

SCHOOL OF

SOCIAL SCIENCE

UNDERGRADUATE PROSPECTUS 2015/2016

UNRIVALLED FLEXIBILITY

- The BSocSc programme delivers a broad-based education centred on the disciplines of Political Science, Psychology and Sociology
- Choose from 21 second majors including Arts and Culture Management, International and Asian Studies, and Public Policy and Public Management

BE HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER

- Find careers in a wide range of fields spanning human resources, education, marketing, corporate management, and other analytical and social-intensive professions. Your employment possibilities are almost limitless
- Our BSocSc graduates have gained admission into various prestigious postgraduate programmes including Harvard University, Cornell University, London School of Economics and Political Science, and Korea University

SOLVE REAL-WORLD PROBLEMS



- Collaborations with external organisations like the United Nations Development Programme in Singapore allow students to develop solutions that benefit actual clients
- Learn beyond the classroom at SMU Labs with its brand new facilities – get to work with actual businesses, be mentored by professionals and put into practice what you have learnt

THE WORLD, MY CAMPUS

- SOSS students have multiple global exposure opportunities such as study missions, international student exchange programmes, summer study programme at Cambridge University, overseas Internships, and community service projects



EXCITING STUDENT LIFE

- >120 CCAs including sports, performing and visual arts, community service, and entrepreneurial and international interest groups. Can't find what you like? Start your own CCA

FELICIA NGIAM LI YING

General Manager
Quantum Life
Technologies Pte Ltd
SMU Bachelor of Social Science
Magna Cum Laude

DEAN'S MESSAGE

We live in extraordinary times and in a world that is highly interconnected. The next generation of graduates who will assume senior leadership roles in the private and public sectors has to be versatile and innovative, especially as multiple career paths become more common. They will require a well-rounded university education that not only combines theory and practice with academic rigour, but also provides them with plentiful opportunities for experiential learning.

The SMU School of Social Sciences (SOSS) offers a unique and multi-disciplinary PPS programme that brings together Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology. We pride ourselves in providing a collegial and integrative learning environment that gives students exposure to three crucial and inter-related areas in the social sciences and the flexibility to focus on one other discipline from any other school in SMU.

Our graduates are equipped not only with broad-based academic knowledge but also analytical and practical skills acquired through internships, community service projects, and career preparation workshops.

We have the tradition of respecting students' choices and exploration of their own journeys of intellectual discovery and learning under careful guidance by a dedicated team of outstanding professors who come from some of the world's best universities and are leading experts in their fields of specialisation.

I welcome you to explore our research projects and the many academic programmes and rich learning opportunities that we offer.

Professor James T H Tang
Dean, School of Social Sciences





CURRICULUM

OPENING MINDS – HAVE THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE BETWEEN BREADTH AND DEPTH

Our Curriculum: Flexible, Interdisciplinary and Rigorous

The Bachelor of Social Science (BSocSc) programme delivers a broad-based undergraduate education centred on the disciplines of Political Science, Psychology and Sociology.

Integrating these disciplines gives you a holistic, multidisciplinary and all-rounded approach to the study of phenomena in the social sciences and develops the tools and frameworks applicable to careers in human resources, education, management and other analytical and social-intensive professions.

The programme consists of a combination of coursework as well as opportunities for hands-on research supervised by faculty members. The programme aspires to be an interactive, collegial environment that models and encourages open communication and life-long learning.

University Requirements (16 Courses)	Social Science Requirements (20 Courses)
Foundation (3)	Social Science Core (4)
University Core (4)	
Modes of Thinking (1)	Social Science Major (7)
General Education (4)	
Technology Studies (1)	Social Science Major-Related Options (8)
Entrepreneurship (1)	
Globalisation Studies (1)	
Asian Studies (1)	Capstone Seminar (1)

Note: The number in each parenthesis indicates the number of courses to be taken in each category.

Foundation (3 Courses)

- Calculus
- Introductory Economics
- Programme in Writing and Reasoning

University Core (4 Courses)

- Business, Government and Society
- Ethics and Social Responsibility
- Leadership and Team Building
- Management Communication

Modes of Thinking (1 Course)

- Managing Volatility, Uncertainty, Change and Ambiguity
- Analytical Skills (1/2 course unit)
- Creativity (1/2 course unit)

General Education (4 Courses)*

- Computer as an Analysis Tool (Compulsory)
- Biotechnology and Bioentrepreneurship
- Creative Writing
- Current Issues in Business, Culture and Society
- Dance: East and West
- Drama and Scriptwriting
- Environmental Science
- Intercultural Communication
- Introduction to Physical Science
- Language (e.g. French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Thai)
- Music: East and West
- Principles of Coaching in Sports

Technology Studies (1 Course)*

- Computing Technology for Finance
- Governing, Managing and Protecting Knowledge in Organisations
- Intelligent Organisations
- Technology and World Change
- The Games and Digital Media Industries

Entrepreneurship (1 Course)*

- Accounting for Entrepreneurs
- Design Thinking and Innovation
- Entrepreneurial Finance
- Entrepreneurship and Business Creation
- Enterprise Consulting

Globalisation Studies (1 Course)*

- Corporate Responsibility in the Global Era
- International Law and Global Politics
- Political Economy of Globalisation
- Social Media and Organisations
- Sustainability Governance and Management

Asian Studies (1 Course)*

- Contemporary South Asian Societies
- Exploring Asian Identities
- Political Economy of East Asia
- Politics of Southeast Asia
- Popular Culture in Asia

Social Science Core (4 Courses)

- Introduction to Political and Policy Studies
- Introduction to Psychology
- Understanding Societies
- Introductory Statistics

Social Science Major (7 Courses)

BSocSc students specialise in one of the following three disciplines: Political Science, Psychology or Sociology. The Social Science student is required to declare a major by the end of their second year of study and take seven courses in their chosen major.

Political Science*

- Conflict and Justice in International Relations
- Development, Underdevelopment and Poverty
- Elections and the Media
- European Union Politics
- Human Rights in International Relations
- Introduction to Public Policy
- Political Science Study Mission
- Politics of Japan and Korea
- Security Studies
- Special Projects with International Organisations
- The Politics of Water in Asia

Psychology*

- Psychology Research Methods I and II (Compulsory)
- Abnormal Psychology

- Cognitive Psychology
- Cultural Psychology
- Developmental Psychology
- Evolutionary Psychology
- Industrial and Organisational Psychology
- Psychology of Reasoning and Thinking
- Psychometrics and Psychological Testing
- Social Psychology
- Subjective Well-Being

Sociology*

- Research Methods in Sociology and Political Science (Compulsory)
- Gender and Family
- Global and Transnational Sociology
- Social Networks
- Social Problems in Asia
- Social Stratification and Inequality
- Sociological Theories of Crime and Deviance
- Sociology of Economic Life
- Sociology of Fads and Fashion
- Sociology of Food
- Sociology of Mass Media

Social Science Major-Related Options (8 Courses)

The Social Science Major-Related Options in the BSocSc curriculum provide you the flexibility to freely choose eight elective courses from the course offerings in the majors in Social Sciences, Accounting, Business, Economics, Information Systems and Law. Of the eight courses in this category, at least two must be selected from the Majors in Social Sciences.

Social Science Capstone (1 Course)

This is an integrative seminar that the BSocSc degree student is required to take before graduating. This seminar provides an opportunity for the student to integrate the knowledge, skills and learning experiences acquired in the social science programme through relating academic knowledge to important practical applications.

** Course listings are not exhaustive and are subject to change from term to term.*



Second Majors Offered by the School of Social Sciences

BSocSc students may choose to declare a second major in another social science discipline (Political Science, Psychology, or Sociology) or in one of the three second majors offered by the School of Social Sciences.

- Arts and Culture Management
- International and Asian Studies
- Public Policy and Public Management

Arts and Culture Management (ACM)

The Arts and Culture Management second major provides students with the perspectives, foundational knowledge, introductory skills and vocabularies for entry into the arts and culture industry. ACM grooms the cosmopolitan manager who is at ease with cultural diversity and able to capitalise on the new ideas and energies through engagement with the arts. ACM uniquely brings together theory, practice, and management through hands-on experience.

ACM second major graduates will not be limited to working in the arts and culture industry, but will have knowledge and understandings that will prepare them for successful employment in global cities. Singapore, London, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Dubai, Seoul, Shanghai and Sydney are notable as centres of creativity and entrepreneurship fuelled by a vibrant arts and culture scene. It is this clear vision that has informed the Singapore government's goal to double the active engagement of Singaporeans in arts and culture activities by 2025.

International and Asian Studies (IAS)

The International and Asian Studies second major is an innovative programme that takes on a regional and international focus to examine the emerging role of Asia in the world. It integrates knowledge from various disciplines including international relations, sociology, political science, economics and law as well as in-depth knowledge of the region to address complex issues concerning Asia and the world.

This programme aims to produce global-minded citizens by encouraging students to be multi-lingual and to participate in study missions and other international experiences. There are enrichment programmes designed specifically for students enrolled in this major such as special internships with international organisations and NGOs, and joint programmes or partnership arrangements with leading universities.

Public Policy and Public Management (PPPM)

The Public Policy and Public Management second major is designed to provide students with a general foundation in the nature of public and non-profit workplaces and their political, psychological, and legal environments. In particular, the major is unique in its emphasis on the integration of academic study with real policy problems that is further enhanced through the Public Policy Task Force Programme.

The Task Force is an important part of the PPPM curriculum and is designed to give students the opportunity to apply knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to real world problems. Students will engage in collaborative, client-oriented, and problem-solving projects on critical public policy and management issues.



UNIQUE SMU APPROACH TO EDUCATION

COME AND BE TRANSFORMED



Interactive Learning

Classes in SMU are not taught in the traditional lecture-and-tutorial format in big lecture theatres. In fact, they are taught in compact MBA-style seminar rooms, where you will actively engage in discussions. You are encouraged to speak up and present your arguments in a clear and convincing manner. Learning is a two-way street where you learn from others and others from you. This way, you sharpen your critical thinking ability, and communication and presentation skills, which are crucial skills that will set you apart in the corporate world.

Classroom Knowledge, Real-World Problems

Several of the social science courses involve collaborations with external organisations, where you get to strategise, formulate and develop solutions for projects that produce tangible benefits to actual clients. This seamless integration with neighbouring organisations around our city campus provides for an innovative and experiential learning experience that is not readily found elsewhere.

Using Technology to Learn

Several of our faculty members are also committed to incorporating the latest technological trends, such as virtual scenario generators, into their repertoire of teaching methods. This creates opportunities for your instructors to transcend the traditional limitations of the physical classroom, leading to enhanced learning outcomes and greater retention of material taught. In short, you will be treated to an educational experience like no other.

GLOBAL EXPOSURE

OPENING HEARTS – TAKE YOUR
LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



Exchange Programmes

Studying abroad can be an enriching cultural and academic experience that offers endless benefits. A robust international exchange programme with close to 220 partner universities worldwide gives our students a global perspective on different cultures, educational systems and work practices, including gaining an international network of friends and future collaborators.

Summer Study Programmes

Summer study programmes allow students to spend four weeks at a designated top university. You can look forward to a high-quality academic and an enriching cultural experience while living in a different country over the summer. Students can choose to spend part of their summer holidays studying at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom, the University of British Columbia in Canada, or the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland.

Overseas Study Missions

SOSS students have embarked on overseas study missions to countries such as China, Europe, USA and Indonesia. These overseas study missions cover a host of site visits, networking sessions and presentations by specialists and experts on various social science issues such as rural poverty, urbanisation and arts management. They connect the students by uniting theory and practice through their discussions and practical fieldwork experience.



CAREERS AND GRADUATE SCHOOL

OPENING DOORS – ACHIEVE YOUR DREAMS

A Diverse Range of Career Options

Social science graduates are known to be articulate, confident, knowledgeable and versatile. They enjoy high rates of employability across a diverse range of careers, both in the private and public sectors:

Business, Finance and Consulting	Government	Media, Marketing and Hospitality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barclays • CapitalLand • Citibank • Ernst & Young • Euromonitor International • IBM Global Services • McKinsey & Company • Mercer • Procter & Gamble • Standard Chartered Bank • UBS AG • Unilever 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Defence • Ministry of Education • Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Ministry of National Development • Ministry of Social and Family Development • Ministry of Trade and Industry • National Arts Council • National Library Board • Prime Minister's Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changi Airport Group • Discovery Networks • Edelman • Facebook • Hilton Hotels & Resorts • JCDecaux • MediaCorp • Millward Brown • Ogilvy & Mather • SingTel • Taylor Nelson Sofres • The Nielsen Company

Note: The information listed above is correct at the time of printing.

Successful Entry into Postgraduate Programmes

Our rigorous and interdisciplinary BSocSc programme has enabled our graduates to gain admission into a wide range of postgraduate programmes spanning business, education, humanities, and the social sciences:

USA and Canada	Europe and United Kingdom	Asia and Australia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia University • Cornell University • Emory University • Harvard University • McGill University • University of Wisconsin-Madison 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bristol University, UK • Erasmus University, Rotterdam • Goldsmiths College, London • London School of Economics and Political Science • University of Oxford 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korea University, Seoul • University of Queensland

Note: The information listed above is correct at the time of printing.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission is on a competitive and selective basis. SMU adopts a holistic approach in assessing and selecting our students. Applicants are evaluated on their academic credentials and co-curricular activity records. Shortlisted applicants will be interviewed by SMU professors. For some schools, applicants are also required to write an essay.

Singapore-Cambridge GCE A-Level

- Good passes in at least 3 H2 content-based subjects, 1 H1 content-based subject, Project Work (PW) and General Paper (GP) / Knowledge & Inquiry (KI)
- Other acceptable subject combinations include: 4 H2 content-based subjects, PW and GP; or 3 H2 content-based subjects, PW and KI
- Interview / essay writing for shortlisted applicants

Polytechnic Diploma from Singapore

- A good 3-year full time Polytechnic diploma from Nanyang Poly, Ngee Ann Poly, Republic Poly, Singapore Poly and Temasek Poly
- Interview/essay writing for shortlisted applicants

International Baccalaureate Diploma

- At least 18 years of age by the commencement of the freshmen academic year
- A good IB Diploma
- Interview/essay writing for all shortlisted applicants

NUS High School Diploma

- A good NUS High School Diploma
- Interview/essay writing for all shortlisted applicants

International and Other Qualifications

- At least 18 years of age by the commencement of the freshman academic year
- A minimum of 12 years of formal education with good passes in a national/international examination that is recognised for the purpose of admission
- SAT (previously known as SAT I or SAT Reasoning) is a compulsory requirement for admission. Applicants may take ACT (ACT must include the Writing Test) in place of SAT
- Interview/essay writing for shortlisted applicants

Transfer Applicants

- Applicants, regardless of nationality, who have studied for a term or more at a university, may apply as transfer students
- Transfer applicants must meet the admissions requirements set for pre-university or high school graduates

Admission to the School of Social Sciences is on a selective and competitive basis. As part of SMU's holistic admissions process, applicants will be evaluated on the basis of:

- Academic record
- Co-curricular activities
- SAT (if applicable)
- Interview and/or essay writing, for shortlisted applicants

Admission requirements are subject to change from time to time. For full details, please visit www.admissions.smu.edu.sg





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The SMU Jump was introduced when SMU was established in 2000 as a way of differentiating ourselves. It symbolises the high energy and different perspectives that our students are capable of bringing to any situation or issue, and making a difference. It has evolved into a highly recognisable and endearing icon; and is very much an integral part of the SMU spirit that transcends and binds all students past and present and the larger SMU community together.