BA
MALAY LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

(Part-time Programme)

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Programme Overview

The curriculum of this programme focuses on two major fields in the study of the Malay Language: namely its Linguistics and Literature within the context of the Malays and their society. Students can expect to develop knowledge in key areas in linguistics such as grammar, phonetics, semantics and discourse analysis. The linguistics component will explore key areas in the study of the Malay Language, with a focus on the application of systemic analysis of linguistic data and application of theoretical linguistic concepts in explaining the Malay language. The Literature thrust of the programme will provide students with an overview of literature in Malay as well as train them to appreciate the importance of literature in language teaching.

Objectives

The programme is principally aimed at producing competent graduates in the field of Malay language studies and literature with a strong capacity to apply their knowledge in the work place. The objectives of the programme are:

1. To equip Malay Language and Literature students with a set of core knowledge, skills, and competencies required to work in a language-related industry, particularly education, editing, translating and allied services such as government ministries, corporate consultancy firms and human resource departments.

2. To enable students to apply linguistic knowledge in the workplace in the areas of language teaching, editing, translating or interpreting.

3. To deepen students’ knowledge of modern Malay Literature and how it can be used to enhance the teaching of Malay.

4. To enable students to see the triadic relationship between Malay society, values and philosophy in the development of the Malay Language and its literature. It is within this arena that the students will be able to see the relationship between knowledge in linguistics and models of analysis being reflected in everyday language use.

5. To enable graduates to gain knowledge and understanding of Malay Language and Literature and the ability to express this understanding lucidly to any audience, and to bring to bear this understanding in either teaching or applied language work within the Malay community or the diverse population and communities in Singapore.

Whom is this Programme for?

If you have a passion to know more about the Malay language, linguistics and literature and you feel that it will not only enrich your life but also your career prospects, then this programme is indeed suitable for you. The knowledge of the linguistics of Malay can be applied in teaching, translation, editing and negotiation skills and other transferable language skills in the workplace like discourse patterns in conflict resolution. Knowledge of literature will provide students with an overview of literature in Malay and a comprehensive understanding of Malay culture, thoughts and values. It will also imbue students on the importance of literature in language teaching.

Uniqueness of the Programme

You decide how fast you want to complete your degree.

Students may take courses at their convenience when they are offered. We understand that the pace of completion of the degree is very much dependent on the ability of the students to manage career and family commitments and doing well in their studies. Students may choose to take up to 8 years to complete a degree. On average, most students take 4.5 years to complete a basic degree. You choose how fast you want to complete your degree.

There is sufficient face-to-face interaction with lecturers and tutors. Each course consists of six lecture-seminars conducted over a six-week period. Courses conducted by invited foreign faculty will be conducted over a week of intensive lessons in the evenings or over weekends. All courses have comprehensive e-learning support.

The 18 hours of teaching time (6weeks x 3hours) for a 5 credit unit (cu) course will cover the essential components of a specific subject or topic in Malay Language and Literature. The diverse range of subjects undertaken will enhance your chances of applying your knowledge of Malay Language and Literature in your work.

Excellent performance is affirmed in BAML as we have 6 merit awards awarded annually to top students in the Programme.
Message from the Dean

The Malay Language and Literature programme at Singapore University of Social Sciences (formerly known as SIM University) is designed to meaningfully enrich the lives and careers of adult learners through an effective understanding of Malay linguistics, literature and society. Students do not just learn the Malay language and its literature. They will enjoy putting this knowledge to good use by teaching others or through creative use of language by producing translations and interpretations. This programme will bring the best academics in the field of Malay studies in the region to our shores and allow students to achieve their potential through a flexible study path.

Quote from President (2008) of Singapore Malay Teachers Union, Dr Bibi Jan bte Md Ayyub:

‘The Singapore Malay Teachers Union welcomes this programme and we see this as an alternative platform for Malay language teachers to enhance their professional qualifications and career development. This programme will benefit the teachers who have to teach during the day and attend classes in the evening. With the endorsement and recognition from the Ministry of Education, our teachers will be emplaced after graduation. This is really something positive and we are moving in the right direction of building the capacity of our teachers.’

Programme Structure

Students will have to do core compulsory courses as well as elective courses. The entire programme requires students to complete a total of 130 cu comprising of:

- Compulsory Core Courses (80 cu)
- Electives (30 cu)
- General Electives (10 cu)
- University Core Courses (10 cu)

CURRICULUM*

The programme provides a broad base of knowledge of Malay Language and Literature with a solid foundation in applied linguistics.

The first cluster of courses on Malay Linguistics and Applied Linguistics fulfils a key content area which is crucial for a graduate of a Malay Language programme.

The second cluster of courses on Malay Literature allows students to have a strong grounding in literature and how traditional and modern literature have shaped Malay society, thought and philosophy.

The third cluster of courses on pedagogy allows students to build on applying their knowledge in linguistics and literature in language teaching. It serves as a principal conduit for the application of relevant knowledge in linguistics and literature at the workplace.

Malay Linguistics and Applied Linguistics Cluster

- Introduction to Malay Linguistics (Compulsory)
- Structure of the Malay Language (Compulsory)
- Introduction to Translation (Compulsory)
- Malay Phonetics and Phonology (Elective)
- Malay Grammar (Compulsory)
- Two-way Translation Malay – English (Compulsory)
- Topics in Interpretation (Compulsory)
- Approaches to Malay Language Research (Elective)
- Comparative Study of Bahasa Melayu and Bahasa Indonesia (Compulsory)
- Consecutive Interpretation (Compulsory)

Malay Literature and Society Cluster

- Introduction to Malay Literature (Compulsory)
- Malay Prose and Poetry (Compulsory)
- Teaching of Language in Malay Literature (Elective)
- Malay Films (Compulsory)
- Modern Indonesian Literature (Compulsory)
- Literature for Children (Elective)
- Classical Malay Literature (Elective)
- Malay Literature in Singapore (Compulsory)

Pedagogy Cluster

- Pedagogical Approaches to Language Teaching (Compulsory)
- Teaching Listening and Speaking in the Malay Language Classroom (Elective)
- Teaching Reading and Writing in the Malay Language Classroom (Elective)
- Materials Designing for the Malay Language Classroom (Elective)
- Testing and Assessment in Language Teaching (Elective)

*Curriculum may be subject to changes.

For more information on BA Malay Language and Literature, please visit suss.edu.sg/BAML
Admissions

You must be a Singapore citizen, permanent resident or a resident in Singapore. In addition, you will need to meet these minimum requirements:

- GCE 'A' level with two passes (prior to 2006) or two H2 passes (from 2006), or local Polytechnic Diploma or International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma or NUS High School Diploma. Applicants with an acceptable SAT 1 score may be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis;
- Two years of full-time work experience, or currently employed on a full-time basis; and
- At least 21 years old.

In addition to the standard admission criteria for all Singapore University of Social Sciences undergraduate programmes, applicants need to meet the following requirements:

- A pass in Malay at GCE 'A', 'AO' or 'O' level

Candidates with an acceptable SAT 1 score may be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis. Shortlisted candidates may be required to undergo one or more interview(s) and/or take written admission or other evaluation tests.

All applications are considered individually on merit, and the offer of admission depends on the number of places available. Admission is solely at the discretion of Singapore University of Social Sciences.

How to Apply

Applications are to be made online via suss.edu.sg. You must submit all the required documents together with your admission application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Tuition Fees and Government Subsidy

The amount of course fee you pay in each semester depends on the number of courses you take in that semester. Course fees cover all study materials, classes, supervision, assignments and examinations. They do not include costs for textbooks and other additional items specified by the university from time to time.

Students may be eligible for a government subsidy of up to 55% of the course fee. In addition, Singapore Citizens (SC) aged 40 and above who are pursuing MOE-subsidised undergraduate programmes with Singapore University of Social Sciences and who are eligible for the SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy will pay tuition fees that are 60% lower than the standard subsidised fees payable by other SC students who are below 40 years old.

All Singaporeans aged 25 and above can use their $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.

Please visit suss.edu.sg for current tuition fees and eligibility criteria for the government subsidy and SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy.

Internet Access

All Singapore University of Social Sciences' students must have access to a computer or laptop and the Internet in order to use the electronic and website facilities, which allow access to course, academic or administrative information.

Contact Details

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