

MASTER OF ARTS (Applied Psychology)

The Master of Arts (Applied Psychology) aims to produce graduates who will become leaders in the field of psychological practice.

It is designed to provide theoretical knowledge and research insights as well as practical skills to interested individuals who have the pre-requisite qualifications to train as specialists in the field of Educational Psychology or Counselling Psychology. It also provides graduates with training towards becoming Registered Psychologists in Singapore.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE & CONTENT

The programme offers the specialisations of Educational Psychology and Counselling Psychology. Successful applicants are only offered one specialization and cannot switch specializations during the course of the programme.

Awards at the National Institute of Education are structured in terms of Academic Units (AU). The Master of Arts (Applied Psychology) comprises 57 AUs. With effect from [January 2026](#), the 57 AUs include 4 core courses, 4 prescribed electives, three practicum attachments, and a dissertation

The program structure is as follows:

DISSERTATION OPTION	AU
8 courses	24
Practicum 1 @ Work	9
Practicum 2	9
Practicum 3	9
Dissertation	6
Total AU	57

DISSERTATION

Students must write a research-based dissertation (6 AU) of between 12,000 to 15,000 words. They are required to complete 8 courses (24 AU) in total: 4 core courses and 4 prescribed electives in their area of specialisation. The courses are 39 hours in duration (13 weeks x 3 hours). They are also required to

complete three practicum placements (27 AUs), of which the first practicum must be completed in their current workplace during the first two semesters.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

Core Courses		AUs
<i>All students must complete all four core courses:</i>		
MAP810 Psychological Assessment		3
MAP819 Psychological Disorders Across the Lifespan		3
MAP901 Ethical and Legal Issues in Psychological Practice and Research in Singapore		3
MAP902 Research Methods and Statistics in Applied Psychology		4
Prescribed Electives		
<i>Counselling Psychology Specialization</i>		<i>Educational Psychology Specialization</i>
MCP909 Theories of Counselling and Advanced Counselling Skills	MEP913 Psychoeducational Assessment for Educational Psychologists	4
MCP812 Group Dynamics and Counselling	MEP820 Behavioural Intervention	3
MCP 821 Cognitive Behavioural Management and Interventions	MEP824 Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to Build Success in Literacy	3
MCP900 Mental Health Assessment	MEP900 Basic Counselling Skills for EPs	1
Practicum (1000 hours)		
MCP931 Practicum in Counselling Psychology I @ Workplace <i>Duration: 1 year / 2 semesters</i> <i>Site: Student's workplace & Coursework</i> <i>Supervision: 60 hours of group supervision</i>	MEP931 Practicum in Educational Psychology I @ Workplace <i>Duration: 1 year / 2 semesters</i> <i>Site: Student's workplace & Coursework</i> <i>Supervision: 60 hours of group supervision</i>	9
MCP932 Practicum in Counselling Psychology II <i>Duration: 1 semester</i> <i>Site: NIE Wellness Centre (NWC), External Site & Coursework</i> <i>Supervision: 45 hours of individual supervision and 15 hours of group supervision</i>	MEP932 Practicum in Educational Psychology II <i>Period: 1 semester</i> <i>Site: NIE Wellness Centre (NWC), External Site & Coursework</i> <i>Supervision: 45 hours of individual supervision and 15 hours of group supervision</i>	9
MCP933 Practicum in Counselling Psychology III <i>Period: 1 semester</i> <i>Site: NWC, External Site & Coursework</i> <i>Supervision: 45 hours of individual supervision and 15 hours of group supervision</i>	MEP933 Practicum in Educational Psychology III <i>Period: 1 semester</i> <i>Site: NWC, External Site & Coursework</i> <i>Supervision: 45 hours of individual supervision and 15 hours of group supervision</i>	9
Dissertation		
Students will select from a list of available research projects from which to complete their dissertations.		

Note 1: Practicum 1 @ Work lasts 1 full year for all students. Practicums 2 & 3 last 6 months each, from January to June and July to December. Practicum grades are always submitted in the following semester.

Note 2: Dissertation planning is not a formal course but it is included in the study plan (in brackets) to emphasise the importance of allocating time for this task. At the time of programme offer, successful

applicants will be provided with a list of available research projects and supervisors in NIE, so that they can begin meeting with potential supervisors before the start of their first semester.

STUDY PLANS

Although, this programme is designed to be completed in a maximum of 3.5 years for *full-time* candidates and a maximum of 4.5 years for *part-time* candidates who are eligible for dissertation, it is possible for full-time candidates to complete this programme in 2 years and part-time candidates to complete the programme in 3 years. Upon completion of the MAAP programme, students can request for a letter of completion from OAAS.

Suggested study plans for full-time and part-time students based on the maximum candidature periods follow:

Key:

*Practicum hours obtained via coursework assignments with real clients to be clocked under Practicum 1 @ Work

^Practicum hours obtained via coursework assignments with real clients to be clocked under Practicum 2

Full-time CP Track	
Pre-semester 1	
Identify research project to join Interview with Dissertation Supervisor	
Semester 1 (Jan)	Semester 2 (Aug)
<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>	<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>
Core: MAP810 Psychological Assessment	Core: MAP819 Psychological Disorders Across the Lifespan*
Prescribed: MCP909 Theories of Counselling and Advanced Counselling Skills*	MCP812 Group Dynamics and Counselling*
MAP902 Research Methods and Statistics in Applied Psychology	Dissertation Apply for IRB (where applicable) Write dissertation Chapters 1 & 2
Dissertation Write up proposal (where applicable)	Practicum 1.2 @ Workplace
Practicum 1.1 @ Workplace & NIE PDS	
<u>Pre-Semester (2-full days)</u>	<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>
Prescribed: MCP900 Mental Health Assessment for Counselling Psychologists^	Dissertation Complete dissertation
<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>	<u>July to December</u>
CORE: MAP901 Ethical & Legal Issues in Psych Practice and Research in S'pore	Practicum 3 @ External Site or Workplace

Prescribed:
MCP 821 Cognitive Behavioural Management & Interventions[^]

Dissertation:
Collect data (where applicable)
Analyse data

January to June

Practicum 2 @ NWC & Workplace / External Site

Year 3	Dissertation Submit for examination	Dissertation Make revisions to Dissertation before filing for graduation
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Part-time CP Track

Pre-semester 1

Identify research project to join
Interview with Dissertation Supervisor

Semester 1 (Jan)

Core:
MAP810 Psychological Assessment*

Prescribed:
MCP909 Theories of Counselling and Advanced Counselling Skills*

Practicum 1.1 @ Workplace & NIE PDS

Semester 2 (Aug)

Core:
MAP819 Psych Disorders Across the Lifespan*

MAP902 Research Methods and Statistics in Applied Psychology

Dissertation
Write up proposal (where applicable)

Prescribed:

Practicum 1.2 @ Workplace

Year 1

	<p><u>Pre-Semester (2-full days)</u></p> <p>Prescribed: MCP900 Mental Health Assessment for Counselling Psychologists*</p> <p><u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u></p> <p>CORE: MAP901 Ethical & Legal Issues in Psych Practice and Research in S'pore</p> <p>Dissertation Apply for IRB (where applicable) Write dissertation Chapter 1</p>	<p><u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u></p> <p>Prescribed: MCP812 Group Dynamics and Counselling*</p> <p>Dissertation Write dissertation Chapter 2</p>
Year 2		
	<p><u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u></p> <p>Prescribed: MCP 821 Cognitive Behavioural Management & Interventions</p> <p><u>January to June</u></p> <p>Practicum 2 @ NWC & External Site</p> <p>Dissertation: Collect data (where applicable)</p>	<p><u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u></p> <p><u>July to December</u></p> <p>Practicum 3 @ NWC & External Site</p> <p>Dissertation Analyse data</p>
Year 3		
	<p>Dissertation Complete dissertation. Submit for examination</p>	<p>Dissertation Make revisions to Dissertation</p>
Year 4		
Full-time EP Track		
Pre-semester 1		
Identify research project to join Interview with Dissertation Supervisor		
Semester 1 (Jan)		Semester 2 (Aug)
	<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>	<u>Pre-Semester (2-full days)</u>
Year 1	<p>Core: MAP810 Psychological Assessment* MAP902 Research Methods and Statistics in Applied Psychology</p>	<p>Prescribed: MEP900 Basic Counselling Skills for Educational Psychologists*</p>

Prescribed:

MEP820 Behavioural interventions for Special Needs*

Practicum 1.1 @ Workplace

Dissertation

Write up proposal (where applicable)

Semester (13 Weeks)

Prescribed:

Core:

MAP819 Psych Disorders Across the Lifespan*

Prescribed:

MEP913 Psychoeducational Assessment for Educational Psychologists*

Practicum 1.2 @ Workplace & NIE PDS

Dissertation

Apply for IRB (where applicable)

Write dissertation Chapters 1 & 2

Semester (13 Weeks)

CORE:

MAP901 Ethical & Legal Issues in Psych Practice and Research in S'pore

Prescribed:

MEP824 Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to Build Success in Literacy^

January to June

Practicum 2 @ NWC/External Site

Dissertation:

Collect data (where applicable)

Analyse data

Semester (13 Weeks)

July to December

Practicum 3 @ NWC/External Site

Dissertation

Complete dissertation

Year 2

Dissertation

Submit for examination

Dissertation

Make revisions to Dissertation before filing for graduation

Year 3

Part-time EP Track	
Pre-semester 1	
Identify research project to join Interview with Dissertation Supervisor	
Semester 1 (Jan)	Semester 2 (Aug)
<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>	<u>Pre-Semester (2-full days)</u>
Core: MAP810 Psychological Assessment*	Prescribed: MEP900 Basic Counselling Skills for Educational Psychologists*
Year 1	
Practicum 1.1 @ Workplace	<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>
Dissertation Write up proposal (where applicable)	Core: MAP819 Psych Disorders Across the Lifespan*
	Practicum 1.2 @ Workplace & NIE PDS
<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>	<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>
Core: MAP902 Research Methods and Statistics in Applied Psychology	Prescribed: MEP913 Psychoeducational Assessment for Educational Psychologists*
Year 2	
Prescribed: MEP820 Behavioural interventions for Special Needs*	Dissertation Write dissertation Chapter 2
Dissertation Apply for IRB (where applicable) Write dissertation Chapter 1	
<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>	<u>Semester (13 Weeks)</u>
Core: MAP901 Ethical & Legal Issues in Psych Practice and Research in S'pore	<u>July to December</u>
Year 3	Practicum 3 @ NWC/External Site
Prescribed: MEP824 Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) to Build Success in Literacy^	Dissertation: Analyze data
<u>January to June</u>	
Practicum 2 @ NWC/External Site	
Dissertation: Collect data (where applicable)	

Year 4	Dissertation Complete dissertation. Submit for examination	Dissertation Make revisions to Dissertation
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