Structure

The Master of Arts (Counselling and Guidance) is a professional degree which comprises 42 Academic Units (AUs). Students may opt to complete the programme under the Practice Track or Practice-Research Track. The Practice Track comprises 12 courses of 3 AUs each (inclusive of 10 core courses and 2 elective courses) and clinical instruction (2 practica of 3 AUs each). Students who wish to strengthen their skills and knowledge in research may opt to do a Research Project (3 AUs) in place of an elective course, subject to approval.

The core areas have been identified as the essential competency areas for counsellors by Council for the Accreditation of Counselling and other Related Educational Programmes (CACREP) in USA, and the Singapore Association for Counselling.

Core Courses
- Ethical, Legal and Professional Issues in Counselling
- Multicultural Counselling
- Life-Span Developmental Psychology
- Career Development and Counselling
- Theories of Counselling and Psychotherapy
- Advanced Counselling and Interviewing Skills
- Group Process and Counselling
- Psychopathology and Appraisal
- Research Methodology and Statistical Analysis in Counselling
- Programme Evaluation in Counselling and Guidance

Elective Courses (Choose any two courses)
- Introduction to Family Counselling
- Mental Health and Community Counselling
- Addiction and Suicide Counselling
- Counselling Supervision
- Introduction to Play Therapy
- Research Project

Practicum
- Practicum I
- Practicum II
At the National Institute of Education (NIE), we are fully committed to both your personal and professional development. That is why our Master of Arts (Counselling & Guidance) programme has been carefully designed to develop the self knowledge and practical skills you will need to become an effective counsellor.

This rigorous and informative training programme is structured to prepare both new entrants and professional counsellors seeking higher qualifications in the fields of counselling and guidance to become highly competent and caring counsellors.

You will receive 72 hours of clinical supervision from qualified, experienced practitioners as well as 200 hours of practical counselling experience in a variety of community settings. The programme, which stresses a perspective that concentrates on your individual development and enhances your personal growth and professional skills, offers a breadth and depth of curriculum not seen in other programmes. The coursework is structured at a pace that allows you time to build mastery and confidence. In addition, the programme also provides access to doctoral studies for interested students.

The Master of Arts (Counselling & Guidance) is fully certified by the Singapore Association for Counselling as a training programme that prepares individuals to be Registered Counsellors in Singapore.

Duration of Study
The programme may be completed in two years on a full-time basis and three to four years on a part-time basis.

Entry Requirements
A Bachelor’s degree, preferably with Honours or its equivalent in a relevant discipline from a recognised University. Preference will be given to those who have the relevant counselling work experience or majored in related fields such as education, psychology and social work. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an interview.

International applicants whose first language is not English and graduates of universities with non-English medium of instruction are required to submit an official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score. Test dates must be within the last two years before the date of your application.

Application
Applications may be made online. Hard copies of all supporting documents must be submitted within one week from the date of successful online submission.

For more information on application details, please visit www.nie.edu.sg/gpi/appl_course.htm

NIE Wellness Centre
As part of the programme, you will be given the opportunity to serve in the NIE Wellness Centre. The centre is a training facility that aims to provide services in the area of assessment and identification of problem areas, remediation and prevention of psychological distress that occur as a result of developmental issues, stressful living circumstances and professional/academic pursuits. Our clientele includes students from NIE, NTU and referrals from other hospitals, and clinical centres that provide psychological services.

The NIE Wellness Centre is equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment to aid with providing high standards of supervision to our trainee educational/counselling psychologists and counsellors. All trainees in the centre are supervised by either faculty at the Psychological Studies Academic Group or highly qualified and licensed field supervisors.

Further Queries
For more information, please visit www.nie.edu.sg/macg or e-mail us at nieadmpp@nie.edu.sg

What our student says about the programme:

“Going through the programme has enhanced my work as a radiation therapist at the National Cancer Centre. It increased my awareness of the possible distress and psychological issues that the cancer patients might be experiencing, and helped me to become more sensitive and competent in dealing with the different emotional conditions of the patients. In addition, my counselling training has equipped me with better skills and strategies to support patients whom struggled with special radiation therapy related difficulties, such as claustrophobia when being immobilised under a mask for treatment.

Ms Poon Kee Lee"