



**2020**

**Graduate Programmes**

**S R NATHAN SCHOOL OF  
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

# MASTER OF COUNSELLING



# LEADING THE WAY IN PERSONAL WELL-BEING

## Programme Overview

The counselling field has grown in tandem with changes in our society as we respond to the challenges of Singapore's economic growth and development. Singapore University of Social Sciences launched its Bachelor of Counselling programme in year 2007, the first of its kind offered by a local university.

Since then, there has been a clarion call for more advanced training, at the master's level. To fulfil the aspirations for further specialised education in counselling and to stay relevant and robust in the field, Singapore University of Social Sciences now offers the Master of Counselling (MCOU) programme.



## Unique Features of the Programme:

- Emphasises a balance of skills-based/practice orientation and academic rigour while allowing specialisation in different areas of counselling and training in supervisory skills to enable our graduates to take on leadership roles or become domain experts.
- Offers flexibility in entry and exit points to suit different academic needs. Pre-requisite courses will help those without prior counselling training to be initiated into the programme.
- Our Master of Counselling Programme is recognised and accredited by the Singapore Association for Counselling (SAC).
- To cater to busy professionals, all classes for this programme are conducted on Saturdays to minimise disruptions to work schedules, allowing time for self-study and a balanced lifestyle.

## Programme Structure

Students without prior training in counselling are required to complete pre-requisite courses (PRCOU) to prepare them for the intensive MCOU curriculum. In addition, there will be a supervised practicum of 180 hours, a requirement for PRCOU students that equips students with practical counselling experience. The practicum may be completed during the course of the MCOU programme.

The MCOU curriculum consists of twelve courses of study. Of the twelve courses, six are compulsory core courses, the other six are elective courses. The six electives are chosen from a cluster of courses to provide for both breadth and depth in their professional training. However, a student may choose to complete a thesis of 10,000 words in-lieu of two electives, and take an elective research course.

Applicants without a  
Counselling degree



### **Pre-Requisite Courses**

- Psychosocial Development through the Life Span
- Fundamentals of Counselling
- Laboratory on Basic Counselling Skills (32 hours)
- Supervised Practicum (180 contact hours)<sup>1</sup>



Applicants with a recognised  
Counselling degree



### **Professional Studies**

- Clinical Assessment in Counselling
- Ethics and Skills in Multicultural Counselling
- Couple and Family Therapy



Applicants with  
BCOU (Hons) degree



### **Advanced Studies**

- Integrative Approaches to Counselling
- Behaviour Therapy
- Research and Evaluation in Counselling

**Graduate Diploma  
in Counselling<sup>2</sup>**



### **Electives Courses (choose four)**

- Psychotherapy with Children and Adolescents
- Gerontological Counselling
- Theories and Practice in Addiction Counselling
- Crisis Intervention
- Psychological Disorders and Intervention Strategies
- Theories and Techniques in Career Counselling
- Theory and Practice of Group Counselling
- Clinical Supervision in Counselling
- Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis<sup>3</sup>
- Statistics and Data Analysis<sup>3</sup>



**Applied Research Project in Counselling<sup>3</sup>**  
or  
**two additional elective courses**



**Master of Counselling<sup>4</sup>**

Notes:

1. Supervised Practicum is compulsory for all students.
2. Need a min. CGPA of 2.5 to be awarded Graduate Diploma in Counselling; need a min. CGPA of 3.0 to proceed to Master of Counselling.
3. The Applied Research Project in Counselling must be taken with EITHER Statistics and Data Analysis OR Qualitative Research Methods and Analysis.
4. Need a min. CGPA of 3.0 to be awarded Master of Counselling.

# ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

## Admissions

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) of having at least an IELTS (Academic) score of 6.5 or a TOEFL score of 580 (paper-based) or 85 (Internet-based) [IELTS/TOEFL score must be obtained within the last 2 years at point of application] 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.

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.

For Couple and Family therapy specialisation track, applicants should have good individual counselling skills, with at least one year of working experience with couples and families

Shortlisted candidates may be required to undergo one or more interviews and/or take such written admission or other evaluation tests as may be prescribed by the Singapore University of Social Sciences from time to time.

The offer of admission is dependent on the number of places available in individual programmes. The decision of the Admissions Committee of the University is final and binding. The University reserves the right to refuse admission and is not obliged to offer an explanation for the non-admission of unsuccessful candidates.

## Tuition Fees

Our tuition fees are on par with those of other local universities. 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.

## Concessions

SUSS offers the following course fee concessions:

- Applicants who are 60 years old and above will enjoy a 20% course fee concession.
- Alumni (Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral programmes) of SUSS and SIM will enjoy a 20% course fee concession.

Students will enjoy only one of the two categories of concession. The above concessions are applicable to all programmes offered and awarded by SUSS unless specified otherwise.

The concessions are not applicable to students under any scholarship or sponsorship schemes, as well as courses offered with external institutions/organisations. They are also not to be used concurrently with any other concessions.

To encourage further education and upgrading by our alumni, graduates from the Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral degree programmes awarded by SUSS will enjoy an additional 30% course fee concession for the first two master's courses when they enrol for a Graduate Diploma and/or Master's programme with the University.

Please visit [suss.edu.sg](http://suss.edu.sg) for current tuition fees and concession details.

For more information on Master of Counselling, please visit [suss.edu.sg/MCOU](http://suss.edu.sg/MCOU)

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