

# QUALIFYING EXAMINATION

## TOWARDS A PASSIVE MODE OF INTEGRATION: MAINLAND CHINESE IMMIGRANT IN SINGAPORE

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### Abstract

Existing literature has informed that in Singapore circumstance there is no unified socio-cultural mainstream for Mainland immigrants integration. Unfortunately, it contradicts the host society's popular attitudes expecting immigrants as subjects to be socialized into Singaporean norms and values that in line with many socio-historic difficulties, resulted in an integration dilemma and hinder Mainland immigrants from voluntary integration into Singapore host society. Besides, it opens up an under-addressed knowledge gap in terms of how Mainland immigrants would be able to process their integration within the contradicted unique Singapore circumstance. Thus, to fill in the gap, the current study will then address the following three research questions: 1) How do the Mainland immigrants deal with homeland rise that contributes to the integration dilemma in the unique Singapore circumstance? 2) How do the Mainland immigrants adapt to the host society's English-known bilingualism? 3) How do the Mainland immigrants adapt to the host society education-based meritocracy via WeChat?

By adoption of the theory of institutional rational choice and a phenomenological approach to retrieve the ethnographic data of the Mainland Chinese immigrants' life-world experience, this study will then suggest, to facilitate their children's future upward mobility, Mainland immigrants have to make multiple rational choices to adapt to the hostland cornerstone institutions, including but not limited to English-known bilingualism and education-based meritocracy. With accompanying their children successfully through the hostland education ladder, aka from preschool to pre-university, Mainland immigrants maybe have no intention but been dragging into the passive integration in the host society.

### Proceedings

Duration	Session
5 mins	Chair Welcome & Introduction of Panel
30-45mins	Presentation by Student
15 mins	Q&A (by audience – faculty / students)
Break	Audience to leave the room
30 mins	Q&A by Panel
15 mins	Chairperson to ask candidate to leave the room and wait outside Private Panel Discussion and Decision to Pass the Student
15 mins	Candidate invited back by Chairperson Feedback and Outcome of Oral Examination

Friday  
01 Nov 2019

9.30 am

Venue:  
HSS Conference  
Room #05-57

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