BACHELOR OF
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION
WITH MINOR

(Part-time Programme)

SCHOOL OF
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
AND SOCIAL SERVICES
**Programme Overview**

The early childhood education (ECE) scene in Singapore has rapidly evolved over the last decade. Increasing studies have affirmed and documented the importance of learning and development of children in the first six years of life, making early education an increasingly important component of a successful educational, social and family policy agenda in Singapore. The need to raise the quality of preschool programmes through better teacher training has also been highlighted in recent government initiatives.

**Our Programme**

The programme aims to integrate the main field of early childhood education and a related minor to produce graduates with the knowledge and skills to excel in careers in early childhood, education-related fields, and beyond. Graduates of the programme will acquire knowledge and develop competencies in areas of early childhood education, curriculum, pedagogy, management, and related fields. The range of minors comprises Management, Psychology, Sociology, Chinese Language, Malay Language, Tamil Language, Art Education and Music Education.

This programme is designed for those who have a strong interest to work with children and families and who hold a recognised diploma in early childhood education. It provides the opportunity for them to progress their studies at the undergraduate level.

**Our Edge**

The programme is offered in partnership with SEED Institute (formerly known as RTRC Asia), a leading provider of continuing education for early childhood professionals. The programme is well differentiated and unique as it is the first and only local University degree that offers early childhood educators the opportunity to upgrade their professional skills and to further their academic knowledge in both ECE and management/language/social science domains.

It aims to equip graduates with knowledge and skills that will prepare them for a broad spectrum of career opportunities in a growing ECE industry in Singapore and regionally. Career opportunities include areas in early childhood education, curriculum, management and leadership.

**Why is Singapore University of Social Sciences (formerly known as SIM University) Unique?**

Studying in Singapore University of Social Sciences means that working adults are able to enrich themselves academically without compromising their careers, families and social lives. All our classes are conducted in the evenings and during weekends on campus.

Application of gained knowledge and skills is immediate as the curriculum is designed to be practical for working adults, resulting in greater knowledge retention and assimilation.

**Our Partner: SEED Institute**

Established in 1989, the SEED Institute, formerly known as Regional Training and Resource Centre in Early Childhood Care and Education for Asia (RTRC Asia), is a leading specialist institute in early childhood studies in Singapore and the region with a team of full-time teaching faculty who hold masters’ and doctorate degrees with rich experiences working with young children, parents and the community. It was awarded by the Workforce Development Agency as the first private Continuing Education and Training Centre for the early childhood sector in Singapore. SEED Institute offers early childhood programmes across all levels from Certificate to Master’s Degree. The Certificate and Diploma programmes are certified under the PQAC (Pre-School Qualifications Accreditation Committee) and the Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) framework.

SEED Institute’s expertise in providing early childhood care and education programmes and consultation services extends to various international organisations such as UNICEF and PLAN International. For more than 10 years, SEED Institute has conducted customised training programmes under the auspices of the Singapore Co-operation Plan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for early childhood educators from the ASEAN and Asia Pacific regions. In recognition for its strong dedication to capacity development in the care and education of young children, SEED Institute was appointed as host of the first Secretariat base for the Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC) in May 2009.

For more information on SEED Institute, please visit www.seedinstitute.edu.sg
Programme Structure

Building on what the teachers already know in relation to the teaching and caring of young children, the programme comprises a major subject combination that equips students with advanced knowledge in curriculum design and pedagogy in literacy, arts, mathematics and science for early childhood programmes. The programme also includes a minor combination of interdisciplinary courses in the areas of Management, Psychology, Sociology, Chinese Language, Malay Language, Tamil Language, Art Education and Music Education.

Through the multi-disciplinary courses, learners will be able to critically evaluate their own teaching practices and apply their understanding of young children's characteristics and needs to create environments and programmes that are respectful, supportive, and challenging for all children.

The core and elective courses are selected to extend the range of professional knowledge and competencies of the early childhood professional across different disciplines and areas of study and will incorporate latest research-based evidence and practical application to enable students to stay relevant in an ever-changing and evolving ECE industry.

Students are required to complete a total of 130 credit units (cu) to graduate with a basic degree, inclusive of 10 cu of university core courses.

All courses are in 5 cu unless stated otherwise.

Programme Offered in Collaboration with:

CURRICULUM*

Early Childhood Education Core Courses

Level 2
- Perspectives on Child Study
- Human Growth & Life-Span Development (Birth to Adolescence)
- Play and Inquiry in Early Childhood Education
- Aesthetics and the Arts for Children
- Teaching and Learning
- Children’s Mathematics, Science and Technology
- Integrating Critical, Creative and Reflective Thinking
- Language and Literacy in Early Childhood

Level 3
- Transition to Primary School
- Changing Societies, Changing Childhoods
- Current Issues in Curriculum Development and Implementation
- Ethical and Effective Leadership in Early Childhood Education
- Research Methods

Level 4
- Early Childhood Education Applied Project (10 cu)

Elective (choose one)
- Writing and Publishing for Young Children
- Comparing Curricular Approaches and Models

* Curriculum may be subject to changes
### Minor Courses (Total 40 cu)
For each minor, a minimum 10 cu of Level 3 courses must be taken.

#### Management

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<tr>
<th>Level 1 (Compulsory)</th>
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<td>Management</td>
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<th>Level 2 (Compulsory)</th>
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<td>Business Excellence</td>
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<th>Level 1 (Electives)</th>
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<td>Organisational Behaviour</td>
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<td>Quantitative Methods</td>
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<th>Level 2 (Electives)</th>
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<td>Financial and Managerial Accounting</td>
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<td>Contract and Agency Law</td>
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<td>Human Resource Management</td>
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<td>Ethics in Organisation and Corporate Social Responsibility</td>
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<td>Supply Chain Management</td>
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<th>Level 3 (Electives)</th>
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<td>Operations Management</td>
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<td>Project Management</td>
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<td>IT-Enabled Business Transformation</td>
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<td>Total Quality Management</td>
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<td>Financial Management</td>
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<td>Talent and Performance Management</td>
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<td>Negotiation and Conflict Management</td>
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<td>Leadership Development</td>
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#### Psychology

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<th>Level 1 (Compulsory)</th>
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<td>Introduction to Psychology 1</td>
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<td>Introduction to Psychology 2</td>
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<th>Level 2 (Electives)</th>
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<td>Organisational Psychology</td>
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<td>Social Psychology</td>
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<td>Educational Psychology</td>
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<td>Personality and Individual Differences</td>
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<th>Level 3 (Electives)</th>
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<td>Cognitive Psychology: Exploring the Mind</td>
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<td>Personnel Assessment and Selection</td>
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<td>Positive Psychology</td>
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<td>Psychology of Creativity</td>
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<td>Human Factors Psychology</td>
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<td>Biological Basis of Psychology</td>
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<td>Psychology of Consumer Behaviour</td>
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#### Chinese Language

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<th>Level 1 (Compulsory)</th>
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<td>Selected Readings in Chinese</td>
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<td>Writing in Chinese: Major Genres and Styles</td>
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<th>Level 1 (Electives)</th>
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<td>Chinese Contemporary Literature</td>
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<td>Applied Chinese Phonetics and Lexicology</td>
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<td>Fundamentals of Chinese-English Translation</td>
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<td>Fundamentals of English-Chinese Translation</td>
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<th>Level 2 (Compulsory)</th>
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<td>Modern Chinese Grammar and Rhetoric</td>
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<td>Issues in Contemporary China</td>
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<td>Chinese Etymology</td>
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<td>Tang Poetry</td>
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Malay Language

**Level 1 (Compulsory)**
- Introduction to Malay Linguistics
- Structure of the Malay Language

**Level 1 (Electives)**
- Introduction to Translation
- Pedagogical Approaches to Language Teaching

**Level 2 (Compulsory)**
- Malay Grammar

**Level 2 (Electives)**
- Teaching Listening and Speaking in the Malay Language Classroom
- Teaching Reading and Writing in the Malay Language Classroom
- Literature for Children
- Islam and the Malays

**Level 3 (Electives)**
- Malay Phonetics and Phonology
- Materials Designing for the Malay Language Classroom
- Testing and Assessment in Language Teaching
- Two-way translation Malay-English

Tamil Language

**Level 1 (Compulsory)**
- Introduction to Tamil Language
- Tamil Phonology
- Tamil Morphophonemics

**Level 2 (Compulsory)**
- Tamil Morphology
- Tamil Syntax

**Level 2 (Electives)**
- Introduction to Tamil Literature
- Modern Tamil Poetry
- Modern Tamil Prose

**Level 3 (Electives)**
- Theory of Translation
- Practice of Translation
- Theoretical Linguistic
- Applied Linguistic

Music Education

**Level 1 (Compulsory)**
- Introduction to Music Education

**Level 2 (Compulsory)**
- Methods and Approaches – Kodaly
- Methods and Approaches – Orff-Schulwerk
- Methods and Approaches – Dalcroze Eurythmics

**Level 2 (Electives)**
- Theory Rudiments for a Multicultural Music Curriculum (Part I)
- Theory Rudiments for a Multicultural Music Curriculum (Part II)
- Vocal Pedagogy and Methods for Developing Voice

**Level 3 (Electives)**
- Conducting
- Pedagogy of Ethnomusicology
- Applied Philosophical Perspectives of Music Education on Curriculum Planning
- Music Composition and Contemporary Approaches for Creative Music-making
- Assessing Music Learning

For more information on Bachelor of Early Childhood with Minors, please visit suss.edu.sg/PT
Admissions

You must be a Singapore citizen, permanent resident or a resident in Singapore. In addition, you will need to meet these minimum requirements:

- Two years of full-time work experience, or currently employed on a full-time basis; and
- At least 21 years old.

and

One of the following:

- GCE 'A' level with two passes (prior to 2006) or two H2 passes (from 2006) with at least a Grade B4 in GCE 'O' Level English Language + ECDA (PQAC) accredited Diploma in Pre-School Teaching or Early Childhood Care and Education (DPE-T/DECCE-T), or

- Local Polytechnic Diploma in Early Childhood Education (ECE) + 5 GCE 'O' level credits with at least a Grade B4 in English Language, or

- ECDA (PQAC) accredited Diploma in Pre-School Teaching or Early Childhood Care and Education (DPE-T/DECCE-T) + 5 GCE 'O' level credits with at least a Grade B4 in English Language, or

- WSQ Professional Diploma in Early Childhood Care and Education (PDECCE-KT [or ADKET]/PDECCE-CC) + 5 GCE 'O' level credits with at least a Grade B4 in English Language

Note: This programme is designed for early childhood educators and administrators who are interested in upgrading their professional skills for continued work with young children. As such, assignments are centre-based and classroom-based.

Priority will be given to preschool teachers currently employed in the field.

Minor-Specific Requirements

Chinese Language

- A pass in GCE 'A' Level Higher Chinese or Chinese Language, or
- At least a Grade D in H1 Level Chinese Language, or
- A pass in H2 Level Chinese Language, or
- At least a Grade B4 in GCE 'AO' Level Chinese Language, or
- At least a Grade B4 in GCE 'O' Level Higher Chinese, or
- At least a Grade A2 in GCE 'O' Level Chinese (including CL2, and/or CL), or
- A pass in Higher Level Chinese or at least a Grade 4 in Standard Level Chinese (for IB Diploma holders)

Malay Language

- A pass in GCE 'A' Level Malay Language, or
- At least a Grade C6 in GCE 'O' Level Malay, or
- At least a Grade C6 in GCE 'AO' Level Malay Language

Tamil Language

- A pass in GCE 'A' Level Tamil Language, or
- At least a Grade C6 in GCE 'O' Level Tamil, or
- At least a Grade C6 in GCE 'AO' Level Tamil Language

Art Education

- A pass at GCE 'A' Level in Art [For GCE A Levels holders (Exams taken up to Year 2006)], or
- A pass in H2 Level in Art [For GCE A Levels holders (Exams taken from Year 2007)], or
- A pass at Higher Level in Art [For International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma], or
- NUS High School Diploma (Specialisation in Art), or
- Art-related diploma (by reputable colleges or polytechnics*), or
- Other demonstrated competency in Art may be considered (e.g, portfolio)

* These include: LASALLE or NAFA art-related diplomas, NIE Diploma in Art Education (held in-conjunction with a NAFA Diploma in Art Teaching), NIE Diploma in Ed (Secondary) (Art), NIE Diploma in Ed (Primary) (Art), NIE Diploma in Art Teaching, NIE Advanced Diploma in Primary Art Education, or any art-related diploma from overseas.
Music Education

- A pass at GCE 'A' Level in Music [For GCE A Levels Holders (Exams taken up to Year 2006)], or
- A pass in H2 Level in Music [For GCE A Levels Holders (Exams taken from Year 2007)], or
- A pass at Higher Level in Music [For International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma], or
- NUS High School Diploma (Specialisation in Music), or
- Music-related Diploma (by reputable colleges or polytechnics**), or
- Evidence of music certification at the higher levels and/or of significant music performing experience will need to be presented:
  1. For those trained in Western Art Music:
     Certification from ABRSM, Trinity, Guildhall, London College of Music (Grade 6 - Theory & Practical) or Australian Music Examination Boards (Grade 5 - Theory & Practical)
  2. For those with different training and performing experience:
     - Performance Certification from Yamaha, Technics or Hammond in pop piano, pop organ, percussion or any other instrument, or
     - Musical experience in Pop, Rock, Jazz, Symphonic Band, choral groups, Indian, Chinese, Malay, Japanese or any other Traditional / Folk instruments.

Shortlisted candidates have to attend audition.

** These include: LASALLE or NAFA music-related diplomas, NIE Diploma in Music Education (held in-conjunction with a NAFA Diploma in Music Teaching), NIE Diploma in Ed (Secondary) (Music), NIE Diploma in Ed (Primary) (Music), NAFA Diploma in Music Teaching, NIE Advanced Diploma in Primary Music Education, or any music-related diploma from overseas.

Shortlisted candidates may be required to undergo one or more interview(s) and/or take written admission or other evaluation tests.

All applications are considered individually and the offer of admission depends on the number of places available. Admission is solely at the discretion of Singapore University of Social Sciences.

How to Apply

Applications are to be made online via suss.edu.sg. You must submit all the required documents together with your admission application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Tuition Fees and Government Subsidy

The amount of course fee you pay in each semester depends on the number of courses you take in that semester. Course fees cover all study materials, classes, supervision, assignments and examinations. They do not include costs for textbooks and other additional items specified by the university from time to time.

Students may be eligible for a government subsidy of up to 55% of the course fee. In addition, Singapore Citizens (SC) aged 40 and above who are pursuing MOE-subsidised undergraduate programmes with Singapore University of Social Sciences and who are eligible for the SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy will pay tuition fees that are 60% lower than the standard subsidised fees payable by other SC students who are below 40 years old.

All Singaporeans aged 25 and above can use their $500 SkillsFuture Credit from the government to pay for a wide range of approved skills-related courses. Visit the SkillsFuture Credit website (www.skillsfuture.sg/credit) to choose from the courses available on the SkillsFuture Credit course directory.

Please visit suss.edu.sg for current tuition fees and eligibility criteria for the government subsidy and SkillsFuture Mid-Career Enhanced Subsidy.

Internet Access

All Singapore University of Social Sciences’ students must have access to a computer or laptop and the Internet in order to use the electronic and website facilities, which allow access to course, academic or administrative information.

Contact Details

Singapore University of Social Sciences
461 Clementi Road
Singapore 599491

Telephone: (65) 6248 9777
Fax: (65) 6763 9077
Email: student_recruitment@suss.edu.sg