

A woman with long brown hair, smiling, wearing a bright orange blazer with a matching belt and a white top. She is standing against a background of green foliage.

S R NATHAN SCHOOL OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Graduate Programmes



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S R NATHAN SCHOOL OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



Our programmes focus on professionals who work in the care economy – supporting the learning and development of the young and the young-at-heart.”

Associate Professor

SIRENE LIM

Dean

S R NATHAN SCHOOL OF
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



DREAM, DARE, DO.

SUSS is a powerhouse of change, unleashing the potential within individuals and propelling them to be impactful change-makers.

Fueled by a deep sense of purpose, their transformations transcend personal growth, enriching not only their lives but also the lives of those around them.

Their unwavering commitment empowers them to conquer challenges, embodying the unstoppable ‘**Dream, Dare, Do**’ spirit of SUSS.

United in action, we dream big, dare greatly, and do what it takes to leave an indelible mark on our learners, industry, and community.

The S R Nathan School of Human Development (NSHD) provides unique programmes that may not be offered in other local universities – early childhood education, counselling, human capital management, and gerontology among others. We are community-focused and passionate about helping people thrive, learn, and grow throughout their lifespan. Our graduates are sought after in both private (for-profit and non-profit) and public sectors focused on education, social services, and human development.

10

Good Reasons to Study at Singapore University of Social Sciences



ONE OF THE SIX
AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITIES
IN SINGAPORE



HIGH ACADEMIC
STANDARDS



LIFELONG EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES



FLEXIBLE AND
SELF-PACED LEARNING



WELL-DESIGNED ONLINE
LEARNING RESOURCES



OVER 47,000
ALUMNI



EXPERIENCED FACULTY
MEMBERS AND
INDUSTRY EXPERTS



FOCUS ON REAL-
WORLD LEARNING



INDUSTRY-RELEVANT
CURRICULA



PRACTICE-ORIENTED
APPROACH

COUNSELLING

(Master's)



Find out more

Programme Overview

Launched in 2010, the Master of Counselling (MCOU) programme provides advanced, systematic training to develop clinically competent professionals. The programme balances clinical and academic rigour to support personal and professional growth, offering both generic counselling training and specialisations including cognitive behavioural therapy, couple and family therapy, psychodynamic approaches and research. Flexible entry and exit points are available to suit different academic needs.

Whom is this for?

The Master of Counselling (MCOU) programme is designed for professionals (with or without prior relevant training or experience) seeking to advance their counselling career through rigorous academic and clinical training. Students are encouraged to specialise in different areas of counselling and receive training in supervisory skills, empowering them to assume leadership roles and become domain experts.

Career Prospects

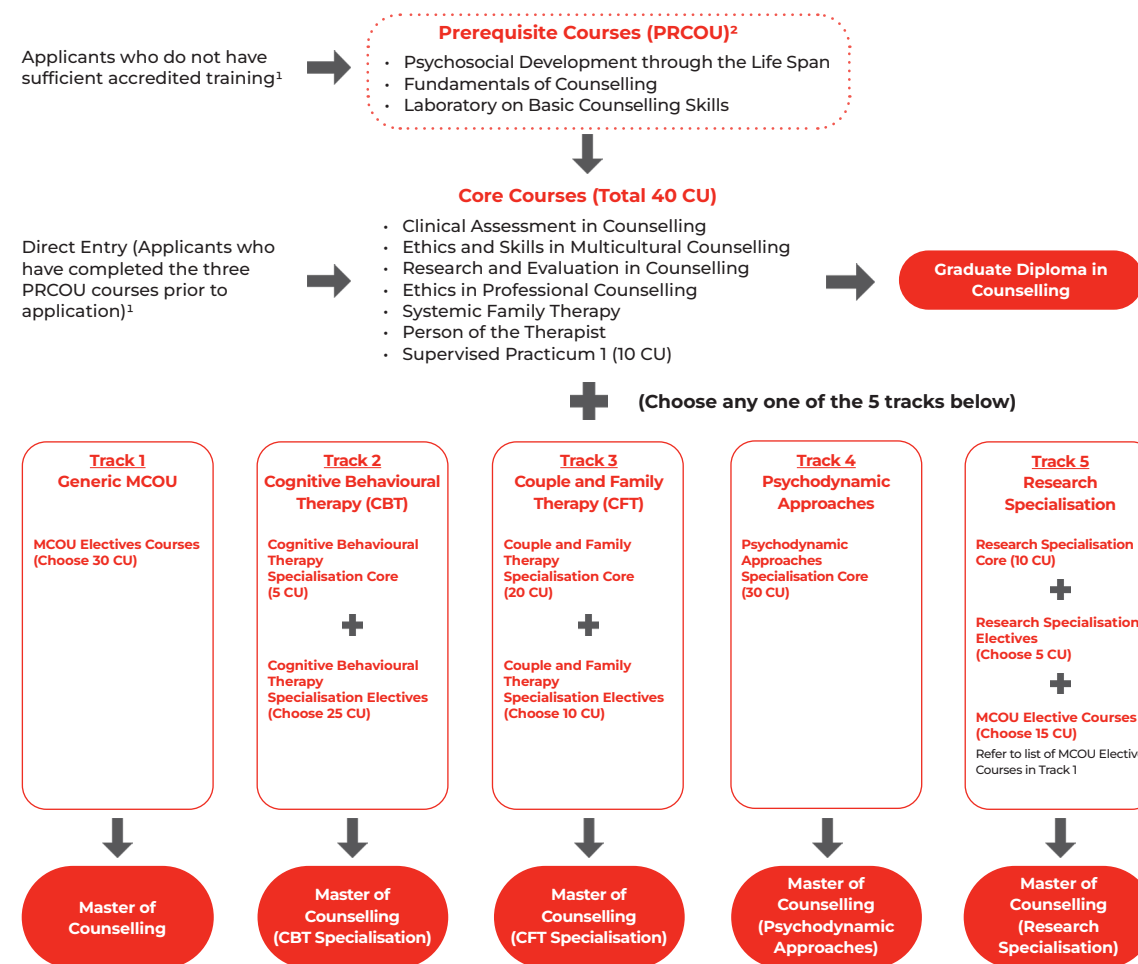
Master of Counselling (MCOU) graduates who complete 600 hours of face-to-face counselling and 60 hours of clinical supervision are eligible to apply for membership with the Singapore Association of Counselling (SAC). Registered counsellors may pursue careers in correctional settings, family service centres, social service agencies, hospitals, schools and private clinics.

Programme Structure

Students are required to complete a total of 5 to 15 credit units (CU) for PRCOU and 70 credit units (CU) for MCOU. All PRCOU/MCOU courses require 100% attendance. Please note that exceptions are given only to cases with evidence (e.g., medical certification of self and immediate family). Family holidays and work-related reasons will not be considered. Those who fail to provide a valid certification or reason for their absence will be penalised.

Prerequisite Courses

- Accepted applicants without prior training in counselling are required to complete three prerequisite (PRCOU) courses within one semester, before they are allowed to begin MCOU.
- PRCOU students have only one year candidature period and should complete all PRCOU courses within one semester.
- Applicants may apply for course recognition or exemption if they have already attended any of the above three respective PRCOU courses at undergraduate or post-graduate level or equivalent by providing documentary proof during application. Course recognition or exemption is approved by the Head of Programme on a case-by-case basis for PRCOU courses.



*Scan to view all available courses.



Explanatory Notes:

¹ Student's eligibility is subject to individual assessment by the University.

² Only for students without sufficient training. Admission requires recommendation by Head of Programme.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

(Graduate Certificate | Master's)



Find out more

Programme Overview

The revised Master of Early Childhood Education programme is designed to meet the needs of experienced educators who aspire to become effective leaders, trainers, mentors, coaches, professional developers, curriculum designers, and facilitators of English language acquisition within individual early childhood development centres and operator headquarters. The programme also aims to support current leaders, professional developers, trainers, and curriculum designers by strengthening their curriculum leadership and pedagogical expertise.

Therefore, the programme integrates three related yet distinct areas of knowledge:

- 1) Adult learning theories/TESOL theories and pedagogical knowledge
- 2) Current insights into child development, curriculum design, and pedagogical practices
- 3) Leadership theories and practices

Whom is this for?

This programme is intended for classroom teachers aiming to become leaders, curriculum developers, supervisors, trainers, coaches, mentors, and other professionals in the early childhood education (ECE) sector. It also supports current leaders, lecturers, trainers, coaches, mentors, curriculum developers, and other specialists at headquarters seeking to expand their knowledge skills.

A strong understanding of early childhood education and practice is essential, as most assignments in the programme focus on real issues at early childhood development centres. Therefore, programme participants need access to early childhood teachers or students.

Career Prospects

The Teacher Trainer track combines expertise in adult learning, leadership, and early childhood education, while the TESOL track combines knowledge and skills in TESOL pedagogy, leadership, and early childhood education. It prepares graduates to assume leadership roles, trainer roles, and curriculum specialist positions, including mentor educators, centre leaders, senior centre leaders, pedagogists, and curriculum specialists.

Programme Structure

To graduate with the Master of Early Childhood Education, students must complete a total of 60 credit units (CU) and achieve a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.0. The Master of Early Childhood Education Programme (MECEDN) has two tracks:

Teacher Trainer Track

The knowledge, skills, and dispositions of teachers are essential in providing quality services. This track is designed to meet the needs of experienced educators seeking to become effective leaders who facilitate capacity building within organisations, as well as trainers, mentors, coaches, and professional developers who also play vital roles in maintaining quality in childcare centres, kindergartens, or early childhood organisation headquarters.

The programme aims to enhance the understanding of experienced educators in curriculum leadership, pedagogy, and adult learning. It includes three curriculum courses that form the stackable Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Curriculum, known as GCECCurr. These courses provide students with comprehensive knowledge of the Early Childhood curriculum. The remaining five courses in the early childhood component prepare students to become effective leaders, mentors, and coaches. The adult learning component offers opportunities to develop insights into modern approaches for engaging adult learners, including blended learning strategies.

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Track

Language acquisition is a vital 'task' for children during early childhood. Neuroscience research over the past twenty years has demonstrated that the first few years of life are the most sensitive period for acquiring language.

This track aims to empower early childhood educators to facilitate children's language development effectively, allowing them to establish a strong foundation for learning. Similar to students in the Teacher Trainer Track, participants in this programme will complete the curriculum and leadership courses and will receive the Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Curriculum (GCECCurr) and the Master of Early Childhood Education upon graduation. Additionally, students opting for the TESOL track will need to complete three courses, including at least two core courses, and will be awarded the Graduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics (TESOL), also known as GCTSL, upon graduation.

The relevance of this programme largely depends on the real-world problems you bring to the course. Assignments for many courses explore specific curricular topics of your choice, so you can immediately apply what you have read, discussed, and learned in the courses to your workplace.

Graduate Certificate in Innovative Approaches to Adult Learning

- Adult Learning, Learners and Their Contexts
- Innovative Design, Facilitation and Assessment of Learning
- Integrating Technology and Workplace Learning

OR

Graduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics (TESOL)

- Three courses from the Graduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics (TESOL) with a minimum of two core courses



Early Childhood Education Courses (Total 45 CU)

- Recent Shifts in Research on Child Development and Early Childhood Curriculum
- Valuing Diversity: Inclusive Early Childhood Care and Education OR Movement and Intelligence
- Investigating Curriculum Content and Constructivist Pedagogies
- The Singapore Early Childhood Context, Policy Implementation and Change Management
- Early Childhood Leadership, Capacity Building, Mentoring & Coaching
- Designing and Leading a Quality Preschool Curriculum
- The Early Childhood Research Seminars
- Early Childhood Curriculum Research Project (10 CU)



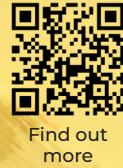
Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Curriculum



Master of Early Childhood Education

华文学前教育 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (Chinese)

(Master's)



Find out
more

Programme Overview 概述

本课程专为致力于学前华文教育领域的专业从业人员量身打造,旨在提升他们的专业知识与技能,帮助他们在该领域取得卓越表现。

随着我国对学前华文教育需求的不断增长,新加坡社科大学特别推出了“学前教育硕士课程(华文)”,为已从事学前华文教育的教师提供深入学习和掌握核心知识的平台。通过课程学习,学员将进一步提升教学能力,掌握先进的教育理论与实践方法,以适应当今多元化的教育需求。

课程内容涵盖多个关键领域,包括新加坡学前教育政策、儿童发展与研究、幼儿园活动设计、多元文化教育及跨文化交流等。学员不仅能够深入理解学前教育核心理论,还能通过实践环节灵活运用所学知识,为幼儿创造有利的学习环境,奠定未来教育工作的坚实基础。

Whom is this for? 招生对象

此课程是专为从事学前华文教育专业工作者而设计的。

Career Prospects 职业前景

学前教育教学领域,课程设计与策划,以及任何与学前教育专业相关的职业。

Programme Structure 课程概述

要获得学前教育硕士学位,学生需完成总共60个学分(CU),并取得最低累计平均成绩点(CGPA)3.0。

其中,50个学分为必修课程,10个学分为选修课程。

Major Compulsory 必修核心课程(50学分)

- 新加坡学前教育政策与法规专题研究
Early Childhood Education Policies and Regulations in Singapore
- 儿童发展与研究
Advanced Studies in Child Development and Research
- 幼儿教育课程与教学研究
Curriculum and Instruction Research in Early Childhood Education
- 幼儿园活动设计与观察评析
Design and Observation Analysis of Kindergarten Activities
- 新加坡学前华文教育探究
Exploration of Early Childhood Chinese Education in Singapore
- 早期儿童教育的多元文化教育及跨文化交流研究
Multicultural Education and Cross-cultural Communication Research in Early Childhood Education
- 学前教育研究方法
Research Methods in Early Childhood Education
- 幼儿发展与学习评量专题研究
Assessment of Early Childhood Development and Learning
- 幼儿心理健康与特殊儿童教育
Early Childhood Mental Health and Special Education
- 现代科技创新与早期儿童教育
Modern Technology Innovation and Teaching in Early Childhood Education



Major Elective 选修课程(10学分)

Elective Courses (5 CU each) 任选两项课程(各5学分)

- 学前教育伦理与班级管理探究
Investigation Ethics and Classroom Management in Early Childhood
- 教育调查与实践
Survey and Practice

Research Project (10 CU) 研究报告(10学分)

- 研究报告
Research Project

OR



Master of Early Childhood Education (Chinese)
中文学前教育

GERONTOLOGY

(Graduate Certificate | Graduate Diploma | Master's)



Find out
more

Programme Overview

The rapidly ageing population in Singapore and concomitant need for trained professionals in the health, social and psychological services have given rise to an imperative need for graduate programmes in gerontology. As the needs of older persons are specialised, dedicated attention within the training to address specific characteristics such as the ageing process demands for interdisciplinary courses in Gerontology.

SUSS Master of Gerontology, with Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and PhD option is the first in Singapore to offer a holistic training for a rewarding career in the eldercare and silver sector. Graduates from the Programme will have acquired advanced knowledge and skills to be leaders and consultants in the field of gerontology. They will be prepared to perform challenging roles and functions in both government and private sectors.

The master's programme offers the following specialisations:

- Applied Research Track
- Management Track
- Practitioner Track

Whom is this for?

The programme is for professionals in the eldercare industry such as social workers, nurses, occupational and physiotherapists, counsellors and managers. It is also suitable for those who wish to switch careers and enter the eldercare/silver industry.

Career Prospects

The programme is recognised by the Ministry of Social and Family Development, National Council of Social Service, Ministry of Health, Gerontological Society and Workforce Development Agency. Graduates can apply for positions in government, statutory boards, profit and not-for-profit agencies and eldercare services.

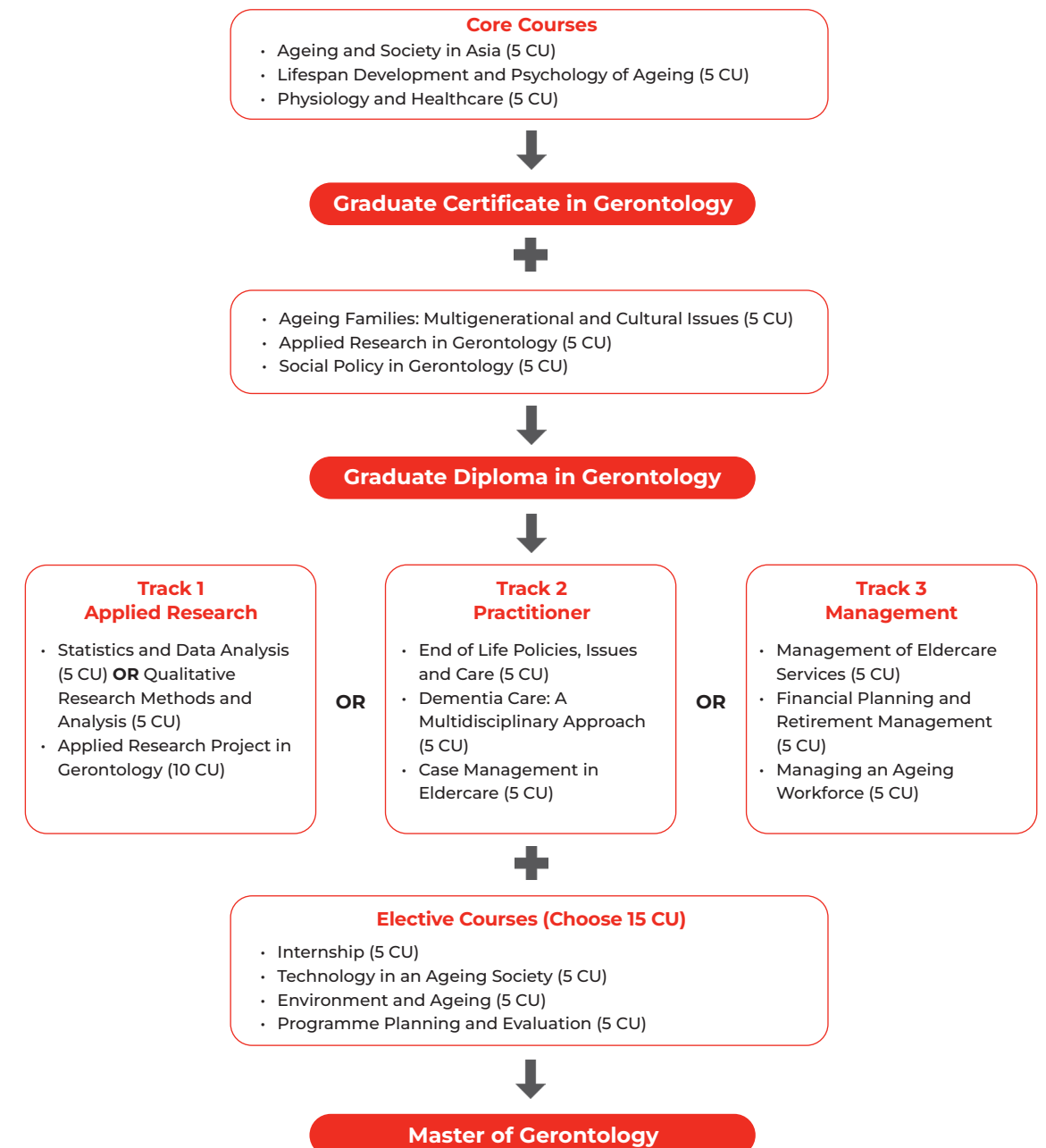
Programme Structure

Students are required to complete a total of 60 credit units (CU) with a minimum CGPA of 3.0 to graduate with a Master.

The breakdown of the CU to be completed is:

- 30 CU of Core Courses
- 30 CU of Electives in Specialisation Track (Research, Practitioner and Management)

GER525 Internship is compulsory for students who do not have experience in eldercare sector. If you have relevant experience in eldercare sector, kindly include a letter/email from your supervisor or HR detailing your jobscope in your application. With this documentation, you can take another course in replacement of GER525. Without submission of this document, the School will assume that you would need to take on GER525 Internship and will notify you to attend an internship briefing before the course commences.



GERONTOLOGY

(PhD)



Programme Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy (Gerontology) programme has a balance of content knowledge, research skills training, and intense supervision by experts who would hone the student's deep skills and knowledge. Practice or applied research areas would be emphasised so that effective solutions may be distilled through scientific rigorous research. The issues related to ageing and ageing populations within the Asian context will be highlighted throughout the programme. This will distinguish the programme, and attract individuals in the region seeking to obtain a doctoral degree in gerontology.

There is recognition in the industry as well as in government ministries that gerontology has much to offer for policy, research and practice. There is a demand for highly competent professionals, who have the multidisciplinary training and approach, in industry, academia and research institutes, and the doctoral graduates of the proposed programme can help to fill the gap.

Whom is this for?

The doctoral programme is research-based and caters to individuals who wish to develop their career in gerontology. As this is a fast growing field in Singapore, PhD graduates will be able to apply their skills and knowledge in the public, private and people sectors.

Career Prospects

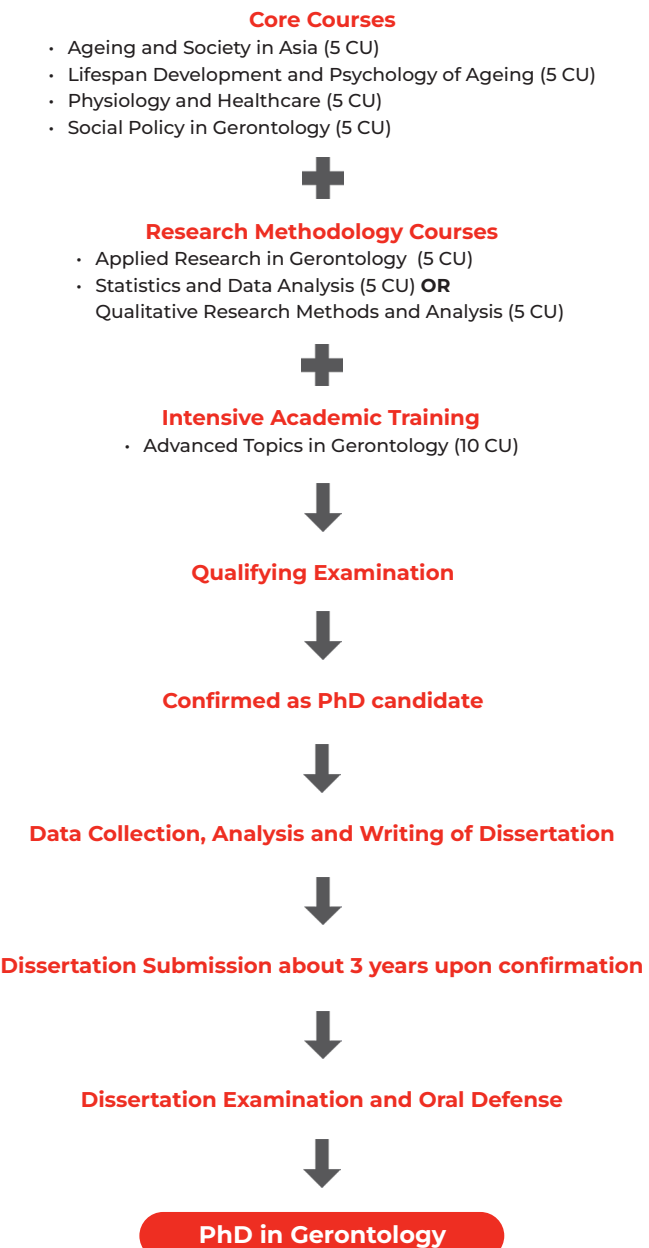
Opportunities for social workers, sociologists, counsellors, care managers, allied health professionals such as nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, architects and financial consultants to lead in the silver sector are expanding. The degree programme prepares these and other professionals to play a significant role in the academia, health and social services, urban planning and infrastructure, and silver industry.

Programme Structure

Students are required to complete a total of 120 credit units (CU). Students must attain a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of at least 3.0 for the 40 CU of courses and pass the Qualifying Examination and Oral Defense for the Thesis Examination. The Qualifying Examination (QE) consists of a written proposal and an oral presentation of the research proposal.

The breakdown of the CU to be completed is:

- 80 CU for dissertation
- 40 CU for coursework



Important Note:

- It is recommended for applicants without Gerontology background to complete the Graduate Diploma in Gerontology before studying PhD in Gerontology.

HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

(Graduate Certificate | Graduate Diploma | Master's)



Programme Overview

The graduate programmes in human capital management cater to the needs of a rapidly changing business world, and are designed to equip learners with the critical knowledge and skills of tomorrow. That is, a future-ready HR professional. Our applied focus covers fundamental and strategic topics in human capital management as well as the most pressing contemporary issues facing human capital professionals.

The Graduate Diploma in Human Capital Management programme, for example, aims to attract working adults and mature learners who already possess a first degree and wish to upgrade themselves in the area of human capital. It is also intended to meet the needs of existing human resource professionals and managers wishing to take on greater and more strategic responsibility, as well as business leaders who wish to enhance their ability to leverage human capital.

The Master of Human Capital Management programme caters to the needs of those who aspire to attain a master's degree. It builds on the strength of the Graduate Diploma curriculum.

Our programme structure is modular and stackable; the courses and programmes can be stacked to higher qualifications. Individuals may opt for multiple pathways from which they can graduate with a graduate certificate, a graduate diploma or a master's degree. This allows you the flexibility to study at your own pace and provide the depth and breadth of knowledge required for effective human resource professionals.

Whom is this for?

Designed for experienced human capital practitioners and managers in other business functions.

Career Prospects

Graduates from the Human Capital Management Programmes will have acquired the advanced knowledge and skills to function effectively as leaders and advisors in human capital management. They will have the competence in people management to take on challenging roles/positions in business and government organisations. These also include broad-based competencies such as critical thinking, business partnership, policy analysis, as well as programme evaluation.

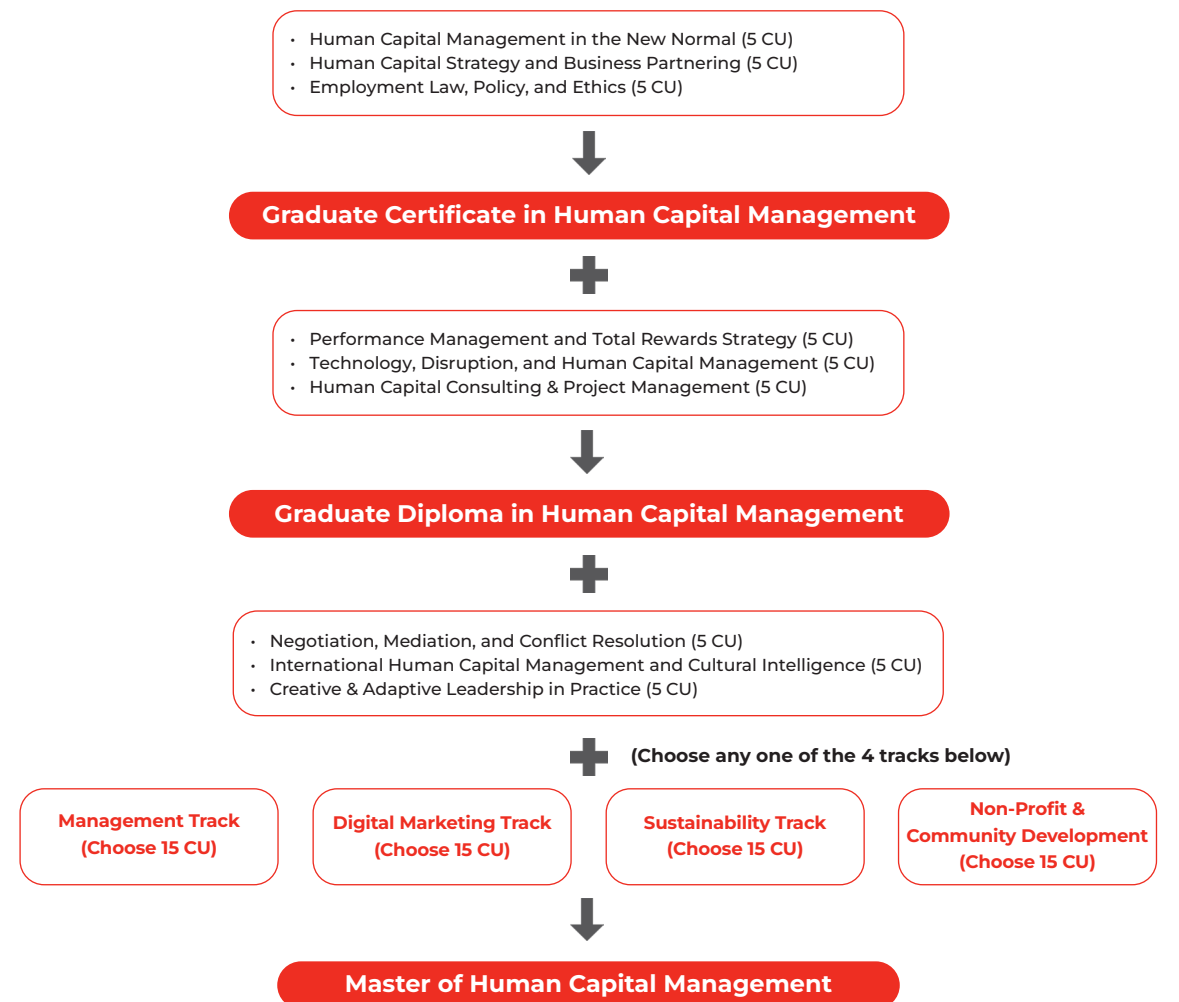
Programme Structure

Our graduate programmes in human capital management are structured sequentially. The three courses that constitute the Graduate Certificate in Human Capital Management are supplemented with three further courses to give the Graduate Diploma in Human Capital Management. Similarly, the six courses of the graduate diploma are enhanced by a further six courses to form the Master in Human Capital Management.

The first three courses cover Human Capital Management in the New Normal; Human Capital Strategy and Business Partnering; as well as Employment Law, Policy, and Ethics. The second three courses adopt an equally strategic and contemporary approach, covering Performance Management and Total Rewards Strategy; Technology, Disruption and Human Capital Management; as well as Human Capital Consulting and Project Management.

The final six courses consist of three compulsory ones: Negotiation, Mediation, and Conflict Resolution, International Human Capital Management and Cultural Intelligence, and Creative and Adaptive Leadership in Practice.

In addition to these core courses, students can customise their degree by taking 15 CU of specialisation electives from one of four tracks — Management, Digital Marketing, Sustainability, or Non-Profit & Community Development — to enhance their professional edge. This flexibility allows students to chart their own path and deep-dive into other critical business and management-related topics.



PROFESSIONAL LIFE-COACHING

(Graduate Diploma)



Find out more

Programme Overview

The Graduate Diploma in Professional Life-Coaching aims to equip learners with the knowledge, skills, and self-awareness to support individuals in achieving meaningful and sustainable life change. Beyond coaching techniques, the programme focuses on developing the coach's professional identity, ethical practice, emotional awareness, coaching presence, and ability to facilitate client growth while maintaining clear boundaries between coaching, counselling, and therapy.

Key features include:

- A whole-life coaching framework centred on Purpose, Identity, Action, and Relationships
- Strong ethical foundations and clear differentiation from counselling and therapy
- A strengths-based, future-focused approach that promotes client autonomy
- Progressive development of coaching competencies, from communication and coaching conversations to behavioural change and integration
- Reflective practice and journaling to support professional growth and self-development

Whom is this for?

This programme is designed for individuals who want to develop professional life coaching capability while maintaining strong ethical and psychological boundaries. It is particularly suited for:

- Aspiring professional coaches
- Professionals in people-facing roles
- Counsellors, therapists, and psychologists (role-differentiation pathway)
- Leaders, managers, and entrepreneurs
- Individuals pursuing a developmental or second-career pathway

Notes:

- * This programme is not designed to train therapists, counsellors, or clinicians. It is explicitly positioned as a professional life coaching qualification, with strong scope discipline and ethical clarity.
- * This programme does not lead to any professional coaching certification or accreditation.

Career Prospects

Graduates of the SUSS Professional Life Coaching Programme are equipped for a range of coaching-aligned roles, depending on their background, experience, and professional goals:

- Professional life coach
- Education, youth and community coaching
- Organisational and workplace coaching
- Complementary practice for existing professionals (e.g. educators, trainers, therapists, counsellors, psychologists)
- Pathway to advanced practice and continued development

Programme Structure

To graduate with the Graduate Diploma in Professional Life-coaching (GDPLC), students are required to complete 30 CU consisting of six compulsory core courses. All courses are 5 CU unless stated otherwise.

GDPLC is also stackable with the Graduate Diploma in Management (GDMGT) towards a Master of Management (Professional Life Coaching), subject to meeting programme requirements.

GDPLC is also stackable towards the Master of Social Sciences, subject to meeting programme requirements.

Core Courses (Total 30 CU)

- Foundations of Professional Life Coaching: Theory, Ethics, and Practice (5 CU)
- Core Coaching Skills and Effective Conversational Practice (5 CU)
- Coaching for Change: Outcome and Transition (5 CU)
- Action, Integration & Behavioural Momentum (5 CU)
- Inner Dynamics, Identity Expansion & Coaching Presence (5 CU)
- Integrative Coaching, Embodied Presence & Adaptive Mastery (5 CU)



Graduate Diploma in Professional Life Coaching

PSYCHODYNAMIC APPROACHES

(Graduate Certificate | Graduate Diploma)



Find out more

Programme Overview

As mental health awareness gains greater prominence across society, clients are increasingly seeking more than just symptomatic relief and basic coping strategies. With the growing demand for psychodynamic psychotherapy, there is a need for more specialised skills in psychological support and mental health care. In response, the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) offers the Graduate Diploma in Psychodynamic Approaches (GDPA), with an option to exit with a Graduate Certificate in Psychodynamic Approaches (GCPA).

Jointly developed with Changi General Hospital (CGH), the GDPA integrates clinical expertise with psychodynamic theory, to equip professionals with practical skills to address complex mental health issues. Delivered by certified psychiatrists and psychologists from CGH, the programme provides opportunities for hands-on learning grounded in psychodynamic principles. Students may also undertake clinical training placements at CGH's Department of Psychological Medicine, enabling them to apply classroom learning directly to real-world patient care.

Whom is this for?

This programme aims to enhance the professional competencies of mental health practitioners in using the psychodynamic approach, addressing clients' psychological conflicts, and facilitating personality change and growth. It is targeted at professionals with relevant training and experience in counselling, occupational therapy, psychology, social work, as well as those in allied health professions. Developing competence as a psychodynamic therapist requires three to four years of practice with ongoing supervision. Graduates are encouraged to continue seeking peer or supervisor-led supervision to support their ongoing professional development after graduation.

SUSS graduates (Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral and PhD programmes) with an interest in GDPA may enjoy two complimentary courses under the LEAP scheme.

Career Prospects

Graduates can look forward to meaningful careers in individual counselling and group psychotherapy and positions in mental health related settings, such as AIC Community Mental Health Programmes (e.g., CREST and COMMIT), schools, hospitals, social service agencies and private settings.

Programme Structure

The GDPA will offer four courses (5 CU each) and a psychodynamic practicum (10 CU), for a total of 30 CU. The programme equips candidates with the fundamental knowledge and skills for psychodynamic work. All five courses are compulsory, with COU567 & COU571 offered as electives within the MCOU programme. Candidates are required to complete all five courses within a two-year candidature.

The programme offers flexibility, allowing students to select courses that align with their professional interests and development needs. Students who complete COU571, COU567, and COU577 may choose to exit the programme with a GCPA. They may subsequently return to complete the remaining courses and progress to a GDPA.

The graduation requirements and candidature of the proposed programme are as follows:

- Maximum candidature of 24 months (two years).
- Minimum CGPA of 2.5.

All GDPA courses require 100% attendance. Exceptions are given only in cases with evidence (e.g., medical certification of self and immediate family). Family holidays and work-related travels would not be considered. Students who fail to provide valid certification or reasons for their absence will be penalised.

GDPA graduates who achieve a minimum CGPA of 3.0 may be eligible to stack onto the Master of Counselling with a specialisation in Psychodynamic Approaches by completing 40 CUs of MCOU core courses. Eligible graduates will need to meet the admission requirements of the MCOU programme. Please visit the MCOU website for further information.

Compulsory Courses (Total 15 CU)

- Psychodynamic Psychotherapy (5 CU)
- Theories and Practice of Group Counselling (5 CU)
- Contemporary Theories and Models of Psychodynamic Psychotherapy (5 CU)



Graduate Certificate in Psychodynamic Approaches



Compulsory Courses (Total 15 CU)

- Psychodynamic Psychotherapy in Practice (5 CU)
- Psychodynamic Practicum (10 CU)



Graduate Diploma in Psychodynamic Approaches

SYSTEMIC THERAPY

(Graduate Diploma)



Find out
more

Programme Overview

Despite efforts to promote strong and stable families, relational issues remain prevalent, highlighting the growing need for couple and family-oriented services. In response, SUSS offers the Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy (GDST) for professionals interested in Couple and Family Therapy (CFT) since 2021.

Graduates will gain clinical competencies to support and transform relationships across all age groups, fostering healthier and happier families.

The programme is taught mainly by internationally esteemed associate faculty who are leading practitioners in systemic family therapy, and supported by experienced local trainers.

Whom is this for?

This programme offers structured continuous professional development for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents seeking to deepen their knowledge in Couple and Family Therapy (CFT).

SUSS graduates (Bachelor's, Master's, Doctoral and PhD programmes) with an interest in Systemic Therapy (ST) may enjoy two complimentary courses under the LEAP scheme.

Career Prospects

Graduates can look forward to meaningful careers in couple and family therapy in correctional, educational, health, social service and private settings.

Programme Structure

The programme offers flexibility, allowing students to select courses that match their professional interests and development goals. To obtain a graduate diploma, students must complete six courses.

Students who complete three courses may exit the programme with a Graduate Certificate in Systemic Therapy (GCST). They may subsequently return to complete the remaining courses and progress to a GDST.

The graduation requirements and candidature of the proposed programme are as follows:

- Maximum candidature of 24 months (two years).
- Minimum CGPA of 2.5.

All GDST courses require 100% attendance. Exceptions are given only in cases with evidence (e.g., medical certification of self and immediate family). Family holidays and work-related travels would not be considered. Students who fail to provide valid certification or reasons for their absence will be penalised.

GDST graduates who achieve a minimum CGPA of 3.0 may be eligible to stack on to the Master of Counselling with a specialisation in Couple and Family Therapy by completing 40 CUs of MCOU core courses. Eligible graduates will need to meet the admission requirements of the MCOU programme. Please visit the MCOU website for further information.

Elective Courses (Choose 30 CU)

- Advanced Couple Therapy (5 CU)*
- Advanced Supervised Practice and Analysis for Psychotherapy Project (5 CU)
- Advanced Systemic Family Therapy (5 CU)*
- Bereavement Counselling in Context (5 CU)
- Clinical Supervision in Counselling & Systemic Therapy (5 CU)
- Emotionally Focused Therapy (5 CU)
- Integrative Systemic Therapy (5 CU)
- Medical Family Therapy (5 CU)
- Narrative Therapy (5 CU)
- Sexual Issues in Couple Therapy (5 CU)
- Structural Family Therapy (5 CU)*
- Supervised Practicum II (10 CU)
- Systemic Family Therapy (5 CU)*
- Systemic Family Therapy Supervision (5 CU)*



Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy

Explanatory Note:

* Compulsory courses for SUSS Master of Counselling Specialisation in Couple and Family Therapy.

JOIN US

Applicants must possess an undergraduate degree or an equivalent qualification from a recognised institution.

For SUSS graduate programmes that are conducted in the English Language, you must meet the English Language Proficiency Requirement (ELPR)* **if** your undergraduate degree is not awarded by an English-medium university, **or** your undergraduate degree is awarded by an English-medium university but the language of instruction was not English.

** at least an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5, or a TOEFL score of 580 (paper-based) or 85 (internet-based), or a PTE Academic score of 58, or C1 Advanced score of 180 [score must be obtained within the last 2 years at point of application].*

Applicants with an undergraduate degree that was conducted in English but awarded by a non-English medium university must produce an official letter from the university to certify as such in order to seek waiver of the ELPR requirement.

Some programmes may have additional requirements. Please refer to the individual programme pages for details.

Shortlisted applicants may be required to undergo one or more interviews and/or take written admission or other evaluation tests as may be prescribed by SUSS from time to time.

All applications are considered individually on merit, and the offer of admission is dependent on the number of places available in individual programmes. Admission is solely at the discretion of SUSS and the decision is final and binding. SUSS reserves the right to refuse admission and is not obliged to offer an explanation for the non-admission of unsuccessful candidates.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Applications are to be made online via suss.edu.sg/apply.

You must submit all the required documents together with your admission application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.



Find out more

TUITION FEES

The amount of course fees you pay in each semester depends on the number of courses you take in that semester. The course fees cover all study materials, classes, tutor supervision, assignments and examinations. They do not include fees for textbooks, and other additional items specified by SUSS from time to time.



Find out more

SCHOLARSHIPS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Committed to the promotion of lifelong learning, SUSS offers a number of scholarships and sponsorships to new and continuing students in recognition of their excellent academic achievements, leadership qualities and special talents and contributions.



Find out more

Please visit suss.edu.sg for more details.

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Information is accurate as of June 2026. For the most updated information, please refer to our website.