

Curriculum Vitae



Associate Professor Cecilia Soong

Associate Professor, Bachelor of Counselling Programme
S R Nathan School of Human Development

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Education Qualifications

1998	PhD Nanyang Technological University -- Multicultural Counselling
1988	MEd (Hon) University of Waikato -- Education, Psychology, Counselling
1983	Dip Ed National University of Singapore -- English, History
1982	BA National University of Singapore -- Social Work, Sociology

Academic and Professional Experience

2020 - 2023	Associate Professor, Head of Programme (Bachelor of Counselling), Singapore University of Social Services
2019 - 2020	Head, Filiae Centre, Raffles Girls School
2017 - 2019	Senior Lecturer / Head of Programme: Bachelor of Counselling; Graduate Diploma in Professional Life-coaching; Graduate Diploma in Expressive Arts Therapy, Singapore University of Social Sciences
2014 - 2017	Senior Lecturer / Head, Counselling Programme, SIM University
2010 - 2014	Senior Guidance Specialist, Ministry of Education
2009 - 2010	Senior Lecturer / Head of Counselling Programme, School of Human Development and Social Services, SIM University
2008 - 2009	Director of Specialised Services, Lakeside Family Centre
2005 - 2008	Assistant Director (Corporate Services), Lakeside Family Centre (External School Counsellor at Jurong Sec Sch and Pioneer Junior College)
2000 - 2005	Director of Counselling, Care Community Services Society (External School Counsellor at Dunman High School, St Theresa's Convent, Marsiling Sec Sch and Woodgrove Sec Sch)
1998 - 1999	Assistant Professor, Nanyang Technological University
1991 - 1997	Lecturer 'A', Nanyang Technological University

1990 - 1991	Lecturer, Institute of Education
1988 - 1989	Teacher, ACS (I)
1983 - 1985	Education Officer, Div One
1981	Student social worker, Anglican Welfare Services
1980	Student social worker, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
1980	Student social worker, Ministry of Community Development

Part-time:

2017 - 2022	Clinical Supervisor of School Counsellor of Singapore Sports School
2017 - 2019	Clinical Supervisor of School Counsellor of Hwa Chong International School
2016 - 2017	Clinical Supervisor of School Counsellor of School of the Arts
2007 - 2011	Practicum supervisor, M Guidance and Counselling, James Cook University; M Soc Sc (Counselling), Monash University
2007	Part-time course writer, course chair, lecturer, The Helping Relationship Module, B Counselling, SIM University
2006 - 2008	Part-time supervisor, Counselling Practicum (M Soc Sc, Counselling), Edith Cowan University and University of South Australia
2005 - 2010	Part-time lecturer, Multicultural Counselling, Executive Counselling and Training Academy / Swinburne University of Technology
2005 - 2010	Part-time supervisor, Diploma in School Counselling, Nanyang Technological University
2004 - 2006	Part-time tutor, Child Development, SIM-Open University Centre
2000 - 2010	Part-time lecturer, Basic Counselling Skills for Teachers, Ministry of Education

Courses taught / supervision of practicum at National Institute of Education/Nanyang Technological University (1990 -1999: full-time; 2000 to 2010: part-time):

- Undergraduate/Graduate Levels:
 - BA/BSc with Diploma in Education - Child Development
 - Postgraduate Diploma in Education - Adolescent Development, Motivation and Classroom Management, Group Dynamics, Pastoral Care and Career Guidance, Basic Counselling Skills
 - MA (Applied Psychology) - Cross-cultural Counselling, Counselling Special Populations, Marital and Family Therapy, Supervision of Practicum in Counselling Psychology, Supervision of Research Thesis
 - Diploma in School Counselling: Supervision of Counselling Practicum
- In-service Courses:
 - Pastoral Care and Career Guidance
 - Group Guidance
 - Basic Skills in Pastoral Casework
 - Advanced Skills in Pastoral Casework
 - Group Counselling
 - Organising and Managing Pastoral Teams
 - Theories and Techniques in Counselling

Courses taught / supervision of practicum at other institutions:

- Basic Counselling Skills for Teachers: Ministry of Education
- Multicultural Counselling: Executive Counselling and Training Academy / Swinburne University of Technology
- The Helping Relationship (B Counselling): SIM University
- Advanced Clinical Practice 1: Working with Individuals (M Social Work): SIM University
- Integrative Approaches to Counselling (M Counselling): SIM University
- Supervision of Counselling Practicum (M Soc Sc): Academy of Human Development/Edith Cowan University
- Supervision of Counselling Practicum (M Soc Sc): University of South Australia
- Supervision of Counselling Practicum (M Guidance and Counselling): James Cook University
- Supervision of Counselling Practicum (M Counselling): Monash University

Courses taught at SIM University (now known as Singapore University of Social Sciences:

- Social Emotional Learning (B Counselling)
- Cross-cultural Counselling (B Counselling with Honours)
- Integrative Approaches to Counselling (M Counselling)
- Techniques of Counselling and Therapy in an Asian Context: Core Skills and Methodologies (Graduate Diploma in Expressive Arts Therapy)

Memberships and Professional Activities

2012 - Present	Singapore Association of Counselling
1994 - 2005	American Counseling Association, institutional member
1991 - 2000	Singapore Professional Centre
1982 - 2000	Singapore Association of Social Workers

Publications

Journal Papers -- Refereed:

- Carlson, J., Chan, A., Chen, C., Kurato, Y., Soong, C. & Yang, J. The influence of technology on families: An international perspective. *The Family Journal*, California (1999), 7(3), 231-236.
- Soong, C. & Khoo, A. Teachers' attitudes towards sex education in Singapore. *Pastoral Care in Education*, United Kingdom (1994), 12(1), 23-26.
- Soong, C. Towards an indigenised approach to counselling. *New Zealand Journal of Counselling*, New Zealand (1993), 15(1), 13-17.
- D'Rozario, V., Khoo, A. & Soong, C. Using the creative arts in the training of pastoral care-givers in Singapore. *Pastoral Care in Education*, United Kingdom (1992), 10(1), 43-49.

Journal Papers -- Non-refereed:

- Soong, C. Adapting western counselling methods to the local context. *ASCD REVIEW* (1994), 4(2), 59-62.
- Soong, F.H. & Khoo, C.E. Sex education in Singapore schools. *REACT* (1993), No 1.

Soong, C. Experiential learning in groups. *ASCD REVIEW* (1992), 2(2), 40-43.

Soong, C. & Khoo, A. How do teenagers relate to one another? *REACT* (1992), No 1.

Conference Papers:

Soong, C. Raising a 21st Century Child in the Digital Age: Tips for Parents. *MOE's EXCEL Fest*, Singapore (2013).

Soong, C., Tan, E. & Wee, A. Sexuality Education - Pedagogies that Work. *Educational Research Association of Singapore Conference*, Singapore (2013).

Soong, C. Family Intervention Programme with Trainees at the Reformatory Training Centre. *Conference on Rehabilitation of Youth Offenders*, Singapore (2008).

D'Rozario, V., Khoo, A. & Soong, C. Working with adolescents. *National Conference in Counselling: Towards Dynamic Change - New Frontiers. Conference Proceedings*, Singapore (1998).

Soong, C. A vision of an intelligent island. *6th International Conference: Counselling in the 21st Century Conference Proceedings*, Beijing, China (1997), 7-13.

Soong, C. Worldview and counselling: Perceptions of Singaporean students. *6th International Conference: Counselling in the 21st Century Conference Proceedings*, Beijing, China (1997), 223-227.

Soong, C. Towards an indigenised approach to counselling. *18th International Round Table for the Advancement of Counselling International Conference Proceedings*, Auckland, New Zealand (1993), 205-208.

Khoo, A. & Soong, C. Work values of teachers. *5th Annual ERA Conference Proceedings*, Singapore (1992).

Khoo, A. & Soong, C. Pupil counselling in Singapore schools. *3rd International Counselling Conference: Counselling in the 21st Century Conference Proceedings*, Singapore (1992), 67-76.

Research Reports

- "What Do Needy Families REALLY Need?" An exploratory study on chronic poverty in Singapore. (2009), NCSS Research Grant, Singapore.
- Suicide and Suicide Attempts of Indian Students in Singapore - Preliminary findings based on school reports, Ministry of Education (2006-2012).

Research Participation as a Respondent

I was one of the nine counsellors identified by a process of peer nomination as master therapists in Singapore in a piece of research on this topic. It is a replication of the research done in the US on Master Therapists by Thomas Skovholt and Len Jennings. The Singapore findings were published in Jennings, et. al. (2008) *Psychotherapy Expertise in Singapore: A Qualitative Investigation*. *Psychotherapy Review*, 18(5), 508-522. Over the subsequent three years, Jennings and colleagues have done follow-up interviews with existing master therapists for longitudinal and cross-cultural analyses.

Articles in Magazines

- Teens
- Scholarship Guide
- DARE
- Compass
- Simply Her

Volunteer Work

2023 – Present	Volunteer, KidSTART Singapore
2023 – Present	Volunteer, Gardens by the Bay
2022 – Present	Volunteer / Befriender, New Hope Community Services
2022 – Present	Volunteer / Tutor, Catholic Welfare Services
2018 - Present	Volunteer Counsellor and Trainer, Cornerstone Community Services
2017 - 2019	Volunteer, Trolley Ministry at Mercy Centre/YWAM
2017 - 2022	Founding-member of People and Career Development Association
2017 - 2019	Volunteer, Reading Odyssey at Students Care Centre
2016 - Present	Volunteer, Singapore Cancer Society
2015 - 2016	Befriender/Counsellor, Care Corner Singapore
2015 - 2016	Volunteer Trainer, United Medicare
2014 - 2016	Mentor/Counsellor/Trainer, Residence @ St George's / Methodist Welfare Services
2013 - 2014	Counsellor for column in SPH's IN (Secondary school newspapers)
2012 - 2014	Counsellor on radio talkshow 'Between Us', MediaCorp 938LIVE
2009 - 2011	Member, Board of Advisors / Clinical Team, Dayspring Residential Treatment Centre
2007 - 2017	Trainer / Volunteer Counsellor / Clinical Supervisor, CEFC
2005 - 2009	Deputy Registrar of Marriages, RoM / MCYS
2005 - 2006	Member, Advisory Committee, ITE College East
2003 - 2005	Writer / Presenter, QuickQuips, NewsRadio 93.8
1997 - 1999	Volunteer Counsellor, NIE Student Advising and Counselling Service
1996 - 2004	Member, Board of Advisors; Member, Management Committee, Care Community Services Society
1996 - 1999	Volunteer Counsellor, Care Community Services Society
1995 - 2000	Chairperson, Professional Practice Committee, TRANS Centre
1995 - 1999	Member, Social Service Committee, Fei Yue Family Service Centre

Hobbies

- Reading, Writing
- Tennis, Trekking
- Performing Arts: Movies, Drama, Music, Dance
- Travelling