

A SPECIAL FEATURE BY SINGAPORE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY

New offerings at SMU empower students to face challenges of the future economy

Interdisciplinary initiatives enable students to make their mark on the world

Our interconnected world is riddled with complexities that have magnified the impact of global events on other nations. The refugee crisis, growth of socio-political movements and the rise of populism are some of the instances that blur the lines between politics, law and economics, triggering a shift in the way leaders approach problems and devise solutions.

Benedict Ang, a first-year School of Social Science (SOS) student from Singapore Management University (SMU) recognises the changing dynamics of working environments. He explains, "I wanted a degree that would introduce me to knowledge from a diverse range of fields, and would be relevant for decision making and policy analysis in our constantly evolving world."

Benedict is from the pioneer batch of students taking the newly introduced Politics, Law and Economics (PLE) major in the School of Social Sciences, which helps students gain a deeper understanding of global political and economic transformations, and the legal frameworks and contexts within which such changes take place.

Likened to Oxford University's politics, philosophy and economics course, the PLE major helps students hone strategic and analytical thinking skills, and seek innovative solutions to real-world problems. The interdisciplinary nature of the programme allows them to be well-equipped with the knowledge and skills to handle multifaceted careers in industries like journalism, foreign affairs, public service, consulting and research, and more. "What I enjoy most about the programme is that it has caused a shift in the way I perceive information. By examining sources and utilising lenses from the various fields, I have gained a deeper appreciation for the complexities behind issues and broadened my perspectives about what factors really impact them," explains Benedict.

The newly introduced major is one of the many that will help to broaden their knowledge base and develop critical thinking skills among students. They are central to SMU students' preparation for the journey that lies ahead of them – one filled with endless complexities and opportunities for them to make their mark on the world.



“ The PLE major is one of the few programmes that challenges its students by integrating multiple domains. It prepares us for an evolving working environment – one that seeks dynamic individuals who can utilise information from myriad sources and excel in areas beyond their comfort zone.

Benedict Ang, a first-year SMU student, on the highly popular Politics, Law and Economics (PLE) major.

- Newly introduced into the SMU curriculum**
- School of Accounting:**
 - Accounting Analytics course
 - School of Information Systems:**
 - Revamped Information Systems major and tracks
 - Smart-City Management and Technology major
 - Lee Kong Chian School of Business:**
 - Finance Analytics track
 - Marketing Analytics track
 - Operations Analytics track
 - Retail and Services Management track



Students from the School of Information Systems engage in meaningful debate.



Professor Arnoud De Meyer, President of SMU, at a dialogue initiated by the Committee on the Future Economy (CFE).

“ SMU's dynamic curriculum emphasises developing critical skills such as pattern recognition, strategy, communications and problem solving. Most important of all, they develop soft skills and the ability to adapt to whatever is required for the jobs of Singapore's future economy.

Explore SMU's new initiatives at smu.sg/apply-new2017

Visit **SMU OPEN HOUSE 2017** today! Details at openhouse.smu.edu.sg

Singapore's only city campus continues to expand

Freshly renovated Campus Green and a new law library among SMU's new initiatives to uplift student life at the university



Artist's impression of the new SMU School of Law building.

Students, faculty and members of the public will soon have access to the newly redesigned Campus Green, currently in the final stages of renovation. The upgraded space will facilitate even more activities and support SMU's evolving teaching, learning and co-curricular activity needs. These facilities include four new 48-seater Flexible Classrooms, a new 75-seater Seminar Room and a Student Study Lounge. On top of that, a new three-level SMU Gymnasium and Fitness Centre will boast dance studios and sophisticated exercise machines so students can explore their interests in fitness-related activities between classes.

A new School of Law (SOL) building – a distinctive landmark that contains state-of-the-art facilities has opened its doors to enrich the learning experience of SMU law students. To further their academic achievements, the new Kwa Geok Choo Law Library, will expand on the resources provided by the Li Ka Shing Library for all students to peruse.

Employability outcome ranks high as SMU's unique brand of experiential learning expands to new territories

Valuable ties with industry partners allow students to immerse in real-world learning experiences that enhance their employability



Students collaborate on projects at the SMU Labs.

Meaningful collaborations initiated through SMU's robust links with major industry players, like Deloitte and Barclays, provide opportunities for students to engage in experiential learning through internships, overseas stints and more.

Jyt @ SMU is an innovative result of such collaborations. The new initiative has been launched as a partnership between SMU and Ascott, and promotes co-working social learning environments as a new way of living and collaborating as a community. It unlocks even more opportunities for students to embark on experiential

learning – one of the key reasons behind the strong employability results that the university has been enjoying for years.

SMU's strong survey results in the latest Graduate Employment Survey 2016 affirms that its holistic educational experience involving both classroom and out-of-classroom learning prepares its students well for the job market. SMU graduates are equipped with the knowledge, experience and skills that enable them to make meaningful impact and are thus sought after by employers.

Global Impact Scholarship Award

- Receive strong global exposure to some of the best universities in the world
- Be part of SMU-X – signature courses designed to encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration among scholars
- Receive mentorship from seasoned industry partners
- Complete an SMU Bachelor-Master programme in as little as four years

SMU Access grant

- 100% tuition fees fully funded for eligible needy Singaporean students

SMU launches Global Impact Scholarship Award, with funded overseas programmes to Oxford or Cambridge

SMU recently introduced the Global Impact Scholarship Award, a new flagship scholarship designed to help realise each scholar's leadership potential and hone their ability to make meaningful impact on society. It will sponsor overseas programmes to some of the world's best universities like Oxford and Cambridge, and give scholars access to a rigorous and specially designed scholars' core curriculum.

It will also provide opportunities for them to participate in three exclusively designed SMU-X courses for scholars – innovative classes that encourage students from various disciplines to collaborate and address real-world challenges under the mentorship of industry partners.

Financially needy SMU students can now gain Access to 100% funded tuition-fee aid

Another bold, new financial support initiative that was launched is the SMU Access grant, which will be available from this year for eligible students who require financial support. All tuition fees will be offset for a maximum of four years once they meet the eligibility criteria, taking into account the scholarships, bursaries, and grants awarded to the student.

This broad-based initiative is the first-of-its-kind by any university in Singapore to offer full coverage of tuition fees and effectively make the entire university education tuition-free for eligible students.

QS Graduate Employment Rankings 2017

Top **30** universities globally for employer-student connections and graduate employment rate*

8th best Asian institution, for partnerships with employers*

*Ranked ahead of other local universities

Graduate Employment Survey 2016

Over **50%** of SMU graduates received 2-6 job offers upon graduation

\$3,722 gross average starting salary – higher compared to other local universities

94% employment within six months of graduation