECTIVES & MINORS

A Simple Guide for the Class of 2029

Disclaimer: This is an unofficial, simplified explanation meant to make things easy. Credit numbers, group counts and rules can change, always cross-check with the official Academic Bulletin and your UG advisor.

1. The Big Picture

Every undergraduate degree at Shiv Nadar IoE is made of three ingredients: your **Major** (your core subject), a set of **University-level requirements** (CCC + UWE), and, if you want, extra layers like a **Minor** or a **Specialization**.

For the **Class of 2029 and onwards**, the total credits needed to graduate range from **160 to 163**, depending on your programme. Out of this, **40 credits** must come from CCC and UWE courses combined - **at least 16 from CCC, at least 16 from UWE**, and the remaining **8 credits are "floating"** - you can earn them from either category, whichever you prefer.

Requirement	Credits
CCC (Core Common Curriculum) - minimum	16 credits
UWE (University-Wide Electives) - minimum	16 credits
Floating (either CCC or UWE, your choice)	8 credits
Total CCC + UWE	40 credits
Overall graduation requirement (all categories)	160 – 163 credits

2. Key Terms at a Glance

Term	Meaning in Simple Words
CCC	Core Common Curriculum - compulsory "broad knowledge" courses every student takes, regardless of major.
UWE	University-Wide Electives - any non-CCC course outside your own major that you take out of interest.
Major Electives (ME)	Advanced elective courses offered by your own department, chosen based on your interest.
Specialization	A focused, structured track of Major Electives in one sub-area, with a minimum CGPA and a themed project/thesis.
Minor	A formal set of UWE courses, all from one other subject, that together earn you a second, minor credential.

3. Core Common Curriculum (CCC) - Explained

CCC courses give every student - no matter their major - a shared grounding in how the world works: physical and biological systems, human society, culture, and especially the **history and development of India**. Every CCC course code starts with two digits that tell you its **Topic Group**:

Group Code	What it Covers
CCC21xx	Critical Social and Political thought
CCC22xx	Exploring Science and Technology
CCC23xx	Global Challenges and Futures
CCC24xx	Historical Explorations and Perspectives
CCC25xx	Exploring Self: Personal and Professional
CCC26xx	States, Institutions & Markets

The one rule that matters most: you must complete **at least one course from each of the 6 groups** - that part is compulsory. Once all 6 groups are ticked off, any remaining CCC credits can come from **whichever group you like**. (Seniors before you had 8 groups to cover - for the Class of 2029, this has been reduced to 6.)

SWAYAM CCC courses count too. If you take a CCC course via SWAYAM, it still belongs to a group - the **first two digits after "SWC"** tell you the group. For example, **"One Health" is coded SWC25xx**, so it counts toward **Group 25**.

4. University-Wide Electives (UWE) - Explained

A UWE is simply **any course outside your Major and outside CCC** that you choose because it interests you. It doesn't matter which department offers it - Economics, Design, Maths, Psychology, anything. The only restriction: a course **cannot** count as UWE if it is a **core / mandatory requirement of your own Major**, or a course you're already using to fulfil a **Major elective requirement**. You need **16 UWE credits minimum** (more if you use some of the 8 floating credits here too).

5. Minors - Explained

A Minor is **not compulsory**, and relatively few students complete one. Doing a Minor simply means: instead of picking UWE courses from many different subjects, you **concentrate your UWE choices in one subject** - following a specific, pre-defined list of courses for that Minor. For example, if you want a **Minor in Mathematics**, you must take all the specific UWE courses that the programme requires for the Maths minor. Once those are done, any further UWE credits you need can go back to being free choice - any subject you like. The exact list of required courses for each subject's Minor is published in the **"UG Minor 2025"** document (shared over email) - check that for your subject of interest.

6. UWE vs Minor - What's the Difference?

	UWE (default)	Minor (optional)
What it is	Free-choice electives from any subject outside your major	A fixed set of UWE courses, all in one subject
Flexibility	Mix and match any subjects you like	Must follow that subject's required course list
Compulsory?	Yes - 16 credits minimum, everyone does this	No - entirely optional, and few students finish one
Outcome	Just credits toward graduation	An additional formal credential (e.g. "Minor in Mathematics")

7. Major Electives vs Specialization

Major Electives (ME): advanced courses from your own department, chosen freely based on interest. Your department gives you a long list (often 20–30 courses); you pick a required number (e.g., any 4–5) - they don't need to relate to each other. **Purpose:** explore different corners of your major without committing to one path.

Specialization: a structured, focused pathway inside your major, going deep into one sub-field, usually ending in a themed capstone project or thesis. It requires meeting a **minimum CGPA** and completing a fixed set of courses from that specific track - not free choice.

	Major Electives	Specialization
Structure	Pick any courses from a long department list	Fixed sequence within one focus area
Eligibility	None - open to everyone in the major	Minimum CGPA thresholds apply
Depth	Broad exposure across topics	Deep expertise in one narrow domain
Project	Not required	Usually needs a themed capstone/thesis
Compulsory?	Yes, required credits from this pool	No - entirely optional

Example - CSE Major: Under Major Electives, you might freely pick one course each in Cloud Computing, Ethical Hacking and NLP. Under a **Specialization** (say, **AI & ML**), you would instead have to strictly complete Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, and a final-year capstone thesis specifically on an AI project.

A typical Specialization (e.g., in CSE - AI, Cybersecurity, Data Science, or Systems & Networks) needs an **overall CGPA ≥ 6** and **CGPA ≥ 7 within the specialization courses**, plus a **minimum of 12 credits** from that track's elective bucket. It's applied for near graduation and, like a Minor, is **entirely optional**.

8. Quick Recap

Category	One-Line Takeaway
CCC	Compulsory broad-knowledge courses - 1 from each of 6 groups, then any group; 16 credits minimum.
UWE	Compulsory free-choice electives outside your major; 16 credits minimum.
Floating 8 credits	Your choice - split between CCC and UWE however you like.
Minor	Optional - UWE credits concentrated in one subject for an extra credential.
Major Electives	Compulsory, flexible advanced courses within your own major.
Specialization	Optional, structured deep-dive within your major, with CGPA conditions.