



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SMU offers new academic major in Smart-City Management & Technology**

***Unique interdisciplinary programme aims to develop skills for the future, aligning with global and national initiatives towards smart cities***

**Singapore, 27 February 2017 (Monday)** – Students enrolled into Singapore Management University (SMU) for the new academic year starting in August 2017 can look forward to a new 4-year academic major in Smart-City Management & Technology, an interdisciplinary major offered by the School of Information Systems, in collaboration with the School of Social Sciences. It aims to nurture graduates who innovate solutions to urbanisation challenges through application of interdisciplinary knowledge across technology, social sciences and management.

Students will be given experiential learning opportunities to apply the solutions in state-of-the-art smart city initiatives through participation in internships and real-life projects in a selected domain: Mobility, Public Services, Business & Economy, Health & Enabled-Ageing, Home & Environment. Many organisations from various industries such as consulting, healthcare and government have indicated interests for graduates from this major.

Professor Pang Hwee Hwa, Dean of SMU School of Information Systems said, “The “smartness” of a city is not an end in itself; rather, it is a means to make the city more liveable and to attain sustainable development. These end-goals entail harmonising a host of concerns, including social, economic, business, environmental, and technology.

“Smart-City Management & Technology major is designed to train professionals to manage those multidisciplinary concerns, and to apply the enabling technologies. This timely programme equips students to seize career opportunities arising from the global trend towards smart cities, and Singapore’s Smart Nation Initiative in particular. Students will acquire a sound foundation of the interdisciplinary knowledge that is required to address complex real-world problems. They will be able to innovate IT solutions to achieve intended business, social and environmental outcomes. Students will also have opportunities to participate in the development of cutting-edge smart city solutions through the school’s existing strong partnerships with industry.”

Graduates of the new major will be able to appreciate the social, governance and economic challenges of urbanisation; understand the role of technology in enabling smart city; and apply appropriate technologies to address urbanisation challenges (such as planning a city) and deliver solutions/services that improve the lives of citizens.

The new major will prepare students for a wide variety of job roles, including IT or management consultants for smart systems, sustainable solutions designer, urban planners, as well as smart systems designer and developer.

The inaugural class will admit up to 40 students.

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**For more information, please contact**

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**About Singapore Management University (SMU)**

A premier university in Asia, the Singapore Management University (SMU) is internationally recognised for its world class research and distinguished teaching. Established in 2000, SMU's mission is to generate leading-edge research with global impact and produce broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy. It is known for its interactive and technologically-enabled pedagogy of seminar-style teaching in small class sizes.

Home to around 10,000 undergraduates and postgraduates, SMU comprises six schools: School of Accountancy, Lee Kong Chian School of Business, School of Economics, School of Information Systems, School of Law and School of Social Sciences. SMU offers a wide range of bachelor's, master's and PhD degree programmes in the disciplinary areas associated with the six schools, as well as in interdisciplinary combinations of these areas.

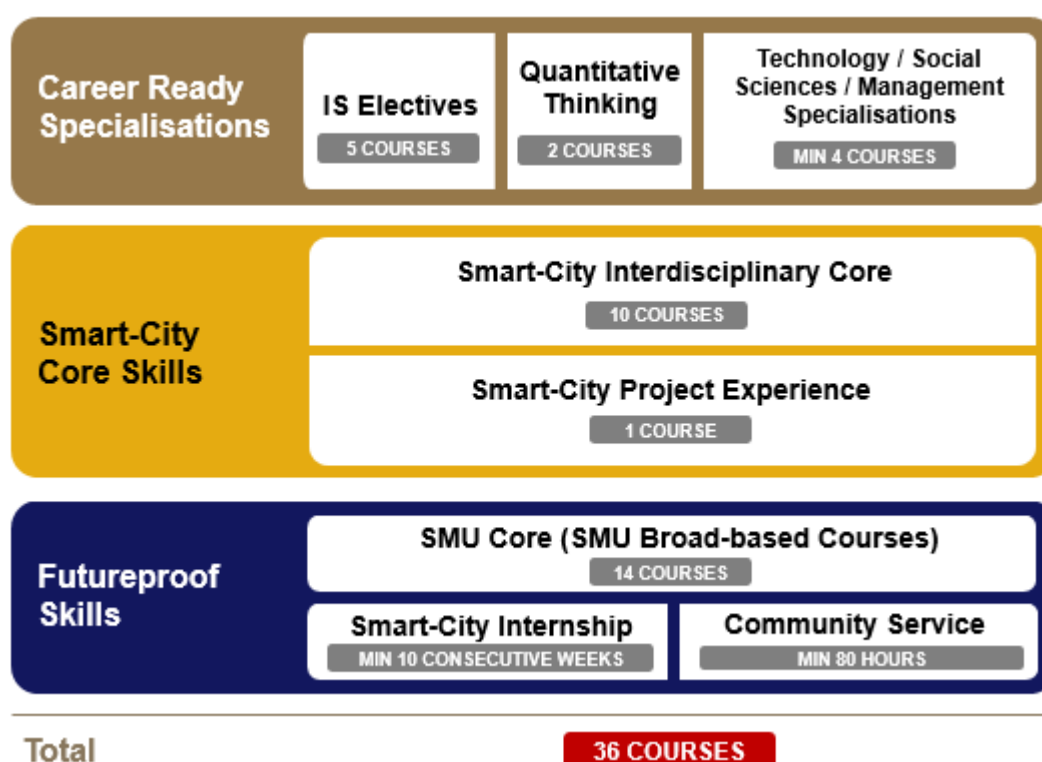
SMU has an emphasis on generating rigorous, high impact, and relevant multi-disciplinary research that addresses Asian issues of global relevance, SMU faculty collaborate with leading international researchers and universities from USA, Europe, China and India as well as with partners in the business community and public sector, through its research institutes, centres and labs. SMU's city campus is a state-of-the art facility located in the heart of downtown Singapore, fostering strategic linkages with business, government and the wider community.

For more information, visit [www.smu.edu.sg](http://www.smu.edu.sg)

## Curriculum of new Smart-City Management & Technology academic major

SMU Bachelor of Science (Information Systems)'s Smart-City Management & Technology new major consists of a minimum of 36 course units, at least one related internship spanning at least 10 weeks, an 80-hour community service commitment, and a series of 7 Finishing Touch workshops. All areas of the requirements are pursued simultaneously throughout the four years of study.

The table below provides an overview of the programme structure:



The Smart-City Management & Technology major consists of a set of curriculum that trains the students to be equipped with Futureproof Skills, Smart-City Interdisciplinary Core Skills and Career-ready Specialisation skills.

### Futureproof Skills

All SMU students take a set of SMU Broad Based Courses. They cover both breadth and variety to prepare them to be market-ready. These courses offer broad bodies of knowledge and skills that will prepare the students holistically as they go deeper into the course specialisations. Students receive solid quantitative training, learn analytical thinking, modelling, and problem solving skills in real-world contexts, and also acquire 'soft' skills such as communication, presentation, leadership and team-building and 'heart' skills of ethical and social responsibility.

Courses under SMU Broad Based Education are:

#### **SMU Foundations**

1. Calculus
2. Introductory Economics

3. Programme in Writing and Reasoning

### **University Core**

1. Business, Government and Society
2. Ethics and Social Responsibility
3. Leadership and Teambuilding
4. Management Communication

### **General Education**

Students must take Computer as an Analysis Tool and 3 other General Education courses. Some examples of the other courses are

1. Current Issues in Business, Culture and Society
2. Environmental Science
3. Intercultural Communication
4. Biotechnology and Bioentrepreneurship
5. Language (e.g. French, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Thai)
6. Creative Writing

### **Modes of Thinking**

The Modes of Thinking courses aim to equip all students with the intellectual skills needed to operate in a complex and challenging environment. The following is a sample of courses that can be taken to fulfil this requirement.

1. Managing Volatility, Uncertainty, Change and Ambiguity
2. Critical Thinking in the Real World
3. Analytical Skills and Creative Thinking

### **Globalisation**

The Globalisation courses enable students to develop a stronger sense of global awareness by broadening their exposure to business, political and social practices beyond Singapore. The following is a sample of courses that can be taken to fulfil this requirement.

1. Corporate Responsibility in the Global Era
2. Social Media and Organisations
3. International Law and Global Politics
4. Sustainability Governance and Management
5. Economics of Globalisation

### **Asian Studies**

The Asian Studies courses provide students with an enhanced understanding of the role of Asia in a modern business environment and foundational knowledge of the multiplicity of countries within the Asian region. The following is a sample of courses that can be taken to fulfil this requirement.

1. Contemporary South Asian Societies
2. Politics of Southeast Asia
3. Exploring Asian Identities
4. Popular Culture in Asia
5. Political Economy of East Asia

The students must also complete at least 1 related internship in one or more selected smart city application domain e.g., home and environment, mobility, health and enabled-aging, business & economy and public services. Students must also serve at least 80 hours of community service.

## **Smart-City Core Skills**

This consists of 10 interdisciplinary courses to equip students with interdisciplinary knowledge across technology, social sciences and management. Our graduates will be trained to innovate solutions to urbanisation challenges, manage the solution implementation, and understand their business and social impacts.

The **10 core courses** are:

- Sustainable cities
- Introduction to Public Policy
- Information Systems & Innovation in Smart Cities
- Data Management
- Introduction to Solution Development
- Analytics Foundation
- Smart City Systems and Management
- Security Management & Data Privacy
- Social Analytics for Smart Living
- Geospatial Analytics for City Planning

All students must complete a smart-city project with a real-life project sponsor from the industry.

*Note: All courses are covered in the span of 15 weeks except the industry project experience course. Students will spend about 3-6 months prior to formal commencement of the project to conceptualise a smart city application idea with real-life project sponsors, then spend the next 15-week semester implementing the project.*

## **Career-Ready Specialisation**

To ensure students gain in-depth knowledge in technology, students are required to take **5 additional Information Systems (IS) electives** from the School of Information Systems.

The full list of IS electives offered by School of Information Systems can be found at <http://sis.smu.edu.sg/bsc-information-systems/learning/curriculum/courses/depth-electives>. Students must satisfy the pre-requisites of the courses to register for them. The IS electives cover knowledge in wide range of topics such as Analytics, Enterprise Systems, Mobile systems, Internet-of-Things, Data Warehousing, Software Development, Financial Technology (FinTech) and Cyber-security, Technopreneurship and IS research.

To ensure that students are career-ready, the curriculum provides **domain specialization options**. Students are encouraged to specialise in one of the technology, social science and management disciplines such as public policy and public management, economics, sociology, operation(s) management, political science, international & asian studies, and more depth in information systems. Students can do this through SMU's wide repertoire of second major offerings.

Refer to <http://admissions.smu.edu.sg/why-smu/broadbased-curriculum> for the full list of second majors available at SMU.