



**SINGAPORE UNIVERSITY
OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Associate Faculty and Instructors – Experiential Learning

The SUSS Core provides a transformative experience for all SUSS undergraduates by focusing on educating the whole person – cognitively, socially, and creatively. SUSS has launched a new suite of core courses to equip students with a set of values, skills and knowledge to develop them into adaptive and resilient global citizens who are able to meet the challenges of the 21st century. These courses aim to enable our students to appreciate complex issues in local and global contexts, enhance their understanding of individuals, communities and relationships, and empower them to contribute meaningfully to society through interdisciplinary approaches and experiential learning.

We are looking for motivated individuals to join our team as Associate Faculty and Course Instructors. Applicants should have knowledge about and be familiar with both the Singapore context and local, regional and global issues. We are seeking instructors who have extensive experience utilising experiential learning pedagogy to skillfully facilitate students' ability to apply theoretical concepts to practical contexts.

Applicants to select 'SUSS Core-EL' as the discipline when applying.

- **Interdisciplinary Processes for a Better World**

Course description

Societies and people are increasingly operating and living under conditions that are characterised by volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA). In an interconnected and interdependent world, geopolitical, economic, and existential issues converge in a confluence of challenges which the world urgently needs to address. In this environment, the ability to effectively apply interdisciplinary understanding to offer fresh, holistic perspectives and solutions for often intractable challenges becomes paramount. In this course, students will critically assess what and how issues are defined, by whom, and for whom through interdisciplinary collaboration and facilitation. This course stretches impactful and meaningful learning strategies to application for interdisciplinary collaboration. Drawing on literature from Integration and Implementation Sciences (I2S), this course exposes students to considerations for interdisciplinary thinking, practice, and applications to foster the capacity to address complex and dynamic futures through synthesising disciplinary and stakeholder knowledge, understanding and managing diverse unknowns, and providing integrated support for evaluating and communicating complex issues with selected stakeholders. At the end of the course, students will be able to: (a) identify disciplinary boundaries and approaches to crossing them; (b) appreciate the challenges and opportunities of adopting interdisciplinarity; (c) apply interdisciplinary approaches to analyse, evaluate and communicate complex issues such as environmental, social, economic, and political challenges; and (d) collaborate effectively to innovate for a better world.

- **Learning with Communities**

Course description

Communities are complex, since their constituents (well, the humans) have such diverse needs and interests, which are increasingly polarised in current times. This makes community issues

even more complex. Service-learning provides much needed experiential learning lens to unpack this complexity in navigating responsible action for collective good. Tapping on multiple perspectives to gain new insights; the experiential learning approach applies these insights to make tangible community-prioritised impact so that theory illuminates and informs experience, and experience lends meaning and energy to translate theory into practice and vice versa. This course enables learners to contribute to collective impact through a service-learning collaboration with one or more community partners. Through a real-world context, learners will be facilitated through progressive phases of co-constructing and experiencing a community change process - from engaging and learning with relevant partners, understanding the opportunities and context on the ground to proposing and implementing a technique to engage with the community. At the end of the course, students will be able to co-create, implement and co-evaluate reciprocal community change initiatives in collaboration with diverse stakeholders, equipped with the experience, skills and values to continue to learn through practice and critical reflection on what it means to do good well as a way of life.

- **Interdisciplinary Global Learning**

Course description

To thrive in an interconnected and interdependent world, it is imperative to broaden one's experience to a wider context, hone the intercultural competencies to explore, critically analyse and engage with complex global systems and their implications, to connect local and global perspectives. Applying and synthesizing concepts and skills from NCO101 and NIE201 in contemporary global contexts, this course further contextualises theory with practice. Through curated engagement with global communities and stakeholders in the university's network of international partners, students will practice tools and skills for intercultural engagement and learning for respectful collaboration with diverse others, gaining a nuanced understanding of the complex dynamics of perspectives, opportunities, and issues, and diversity of social, economic, political, and environmental concerns. Utilising perspective taking, empathy, balanced perspectives, students will gain confidence and competence to engage constructively with complex global challenges, applying interdisciplinary processes to appreciate and harness the strengths and diversity of the human experience. At the end of the course, students will gain the experience, skills and values to: (a) be informed, open-minded, and responsible people who are attentive to diversity across the spectrum of differences; (b) seek to understand how their actions affect both local and global communities, and (c) address the world's most pressing and enduring issues collaboratively and equitably, to continue to learn through practice and critical reflection on what it means to live, work and play intentionally, responsibly and meaningfully as natural collaborators and effective global citizens in an inclusive and sustainable world.

- **Interdisciplinary Problem-Solving for Impact**

Course description

This course focuses on applying those skills to complex problems identified by local industry, community, or government agencies. As a unique island nation-state and society, the issues Singapore face are often complex and multi-faceted, thereby requiring solutions to these problems to be taken from a multi-disciplinary or interdisciplinary perspective. Facilitated by academic lead(s) and representative(s) from the partner organisation, students work in teams to research, analyse, and present solutions to an authentic problem drawing on the interaction of different disciplines. Students also build on their interpersonal and problem-solving skills by engaging with and learning from peers and facilitators. At the end of the course, students will experience how a particular phenomenon can be addressed from more than one discipline and that synergy across boundaries, while challenging to integrate, can lead to a better solution. This

experience will be invaluable in preparing students for work settings that are ill-structured and VUCA in nature.