

# MASTER OF ARTS (Applied Psychology)

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

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. The programme provides specialist training as an Educational Psychologist or a Counselling Psychologist. It also provides graduates with training towards becoming a Registered Psychologist in Singapore.

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## PROGRAMME STRUCTURE & CONTENT

The programme has a twin-track structure, one offering a specialisation in Educational Psychology and the other in Counselling Psychology.

Awards at the National Institute of Education are structured in terms of Academic Units (AU). The Master of Arts (Applied Psychology) comprises 42 AU. With effect from Jan 2016, the 42 AU include 4 core courses, 1 prescribed elective, 3 elective courses, two practica attachments, and either:

- a dissertation or
- 2 additional electives

The program structure is as follows:

DISSERTATION OPTION	AU	NON-DISSERTATION OPTION	AU
8 courses	24	10 courses	30
Practicum 1	6	Practicum 1	6
Practicum 2	6	Practicum 2	6
Dissertation	6	-	-
<b>Total AU</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>Total AU</b>	<b>42</b>

## STUDENTS COMPLETING DISSERTATION

Students who are eligible for dissertation 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, 1 prescribed elective in their area of specialisation and 3 elective courses (2 of which must be in their chosen area of specialisation). The courses are 39 hours in duration (13 weeks x 3 hours). They are also required to complete two practicum placements (12 AU).

## STUDENTS NOT COMPLETING DISSERTATION

Students who are not completing dissertation are required to complete 10 courses (30 AU) in total: 4 core courses, 1 prescribed elective in their area of specialisation and 5 elective courses (3 of which must be in their chosen area of specialisation). The courses are 39 hours in duration (13 weeks x 3 hours). They are also required to complete two practicum placements (12 AU).

### PROGRAMME OVERVIEW:

<b>CORE COURSES</b>
(students from both the Educational Psychology and Counselling Psychology specialisations must complete all four of these):
MAP809 Theories and Techniques of Counselling
MAP810 Psychological Assessment
MAP811 Research Methods in Applied Psychology
MAP812 Statistics in Applied Psychology
<b>PRESCRIBED ELECTIVE (for Educational Psychology specialisation students)</b>
MEP813 Psychological Testing
<b>PRESCRIBED ELECTIVE (for Counselling Psychology specialisation students)</b>
MCP818 Advanced Counselling Skills
<b>ELECTIVE courses for Educational Psychology (EP) specialisation</b>
MEP819 Psychological Disorders Across the Life Span
MEP820 Behavioural Interventions for Special Needs
MEP821 Cognitive-Behavioural Management and Interventions
MEP822 Early Intervention
MEP823 Learning Disabilities
MEP824 Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to Build Success in Literacy
<b>ELECTIVE courses for Counselling Psychology (CP) specialisation</b>
MCP812 Group Dynamics and Counselling
MCP814 Counselling: Applications across Cultures
MCP815 Family and Marital Counselling
MCP817 Vocational Assessment and Career Counselling
MCP819 Psychological Disorders across the Life Span
MCP821 Cognitive Behavioural Management and Interventions
MCP822 Introduction to Play Therapy
MCP823 Complex Traumatic Stress in Children and Adolescents
<b>PRACTICUM (600 hours)</b>
Students must complete 2 practica in their specialist track
MEP832 Practicum in Educational Psychology I (300 hours)
MEP833 Practicum in Educational Psychology II (300 hours)
MCP832 Practicum in Counselling Psychology I (300 hours)
MCP833 Practicum in Counselling Psychology II (300 hours)
<b>Research-based DISSERTATION</b>

Students who are eligible for dissertation are required to conduct research in a chosen area and complete a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words.

## STUDY PLAN

The programme is designed to be completed in a maximum of 3 years for *full-time* candidates and a maximum of 4 years for *part-time* candidates who are eligible for dissertation. It is designed to be completed in a maximum of 2½ years for *full-time* candidates and a maximum of 3½ years for *part-time* candidates who do not write a dissertation.

Suggested study plans for full-time and part-time students follow:

Full-time EP Track	
Semester 1 (Jan)	Semester 2 (Aug)
<b>Year 1</b> <b>MAP809</b> Theories and Techniques of Counselling <b>MAP810</b> Psychological Assessment  1 Elective: <b>MEP820</b>	<b>MAP811</b> Research Methods in Applied Psychology <b>MAP812</b> Statistics in Applied Psychology  Prescribed Elective: <b>MEP813</b>
<b>Year 2</b> 2 Electives or 1 elective with dissertation planning: <b>MEP821/MEP822/MEP823/ MEP824</b>  Practicum 1	2 Electives or 1 elective with Dissertation Planning: <b>MEP819</b> and / available CP Elective.  Practicum 2
<b>Year 3</b> Dissertation (if applicable)	-
Part-time EP Track	
Semester 1 (Jan)	Semester 2 (Aug)
<b>Year 1</b> <b>MAP809</b> Theories and Techniques of Counselling <b>MAP810</b> Psychological Assessment	<b>MAP811</b> Research Methods in Applied Psychology <b>MAP812</b> Statistics in Applied Psychology
<b>Year 2</b> 2 Electives: <b>MEP822/MEP823/MEP824</b>	Prescribed Elective: <b>MEP813</b> 1 Elective: <b>MEP819</b>
<b>Year 3</b> 1 Elective or Dissertation Planning (if applicable): <b>MEP821/MEP822/MEP823</b> Practicum 1	1 Elective or Dissertation: Available CP elective Practicum 2
<b>Year 4</b> Dissertation (if applicable)	

Full-time CP Track		
	Semester 1 (Jan)	Semester 2 (Aug)
Year 1	<b>MAP809</b> Theories and Techniques of Counselling <b>MAP810</b> Psychological Assessment 1 Elective: <b>MCP812</b>	<b>MAP811</b> Research Methods in Applied Psychology <b>MAP812</b> Statistics in Applied Psychology Prescribed Elective: <b>MCP818</b>
Year 2	2 Electives: <b>MCP821</b> and MCP822 / MCP814  Practicum 1	2 Electives or Dissertation Planning (if applicable): <b>MCP819</b> and MCP815 / MCP817 / MCP823 or available EP elective  Practicum 2
Year 3	Dissertation (if applicable) Psych Testing Practicum (if taken MEP813)	-
Part-time CP Track		
	Semester 1 (Jan)	Semester 2 (Aug)
Year 1	<b>MAP809</b> Theories and Techniques of Counselling <b>MAP810</b> Psychological Assessment	<b>MAP811</b> Research Methods in Applied Psychology <b>MAP812</b> Statistics in Applied Psychology
Year 2	2 Electives: <b>MCP812</b> and <b>MCP821</b>	Prescribed Elective: <b>MCP818</b> 1 Elective: <b>MCP819</b>
Year 3	1 Elective or 1 elective with Dissertation Planning (if applicable): MCP814 / MCP815 / MCP822  Practicum 1	1 Elective or 1 Elective with Dissertation (if applicable): MCP815 / MCP817 / MCP823 or available EP elective  Practicum 2
Year 4	Dissertation (if applicable) Psych Testing Practicum (if taken MEP813)	-

Note 1: **Electives which are bolded are required for practicum and have been identified by employers as necessary for fresh MAAP graduates.**

Note 2: Planning will have to take into account the availability of courses which will depend on staff availability and student demand.

Note 3: Practicum 1 and 2 last 6 months each, from January to June and July to December.

Note 4: 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.

Note 5: Students who do not wish to write a dissertation must inform Program Leader in writing by end of Semester 1 in Year 1. They can then take their prescribed electives in Semester 2 of Year 1. This decision is **not reversible**.