



Media Release

SMU Academy launches new course on Decentralised Finance (DeFi), enabling finance professionals to thrive amid tech disruption

Singapore, 5 August 2021 (Thursday) – Singapore Management University (SMU) has introduced a new course focusing on the emerging financial ecosystem on blockchain. Conducted by advisory firm, [Lightbulb Capital](#), [SMU Academy \(SMUA\)](#) now offers “Decentralised Finance (DeFi): A New Financial Ecosystem”, a course that covers DeFi’s infrastructure, use-cases and its relevance to the industry.

DeFi is an emerging phenomenon set to replace traditional finance, commonly known as centralised finance. It challenges the centralised financial system by disempowering middlemen and gatekeepers, such as banks and empowering everyday people via peer-to-peer exchanges.

The two-day programme offers a more comprehensive than usual learning of various aspects of DeFi from its origins to potential risks in the fintech world, among other courses in Singapore. It is designed for professionals in the financial services and fintech industries and will be conducted over lectures, group discussions, exercises, as well as guest lectures featuring industry experts.

Mr. Jack Lim, Executive Director of SMU Academy says, “While many find technological trends a disruption, this course will help finance professionals attain a holistic view of decentralised finance and understand its role in the financial world. With practical insight, professionals can also learn to use DeFi to their advantage.”

Lightbulb Capital’s founder and Adjunct Faculty Member of SMU Academy, Mr. Daniel Liebau, will share practical expertise in investment banking technology and academic research know-how on digital assets to educate professionals on the growing trends and impacts.

“DeFi is a disruptive development in finance, not only because it has the potential to bring financial inclusion to the next level, but banks, insurers, asset managers and exchanges are also facing a risk of being replaced. It is therefore key to understand how to engage the growing eco-system and be part of it, and most importantly, be able to identify the risks associated with it.” says Mr Liebau.

The Decentralised Finance (DeFi) - The New Finance Ecosystem course is currently funded up to 90% by SkillsFuture Singapore, with fees starting from S\$242. The course starts from **14 October 2021** and is now open for application. More details can be found [here](#).

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About Singapore Management University

A premier university in Asia, the Singapore Management University (SMU) is internationally recognised for its world-class research and distinguished teaching. Established in 2000, SMU's mission is to generate leading-edge research with global impact and to produce broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. SMU's education is known for its highly interactive, collaborative and project-based approach to learning.

Home to over 11,000 students across undergraduate, postgraduate professional and post-graduate research programmes, SMU, is comprised of six schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Computing and Information Systems, School of Law, and School of Social Sciences. SMU offers a wide range of bachelors', masters' and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with the six schools, as well as in multidisciplinary combinations of these areas.

SMU emphasises rigorous, high-impact, multi- and interdisciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance. SMU faculty members collaborate with leading international researchers and universities around the world, as well as with partners in the business community and public sector. SMU's city campus is a modern facility located in the heart of downtown Singapore, fostering strategic linkages with business, government and the wider community. www.smu.edu.sg

About SMU Academy

Since its inception, Singapore Management University (SMU) has built a strong reputation as an innovative and progressive management university with a well-established interactive pedagogy incorporating business cases and strong links with business and industry. The Academy, with its pillars of Financial Services, Human Capital Management & Leadership, Technology & Intelligent Systems, and Service, Operations & Business Improvement, leverages SMU's reputation and linkages to prepare our workforce with the competencies, skills upgrading and career resilience required for the future economy. <http://academy.smu.edu.sg/>

About Lightbulb Capital

The firm was founded in 2014 in Hong Kong to help realize the potential of innovation and emerging technologies to transform financial services. It quickly expanded to Singapore, where most of its business activities take place today. The company focuses on advisory work for fintech and blockchain start-ups and Innovation education programs for corporates and universities. We aim to operate at the cutting edge of academic research and being practical and pragmatic when engaging with our clients. Curiosity and collaboration are at the heart of what we do. www.lightbulbcap.com