GRADUATE STUDIES
at the
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
1. **INTRODUCTION** / Introduction to the National University of Singapore / p1
2. **FASS** / Why the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences / p2
3. **GRADUATE STUDIES** / Graduate Studies @ FASS / p3
4. **OPTIONS** / Study Abroad and Joint/Double Degree Options / p5
5. **RESEARCH** / Research Clusters @ FASS / p9
6. **FINANCIAL** / Money Matters and Accommodation / p10
7. **ADMISSION** / Admission and Application Procedures / p12
8. **CONTACT** / Contact Us / p15
9. **PROGRAMMES** / Research and Coursework Programmes @ FASS / p18

The information in this guide is mainly for students seeking admission to the graduate programmes at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), National University of Singapore (NUS).

Other undergraduate / study abroad / student exchange programmes are also available and can be viewed at [www.fas.nus.edu.sg](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg).

The content of the information is accurate at the time of printing. Readers are urged to seek detailed information at the website: [www.fas.nus.edu.sg](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg).
From its modest infancy as a medical school founded in 1905, the National University of Singapore (NUS) has grown steadily and significantly and has been consistently rated as one of Asia’s top universities, enjoying international recognition for its academic and research contributions from both faculty members and students alike.

As a comprehensive university, NUS has 17 faculties and schools, including a music conservatory. It has nine leading entrepreneurial hotspots across the globe - Beijing, Israel, Lausanne, Munich, New York, Shanghai, Silicon Valley, Singapore and Stockholm. The University has over 38,000 students from 100 countries to enrich the community with their diverse social and cultural perspectives, making campus life vibrant and exciting.

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) is one of the earliest established faculties in the University with its origins dating back to 1929. Since then, the Faculty has grown to be one of the largest at NUS, comprising about 6,000 undergraduates and 1,000 graduate students.

Currently, FASS has:

- Excellent Global Rankings – consistently placed amongst leading universities
- The most comprehensive range of Humanities and Social Sciences subjects not only in Singapore but in the region
- 17 Departments / Programmes, 20 areas of study, 13 languages as well as cross-faculty options, special degree options and overseas opportunities
- Leading faculty members, strong funding support and excellent research facilities and opportunities
- A Centre for Language Studies allowing students to learn many Asian and European languages
- An active student community
FASS offers a wide range of graduate programmes through coursework and research, catering to a variety of interests. These programmes offer excellent opportunities for students to further develop their potential as intellectual leaders in many fields.

Programmes by coursework are designed for professional development and lead to a Graduate Diploma, Doctoral or Masters. Programmes by research equip students to work at great depth at the frontiers of knowledge creation. These programmes, which include both coursework and a thesis, lead to a Masters or PhD degree.

For some disciplines, PhD students may submit an article-based PhD thesis as an alternative route to completing a PhD thesis. Depending on the department, students will be required to submit two to three journal articles and an analytical commentary of 8,000 - 12,000 words, more information can be obtained from: www.fas.nus.edu.sg/research/programmereq.html

The coursework / research programmes available are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEPARTMENT / PROGRAMME</th>
<th>AREA OF STUDY</th>
<th>COURSEWORK</th>
<th>RESEARCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Studies</td>
<td>Chinese Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications and New Media</td>
<td>Communications and New Media</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Asian Studies</td>
<td>* Comparative Asian Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Studies in Asia</td>
<td>* Cultural Studies in Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language and Literature</td>
<td>English Language and Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>English Literature</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theatre Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>History</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Studies</td>
<td>Japanese Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay Studies</td>
<td>Malay Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Anthropology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast Asian Studies</td>
<td>Southeast Asian Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Asian Studies</td>
<td>South Asian Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These are available only for those pursuing PhD studies.

**Master of Science (Speech & Language Pathology)**

FASS and the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (SoM) offer a coursework Master of Science (Speech & Language Pathology) programme. This is the first degree to be offered jointly by FASS and SoM, and represents a significant milestone for allied health training at NUS.
Study Abroad

Joint / Double Degree Options

The Faculty offers several joint / double degree programmes for Masters and PhD students.

These degrees enable students to enhance their training and research work as they benefit from the teaching and resources of two institutions.

Both types of degree programmes offer jointly supervised and assessed degree(s) conferring a doubly validated qualification. These programmes enable students to take advantage of the complementary academic strengths of our partner universities. They also allow international experience to be fully integrated into a student’s research training with the opportunity to stretch their academic capabilities. FASS expects to attract good students and hopes to play a major role in developing the next generation of researchers across Southeast Asia.

Programmes Available:

1. Joint PhD (King’s College London)
2. Joint PhD (University of Edinburgh)
3. Double Masters in Chinese Language (Peking University)

Joint Scholarship Programme for PhD students with Harvard-Yenching Institute (HYI)

The Harvard-Yenching Institute (HYI)-NUS Joint Scholarship Programme is for young faculty at HYI partner institutions in Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia to complete a PhD at NUS, with 10 months of dissertation research at Harvard. Candidates’ research should focus on East and Southeast Asian Studies.

For more information on the HYI-NUS Joint Scholarship Programme:
www.fas.nus.edu.sg/research/scholarship/sch-hyi.html
Graduate students can apply to go for an exchange programme at a partner university for three months or more as part of their graduate research programme. These exchange programmes enable students to receive supervision and guidance from professors in our partner universities, gain access to data that may not be readily available in NUS, as well as be exposed to graduate training beyond NUS.

Furthermore, they allow students to expand their networks for future academic collaboration and career development.
The interdisciplinary Research Clusters bring intellectual excitement and vibrancy to the FASS community. These Clusters integrate graduate students into the FASS research community as they participate in the reading groups, seminars, workshops and conferences organised by the Clusters.

For more information on the Research Clusters: www.fas.nus.edu.sg/research/researchclusters.html

The Research Clusters at FASS:
• Environment
• Health
• Migration
• Social Science and Policy

Research Centres @FASS / FASS currently has 5 research centres:
• The Centre for Family and Population Research (CFPR)
• The Social Service Research Centre (SSR)
• The Next Age Institute (NAI)
• The Global Production Networks Centre at NUS (GPN@NUS)
• Max Weber Foundation Research Group on Borders, Mobility and New Infrastructures

The Singapore Research Nexus
The Singapore Research Nexus (SRN) serves as a showcase for past research, a resource for current research and a platform for future research on Singapore. It provides a useful tool for academics, policy makers and those with a general interest in how research has helped shape the story of Singapore.

For more information on The Singapore Research Nexus: www.fas.nus.edu.sg/srn/

Money Matters & Accommodation

Tuition Fees
FASS offers different kinds of graduate programmes and tuition fees vary from programme to programme. The fee range (per annum) by nationality for both Coursework and Research Programmes is listed as a reference:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATIONALITY</th>
<th>COURSEWORK (SGD)</th>
<th>RESEARCH (SGD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Singapore Citizen</td>
<td>$9,500 - $40,000</td>
<td>$9,500 - $36,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore Permanent Residents</td>
<td>$15,150 - $40,000</td>
<td>$13,300 - $36,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Students</td>
<td>$23,050 - $40,000</td>
<td>$20,350 - $36,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Singaporeans aged 25 and above can use their S$500 SkillsFuture Credit from the government to pay for a wide range of approved skills-related courses. Visit the SkillsFuture Credit website (www.skillsfuture.sg/credit) to choose from the courses available on the SkillsFuture Credit course directory.

Except for the Master of Arts (Chinese Culture and Language) coursework programme, the SkillsFuture Credit is applicable to the graduate programmes.

Detailed fee information on specific programmes as well as self-funded / government subsidised fee schemes / sponsorships / medical benefit schemes and other miscellaneous student fees can be found at: www.fas.nus.edu.sg/prospective/grad.html

Scholarships and Financial Assistance
There are several different types of scholarships available for graduate students. These scholarships are highly competitive and are given to students who have attained an excellent academic record. Applying for these scholarships is done concurrently with the application for admission to the graduate programme.

The amount of scholarships and the application requirements vary. Students who are unable to qualify for such scholarships can also apply for study loans or part-time teaching/research appointments.

The full list of scholarships and other financial assistance schemes can be found at: www.fas.nus.edu.sg/prospective/grad.html

Accommodation
Housing facilities are available at various parts of the NUS campus. Graduate Residence at UTown provides different options for accommodation and a chance to meet other graduate students in a student community characterised by cultural diversity.

Look out for the timelines of application for student accommodation on campus at: http://nus.edu.sg/osa/studentservices/hostel-admission
The FASS minimum criterion for admission into the graduate programmes is a good Masters degree in a relevant discipline (for PhD) or an NUS Honours degree (Merit/Second Class and above) or equivalent (e.g., a four-year Bachelors degree with at least an average grade of B) in a relevant discipline (for Masters).

Applicants whose native tongue and medium of previous university instruction are not English should submit the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System) score as evidence of their proficiency.

TOEFL and IELTS are only valid for two years after the test and the validity should not expire before the beginning of the application period for the graduate programme. The Educational Testing Service (ETS) has indicated that score reports are valid only if our University receives them directly from ETS.

The Faculty's TOEFL institution code is 9081.

The following minimum TOEFL score is required:
- 85 for the internet-based test (with a minimum score of 22 for the writing section); or
- 580 for the paper-based test; or
- 237 for the computer-based test

Alternatively, an IELTS result of 6.0 is required.

TOEFL and IELTS are only valid for two years after the test and the validity should not expire before the beginning of the application period for the graduate programme.

The Educational Testing Service (ETS) has indicated that score reports are valid only if our University receives them directly from ETS.

The Faculty's TOEFL institution code is 9081.

NOTE:
1. Some Departments/Programmes may set higher requirements than those stated above; for example, the Master of Social Work coursework programme requires a minimum IELTS score of 6.5 while the graduate research programmes require a minimum IELTS score of 7.0.
2. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) reports are necessary for admission into the Department of Political Science, Department of Psychology and Department of Social Work.
Applications can be paper-based or made online but online applications are STRONGLY preferred.

The Graduate Admission System for Coursework/Research enables candidates to apply for admission into the graduate coursework/research programmes offered by FASS at:


Application into the Programme

Applications can be paper-based or made online but online applications are STRONGLY preferred.

The Graduate Admission System for Coursework/Research enables candidates to apply for admission into the graduate coursework/research programmes offered by FASS at:


Application Fee

Applicants are required to pay a non-refundable application fee of S$50 when an application is submitted.

Application Documents

Although an application is submitted online, relevant supporting documents must be sent via post (except for selected departments). In order for the applicant to be considered for a specific intake, the online application, payment and available supporting documents must reach the office by the relevant deadlines. Please refer to the website for details.

For more information about applications, please visit our website at:

www.fas.nus.edu.sg/prospective/grad.html

There are two intakes per academic year:

• SEMESTER I (August)
• SEMESTER II (January)

For an up-to-date and detailed overview of the above, please visit:

www.fas.nus.edu.sg/prospective/grad.html
If you cannot find the answer to your question there, you can contact the Graduate Studies Division by email:

Coursework  – fasbox4@nus.edu.sg  
Research  – fasbox3@nus.edu.sg

GRADUATE STUDIES DIVISION
Dean’s Office, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
National University of Singapore
The Shaw Foundation Building
AS7, Level 6, 5 Arts Link
Singapore 117570
Tel: +65 6516 6164 / 8033 / 8036
Fax: +65 6773 6878

www.fas.nus.edu.sg

FAQs
You can find the list of questions frequently asked by students on our website:

Coursework
www.fas.nus.edu.sg/coursework/faq-crsewrk.html

Research
www.fas.nus.edu.sg/research/faq-rsh.html

The Master of Social Work programme enables me to think and reflect more critically about social work as I grow as a practitioner. Through invigorating discussions with the lecturers, most of them senior practitioners in the field, are immediately applicable to ground practices. The diversity of experiences ranging from senior directors to newly-minted social workers across sectors within the programme provides a profoundly enriching and rewarding learning experience both in and out of the classroom. With opportunities available to conduct practice research with the guidance of deeply experienced academics to generate important social work knowledge for local practice, I feel that my confidence is multiplied while working alongside my clients and fellow colleagues to effect positive change.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

NURSTASHA ARIFIN WONG JI HAN
Current Masters student in Political Science
Prior to joining FASS, I was a Recording Arts and Science major at the NUS Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music. Coming from a vastly different academic discipline has been challenging, but undoubtedly, immensely rewarding because of the guidance of my professors and the larger faculty. Through their encouragement, I’ve found that nothing goes to waste—Art is another (equally valid) way of knowing, and the field of political science is diverse enough for contributions to be made via other knowledge ontologies. Through their invaluable counsel, I’ve learned new frameworks for deconstructing problems relating to my new research interests, governance networks for climate change and natural resource management, as well as empirical methods to test knowledge that we take to be true.

NG YONG HAO
Medical Social Worker, National Cancer Centre Singapore

The Master of Social Work programme enables me to think and reflect more critically about social work as I grow as a practitioner. Through invigorating discussions with the lecturers, most of them senior practitioners in the field, are immediately applicable to ground practices. The diversity of experiences ranging from senior directors to newly-minted social workers across sectors within the programme provides a profoundly enriching and rewarding learning experience both in and out of the classroom. With opportunities available to conduct practice research with the guidance of deeply experienced academics to generate important social work knowledge for local practice, I feel that my confidence is multiplied while working alongside my clients and fellow colleagues to effect positive change.
DEPARTMENT OF

Chinese Studies

The Department is one of the leading centres for Chinese Studies in Asia. Home to a team of dedicated researchers from prestigious universities in different parts of the world, the Department plays an important role in bridging Chinese cultural heritage and modern Singapore, promoting cutting-edge research in Chinese studies and linguistics, as well as providing effective academic training to students from different cultural backgrounds.

Our courses and research areas cover a broad academic spectrum, including Chinese philosophy, pre-modern and modern history, traditional and modern literature, cultural studies, Chinese Diaspora and overseas Chinese, religious studies, cognitive linguistics, historical linguistics, pragmatics, lexical semantics, first language acquisition, and translation studies.

Our Department has six research groups, namely the Southeast Asian Chinese and Modern China, Chinese Linguistics, Ming- Qing, Print & Popular Culture, Chinese Religions, and Classical Chinese Literature & Thought which are very active in nurturing academic interests and organising scholastic events.

The Department offers the following programmes:

- Master of Arts by Coursework
  - MA (Chinese Culture & Language)
  - MA (Chinese Studies)
- Master of Arts by Research
- Double Degree Master of Arts by Research in Chinese Language with Peking University
- PhD

Owing to the strategic location of Singapore, the Department has always been an active site of cultural and intellectual exchange in the region. “Chinese Studies” is not only about China. The vibrant and unique structure of the Department, including the rich resources available, have undoubtedly broadened graduates’ research insights and worldview.

“The PhD programme in the Department of Chinese Studies has provided me with great opportunities to communicate with world-renowned scholars, which broadens my research horizon and enriches my research experiences. I would like to express my appreciation to my supervisor as well as other professors in the department for their patient guidance, consistent encouragement and constructive suggestions. My student life in NUS is very rewarding and unforgettable.”

It was such a memorable journey to study and meet amazing people and teachers at NUS, Department of Chinese Studies. Professors encouraged discussion and active participation which gave us the absolute freedom to discuss and present in class. I, therefore, was given opportunities to share ideas openly with other outstanding classmates from around the world while learning to appreciate the uniqueness of Chinese culture in Singapore. This program successfully combined lectures with group field research and independent research, which took my academic ability to the next level. I sincerely appreciate the after-class conversations with professors, which were always warmly welcomed. Thanks to their help and guidance, I did polish my understanding of linguistics and received excellent exposure to research training. I also used this time to discover the beauty of Singapore and was attracted deeply by the charisma of this Lion City.”

Current PhD Student in Chinese Studies

Current Masters Student in Chinese Studies
The Department of Communications and New Media (CNM) at the National University of Singapore, ranked among the top three in Asia, is the only department in Southeast Asia which offers media studies, interactive media design, cultural studies, and communication management with a focus on new media. CNM educates and nurtures future public relations, media, art, design, finance, policy, civil society, health, and political communication professionals using an integrated and multidisciplinary approach that reflects today’s connected, converged, rapidly transforming, and multi-platform media environment. Students in CNM can take courses in advertising, journalism, health and science communication, and public relations (traditionally offered in communication programmes), art and design schools from around the world, bringing together students with diverse academic and professional backgrounds to collaborate with external clients, international student exchanges, and interactions with industry practitioners. With faculty members hailing from top communication, art, and design schools from around the world, bringing together students with diverse academic and professional backgrounds, CNM offers a rich and diverse learning experience.

Our multidisciplinary, theory-centred, practice-based approach offers students opportunities in experiential learning through industry-driven classroom projects, international and local competitions in communication campaigns and digital design, student-led public exhibitions of interactive digital work, student-led social media campaigns, service-based projects that collaborate with external clients, international student exchanges, and interactions with industry practitioners. With faculty members hailing from top communication, art, and design schools from around the world, bringing together students with diverse academic and professional backgrounds, CNM offers a rich and diverse learning experience.

Students can also take courses in new media regulation and policy, social psychology, and the culture industries as well as sociology, political science, history, philosophy, computer sciences and business.

Our multidisciplinary, theory-centred, practice-based approach offers students opportunities in experiential learning through industry-driven classroom projects, international and local competitions in communication campaigns and digital design, student-led public exhibitions of interactive digital work, student-led social media campaigns, service-based projects that collaborate with external clients, international student exchanges, and interactions with industry practitioners. With faculty members hailing from top communication, art, and design schools from around the world, bringing together students with diverse academic and professional backgrounds, CNM offers a rich and diverse learning experience.

The breadth of the research interests of the academic faculty is really wide, including game design, user experience research, cultural studies, political communication, health communication, public relations, e-learning and big data analysis. The wide range of research interests and expertise in the department allowed me to propose a research project that does not fit neatly into the confines of a traditional discipline as I can tap on the expertise of faculty from vastly different backgrounds in the same department. As a graduate student in CNM, I have also benefited from the ease in which I could take courses from other schools or faculties in NUS that are helpful to my dissertation even if they are not offered by the department. I have taken classes from Statistics and Applied Probability, Biological Sciences and School of Public Health. As my research interest crosses disciplinary boundaries, CNM is the right choice because it is highly supportive of multidisciplinary research. Anyone who has a research interest in new media should seriously consider CNM for a PhD because of the supportive intellectual environment.

The graduate programme at CNM is truly multidisciplinary. The breadth of the research interests of the academic faculty is really wide, including game design, user experience research, cultural studies, political communication, health communication, public relations, e-learning and big data analysis. The wide range of research interests and expertise in the department allowed me to propose a research project that does not fit neatly into the confines of a traditional discipline as I can tap on the expertise of faculty from vastly different backgrounds in the same department. As a graduate student in CNM, I have also benefited from the ease in which I could take courses from other schools or faculties in NUS that are helpful to my dissertation even if they are not offered by the department. I have taken classes from Statistics and Applied Probability, Biological Sciences and School of Public Health. As my research interest crosses disciplinary boundaries, CNM is the right choice because it is highly supportive of multidisciplinary research. Anyone who has a research interest in new media should seriously consider CNM for a PhD because of the supportive intellectual environment.

The graduate programme at CNM is truly multidisciplinary. The breadth of the research interests of the academic faculty is really wide, including game design, user experience research, cultural studies, political communication, health communication, public relations, e-learning and big data analysis. The wide range of research interests and expertise in the department allowed me to propose a research project that does not fit neatly into the confines of a traditional discipline as I can tap on the expertise of faculty from vastly different backgrounds in the same department. As a graduate student in CNM, I have also benefited from the ease in which I could take courses from other schools or faculties in NUS that are helpful to my dissertation even if they are not offered by the department. I have taken classes from Statistics and Applied Probability, Biological Sciences and School of Public Health. As my research interest crosses disciplinary boundaries, CNM is the right choice because it is highly supportive of multidisciplinary research. Anyone who has a research interest in new media should seriously consider CNM for a PhD because of the supportive intellectual environment.
Officially launched in 2013, the Comparative Asian Studies (CAS) PhD programme offers an intensive course of study that promotes a trans-regional understanding of Asia. Students will be exposed to ideas designed to shift attention beyond the conceptual boundaries of area-studies scholarship towards the dynamics and processes that connect the region’s vast peoples, cultures, and worldviews.

Qualified candidates will have training in at least two geographical/cultural areas (South, East, Southeast, Northeast, West Asia) enabling them to explore the varying methods, debates, and issues that have shaped those respective fields comparatively. Every candidate will also be exposed to scholarship and conversations drawn from Inter-Asia Studies that highlight the interconnectedness within the broader Asia region.

Participating faculty members, located in our area-studies departments and disciplinary-based departments, represent one of the largest concentrations of Asia-focused scholars in the world. FASS’s research clusters bring together graduate students and faculty regularly to explore topics in (but not limited to): comparative religions, transnational flows, and global histories. Taken together with the CAS PhD’s innovative curriculum, participating candidates have the opportunity to not only engage with leading specialists of Asian Studies, but to contribute to the process of producing knowledge about Asia from within the region.

The programme is unique because it offers the scope of transnational Asian Studies while providing the intensity and focus offered by area-studies training. This combination of both breadth and depth encourages research that explores the connectedness of Asia without compromising a deep understanding of its various locales.

The foundation of this programme is based on three components:

- Intensive training in two languages representing two different Asian Studies regions or two different cultural zones;
- An innovative coursework programme;
- Research and writing of a dissertation that is based on research concerning two regions.

Students who apply to the programme can look forward to graduate training in one of Asia’s top universities that is global in scope but tailored to the demands and dynamics of the region.
The Cultural Studies in Asia (CSA) PhD Programme was established in 2009 and is the only such programme taught in English in Asia. It is housed in the Department of Communications and New Media.

What is Cultural Studies in Asia?

Adopting an interdisciplinary approach, the CSA-PhD aims to provide teaching and research skills in the analysis of the flows and exchanges of popular cultural practices in contemporary Asia. The Programme taps the rich pool of over 300 humanities and social science professors in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) to enable candidates to tailor their studies according to their research interests. Students could choose their dissertation supervisors and enrol in relevant modules from all departments in FASS.

A number of core modules taught by specialists in the field provide the common grounding in the theory and practice of Cultural Studies. Students therefore benefit from learning with a wide range of theoretical, methodological and substantive experts in a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary manner.

Core Research Areas

The research interests undertaken by our candidates range from the politics of pop music, museum and nation building; documentary films of Thailand; political and intellectual biographies of Indonesian revolutionary writers; urban imaginaries of Dhaka; heritage spatial politics in Malaysia; community activism and dance in India, and; Southeast Asian visual artists’ aesthetic engagement with history. In these projects, supervisors for the dissertation research have been drawn from the departments of Southeast Asian Studies, Sociology, Geography, English Literature, Chinese Studies, and School of Architecture.

Annisa Rizdkyoor Beta

(PhD, NUS, 2018) Postdoctoral fellow
Department of Communications and New Media

As a graduate student and today as a junior scholar, I have found the Cultural Studies in Asia PhD Programme at NUS and its Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society network to be indispensable for my academic trajectory. The modules and the professors trained me in critical thinking and cultural theories. The freedom to take modules from different departments in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences was also key to focusing my research interests. The programme’s focus on Asia allows me to learn about and further investigate important developments and dynamics in Asian context. The programme, the faculty, and the university have been very supportive to an interdisciplinary student like me. The scholarship scheme, campus facilities, as well as events and seminars organised in the university have facilitated my intellectual growth and provided the most vital contributions I need as a young scholar.

Felicia Low

(PhD, NUS, 2015) Director, Community Cultural Development (Singapore)

I feel privileged to have been part of the Cultural Studies in Asia PhD programme. As a practising artist, it provided me with a much needed socio-political lens which could be used to analyse the significance of arts practices with communities in Singapore. This took my work beyond a level of programmes and projects, enabling me to be critical and more conscious of the meaning that can be constructed through projects which ultimately came to represent segments of society in Singapore. It also brought out an academic part of me, which would have been dormant and undiscovered, and opened a different world for me to be part of. I appreciate the course and NUS for accepting my artistic practice on the ground and recognising its place in academia.

cont’d
HILMAR FARID  
(PhD, NUS, 2018) Director General for Culture at the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia

The Cultural Studies in Asia programme has provided important training to hone my sense of capability and qualification as a scholar, and supported my professional development. The programme has also allowed me to cultivate an extensive network of people to reach out to for advice, collaboration, and knowledge exchange at any stage of my career. Ultimately, the theoretical, methodological, and analytical lenses in Cultural Studies that I have been exposed to at NUS have been valuable resources that inform my perspective as both a scholar and practitioner in the realm of cultural activism and policy making in Indonesia.

GAO XUEYING  
Current PhD student in Cultural Studies in Asia programme

The Cultural Studies in Asia programme offers me new perspectives to rethink about the meaning of contemporary Asia. As a field of research, Cultural Studies in Asia is very inspiring - it challenges conventional disciplinary boundaries and regional cultural boundaries. We are lucky to have eminent visiting scholars frequently coming to the department to share their passionate and inspiring thoughts with us. The programme is dynamic and interesting, and I am fortunate to be part of it.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

NGUYEN HANG PHUNG DUNG  
Current Masters student in English Language and Linguistics

Doing the Masters in English Language and Linguistics at FASS under the financial support of NUS GSA Scholarship has been an amazing opportunity for me to pursue my passion in language and linguistics. I had a wonderful time participating in seminars and projects with professors who are world-class experts in their field and who were always supportive and accessible to their students. The program has immensely widened my knowledge on the most significant and current linguistics issues set in the context of multilingual Singapore. I thoroughly enjoyed engaging in the exciting academic work, getting to know amazing faculty and fellow graduate students, and at the same time immersing in the vibrant culture of Singapore. Coming to FASS and NUS for my graduate studies has been one of the best decisions in my life.

KIM SU MIN  
Current PhD student in English Language and Literature

Current Masters student in English Language and Linguistics

It is an immense privilege for an international student not to worry about one’s tuition fees and living expenses. I can only thank the countless sacrifices made to make my stay at NUS possible. FASS has created the environment and provided me with the resources to pave my academic path. Trying to incorporate the history and the cultural reception of mathematics into literary studies is not easy, but I am receiving invaluable support from the professors and fellow students in my department. They have always been willing to share their knowledge and perspectives to enlarge mine.
DEPARTMENT OF Economics

The Department of Economics, set up in 1934, has an established reputation as one of the largest and leading departments of Economics in the Asia-Pacific region. Programmes offered by the Department:

**Coursework**

- Career-Oriented Track
  - Master of Economics (Applied Economics)

- Academic-Focused Track
  - Master of Economics (Quantitative Economics)

**Research**

- Master of Social Sciences
- Doctor of Philosophy

Faculty members’ research areas span a wide range of economic fields, with strength in the core areas of microeconomics, macroeconomics and econometrics, as well as in particular fields such as game theory and industrial organisation, labour economics, education, financial economics, and growth theory and development with special reference to Asia.

**Career-Oriented Track**

- Master of Economics (Applied Economics)

**Academic-Focused Track**

- Master of Economics (Quantitative Economics)

The Department of Economics at NUS consistently ranks as one of the top programmes in the Asia-Pacific region. The Economics graduate programme prepares students for employment in universities, government, business and financial sectors. Recent graduates of the Department have been placed in well-known universities such as Monash University and University of Western Australia, as well as leading investment institutions such as Citibank, Credit Suisse, DBS Bank, and TC Capital.

**VANINDER SINGH**

(MAE, NUS, 2017)

The biggest testament to the Applied nature of the programme is that even as I studied the various subjects I could see those courses adding value to my professional life; I am a practicing economist working for a global investment bank. More than the core economics subjects, it is the eclectic mix of electives on offer that have provided me with my biggest take-aways. To name just a few: Chinese economy, Urban Economics and Applied Macroeconomics have been some of the courses that I have been able to apply in my everyday work. As a part-time student, the fact that the programme structure is quite flexible has been crucial for me to be able to absorb the most from my studies.

**CAI XIQIAN**

(PhD, NUS, 2015) Assistant Professor, Xiamen University, China

I am glad that I had the chance to study in the Economics graduate programme. I met students who came from all around the world. During the years I was in FASS, all of us were able to share not only our knowledge and experience, but to share our culture and enjoy lots of wonderful memories. The professors are not only qualified and knowledgeable, they are also very nice people. I approached them whenever I faced difficulties in understanding certain topics. I would certainly recommend the graduate programme to prospective students looking to gain a deeper knowledge in Economics.

**LIU XUYUAN**

(PhD, NUS, 2014) Research Fellow, Risk Management Institute, National University of Singapore

Studying in the FASS Department of Economics was a remarkable experience for me. The graduate research programme enabled me to get full rounded experiences in analysing various economics models, which established my solid foundation of analytical and quantitative skill.
The Department offers graduate degrees in three areas:

- English Language and Linguistics
- Literary Studies
- Theatre Studies

at three levels

- **MA by coursework** (in English Language and Linguistics, and Literary Studies)
- **MA by research** (in English Language and Linguistics, English Literature, and Theatre Studies)
- **PhD** (in English Language and Linguistics, English Literature, and Theatre Studies)

Singapore is a small, modern city-state, accessible from anywhere in the world. The country offers rich opportunities for the student of language, literature or theatre. It has four official languages, as well as many other smaller language communities. This makes it an ideal place to study important linguistic topics such as language contact, language variation, language planning, and language and identities.

Theatre Studies is known for its cutting-edge scholarship in theatre and performance concerned with the aesthetic expressions, cultural dynamics and social forces of a diverse and fast-changing contemporary Asia. Inter-Asian cross-cultural currents and Asian modernity are at the core of our critical enquiry in theatre and performance studies.

Singapore also has a significant literary tradition within the broader context of the literatures and cultures of the Asia-Pacific. Its location, modernity and history make it ideal for the study of the region’s writing and cultures, of diaspora and of postcoloniality.

The Department of English Language and Literature
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences
National University of Singapore
Blk A55, Level 6, 7 Arts Link
Singapore 117570
Tel: +65 6516 3915 (Coursework)
Tel: +65 6516 3917 (Research)
Fax: +65 6773 2981
Email: ellbox1@nus.edu.sg (Research)
ellbox3@nus.edu.sg (Coursework)
www.fas.nus.edu.sg/ell/

**The Department of English Language and Literature**

**DEPARTMENT OF**

**English Language and Literature**

- English Language and Linguistics
- Literary Studies
- Theatre Studies

at three levels

- **MA by coursework** (in English Language and Linguistics, and Literary Studies)
- **MA by research** (in English Language and Linguistics, English Literature, and Theatre Studies)
- **PhD** (in English Language and Linguistics, English Literature, and Theatre Studies)

Singapore is a small, modern city-state, accessible from anywhere in the world. The country offers rich opportunities for the student of language, literature or theatre. It has four official languages, as well as many other smaller language communities. This makes it an ideal place to study important linguistic topics such as language contact, language variation, language planning, and language and identities.

Theatre Studies is known for its cutting-edge scholarship in theatre and performance concerned with the aesthetic expressions, cultural dynamics and social forces of a diverse and fast-changing contemporary Asia. Inter-Asian cross-cultural currents and Asian modernity are at the core of our critical enquiry in theatre and performance studies.

Singapore also has a significant literary tradition within the broader context of the literatures and cultures of the Asia-Pacific. Its location, modernity and history make it ideal for the study of the region’s writing and cultures, of diaspora and of postcoloniality.

Theatre Studies is known for its cutting-edge scholarship in theatre and performance concerned with the aesthetic expressions, cultural dynamics and social forces of a diverse and fast-changing contemporary Asia. Inter-Asian cross-cultural currents and Asian modernity are at the core of our critical enquiry in theatre and performance studies.

Deborah Persad
Current PhD candidate in English Literature

My experience pursuing a PhD in Theatre Studies in NUS has been very enriching, both intellectually and personally. I received both my undergraduate degree in English Literature and Masters degree in Renaissance Literature from the University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), and moved to Singapore with the hope of developing meaningful research while being based in Southeast Asia. Graduate training at NUS is rigorous and comprehensive, with a focus on professionalisation and expanding opportunities for research. My transition from literature into theatre studies was encouraged by faculty members and fellow students within Theatre Studies, who continue to support my ongoing research in the intersections between intercultural Shakespeare in Asia and feminist theory. The community in TS is vibrant and dynamic, with a wide range of research being conducted by faculty and graduate students, and opportunities to discuss our work at the end of every semester during TS Research Day.

Rowena Yip Leileng
Current PhD candidate in Theatre Studies

I have studied English Literature at NUS since 2009, and the department’s support has been immense, from my undergraduate years to my Masters and now, a joint PhD with King’s College London. I received excellent supervision and mentorship, and was given opportunities to teach and lead seminars across various levels. My training at NUS prepared me well for the new challenges at King’s Comparative Literature department, where I taught in a different environment, gained access to British networks and resources, and learnt from scholars working in an adjacent discipline. Longer to home, the department has forged connections with entities including the Coalition of English Departments in Asia, and the Modernist Studies In Asia Network. Such international presence has enhanced my research on anglophone modernism and modern Chinese writing. Beyond the top-notch quality of the programme, I am also grateful for my scholarship and funding support, which allowed me to pursue my ambitions with peace of mind.

Tan Teck Heng
Current PhD candidate in English Literature

"My English Language programme provided me with countless opportunities to hone my skills and further my academic interests. Thanks to the support and guidance of my many wonderful professors, I was well-equipped to take on various professional research and teaching roles upon graduation. My time at the department was a truly enriching and enjoyable one!"

"My experience pursuing a PhD in Theatre Studies in NUS has been very enriching, both intellectually and personally. I received both my undergraduate degree in English Literature and Masters degree in Renaissance Literature from the University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom), and moved to Singapore with the hope of developing meaningful research while being based in Southeast Asia. Graduate training at NUS is rigorous and comprehensive, with a focus on professionalisation and expanding opportunities for research. My transition from literature into theatre studies was encouraged by faculty members and fellow students within Theatre Studies, who continue to support my ongoing research in the intersections between intercultural Shakespeare in Asia and feminist theory. The community in TS is vibrant and dynamic, with a wide range of research being conducted by faculty and graduate students, and opportunities to discuss our work at the end of every semester during TS Research Day."

"I have studied English Literature at NUS since 2009, and the department’s support has been immense, from my undergraduate years to my Masters and now, a joint PhD with King's College London. I received excellent supervision and mentorship, and was given opportunities to teach and lead seminars across various levels. My training at NUS prepared me well for the new challenges at King’s Comparative Literature department, where I taught in a different environment, gained access to British networks and resources, and learnt from scholars working in an adjacent discipline. Longer to home, the department has forged connections with entities including the Coalition of English Departments in Asia, and the Modernist Studies In Asia Network. Such international presence has enhanced my research on anglophone modernism and modern Chinese writing. Beyond the top-notch quality of the programme, I am also grateful for my scholarship and funding support, which allowed me to pursue my ambitions with peace of mind."
Our research interests are clustered into three groups, each covering a range of more specific themes and topics for which we welcome graduate research applications:

**Social and Cultural Geographies**
- Children and young people’s geographies
- Cultural/heritage landscapes
- Development geographies
- Geographies of urban life
- Migration and transnationalism
- Tourism geographies

**Politics, Economies, and Space**
- Financialisation in Asia
- Global production networks
- Nature and society
- Politics of economic development
- Transnational corporations from Asia
- Technologies and innovations

**Tropical Environmental Change**
- Dynamic environmental processes, including climate change, biogeochemical cycling, land cover transformations, extreme hydrological events
- Environmental consequences of rapid economic development and high levels of consumption, including pollution
- Human-environment interactions, including hazards, natural resource exploitation, conservation

---

**Master of Science in Applied Geographic Information Systems**

The programme of Master of Science in Applied Geographic Information Systems (hereafter MSc in Applied GIS), a single-degree coursework Masters programme hosted in the Department of Geography at NUS, is designed to reflect the cutting-edge technologies and latest developments in GIS and its applications with the reputation of NUS Geography as one of the top ten geography departments around the world. This innovative programme provides an exciting opportunity for the prospective students to study at NUS, one of the top university in Asia, as a pathway to a PhD or further practical career in applied GIS or related disciplines.

---

**SHAODA LI**
(PhD, NUS, 2017) Postdoctoral Associate, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

"Studying at the geography department has been a life-changing experience for me. The PhD program comprises of 1-2 years of course training and 2-3 years of independent in-depth research on a topic. Academic training at the department involves not only routine conversations with the supervisor but also interactions with a much larger community of graduate students and faculty who study a diverse range of topics. There are seminars, workshops, conferences, and even informal lunches and dinners, organized by either the faculty or graduate students, within or beyond the campus, where you are always encouraged and welcomed to explore on your own. I remember all the enjoyable chats with friends, swimming in pools and running through the beautiful tropical landscapes while jotting around thoughts and writings."
The Department of History offers degrees by research and dissertation at both the MA and PhD levels. The Department is especially well-known for its concentration in Asian history, notably Southeast and East Asian. Faculty members also supervise cutting-edge research in European, American, and South Asian history, as well as in such thematic fields as military history, the history of art, business, and science & technology, among others. Graduates from the Department have secured tenure-track positions in prestigious universities in North America, Europe, Singapore, China, and many other Asian countries; many Honours and MA graduates have been admitted with scholarship to top graduate schools across the world.

SANDEEP RAY
(PhD, NUS, 2015) Senior Lecturer, Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD)

One day, while in a class about the Indian Ocean, I looked out of our seminar room window and realised that I could actually see the Indian Ocean in the distance, littered with ships. Having done my BA and the MA in the United States, the experience of studying Asia while actually being in Asia had advantages. I appreciated the spatial proximity of the histories studied, the nature of research conducted by the faculty, and the conferences held on campus. Asianists from all over the world came to Singapore, in larger numbers than I had seen anywhere else, to debate, discuss, and try to understand this complex region. This immersion and access to academics and fellow students from fascinating backgrounds proved to be invaluable, especially for someone with interdisciplinary interests. When it was time for me to travel abroad to find sources unavailable in Southeast Asia, I was supported generously by the department. It was a rich 4-year immersion; I’d do it all over again.

CAO YIN
(PhD, NUS, 2016) Associate Professor, Department of History, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Before I came to Singapore to pursue my PhD degree in the Department of History, NUS, I had very limited knowledge of Southeast and South Asian history. The cosmopolitan atmosphere in the department (we have graduate students and faculty members from more than ten countries with research topics ranging from ancient Champa archaeology to the twentieth century United States popular culture) offered me a great chance to broaden my understanding of cultures and histories across the globe. Thanks to the conversations, talks, and sometimes even quarrels with these excellent colleagues during my stay in the department, I have successfully transformed myself from a narrow-minded student who knew nothing more than his own research subject to a global scholar based in Asia.

The department also provided me bountiful grants and fellowships to facilitate my field work in Hong Kong and Shanghai as well as my participation in international conferences in North America. Faculty members of the department, my supervisor and thesis committee members in particular, were always helpful and supportive at every stage of my study. I was, am, and will always be proud to be a member of the history department community.

LAU YU CHING
(MA, NUS, 2017) Lecturer, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore

Looking back, these two years at the NUS Department of History was when I felt most free and creative. The faculty members including my supervisor empowered and encouraged me to explore my diverse academic interests while ensuring that there was still some structure to my learning. The coursework modules were challenging but they have stretched my imagination on the range of scholarship possible. I greatly appreciate the department's multi-disciplinary approach to studying the past, as we learnt how anthropology, architecture, literature and film spoke to historiography and vice versa. There were also regular seminars where we got the chance to hear from and interact with world-renowned scholars. Through tutoring in undergraduate modules and experiencing the inspiring pedagogies from the professors, I have also found my calling in teaching. The cherry that really topped the cake was the supportive graduate community – their diverse worldviews and personalities brought much cheer to the many late nights spent working on my thesis in the graduate room. I am grateful to have had such a rich and fulfilling time in NUS.
The Department of Japanese Studies offers both Masters and PhD programmes. Candidates have to do coursework and submit an original research dissertation to be awarded the degree. Faculty members at the Department of Japanese Studies specialise in a wide array of disciplines and graduate students will work closely with specific professor(s) in the area of their research. We want students who are well-versed in the discipline and in their understanding of Japan and thus we expect students to also take courses in the disciplinary departments. Students will normally spend time in Japan for fieldwork or archival studies. Being located in Singapore, we especially invite students who work on topics that deal with Japan’s relationship with Asia, be that in economics, politics or culture.

Amos, has gone out of its way to provide support for my studies. I have participated in academic conferences, been provided opportunities to publish research, lecture and get to grips with the intricacies of 19th century written Japanese. I think it would be a struggle to find many other Japanese Departments across the globe that normally spend time in Japan for fieldwork or archival studies. Being located in Singapore, we especially invite students who work on topics that deal with Japan’s relationship with Asia, be that in economics, politics or culture.

Amos, has gone out of its way to provide support for my studies. I have participated in academic conferences, been provided opportunities to publish research, lecture and get to grips with the intricacies of 19th century written Japanese. I think it would be a struggle to find many other Japanese Departments across the globe that are willing and able to provide that range of opportunity. If you are passionate about Japan then I thoroughly recommend applying to NUS. It will be able to provide you an absolutely world class experience.

I first joined the MA programme at the department of Japanese Studies (JS) whilst working full-time at a national art institution. With my background in art history, I was looking to complement this with further knowledge in area-studies. In no time, I found my supervisor, Associate Professor Lim Beng Choo, who welcomed me warmly into the department and got me up to speed in matters of research and coursework. Academically, there were many opportunities to learn beyond my field, through the courses offered at JS and within NUS. I also particularly enjoyed the guest lecture series, seminars and culture workshops hosted by JS. We are a close-knit community of graduate students and professors who provide much camaraderie and intellectual engagement. It was a juggling act with the studies, working full-time (and being a mum to a newborn baby!) but I would not have succeeded without the tremendous support and understanding of the faculty. My experience here was so positive that I was inspired to continue onto a PhD programme. I am incredibly lucky to have been offered a full scholarship and was able to customise my graduate education through department and faculty resources. Additionally, the expertise of an impressive thesis advisory committee here at NUS has guided me to think critically about my research in a broader Japanese and East Asian context. I am excited to advance to the next stage in my candidature.

Having just completed my first year as a PhD candidate in the Department of Japanese Studies, I feel that the Department and the University have provided me with the best experience that I can think of to grow as a scholar and a teacher. Housed in a brand-new glassed-in building adjacent to the library, the Department of Japanese Studies has very supportive administrative staff, incredibly caring faculty, and encouraging fellow graduate students. The relative smallness of the Japanese Studies (JS) community allows for close interactions. Every JS graduate student is expected to attend a weekly graduate student seminar, where we, through exchanging feedback, refine our papers toward an annual JS graduate students conference at the academic year-end. The rich opportunities to work with first-rate scholars, for writing thesis, for tutorial, and while taking modules, were precious and that, above all, made me grow as a scholar the most. My supervisor Dr. Hendrik Meyer-Ohle, while granting freedom for my academic pursuit, gives me invaluable advice and guidance whenever I needed it. Besides these experiences as a scholar, I had precious experience to serve as a tutor for the department. Being the best university in Asia, NUS attracts a diverse body of impressive students. It was such a privilege to teach for the intelligent, upright, and surprisingly hard-working students who did inspire me to study harder. The university’s annual tutor training session and the semester-end student feedback scheme are also helpful for making adjustments.

I first joined the MA programme at the department of Japanese Studies (JS) whilst working full-time at a national art institution. With my background in art history, I was looking to complement this with further knowledge in area-studies. In no time, I found my supervisor, Associate Professor Lim Beng Choo, who welcomed me warmly into the department and got me up to speed in matters of research and coursework. Academically, there were many opportunities to learn beyond my field, through the courses offered at JS and within NUS. I also particularly enjoyed the guest lecture series, seminars and culture workshops hosted by JS. We are a close-knit community of graduate students and professors who provide much camaraderie and intellectual engagement. It was a juggling act with the studies, working full-time (and being a mum to a newborn baby!) but I would not have succeeded without the tremendous support and understanding of the faculty. My experience here was so positive that I was inspired to continue onto a PhD programme. I am incredibly lucky to have been offered a full scholarship and was able to customise my graduate education through department and faculty resources. Additionally, the expertise of an impressive thesis advisory committee here at NUS has guided me to think critically about my research in a broader Japanese and East Asian context. I am excited to advance to the next stage in my candidature.
The Department runs a Graduate Programme for Masters by research and PhD Graduate courses that cover theoretical frameworks as well as more in-depth examination of specific issues pertaining to Malays and Malay societies. These modules expose students to ideas and perspectives which they can apply in the course of their independent research. The Department welcomes students with a good honours degree in Malay Studies or other relevant disciplines such as History, Political Science, Sociology, Social Work, Linguistics, Literature and Southeast Asian Studies. Since a good working knowledge of Malay is required in order to conduct research on the Malays, students will be required to take a Malay/Indonesian language course if they have not done so. This could be done either before or during the course of their research.

From Literature and Art to studying the elite and intellectuals in Malay society, understanding the change of modernisation faced by Malays as well as examining the development of capitalism and Malay culture are some of the key areas of this programme. A forum is also made available for students to share their research and to engage one another in discussion of their research projects.

Being a Malay Studies graduate student has been an immensely fulfilling experience. From being pushed to think outside the box, to constantly reminding me to question my assumptions, the guidance and academic tutelage I have received at the Department is unparalleled. No matter how tough the topic of choice, be it for an essay or a thesis, the professors have never discouraged me or tried to divert my attention towards easier or more familiar paths. Instead, they have encouraged me to transcend the limits of my boundaries and to constantly strive for excellence beyond what is expected of me. My time at Malay Studies was also enriched due to the diversity of topics explored and the ways in which were continuously exhorted to think about the applicability of the discussions beyond the classroom setting. The fieldtrips and study trips conducted by the passionate professors also allowed me to explore the knowledge learnt in a wider and more relevant context.

Having worked in the arts and museum industry for the past 10 years, coming to NUS to pursue my PhD was a welcome respite in my professional development. The Malay Studies Department has been very supportive of my intellectual pursuits and crucial in further enhancing my understanding of cultural issues within the Malay World. I look forward to more productive engagement with the department and hope that I can contribute to the larger academic environment in NUS.

Prior to pursuing my Masters, I was a current affairs journalist and producer working on local stories. I knew I wanted to join a faculty that studies the historical and lived socioeconomic realities of the Malay community critically, so Malay Studies was an obvious choice. It has also allowed me to question my own understanding of issues and to relook and understand them in a more critical manner, which I can then apply in my work – whether it’s academia, journalism or films.

The professors are encouraging and often push me to achieve more than what I thought I could. They have also always been friendly and open to conversations and thought-provoking discussions. While moving from journalism to social sciences might have been a big jump, the Malay Studies Department has always made me feel right at home and it was definitely the right choice for me.

Having worked in the arts and museum industry for the past 10 years, coming to NUS to pursue my PhD was a welcome respite in my professional development. The Malay Studies Department has been very supportive of my intellectual pursuits and crucial in further enhancing my understanding of cultural issues within the Malay World. I look forward to more productive engagement with the department and hope that I can contribute to the larger academic environment in NUS.

PROPAGATION OF KNOWLEDGE
The Department of Philosophy at NUS is one of the very few departments in the world that offers specialisation at the graduate level in four independent traditions of philosophical research: Anglo-American (Analytic) Philosophy, Continental (European) Philosophy, Chinese Philosophy, and Indian Philosophy. Our recent graduate students have completed theses in a diverse array of topics cutting across the East-West divide, ranging from a Confucian approach to the tragedy of the commons to the political implications of Kantian ethics and to David Lewis’ modal realism. Though the faculty’s research and teaching interests cover a wide variety of topics, the Department has particular strengths in normative philosophy (both ethics and political philosophy), classical Confucianism, philosophy of language, epistemology, mind, and philosophy of science and technology. Our students hail from different regions of the world, thus making the Department especially attractive to those students who would like to study in Asia in a cosmopolitan environment.

My professors made all the difference to studying Philosophy. They instilled in me a love for the subject and a desire to keep learning. They were always available for a chat, be it about coursework, applying to graduate school, or getting published in a journal.

GABRIELE LEONIE ESCOFFIER
Current PhD student, Department of Philosophy, FASS, NUS

NUS dynamic and multicultural background is a fantastic research environment. As a student in Chinese Philosophy, I can specialize in my field while meeting constant opportunities to broaden and enrich my philosophical interests.

DARYL OOI SHEN
Current Masters student, Department of Philosophy, FASS, NUS

Reading philosophy allowed me to think more deeply about questions I think many of us have had since we were young - what is the nature of right and wrong, what is the meaning of life, how do I know whether what I believe is true.

LOO WEI LING, JANE
(MA, NUS 2015) Tutor, Department of Philosophy, FASS, NUS

NUS dynamic and multicultural background is a fantastic research environment. As a student in Chinese Philosophy, I can specialize in my field while meeting constant opportunities to broaden and enrich my philosophical interests.
The Department of Political Science is recognised globally for the quality of its faculty. Students benefit from working closely with such a large and growing pool of faculty members who are internationally prominent researchers as well as committed teachers.

Our graduate modules stress theoretical and conceptual analyses, provide practical research skills, and allow diverse methodological choices. Students are encouraged to adopt a multidisciplinary approach and think how politics connects to society, the economy, culture, religion, morality, and other aspirations.

The Department is particularly strong in the study of Asian politics, governance and international relations with specific focus on China and Southeast Asia. However, the curriculum covers many other subjects such as democratic theory, political economy, public policy, international security, state-society relations, political thought (Western and Eastern), and development studies.

1. Comparative Politics deals with the political systems within individual countries as well as cross-national comparisons. Comparativists seek to understand how the domestic political systems and institutions work in specific countries, including Singapore. Modules are focused on the major world regions or specific themes that are relevant across multiple contexts.

2. International Relations is the study of political and diplomatic relationships among countries. In dealing with issues related to the governing of the global order of nation-states, the subfield covers themes such as conflict, security, diplomacy, international economy, international organisations, and globalisation and the state.

3. Governance & Public Policy represents the applied domains of state politics, policy and administration. It deals with institutions and activities involved in public bureaucracy, government organisations, and public policy. While focused specifically on Asian regions or countries (including Singapore), the subfield highlights the significance of interregional and cross-national comparison.

4. Political Theory covers major thinkers and texts of major philosophical traditions; political ideologies and their comparison; and constitutional practices and debates. It also deals with the dissemination of political ideas through persuasion; the embeddedness of politics in cultural means (arts and music); and the implications of political and normative aspirations such as human rights perspectives.

GEORGE EDWARD MAY
Current PhD student in Political Science

The NUS Political Science department has provided an intellectually nourishing environment in which I have grown more confident and competent as a researcher and teacher. The academic staff in Political Science and across FASS have driven me to read, think, critique, and write more broadly and deeply than I have elsewhere. Coursework modules have introduced me to aspects of social science I would not have encountered had I remained in the UK, as well as a deeper understanding of how my interests - which originate in IR - relate to other sub-disciplines in Political Science. As a gateway to Southeast Asia, NUS has provided the ideal base from which to undertake extended fieldwork in the region. The opportunities the department have provided for teaching - and the inspiring students I have had the chance to work with - have been truly enriching, professionally and personally. Last but not least, my peers in FASS have been a vital source of inspiration, motivation, and comradery through tougher times.

MARY ANN QUIRAPAS
Current PhD student in Political Science

For years, I worked as a policy practitioner and researcher. My PhD experience at NUS has given me further skills and knowledge to conduct better research. The modules stressed the importance of theoretical foundations and methodological rigour before any practical applications of political science concepts. The program also gives me the opportunities to expand my professional network through summer schools, overseas workshops, and field research trips that are always helpful in building a successful career after obtaining a PhD. Finally, what I really value most with the whole experience is the people I meet during programme- the faculty, fellow graduate students and administrative staff. The meaningful discussions and lasting friendships with them make the PhD program more fruitful and memorable.
Our Department’s core research areas largely overlap with the areas of graduate specialisation. Across these specialisations, we have several areas of strength, two of which are as follows. First, a number of our staff are studying language and speech. Apart from access to special populations such as children or individuals with language impairments, the multilingual context of Singapore makes this work particularly attractive. Emotion research forms a second area of strength. Here, our staff are exploring the relationships between emotions and mental or physical health, the role of emotions in social interactions and decision making as well as the neuronal processes that mediate emotional experiences. These, and other research areas, leverage on a supportive research infrastructure that enables access to state-of-the-art technology and equipment for psychophysiological measurement (e.g., electroencephalography, heart rate monitoring), eye-tracking, and functional magnetic resonance imaging. Our Department also houses a suite of dedicated labs and common space for behavioural observation and psychological testing. Staff research projects and collaborations involve other research institutes within and outside Singapore, including the Duke/NUS Graduate Medical School, the Institute of Mental Health, and A*Star.

The Department of Psychology offers two research graduate programmes and a clinical graduate programme.

**Research Graduate Programmes**

The Department’s two research programmes comprise specialisations in six major psychological disciplines:

1. Clinical Science and Health Psychology
2. Cognition
3. Developmental Psychology
4. Quantitative Psychology
5. Social and Cognitive Neuroscience
6. Social, Personality, and Industrial-Organisational Psychology

Training in these specialisations comprises coursework and a research thesis conducted under the guidance of an academic supervisor. Degrees are offered at the Masters and PhD levels. Scholarships and other forms of financial support are available on a competitive basis. The Department has also introduced a Concurrent Degree Programme [B.Soc.Sci. (Hons.) and M.Soc.Sci.] which enables psychology majors to make a seamless transition from the undergraduate programme to the graduate programme, and earn both an honours degree and a Master’s degree in five years.

Our Department’s core research areas

**Clinical Graduate Programme**

Our Department offers a graduate degree programme in Clinical Psychology. The two-year programme consists of a combination of coursework, research and practical placement experience. Completion of requirements is recognised with a Master of Psychology (Clinical) Degree. The programme is based on the scientist-practitioner model and builds on the theoretical knowledge and core competencies for clinical practice. It provides entry-level training for students who seek a professional career in Clinical Psychology.

The programme has its annual intake in August. Successful applicants can apply for the competitive MOH Holdings (MOHH) Healthcare Graduate Studies Award and/or the Ngee Ann Kongsi Post-graduate Scholarship in Social Sciences for financial support. The Clinical and Health Psychology Centre (CHPC) provides an array of specialised psychology services to the public. It is the training clinic for the NUS Master of Psychology (Clinical) programme. Thus, the Centre is staffed by clinical psychology interns who are under the supervision of master-/doctoral-level clinical psychologists.

Our clinical staff have a wide range of research interests spanning traditional cognitive behaviour therapy (CBT) and clinical neuropsychology to the assessment and treatment of chronic pain and the incorporation of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) therapies into traditional practice; from the neurobiology of schizophrenia, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), dementia and ageing to Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), paediatric psychology and impact of medical illnesses on child development; from cross-cultural issues and development of culturally-responsive interventions to anxiety issues in the developmentally disabled to forensic psychology and the assessment and treatment of sexual and other offenders.

**WEWALAARACHCHI THILANGA DILUM**

*(PhD, NUS, 2019) Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology, NUS*

“With the scholastic resources offered by the PhD Psychology programme in NUS, I was able to pursue my research passion in developmental psycholinguistics. My research interests lie in the area of lexical tone and bilingual language acquisition, which made Singapore the perfect place to do this research. I am particularly grateful to the strong emphasis and importance given to research excellence in NUS, which has been instrumental in my growth as a scholar.”
Being part of the Concurrent Degree Programme was a very fulfilling and enriching experience. The academic rigor of the program facilitated my intellectual growth, and also rendered me with greater confidence at being prepared to join the workforce. One of the greatest highlights of my time in the programme was being able to present findings from my integrated thesis at a conference in Paris—a destination on my bucket list!

WANG YUSHI
(MA, NUS, 2019) Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, NUS

The two years in the programme had been a wonderful journey of personal and professional growth. Lasting friendships and memories were forged, and a robust training in the scientist-practitioner approach has equipped me with the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary to continue developing as a clinical psychologist.

WONG TAK WEE CHRIS
(M.Psych (Clinical), NUS, 2016) Clinical Psychologist, Community Psychology Hub Singapore

The “trials and tribulations” of the programme helped me develop a strong foundation in my clinical and research skills. Additionally, there were many wonderful memories created together with the rest of my cohort mates, which were invaluable in my personal growth.

TAN SZE YING CHRISTIE
(M.Psych (Clinical), NUS, 2016) Clinical Psychologist, Psychological Services Unit, AMKFSC Community Services Ltd. Singapore

We have an excellent Singaporean and foreign faculty who are not only prolific academics in their own right but are also well versed in the local context. FASS, NUS scores highly in terms of global ranking. My prior engagement with the faculty members in the Department of Sociology, and in particular my thesis supervisor, assured me that my graduate training would be nothing short of comprehensive and one that would include an appreciation of Singapore as a subject of sociological inquiry given that my research field is also located here. FASS, NUS offers a competitive stipend. There are also several opportunities for graduate students to come together to form reading groups, to organise workshops and seminars all of which provide an enriching learning experience.

LAVANYA BALACHANDRAN
Graduated in 2017 with a PhD in Sociology

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at NUS has been a great place to study. As part of my PhD research, I was able to be part of other research projects, to teach things I’m passionate about and to go on field trips to Indonesia, which was a fundamental part of my research project. I was very happy to be able to talk to researchers from other fields and attend talks by experts from many different places. I also had access to great resources at the library. Overall, it was the perfect place to conduct research, share it with others and get feedback.

MIGUEL ESCOBAR VARELA
Graduated in 2015 with a PhD in Theatre Studies
Social Work as a subject in the University first started in 1952, when it offered the first professional social work qualification in Singapore, the two-year Graduate Diploma in Social Work. Since then, it has evolved with the changing times, circumstances and requirements of the country into its present form.

At the graduate level, the Masters and PhD degrees offer graduate students, depending on the course they are enrolled in, a range of modules for advanced direct and indirect practice for populations in need with a focus on enhancing social work theory, practice skills, critical thinking and policy contribution in the social services. Research also provides hands-on learning to students who are engaged in the projects undertaken have allowed me to deepen my clinical skills while providing me with opportunities to enlarge my views about social work leadership and management. Through various modalities, the lecturers created learning environments that supported lively discussions, promoted critical analysis and creative ways of addressing social issues. I have also enjoyed the opportunities to learn from my classmates from different professional fields who contributed towards a challenging yet nurturing learning journey. This programme has enriched my professional development and has equipped me with knowledge and skills that I hope can value add to the social work sector.

The PhD journey is hardgoing. I had to constantly juggle my PhD studies with being a stay-at-home mum to three school-going children, active involvement in church and counselling in my private practice. Taking up this endeavour is nothing short of calling. So when purpose transcends present circumstances, it helps me look beyond challenges to find meaning in the research topic, in fieldwork experience with participants and fulfilment in being a voice for the marginalised in the world of social work practice and research.

The opportunity to undertake the Master of Social Work programme at NUS has been an experience that I am grateful for. The modules that I have undertaken have allowed me to deepen my clinical skills while providing me with opportunities to enlarge my views about social work leadership and management. Through various modalities, the lecturers created learning environments that supported lively discussions, promoted critical analysis and creative ways of addressing social issues. I have also enjoyed the opportunities to learn from my classmates from different professional fields who contributed towards a challenging yet nurturing learning journey. This programme has enriched my professional development and has equipped me with knowledge and skills that I hope can value add to the social work sector.

The Master of Social Work programme aims to produce the leaders of social work profession in direct practice, social policy and research, and social administration and development. In addition, the Graduate Diploma in Social Work enables non-social work degree graduates to pursue professional social work education.

Social Work as a subject in the University first started in 1952, when it offered the first professional social work qualification in Singapore, the two-year Graduate Diploma in Social Work. Since then, it has evolved with the changing times, circumstances and requirements of the country into its present form.

At the graduate level, the Masters and PhD degrees offer graduate students, depending on the course they are enrolled in, a range of modules for advanced direct and indirect practice for populations in need with a focus on enhancing social work theory, practice skills, critical thinking and policy contribution in the social services. Research also provides hands-on learning to students who are engaged in the projects undertaken have allowed me to deepen my clinical skills while providing me with opportunities to enlarge my views about social work leadership and management. Through various modalities, the lecturers created learning environments that supported lively discussions, promoted critical analysis and creative ways of addressing social issues. I have also enjoyed the opportunities to learn from my classmates from different professional fields who contributed towards a challenging yet nurturing learning journey. This programme has enriched my professional development and has equipped me with knowledge and skills that I hope can value add to the social work sector.

The PhD journey is hardgoing. I had to constantly juggle my PhD studies with being a stay-at-home mum to three school-going children, active involvement in church and counselling in my private practice. Taking up this endeavour is nothing short of calling. So when purpose transcends present circumstances, it helps me look beyond challenges to find meaning in the research topic, in fieldwork experience with participants and fulfilment in being a voice for the marginalised in the world of social work practice and research.
The Department of Sociology at NUS has been ranked first in Asia, and among the top 20 in the world (QS World University Rankings for Sociology). With over 30 staff members, we are also one of the largest departments in the FASS at NUS. From its earliest beginnings, our Department has combined the disciplines of Sociology and Anthropology. Students therefore benefit from learning a wide range of theoretical and methodological approaches within both disciplines. Teaching and research in the sociology and anthropology of Asia, is one of our major strengths.

The department offers three research programmes:
1. Master of Social Sciences in Sociology
2. Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology
3. Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology

The Department’s research and teaching interests are wide-ranging. While many of our staff specialise in research on Singapore society and culture, a number are also engaged in comparative research on other Southeast Asian countries, including China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Palestine, Taiwan and Thailand. Our main research areas include: Deploying diverse research methods such as ethnography, focus group interviews and statistical surveys, our main research areas include: ageing, family and kinship, gender and sexuality, health, media and popular culture, migration, politics and power, race and ethnicity, social networks, and urbanism.

I joined the Department of Sociology at NUS as a PhD student in 2010. These five years have been fulfilling and memorable for me. The scholarship, fieldwork funding, and conference funding have enabled me to concentrate on studying and researching and to attend international conferences and training programme. The NUS Central Library has a fantastic collection of books and a rich subscription to electronic journals, databases, and other resources, which has been extremely helpful to my coursework and research. I have also learnt a lot from the seminars, talks, and conferences organised by the Department of Sociology, Asia Research Institute, Centre for Family and Population Research, and other departments and research institutes of NUS. Daily interactions with my fellow graduate students of various national, ethnic, religious, and cultural origins have broadened my horizons. Some of them have become my closest friends and the time we spent together are and shall remain my fondest memories of NUS graduate student life.

I am grateful to the NUS for offering me a Research Scholarship to pursue my PhD study in Sociology. I learned how to conduct research effectively and write a good thesis, thanks to the guidance of my supervisor and other lecturers in the NUS who were knowledgeable and helpful. I had also benefited a lot from the rich collection of the NUS Library. Overall, I gained a lot of invaluable experience that is essential to my academic career throughout the period of my study in the NUS.
South Asian Studies

PROGRAMME

The South Asian Studies Programme (SASP) at the NUS offers degrees by research and dissertation at both the MA and PhD levels. The scope for research is extensive and the interests and backgrounds of the supervising teaching staff are wide-ranging and eclectic. Fluency in English is essential, as all theses must be presented in that language, but the Programme encourages and supports the use of research materials which draws upon South Asian languages.

The Programme has a particular focus on topics which relate to contemporary South Asia. The academic staff includes specialists working in the disciplines of Contemporary History, Political Economy and Development, Religious Studies and Anthropology and Diaspora and Trans-national Studies. An idea of the scope of the Programme’s range of interests may be gained from its list of faculty members and their specialities. The cohort of students in SASP is highly cosmopolitan and students have come to pursue graduate studies from South Korea, China, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Germany, Italy, the USA and India. Graduate alumni of the NUS South Asian Studies Programme have found rewarding career opportunities in university teaching, the media, the civil service, policy think-tanks, consulting and independent research and writing.

The University's Central Library has extensive holdings on South Asia. There is also a significant collection of digital and microfilm holdings, in addition to a significant collection of secondary materials which include printed books and journals.

Funding opportunities are available, though by a highly competitive selection process.

PRISCILLA ANN VINCENT
(PhD, NUS, 2016) Researcher, National Skills Development Corporation, New Delhi, India

The courses you will do at the South Asian Studies Programme will excite you. The modules will inform you of the dynamism, paradoxes, mysteries, uniqueness and challenges within the region. I was so inspired by the Programme that I returned to do my Masters with them. The knowledge and exposure gained, has allowed this Singaporean to work well with both the private sector and Government in India. The best part is the long lasting friendships that I have formed with fellow students and professors at the Programme. We still keep in touch, sharing our adventures and explorations from time to time!

SOJIN SHIN
Assistant Professor, Institute for International Strategy, Tokyo International University

The five years of my learning in South Asian Studies were intensive and extensive. I not only trained rigorously with a political scientist for my doctoral research, but also travelled to various academic subjects in the differing regions of South Asia with historians, anthropologists, and sociologists. The South Asian Studies at NUS would be a good place where one can advance a multidisciplinary approach with great support and encouragement from senior faculty members having excellent academic backgrounds. South Asian Studies at NUS was a worthy challenge for me to change the substantial level of understanding politics, society, development, and culture in South Asia. I am very proud to be an India specialist through the training.
The Master of Arts in Southeast Asian Studies coursework programme is designed for postgraduate students who wish to acquire a multi-disciplinary understanding of contemporary Asia and for working professionals who wish to enrich their careers through the pursuit of an advanced degree. Students are exposed to a variety of scholarly perspectives that will give them a deeper and more focused understanding of the political, social, economic, cultural and other issues that define Southeast Asia as a region. Graduates of our coursework programme will be equipped with the knowledge base and analytical skills they need to raise their professional profile and deepen their participation in ongoing global conversations about the key issues of our dynamic region.

The Master of Arts (MA) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) research programmes on the other hand provide postgraduate training for individuals who will contribute to knowledge production in and about Southeast Asia. Students will be taught by highly rated staff whose expertise lies in fields ranging from history, economics and political science to anthropology, cultural studies, and archaeology. Our inter-disciplinary structure exposes students to the latest theoretical and methodological issues while also ensuring deep immersion in regional specificities. Graduates are prepared for academic careers and employment in research intensive professions with working knowledge of Southeast Asian languages.

With prior training in political science at the graduate level, pursuing my doctorate in Southeast Asian studies opened new vistas into thinking about my main subject (the Philippines) comparatively. I mean this both in terms of comparisons within the region as well as through insights from other disciplines such as sociology, anthropology and history. I have greatly benefited from the different kinds of expertise that our Faculty has to offer, as well as the considerable time and thoughtful effort that they put into guiding our research. Moreover, Singapore is an ideal base from which to study the rest of the region.

Whilst researching for the right PhD programme several years ago, I was told to look for one that could both enrich and challenge me as a scholar and also where the professors recognised me for my abilities and potential, as well as to question, shape and motivate. It was at the Department of Southeast Asian Studies at NUS that I was able to find all of this. Every semester I was presented with bigger and better opportunities that allowed me to progress and improve as scholar through departmental lectures by visiting professors, regional language programmes, conferences and workshops. This is indeed an exemplary world class department in an envious position and I consider myself privileged to be given the opportunity to join its ranks.