



SPECIALISED MASTER PROGRAMME

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at Greendale Primary School

PROGRAMME NAME:
Doctor in Education (EdD)

INSTITUTION:
National Institute of Education,
Nanyang Technological
University, Singapore

At what point in your career did you consider pursuing a higher degree education?

Being a teacher, I have always aimed at obtaining mastery in the area of education. I believe that in order to be effective, one needs to be informed about the latest in his field of specialisation. Thus, ever since I have been in the teaching profession, I have made a concerted effort to continue my education.

Describe the factors that led you to choose NIE.

NIE is the only teacher education institute in Singapore. Hence, it represents the knowledge base for educators, both in the field of subject content knowledge and pedagogy. These were the crucial factors that led me to decide on NIE as an institute of choice for furthering my studies.

Which aspect of the programme and courses do you like the most?

The Doctor in Education (EdD) programme scaffolded the skills and knowledge required for a doctorate student to attain in a meaningful way. Doing the EdD as a part-time student made learning more pleasurable. The tutors were also very understanding. They understood the situation of every student and worked with them to ensure that learning was both meaningful and effective.

Share with us a memorable experience you had during your time at NIE.

Memorable times would be the times shared with my coursemates. Since we were all 'together in the same boat' – building meaningful relationships with coursemates, the camaraderie was

beyond doubt one of the highlights of the programme. The group work required of us further strengthened this aspect.

Describe your relationship with the NIE faculty members.

The faculty was excellent. They provided us not only with the skills and knowledge but also gave us emotional support. Thus, they provided us with both the cognitive and emotional drive to complete our studies effectively. Of special mention is my supervisor Associate Professor Arief Liem. There was countless time when he went out of his way to make the journey an enjoyable one for me. Many time, beyond office hours and even when he was overseas, he would still reply my emails and helped me through my writing. There were times when he even met me during the weekend for consultation sessions – all these, I know he need not do – but he did. That great support really meant a lot and it was such a phenomenal help to me.

Has your experience in NIE been beneficial to you in bringing forth changes in your area of work?

It certainly has. I am a Lead Teacher, thus, I am often expected to mentor younger or beginning teachers in their craft. Being equipped with the necessary know-how, I am now able to be more effective in what I do. I am privileged to be able to help prepare the next generation of educators.