

Programmes of Study

Master of Arts (Chinese Studies)

(Research)

OVERVIEW

The Master of Arts (Chinese Studies) provides for the completion of a research thesis in a wide range of related topics in traditional Sinology and Han culture, as well as in Southeast Asian Chinese Studies, Malaysian Chinese Literature and Culture Studies. It aims to cultivate the ability of postgraduate students to analyse and solve specific problems through the mastering of the relevant research methods in the humanities and social sciences and will result in the cultivation of a specialist with **professional knowledge** as well as a broad cultural vision and humanistic solicitude for society. Graduates can be engaged in **academic research** and professional teaching, and be qualified to work in institutions of higher learning, research institutions, the publishing field, and cultural organisations.

WHO SHOULD JOIN THE PROGRAMME

This programme is intended for students who are interested in deepening their understanding of and research in Chinese classical studies, contemporary Chinese literature, Malaysian Chinese literature, Chinese language and dialects, contemporary China studies, and the social and cultural studies of Chinese communities.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of this programme may choose to become:

- (i) Professionals who are competent researchers or practitioners in Chinese Studies.
- (ii) Academic staff in universities, research institutes, publishing companies, cultural and literary organisations.
- (iii) Teachers and administrators in primary and secondary schools.
- (iv) Managerial staff in business and other organisations.

BASIC STRUCTURE

The duration of full-time study is 2 to 4 years. Students are required to attend all prescribed courses, including the Methodology in Chinese Studies course and Seminar on Selected Topics in Chinese Studies and pass the Thesis Proposal Defence.

The award of a MA requires the submission of a thesis for examination at a *viva voce* (oral examination) by two examiners, at least one of whom is external to NEUC. The MA thesis must show a grasp of the relevant literature, the methodologies and the issues involved in a specific area of study.

Master of Arts in ASEAN Studies

(Research)

OVERVIEW

This course enables students to delve into a selected topic on ASEAN matters in order to cultivate professional expertise on ASEAN affairs. It is concerned with ASEAN as an organization, its inner workings and intra-ASEAN issues, and the relations and forces acting on ASEAN from outside the region. The programme's scope focuses on in-depth studies concerning ASEAN and its objectives to facilitate economic, political, security, educational and socio-cultural development and integration amongst its members.

WHO SHOULD JOIN THE PROGRAMME

Candidates who are interested in deepening their understanding in an ASEAN-related area of focus.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of this programme may choose to:

- (i) Pursue an academic and/or research career in their field of study;
- (ii) Enhance their professional careers as experts in their field of study. They may also take advisory and/or consultant roles in the industry.

BASIC STRUCTURE

The duration of full-time study is 2 to 4 years. Students are required to attend all prescribed courses, including the Research Methodology course, Directed Readings in ASEAN Studies and Seminar on Selected Topics in ASEAN Studies, and pass the Thesis Proposal Defence.

The award of a MA requires the submission of a thesis for examination at a *viva voce* (oral examination) by two examiners, at least one of whom is external to NEUC. The MA thesis must show a grasp of the relevant literature, the methodologies and the issues involved in a specific area of study.

PhD in Chinese Studies

(Research)

OVERVIEW

The PhD in Chinese Studies provides for the completion of a research thesis in a wide range of related topics in traditional Sinology and Han culture, as well as in Southeast Asian Chinese Studies, Malaysian Chinese Literature and Culture Studies. It aims to cultivate the ability of postgraduate students to analyse and solve specific problems through the mastering of the relevant research methods in the humanities and social sciences and will result in the cultivation of a specialist with solid, systematic, cutting-edge professional knowledge as well as a broad cultural vision and humanistic solicitude for society. Graduates can be engaged in creative academic research and professional teaching, and be qualified to work in institutions of higher learning, research institutions, the publishing field, and cultural organisations.

WHO SHOULD JOIN THE PROGRAMME

This programme is intended for students who are interested in deepening their understanding of and research in Chinese classical studies, contemporary Chinese literature, Malaysian Chinese literature, Chinese language and dialects, contemporary China studies, and the social and cultural studies of Chinese communities.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of this programme may choose to become:

- (i) Professionals who are competent researchers or practitioners in Chinese Studies.
- (ii) Academic staff in universities, research institutes, publishing companies, cultural and literary organisations.
- (iii) Teachers and administrators in primary and secondary schools.
- (iv) Managerial staff in business and other organisations.

BASIC STRUCTURE

The duration of full-time study is 3 to 4 years. Students are required to attend all prescribed courses, including the Methodology in Chinese Studies and Directed Readings in Chinese Studies, and pass the Thesis Proposal Defence. PhD candidates are required to have one academic publication before the degree can be awarded.

The award of a PhD requires the submission of a thesis for examination at a viva voce (oral examination) by three examiners, at least two of whom are external to NEUC. The PhD thesis must be an original and substantial piece of work which makes a contribution to the relevant literature.

PhD in ASEAN Studies

(Research)

OVERVIEW

This Programme takes a multi-disciplinary approach to the study of Southeast Asia as a region as well as its component countries, and will focus on in-depth studies into such topics as local history, ethnic and linguistic diversities, demographic trends, educational developments, environmental complexity and related topics. It is designed to provide students with the requisite analytical and methodological skills to acquire a broad understanding of ASEAN as a region and as an important regional association, as well as an in-depth professional knowledge of a selected topic of research.

The spectrum of choices for study is broad. Studies may be undertaken at the local or national levels of selected countries or on the region as a whole. Topics may be related to the areas of study below:

- (i) The regional setting of ASEAN/Southeast Asia as well as history and historiography;
- (ii) Cultural, religious, and sociological issues including folk culture;
- (iii) Languages, literature and education including Chinese-language education;
- (iv) Ethnic communities, demography, settlements including Malaysian New Villages, clan associations, migration, urbanization and environmental issues;
- (v) International and geopolitical relations;
- (vi) Trade, the economies, and development including business enterprises, networks and entrepreneurs, ASEAN-China trade and infrastructure projects related to the Belt and Road Initiative;
- (vii) Politics, nation building and integrative or divisive forces at the local and national levels;
- (viii) Integration of ASEAN and the creation of the ASEAN Community.

WHO SHOULD JOIN THE PROGRAMME

Candidates who are interested in deepening their understanding in the Southeast Asia area of focus.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of this programme may choose to:

- (i) Pursue an academic and/or research career in their field of study;
- (ii) Enhance their professional careers as experts in their field of study. They may also take advisory and/or consultant roles in the industry.

BASIC STRUCTURE

The duration of full-time study is 3 to 5 years. Candidates are required to attend all prescribed courses, including the Research Methodology course, Directed Readings in ASEAN Studies and Seminar on Selected Topics in ASEAN Studies, and pass the Thesis Proposal Defence. PhD candidates are required to have one academic publication before the degree can be awarded.

The award of a PhD requires the submission of a thesis for examination at a viva voce (oral examination) by three examiners, at least two of whom are external to NEUC. The PhD thesis must be an original and substantial piece of work which makes a contribution to the relevant literature.