



## **Joint Media Release**

### **SMU and RHT Legal Training Institute launch joint course to prepare candidates for Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations**

*The landmark collaboration aims to deliver rigorous academic training combined with practical perspectives to prepare young lawyers more thoroughly for the examinations and the realities of legal practice.*

**Singapore, 14 July 2022 (Thursday)** – The Singapore Management University (SMU) and [RHT Legal Training Institute](#) (RHT LTI) will be launching a joint course to prepare candidates for Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations. It is the first-ever collaboration between an autonomous university and private education institute to offer the Part A Examination preparatory course. It combines and replaces the two preparatory courses formerly offered separately by SMU Law Academy (SMULA) and RHT LTI: the **SMULA Part A Examination Preparation Programme** and the **Part A Bar Course** respectively.

A Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony will be held on **21 July 2022, 10am** at the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law (YPHSL) to formalise the landmark collaboration between SMU and RHT LTI.

The Part A Singapore Bar Examination is a mandatory conversion examination for graduates from overseas scheduled universities who intend to apply for admission to the Singapore Bar. The 8-week course will cover the five subjects set by the Singapore Institute of Legal Education (SILE): Company Law, Criminal Law, Singapore Legal System, Land Law and Evidence Law. Jointly offered by [SMU Academy](#), [SMU Law Academy](#) and RHT LTI, the course will incorporate both academic and practical expertise, allowing participants to establish a well-rounded and solid foundation in preparation for the Part A Examinations. Taught by experienced faculty from YPHSL and legal practitioners from RHT LTI, the programme will provide specialised training to set the next generation of lawyers up for success in the Part A Examinations.

**Professor Walter Woon**, Dean of RHT LTI and Lee Kong Chian Visiting Professor at SMU YPHSL said, “We are delighted to be cooperating with SMU to give graduates of the overseas scheduled universities the best training possible for real-life practice and the Bar Exam.” Professor Woon was formerly the Attorney-General of Singapore and founding Dean of the SILE.

**Mr Er Kwong Wah**, Chairman of RHT LTI and former Permanent Secretary for Education said, “We are proud to be part of this ground-breaking collaboration between a public institution of higher learning and a private education institution. This is a great step forward, fusing private sector know-how with rigorous academic content to give candidates the best of both worlds.”

**Mr Jack Lim**, Executive Director of SMU Academy said, “It is our mission to contribute to a vibrant continuing education and training ecosystem by providing a wide range of high-quality learning opportunities. This collaboration will be an important addition to SMU Academy’s ever-growing base of partnerships to help candidates from the legal fraternity find the right learning opportunities for their career.”

**Associate Professor Darius Chan** and **Assistant Professor Kenny Chng**, Director and Deputy Director of the SMU Law Academy respectively, said, “This collaboration showcases SMU Law Academy’s

commitment to work closely with industry partners to deliver structured products that meet the practical needs of our participants. We are confident candidates will benefit from RHT LTI's expertise and experience."

The joint Part A course will commence in August 2022. It is planned to run twice a year, comprising 8 three-hour lessons per subject for a total of 120 contact hours per run. It will be offered online, giving participants more flexibility to attend especially if they are currently studying or working outside of Singapore.

Details of the course are available at: <https://www.rhtlti.com/part-a-bar-exam-course/>

SMU and RHT LTI will also be collaborating on further legal training courses to meet the multi-faceted demands of the profession and the industry, details of which will be forthcoming.

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### **About Singapore Management University**

Established in 2000, Singapore Management University (SMU) is recognised for its disciplinary and multi-disciplinary research that address issues of global relevance, impacting business, government, and society. Its distinctive education, incorporating innovative experiential learning, aims to nurture global citizens, entrepreneurs and change agents. With more than 12,000 students, SMU offers a wide range of bachelors, masters and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with six of its seven schools - Accountancy, Business, Economics, Computing, Law and Social Sciences. Its seventh school, the SMU College of Integrative Studies, offers a bachelor's degree programme in deep, integrative interdisciplinary education. SMU also offers a growing number of executive development and continuing education programmes. Through its city campus, SMU focuses on making meaningful impact on Singapore and beyond through its partnerships with industry, policy makers and academic institutions. [www.smu.edu.sg](http://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 strategic links with leading businesses and industry. Leveraging on SMU's reputation and linkages, SMU Academy offers a comprehensive array of cutting-edge interdisciplinary programmes that supports lifelong learners in their pursuit of continuing education while helping organisations meet their upskilling and reskilling goals. <http://academy.smu.edu.sg/>

### **About SMU Law Academy**

The SMU Law Academy, the continuing legal education arm of the SMU Yong Pung How School of Law, has established itself as a leading provider of structured continuing legal education programmes and certifications that are formulated in close collaboration with industry partners. SMU Law Academy has trained lawyers, in-house counsel, civil servants, and the judiciary targeting specific and practical skill sets to meet the distinct needs of its participants. <https://law.smu.edu.sg/smula>

### **About RHT Legal Training Institute**

RHT Legal Training Institute is a provider of legal and related courses for individuals who are pursuing careers in law or allied disciplines or who are interested in the practical applications of the law in their respective fields. RHT Legal Training Institute offers courses taught by seasoned practitioners with extensive practical knowledge and real-world experience.

RHT Legal Training Institute is part of the RHT legal and professional services network. <https://www.rhtlti.com/>

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