

SPECIAL TOPICS AUGUST 2026 SEMESTER

Timetable is subject to changes. Students are required to check the timetable again one week before the commencement of lessons.

Last Update: 17 August 2026

^ Please refer to the "Aug 2026 Course Synopses" on the following page after the timetable.

Course Registration Period:
Current Students
06 July 2026 (9am) to 08 Jul 2026 (5pm)

Add/Drop Period:
07 Aug 2026 (9am) to 21 Aug 2026 (5pm)

New Students
07 July 2026 (9am) to 08 Jul 2026 (5pm)

Programme	Course Code	Course Title ^	Academic Unit	Lesson Group	Class Size	Start Date	Class Schedule	Venue	Course Coordinator & Teaching Staff	Online Course Registration Period. Course is Offered To	Add/Drop Period Course is Offered To	Remarks
Special Topics	SA830	Writing and Communication Skills for PhD Students	3	Tutorial Group 1	15	11-Aug-26	Tuesday, 17:30 - 20:30	NIE7-01-TR705	(Coordinator) Dr Anitha Devi Pillai, anitha.pillai@nie.edu.sg/	PhD students	PhD students	
Special Topics	SA830	Writing and Communication Skills for PhD Students	3	Tutorial Group 2	15	13-Aug-26	Thursday, 18:30 - 21:30	NIE2-01-01 (Net Gen Learners' Terrace)	(Coordinator) Dr Anitha Devi Pillai, anitha.pillai@nie.edu.sg/ Assoc Prof Tang Siu Mei, Ramona, ramona.tang@nie.edu.sg	PhD students	PhD students	

Course Code	Course Title	Description	Academic Unit
SA830	Writing and Communication Skills for PhD Students	This course aims to improve the academic writing and oral communication skills of PhD students. Participants will learn about the concept of an academic discourse community, learn to negotiate the expectations of this community, consider the discourse practices and linguistic conventions of academic writing and academic presentations in their own disciplines, and come to understand the thinking processes underlying those practices and conventions. A range of topics will be explored in the course, including writing different sections of a thesis/research paper (introduction, literature review, methodology, findings and discussion, conclusion, and abstract); conceptualising research writing as argument; avoiding plagiarism; using language and visual resources for effective communication; preparing for PhD confirmation seminars and oral examinations; presenting research at academic conferences; and understanding the Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) genre. In order for students to benefit most from this course, it is recommended that they enrol after having completed at least the first semester of their PhD candidature.	3
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