

NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MINOR PROGRAMMES

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) marks the transformation of Nanyang Technological University from a mainly technological to a comprehensive university, offering students a multi-disciplinary learning experience that allows them to design their own curriculum and to go beyond narrow specialization.

Speaking of this multi-disciplinary educational approach, Professor Su Guanqing, President of NTU, envisions a vibrant intellectual and cultural experience:

“With such a package of studies and cultural pursuits in this truly vibrant campus, the undergraduates who enroll this year get a complete educational experience that trains them not only in their professional discipline, but also in the social graces, and to understand and appreciate broader issues and trends in the society and country they live.”

The minors offered by HSS constitute a significant part of this vision. In taking a minor of their choice, students have the opportunity to not only complement their major concentration, but also to explore courses of interest outside their area of specialization. The exciting HSS minors offered are:

- Minor in Creative Writing
- Minor in Chinese
- Minor in Economics
- Minor in English Literature
- Minor in History
- Minor in Linguistics and Multilingual Studies
- Minor in Psychology
- Minor in Public Administration
- Minor in Sociology
- Minor in Translation

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MINOR IN CREATIVE WRITING

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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The Minor in Creative Writing was developed to fill a gap in the Singapore higher education landscape; there is, at present, no other minor in creative writing in Singapore, and we hope that our minor will make a significant contribution to the continued development of creative writing in Singapore.

The Minor in Creative Writing is open to all students in NTU, and will be offered by the Division of English. The Minor in Creative Writing at NTU is open to students interested in exploring their creative literary talents. Students will learn the techniques necessary for crafting well-made poetry, fiction, drama, and screenplays and will be encouraged to nurture their creative and innovative abilities. The courses will comprise workshops that are devoted to literary form and technique, the exploration of contemporary trends, and will provide a forum for students to share their work and have it critiqued by other authors in an encouraging and productive environment.

Creative writing helps in the intellectual and aesthetic development of students. Each piece of writing brings together the particular and the general and is essentially an interpretation of the world, as envisioned by the writer.

Career Prospects

The Minor in Creative Writing is an excellent concentration for students planning careers in fields as diverse as education, publishing, journalism, advertising, public relations, business, the civil service, as well as encouraging the budding careers of young Singaporean and Asian writers.

Contact Information

Asst Prof Daniel Keith Jernigan

T +65 63168834

E DJernigan@ntu.edu.sg

School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.ntu.edu.sg/HSS/english/courses/undergraduate/Pages/MinorinCreativeWriting.aspx

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MINOR IN CHINESE

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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The Minor in Chinese is designed to achieve the following goals:

- To sharpen the Chinese language skills of students in line with national policies which encourage regionalization and globalization
- To familiarize students with various aspects of Chinese studies such as political and social history, philosophy, language, and literature

Career Prospects

The minor programme prepares students for careers in various fields such as education, media, administration and foreign relations.

Contact Information

Chan Hui Ling
Assistant Manager, Chinese Division
T +65 6790 4787
E huiling@ntu.edu.sg

Hor Xuan Hua
Secretary, Chinese Division
T +65 6790 6715
E xhhor@ntu.edu.sg

Division of Chinese
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University, CCLC
12 Nanyang Drive
Singapore 637721

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/chinese/

Economics is the study of choices. It explains how individuals, businesses, governments and societies make decisions in a world where resources are limited. The tools used in economic analysis will equip students with problem-solving skills. A minor in this field will help students to think logically, rationally and rigorously. Students will have the opportunity to learn more about banking, finance, globalization, employment, economic growth, and also about broader issues such as the environment, poverty and the Third World. In general, knowledge of economics is an indispensable tool for making sense of the intricacies of the modern world. It is an extremely useful minor in any undergraduate curriculum.

Career Prospects

Economics opens the door to a wide variety of careers. Students can work in banks, investment and financial institutions, international agencies, manufacturing and the rapidly expanding services sector, or the civil service. Some students go on to take additional qualifications such as in accountancy, banking, teaching or higher degrees in Economics.

Contact Information

Ms Evelyn Yeo
Divisional Manager
T +65 6513 8138
E eveyeo@ntu.edu.sg

Ms Liza Binte Zuber
Clerical Officer
T +65 6513 8142
E zliza@ntu.edu.sg

Division of Economics
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/econ/

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MINOR IN ENGLISH LITERATURE

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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The Minor in English Literature introduces students to a wide range of courses and provides them with a firm foundation in the methods and practices of literary-critical analysis and study. Students are exposed to a variety of literatures, periods and genres, and are acquainted not only with the literary texts, but also with their authors, the literary movements, and the contemporary cultural and historical cross-currents which influenced both author and text. Apart from foundational and progressively advanced study of the major literary genres or forms such as fiction, poetry and drama, special topics courses will also be offered such as Southeast Asian literatures in English, children's literature and science fiction as electives. The minor is an excellent concentration for students planning careers in fields as diverse as academic research, education, publishing, journalism, advertising, library science, public relations, business, and the civil service.

Career Prospects

Among the careers to which English Literature majors are drawn are journalism, publishing, advertising, education (including higher education), the arts, theatre, arts management and the various other arts industries, and the civil service. Many English Literature students pursue further studies in these areas.

Contact Information

Assoc Prof Neil Murphy

Head

T +65 6513 8085

E camurphy@ntu.edu.sg

Division of English
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/english/



MINOR IN HISTORY

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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Studying History helps students to understand human experience and thought at different times and places. History as a discipline encompasses every dimension of human interaction, including social life, the economy, culture, thought and politics. By examining both continuity and change through time, students of History can make sense of the present in terms of the past, and the past in terms of the present.

The study of History involves critical evaluation of evidence and rigorous formulation of arguments. Characteristically, historians base their research on the careful study of documents contemporary with the happenings in which they are interested. Students of History study individuals, groups, communities, and nations at any epoch, and they study them from every imaginable perspective using all the techniques of the humanities and social sciences to raise questions and probe for answers.

Career Prospects

Students doing History will be well prepared for careers in all fields, from law, government, and public policy to the arts and business, in which analysis, judgment, and argument are important.

Contact Information

Assoc Prof Ho Khai Leong

T +65 6316 8741

E klho@ntu.edu.sg

School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.hss.ntu.edu.sg/history/minor.asp



MINOR IN LINGUISTICS AND MULTILINGUAL STUDIES

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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The Minor programme in Linguistics and Multilingual Studies provides students with a general grounding in core areas of linguistics which will enhance their awareness of the role language plays in their day to day interactions. It will also expose students to current debates in key areas of linguistic applications in various disciplines. As language is a critical activity in all human interactions, students will find that a minor in Linguistics and Multilingual studies will enable them to perceive areas in their specialisation in a new light.

Career Prospects

Linguistics and Multilingual Studies graduates acquire skills in critical thinking, data analysis, problem solving, and logical thinking that can be applied to many fields. They are also well equipped with excellent language and communication skills as well as a broad worldview, traits that are essential to a fast-growing and globalised knowledge-based economy. They can pursue careers where the appreciation of communication and language is critical, in areas such as public relations, publishing and communication industries, translating and interpreting, computational fields, language teaching and fields that require cultural awareness and research expertise.

Contact Information

Asst Prof Ng Bee Chin
Acting Head of Division

Ms. Aspahlela Ahmad
Secretary of Division
T +65 6790 4397
E H-LMS@ntu.edu.sg

Division of Linguistics
and Multilingual Studies
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/LMS/



MINOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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The Minor programme provides students with a broad appreciation of the major principles in psychology, as well as knowledge and skills related to research methods, and a deeper understanding of the scientific approach in psychology. The Minor in Psychology can be combined with a major in a related field and will provide valuable skills for engaging with others and for understanding and analyzing complex individual, group, and social processes.

Career Prospects

With the growing local and international interest in this field, a degree in Psychology provides an excellent background for students planning careers in a wide range of areas, for example, business (advertising, service sectors, human resources, management, marketing, and organisational behaviour), education, the military, the police, the media, in public affairs, the health sciences, social work, and of course, Psychology.

Contact Information

Asst Prof Joyce Pang
Division of Psychology
T +65 6790 6745
E joycepang@ntu.edu.sg

Ms Lydia Seah
Division Manager
T +65 6514 8393
E lydia@ntu.edu.sg

School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/psychology/



MINOR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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Minor in Public Administration is an interdisciplinary study of policy-making and the organisation and control of government operations. It concerns not only the efficiency and effectiveness of the provision of public service but also the accountability, justice, equality, and democratic participation of the governance process. It addresses these concerns from the standpoints of various disciplines, including economics, political science, sociology, psychology, management, and statistics.

The programme focuses on the political and socioeconomic contexts of government, bureaucracy, public organisation and management, government budgeting and financial management, human resource management, intergovernmental relations, public policy, public service ethics, and programme evaluation.

The objective of the programme is to provide students with a general understanding of and exposure to the field of Public Administration and Public Policy. It complements the relevant curriculum in fields such as Economics and Business Administration. It also expands the intellectual horizons of the curriculum in Sociology and Communication Studies.

Career Prospects

The Minor in Public Administration provides students with required skills for executive and managerial careers in government agencies and non-profit or international organisations. It also prepares students for graduate study in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) programme.

Contact Information

Asst Prof Zhang Zhibin

T +65 6790 6725

E zzb@ntu.edu.sg

School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.hss.ntu.edu.sg/pa/minor.asp

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MINOR IN **SOCIOLOGY**

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The Minor in Sociology helps students to gain insight into the social, political, economic, and cultural forces that shape today's world. In reading a total of five courses, students are expected to improve skills in critical thinking, social research and analysis, and written communication and to distinguish themselves on the job market with a sociological understanding of Singapore Society and beyond.

Career Prospects

Sociology graduates make distinctive contributions in a wide range of fields in the public and private sector, including management, human resources, social research, public administration, education, training, marketing, advertisement, public relations, media (journalism, broadcasting etc), arts administration and creative industries.

Contact Information

Assoc Prof Kwok Kian Woon
Assoc Chair (Academic) & Head, Sociology

Ms. Neirmaladevi Nathan
Secretary, Sociology Division

T +65 6316 8730

E H-DSOC@ntu.edu.sg

Division of Sociology
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue
Singapore 639798

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/sociology/

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MINOR IN TRANSLATION

INQUIRE INSPIRE INITIATE
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The Minor in Translation is designed to achieve the following goals:

- To equip students with translation skills for bridging linguistic and cultural communicative gaps, so that meanings may be accurately conveyed and retained across languages.
- To expose students to a rigorous curriculum emphasizing depth and breadth of coverage in translation studies.
- To improve and enhance the bilingual and bicultural versatility of students.

Career Prospects

This minor programme will equip students with concrete language skills not only in translations between Chinese / English and English / Chinese but also in using the languages as effective communication tools for pursuing and develop their careers in the future in the fields such as Translation and Interpretation, Mass Communication, Journalism, Public Services, Public Relations, Education, etc.

Contact Information

Chan Hui Ling

Assistant Manager, Chinese Division

T +65 6790 4787

E huiling@ntu.edu.sg

Hor Xuan Hua

Secretary, Chinese Division

T +65 6790 6715

E xhhor@ntu.edu.sg

Division of Chinese
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Nanyang Technological University, CCLC
12 Nanyang Drive
Singapore 637721

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss/chinese/



School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Nanyang Technological University
Nanyang Avenue, Singapore 639798

T +65 6790 6450 **F** +65 6794 6303

E enquires_hss@ntu.edu.sg

www.ntu.edu.sg/hss

Reg No. 20060 4393R