



2022

Graduate Programmes

**S R NATHAN SCHOOL OF
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN
**SYSTEMIC
THERAPY**





Programme Overview

Despite state efforts in promoting strong and stable families, relational issues within families are increasing and the need for couple and family-oriented services is pressing. In response to the growing need for specialised competencies in systemic couple and family work, the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) now offers the Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy (GDST) programme.

Unique Features of the Programme

The programme offers flexibility to students in choosing courses that are aligned to their interest and professional development. Students can complete any six courses (30 cu) to obtain a Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy. They can also opt to exit with the Graduate Certificate in Systemic Therapy (GCST) after completing any 3 courses (15 cu).

If all six courses (30 cu) are taken consecutively, the graduate diploma programme will stretch over two semesters or one year. However, students will have flexibility in scheduling their studies and will graduate as long as they meet programme requirements within a maximum candidature of 24 months (2 years).

This programme is also stackable, and students can choose to take 15 cu of systemic therapy courses individually via the Centre for Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE) to be awarded the GCST, and then be recognised for credits when applying for admission to the GDST programme thereafter, subject to meeting the programme requirements.

Whom is this for?

This programme provides continuous professional development for students who have completed their master's degree in counselling, social work, psychology, or equivalent, and wish to pursue additional knowledge in couple and family therapy (CFT) with at least two years of work experience preferably in couple and family work. SUSS alumni can also pursue courses in Systemic Therapy (ST) for their ongoing professional development.

Career Prospects

Graduates can look forward to building a career in couple and family therapy. Our faculty consists of local and international systemic therapy scholars and practitioners who will equip students with clinical competencies to support, heal and transform troubled relationships among individuals, couples, children, families and communities into emotionally healthier relationships.

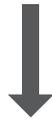
Programme Structure

GDST students are required to complete 30 credit units (cu) of coursework. However, they can also opt to exit with the Graduate Certificate in Systemic Therapy upon completion of any 15 cu of courses. Students have to maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 2.5 in their coursework as part of the fulfilment of the programme.

All courses are 5 cu unless stated otherwise.

ST/CFT Elective Courses (Choose 30 cu)¹

- Advanced Couple and Family Therapy
- Emotion-Focused Therapy for Couples
 - Minuchin Family Therapy
- CFT Supervision for Practice
 - Narrative Therapy
 - Medical Family Therapy
 - Gottman Couples Theory
- Sexual Issues in Couple Therapy
- Clinical Supervision in Counselling & Systemic Therapy
 - Integrative Systemic Therapy
- Special Topics in Systemic Therapy:
Person-of-the-Therapist (POTT)



Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy²

Explanatory Notes:

¹ Upon completion of any 15 cu of courses, students will need a min. CGPA of 2.5 to be awarded the Graduate Certificate in Systemic Therapy.

² Upon completion of any 30 cu of courses, students will need a min. CGPA of 2.5 to be awarded the Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy.

For more information on our Graduate Diploma in Systemic Therapy, please visit suss.edu.sg/GDST

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Admission Criteria

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.

In addition, applicants must also meet these minimum requirements:

- Possess a master's degree from a recognised institution or its equivalent, in counselling, social work or psychology, or a master's degree that includes the following clinical knowledge and skills, or their equivalent: Principles and Practice of Counselling, Psychosocial Development, Clinical Assessment and Ethics in Counselling, Psychological Disorders and Intervention Strategies, Couple and Family Therapy.
- At least two years of work experience preferably in couple, family, and community work.
- Good communication skills (written and spoken English).

Shortlisted applicants will be required to undergo one or more interviews and/or take such 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.

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.

✉ student_recruitment@suss.edu.sg

☎ 6248 9777

🖱 suss.edu.sg

📘 [suss.sg](https://www.facebook.com/suss.sg)

🐦 [@suss_sg](https://twitter.com/suss_sg)

📷 [suss_sg](https://www.instagram.com/suss_sg)

🌐 Singapore University of Social Sciences

Information is correct at time of print (May 2021)



GDST