

Factsheet on Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Home Affairs and Singapore University of Social Sciences

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) recognises that equipping our Home Team officers with industry-relevant skills and knowledge is critical for us to perform our roles competently and meet challenges.

2. To ensure that Home Team officers are adequately trained and upskilled to keep up with an ever-evolving security landscape, and to meet the rising expectations of the Home Team's readiness and capability to preserve Singapore's safety and security, MHA has signed a MoU with the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS). With the MoU, MHA and SUSS will collaborate on and develop programmes and projects that can contribute to the continuing education and training of MHA officers. Individuals working in safety and security industries could also benefit from such programmes. The MoU expresses the intent of MHA and SUSS to engage in discussion and collaborate in training and learning, including the development of academic courses and programmes in security and safety studies, building of capabilities in learning technologies and analytics, and collaboration in continuing education and training opportunities.

Bachelor of Public Safety and Security Studies (Honours) Programme (PSS)

3. Developed by SUSS and supported by MHA, the PSS is a full-time, four-year, direct honours degree programme. This integrated and well-rounded programme is designed to develop and deepen the knowledge and skills of those entering or already working with public or private organisations that are committed to keeping Singapore safe and secure. It caters to the growing security sector in Singapore, and will help raise the overall level of professionalism of the security industry and meet the demand for trained security personnel from Auxiliary Police Forces and other private security agencies. The PSS will also contribute to the emergence of Singapore as a Safety and Security hub.

4. The programme offers three specialisation track options - Criminology, Crisis Management or Psychosocial Intervention. Potential jobs and careers for graduates from the programme include those with agencies focusing on homeland security, law enforcement, customs and border security, fire safety, rescue and disaster recovery, public transportation, aviation security, protection of critical infrastructure, emergency planning, computer security, drug enforcement, as well as community and residential corrections. The programme also provides a pathway for those with security workforce skills background to attain theoretical and practical knowledge in public safety and security.

5. Graduates from the programme will be able to:

- a. Demonstrate strong theoretical, practical and methodological knowledge and skills in public safety and security issues and management;

- b. Evaluate public safety and security related issues affecting Singapore from local, regional and international perspectives;
- c. Analyse governance systems and how regulatory policies ensure good governance;
- d. Analyse criminal justice systems and punishment and rehabilitation models;
- e. Apply leadership and organisational skills to manage changes, challenges and risks related to public safety and security issues;
- f. Apply collaborative approaches to forming strategic partnerships and networks; and
- g. Demonstrate acumen in the use of technology and innovative practices to strengthen public safety and security practices.

6. Eligible officers from the Home Team Departments¹ (HTDs) will be sponsored for the programme. SUSS will accord up to 20 credit units to eligible officers recommended by the Home Team in recognition of their prior learning and cumulative work experience. This means the officers can obtain up to a two-semester reduction of courses - equivalent to 12 months, or up to four courses.

7. The first batch of students will matriculate in July 2020.

Accreditation for the Home Team's Certificate in Homefront Safety and Security and the Home Team School of Criminal Investigation Milestone Courses

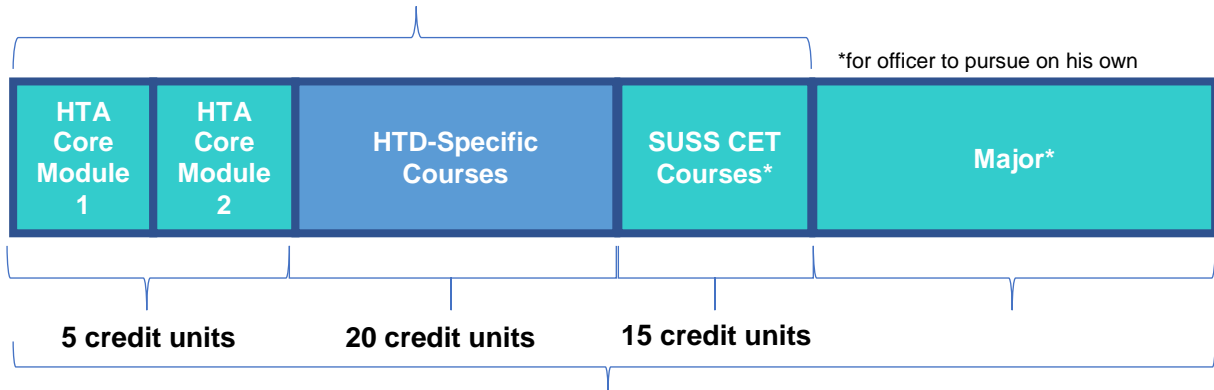
8. The Home Team Academy has been working with the HTDs to accredit their courses with the SUSS. This is to provide an upgrading pathway for Home Team officers. With this accreditation, the courses that they undergo as part of their professional training can be accorded academic credits when they successfully enrol in a degree programme with SUSS.

Certificate in Homefront Safety and Security

9. With effect from January 2020, SUSS will recognise and award credits to accredited training offered by four HTDs (the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority, the Singapore Civil Defence Force, the Singapore Police Force and the Singapore Prison Service), as part of their officers' basic training. Officers who complete the accredited Home Team courses and relevant SUSS CET courses, will receive a Certificate in Homefront Safety and Security. This Certificate can be recognised as a minor worth 40 credit units, if the officers successfully enrol in a SUSS degree programme.

¹ The Home Team Departments comprise the Singapore Police Force, Internal Security Department, Singapore Civil Defence Force, Immigration and Checkpoints Authority, Singapore Prison Service, Central Narcotics Bureau and Home Team Academy. The three statutory boards are the Casino Regulatory Authority of Singapore, Singapore Cooperative of Rehabilitative Enterprises and Home Team Science and Technology Agency.

**Certificate in Homefront Safety and Security
(40 credit units)**



**130 credit units (to satisfy requirements
for award of part-time SUSS degree)**

Home Team School of Criminal Investigation Milestone Courses - Certificate in Criminal Investigation Studies

10. The Home Team School of Criminal Investigation (HTSCI), under the Singapore Police Force, provides specialised training for investigation, forensic and investigation support officers in the Home Team². Their restructured milestone investigation courses³, a progressive series of eight courses, are the first in the Home Team to be accredited with SUSS. As part of the accreditation process, HTSCI had reviewed the curricula of the Home Team’s basic, intermediate and advanced courses in investigation and made improvements to the pedagogy and assessment system. HTSCI had also prepared the study guides (i.e. textbooks) for the courses.

11. Home Team officers who successfully complete all eight of the HTSCI’s milestone investigation courses will receive the Certificate in Criminal Investigation Studies. They would also attain 40 credit units that SUSS will recognise as a minor, if the officers successfully enrol in a SUSS degree programme. The first batch of 24 Home Team officers⁴ graduated from the accredited Home Team Basic Investigation Course, one of the eight milestone investigation courses, on 7 November 2019.

**Ministry of Home Affairs
11 December 2019**

² Other law enforcement agencies as well as non-Home Team agencies such as the Ministry of Manpower, Health Sciences Authority and MINDEF also receive training from HTSCI.

³ The basic, immediate and advanced investigation courses, which were previously offered by HTSCI, have been restructured to eight milestone investigation courses after the accreditation process.

⁴ The 24 Home Team officers comprise 18 Singapore Police Force officers, 2 Commercial Affairs Department officers, 2 Immigration & Checkpoints Authority officers, 1 Singapore Prison Service officer and 1 Ministry of Home Affairs officer.