



## DIPLOMA IN PSYCHOLOGY STUDIES (T48)

### Course Overview

Ever find yourself in a "what are they thinking about" situation? This course gives you the perfect platform to delve deep into the human mind and discover what makes people tick.

You will be equipped with a broad foundation in the study of human behaviour and mental processes and learn how individuals think, communicate and interact with one another.

With a strong focus on people, the curriculum will prepare you for a rewarding career in the social service and special needs education sectors. You will also enjoy the flexibility to choose elective subjects in areas you are more interested in.

With intimate knowledge of the human mind, you are in the best position to improve the lives of many.



#### FIRM FOUNDATION

Acquire a firm foundation in the study of human behaviour and mental processes. You can also look forward to career opportunities in the social service and special needs education sectors, where psychology is applied to improve the lives of many.



#### RELEVANCE

Develop life skills that would last you a lifetime! With expertise in areas of leadership, communication, career planning, critical thinking and conflict resolution, you'll be employable across multiple industries and sectors.



#### SPECIALISATION

Your personal interest matters to us! If you're interested in studying niche topics such as health psychology, abnormal psychology special needs education, and many more, you'll be spoilt for choice with the selection of electives available.

# Entry Requirements

To be eligible for consideration for admission, applicants must obtain 26 points or better for the net ELR2B2 aggregate score (i.e. English Language, 2 relevant subjects and best 2 other subjects, including CCA Bonus Points) and meet the minimum entry requirements of this course. CCA cannot be used to meet the minimum entry requirements.

| Subject                                      | Grade        |
|--|--------------|
| English Language (EL1)*                      | 1-6          |
| Mathematics (E or A)                         | 1-7          |
| Any three other subjects, excluding CCA      | 1-6          |
| <b>2023 Planned Intake</b>                   | <b>75</b>    |
| <b>Net ELR2B2 aggregate range (2023 JAE)</b> | <b>3 - 8</b> |

To be eligible for selection, applicants must have sat for at least one of the following subjects: Art/ Art & Design, Business Studies, Combined Humanities, Commerce, Commercial Studies, Economics, Geography, Higher Art, Higher Music, History, Introduction to Enterprise Development, Literature in English, Literature in Chinese, Literature in Malay, Literature in Tamil, Media Studies (English)/ Media Studies (Chinese), Music.

Applicants must have also sat for one of these subjects: Additional Mathematics, Art/ Art & Design, Business Studies, Chinese, Combined Humanities, Commerce, Commercial Studies, Creative 3D Animation, Design & Technology, Economics, Elementary Mathematics, Food & Nutrition, Geography, Higher Art, Higher Chinese, Higher Malay, Higher Music, Higher Tamil, History, Introduction to Enterprise Development, Literature in English, Literature in Chinese, Literature in Malay, Literature in Tamil, Malay, Media Studies (English), Media Studies (Chinese), Music, Principles of Accounts, Tamil.

\* Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM)/ Unified Examination Chinese (UEC) holders must have a minimum of grade 6 for the relevant English Language subject (e.g. Bahasa Inggeris).

# What You'll Learn

YEAR 1

YEAR 2

YEAR 3

TPFUN

As freshmen, students read a series of introductory subjects such as Foundation Psychology, Introduction to Research Methods & Statistics, and Introduction to Social Service to orientate them to the academic and applied domains of psychology.

| Diploma Core Subjects |  |              |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Subject Code          | Subject  | Credit Units |
| GPS2017               | <b>Cognitive Psychology</b><br>This subject explores two main thematic areas of human information processing, namely, perception and cognition. You will explore topics such as sensory perception, attention, learning and memory, knowledge structure, language, judgment and decision making in order to enhance your understanding of how human beings perceive and process information. | 4            |
| GPS2007               | <b>Developmental Psychology</b><br>This subject examines theories and methodologies covered in developmental psychology. You will explore and gain a deeper understanding of how people change at each developmental phase as a result of interaction between innate factors and external experiences.   | 4            |
| GPS1001               | <b>Foundation Psychology</b><br>This subject provides you with an overall perspective and understanding of psychology as a scientific study of mental processes and human behaviour. Fundamental concepts, theories and methodology in the study of psychology will be explored to enhance your understanding of the biological, cognitive and social bases of behaviour.                    | 4            |
| GPS1021               | <b>Introduction to Research Methods &amp; Statistics</b>   | 4            |

This subject aims to provide you with an overview of research methodology and statistical tools in the social sciences. This will include an introduction to the enterprise of scientific research, research ethics, and also rudimentary research methods and statistical concepts, in order to prepare students for more advanced research methods subjects.

**GPS1020**

**Introduction to Social Services**

**4**



This subject provides a broad introduction to the social services sector in Singapore, including the special needs education sector. You will be introduced to the social services landscape including the key agencies in the sector, as well as the issues and challenges faced within this sector.

**GPS2005**

**Social Psychology**

**4**



This subject is about the scientific study of the interactions between people and the social contexts they live in. Through exploring real-world social events and situations, you will gain a deeper appreciation of how people's thoughts, emotions and behaviours are influenced by other people.

**GPS1007**

**Survey & Qualitative Research Methods**

**4**



This subject builds upon your foundational understanding of statistical concepts and data analysis methods. It equips you with the knowledge, skills and techniques, as well as hands-on experience in the conduct of empirical and qualitative research in psychology and the social sciences.

Students conduct two research projects, one involving survey design and the other an experimental design. Students are expected to review academic literature, design the research study, collect data from research participants, conduct data analysis and report their findings.

### Diploma Core Subjects

| Subject Code | Subject  | Credit Units |   |
|--------------|--|--------------|---|
| GPS2025      | <p><b>Applied Psychology Project A (Survey Design)</b></p> <p>Psychology is not just a theoretical subject. It holds valuable and practical applications across a wide range of personal, interpersonal and professional settings. This subject allows you to apply previously learnt psychological techniques and research skills in a survey research project to better understand individuals in an applied setting.</p>  | 4            | ^ |
| GPS3016      | <p><b>Applied Psychology Project B (Experiment Design)</b></p> <p>This subject builds on skills and experience gained from earlier project work-related subjects. More opportunities will be provided for you to explore the various fields in psychology and apply psychological knowledge in greater depth. You will be required to conduct an experimental research project from a range of relevant topics.</p>  | 4            | ^ |
| GPS2014      | <p><b>Contemporary Issues in Psychology</b></p> <p>This subject involves seminars and workshops conducted for deeper study and inquiry into special topics exploring the application of psychology in specific settings such as personal, social and organisational settings. Supervised by staff or guest lecturers who are experts in their fields, the subject is designed to encourage research as well as the intensive study of specific topics and areas that could</p> | 4            | ^ |

vary depending on resources and expertise.

**GPS2021**

**Counselling Psychology**

**4**



This subject aims to provide an introduction to the field of counselling psychology. You will learn about the fundamentals of counselling and discuss the theoretical perspectives that guide the work of counselling psychologists. You will also explore contemporary issues that influence the counselling profession, including ethics, assessment and working with diversity, and to learn about special approaches and settings for counsellors.

**GPS2028**

**Experimental Design & Statistics**

**4**



This subject equips you to address more complex research questions using an expanded range of research designs and statistical techniques. You will be given opportunities to apply knowledge, skills and techniques and employ statistical software to analyse and interpret data from a range of psychological experiments.

**GPS2024**

**Group Work: Processes & Facilitation**

**4**



This subject equips you with the knowledge and skillsets necessary to develop and carry out group work sessions in the context of the social service sector.

**GPS1022**

**Introduction to Special Needs Education**

**4**



This subject provides you with an introduction to the range of special needs and types of disabilities encountered in the special needs education sector. It equips you with foundational understanding necessary to build towards higher-order skillsets in the areas of classroom management and the development of interventions for people with special needs.

| Subject Code | Subject   | Credit Units |   |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| GPS2010      | <b>Health Psychology</b><br><p>This subject examines the impact of mental, emotional and behavioural factors that affect the onset, duration, recovery and prevention of physical illnesses. You will also learn to analyse health and disease issues using psychological principles and techniques in the context of an interrelated and diverse world.</p>  | 4            | ^ |
| GPS3003      | <b>Abnormal Psychology</b><br><p>This subject explores concepts and issues surrounding abnormal behaviour and illnesses. You will explore major theories on how physiology, cognition, developmental, social and other issues influence behaviour. You will also be provided with an overview of intervention methodologies and techniques commonly used in the treatment of maladaptive behaviours and psychological disorders.</p>  | 4            | ^ |
| GPS3015      | <b>Deviant Behaviour &amp; Rehabilitation</b><br><p>This subject focuses on raising awareness of the theoretical, psychological and developmental perspectives on deviant behaviour. In addition, it examines the psychological factors that relate to crime on a general level, specific offences and also specific offender and victim groups. You will learn to evaluate the contribution of psychology to the explanation of deviant behaviour in a multi-disciplinary framework. You will also gain an understanding of the Singapore prisons and rehabilitation system.</p> | 4            | ^ |

## Diploma Electives - Special Needs Education

| Subject Code | Subject   | Credit Units |   |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| GPS2026      | <b>Classroom Management &amp; Strategies in Special Needs Education</b><br><br>This subject presents an overview of the types of teaching and intervention approaches in managing people with different types of special needs. It also explores teaching strategies to support learners with various special education needs.  | 4            | ^ |
| GPS2027      | <b>Assessments &amp; Interventions in Special Needs Education</b><br><br>This subject covers the different types of assessments, and guidelines for their use in the context of special needs education. The subject also explores different programming strategies and interventions to support learners with various special needs.                                       | 4            | ^ |
| GPS3012      | <b>Evidence-Based Strategies in Special Needs Education</b><br><br>This subject will provide you with the opportunity to apply evidence-based strategies in developing appropriate interventions, training or educational materials in special needs education. You will work with an actual industry partner to meet a specific industry need in the special needs sector. | 4            | ^ |

YEAR 1

YEAR 2

**YEAR 3**

TPFUN

Applied subjects occupy students' final year of study. Students will engage in community-based projects in the social service sector, understand the applications of Psychology in the workplace and commence their final year project. The diploma ends with a 16-week internship.

## Diploma Core Subjects

| Subject Code | Subject                     | Credit Units |   |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---|
| GPS3014      | <b>Community Psychology</b> | 4            | ^ |



This subject helps you understand the ecological interaction between individual, group, organisational, community and societal factors and their effect on the health and affective well-being of all members of a community. It will also introduce you to the theories and paradigms of research and action, promotion of psychological resilience and prevention of mental health problems, based on community psychology perspectives.

**GPS3013**

**Industrial & Organisational Psychology**

**4**



This subject provides you with opportunities to apply psychological knowledge, research methods and intervention strategies within industrial and organisational settings. You will explore both the theoretical and practical aspects of personnel and organisational psychology. Learn about how psychology can help people become more effective at the workplace.

**GMP3002**

**Major Project**

**8**



The major project is intended to complete your training by providing a real-world experience to integrate and apply your knowledge in a practical learning situation. Besides research, design and project management skills, the emphasis will also be on innovation, creativity, teamwork and enterprise.

## Diploma Electives - Social Services

**Subject Code**

**Subject**

**Credit Units**

**GPS2010**

**Health Psychology**

**4**



This subject examines the impact of mental, emotional and behavioural factors that affect the onset, duration, recovery and prevention of physical

illnesses. You will also learn to analyse health and disease issues using psychological principles and techniques in the context of an interrelated and diverse world.

**GPS3003**

**Abnormal Psychology**

**4**



This subject explores concepts and issues surrounding abnormal behaviour and illnesses. You will explore major theories on how physiology, cognition, developmental, social and other issues influence behaviour. You will also be provided with an overview of intervention methodologies and techniques commonly used in the treatment of maladaptive behaviours and psychological disorders.

**GPS3015**

**Deviant Behaviour & Rehabilitation**

**4**



This subject focuses on raising awareness of the theoretical, psychological and developmental perspectives on deviant behaviour. In addition, it examines the psychological factors that relate to crime on a general level, specific offences and also specific offender and victim groups. You will learn to evaluate the contribution of psychology to the explanation of deviant behaviour in a multi-disciplinary framework. You will also gain an understanding of the Singapore prisons and rehabilitation system.

**Diploma Electives - Special Needs Education**



**Subject Code**

**Subject**

**Credit Units**

**GPS2026**

**Classroom Management & Strategies in Special Needs Education**

**4**



This subject presents an overview of the types of teaching and intervention approaches in managing people with different types of special needs. It also

## Diploma Electives - Special Needs Education

| Subject Code | Subject   | Credit Units |   |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| GPS2026      | <b>Classroom Management &amp; Strategies in Special Needs Education</b><br><br>This subject presents an overview of the types of teaching and intervention approaches in managing people with different types of special needs. It also explores teaching strategies to support learners with various special education needs.  | 4            | ^ |
| GPS2027      | <b>Assessments &amp; Interventions in Special Needs Education</b><br><br>This subject covers the different types of assessments, and guidelines for their use in the context of special needs education. The subject also explores different programming strategies and interventions to support learners with various special needs.                                       | 4            | ^ |
| GPS3012      | <b>Evidence-Based Strategies in Special Needs Education</b><br><br>This subject will provide you with the opportunity to apply evidence-based strategies in developing appropriate interventions, training or educational materials in special needs education. You will work with an actual industry partner to meet a specific industry need in the special needs sector. | 4            | ^ |

YEAR 1

YEAR 2

YEAR 3

**TPFUN**

You will also take this set of subjects that equips you with the crucial 21st-Century life skills you need to navigate the modern world as an agile, forward-thinking individual and team player.

## TP Fundamentals (TPFun) Subjects

| Subject Code | Subject                             | Credit Units |   |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| GIP3005      | <b>Student Internship Programme</b> | 12           | ^ |

This structured programme is designed to link your learning with the real work environment. You will be placed in organisation(s) with opportunities to apply the concepts and skills acquired in the course of your study. Besides reinforcing technical concepts and mastering of skills in areas that you have been trained, the practical training will enable you to build important skills such as problem-solving, communication, teamwork, and to cultivate good attitude and a strong work ethic.

**GTX1001**

**Effective Communication**

**3**



This subject introduces the fundamentals of effective communication. It also covers how to communicate with and convince an audience through writing and speaking tasks. The skills in this subject will include the application of strategies for communication, appropriate vocabulary, language features, visual aids, tone and style. The **Message, Audience, Purpose and Strategy (MAPS)** framework will also be applied when planning and engaging in written and verbal communication. There will be opportunities to communicate and collaborate through active learning activities, apply digital and information literacy skills and build competence through self-directed learning.

**GTX1002**

**Professional Communication**

**3**



This subject covers professional communication skills for the workplace and employability skills in the areas of career preparation. It covers communication and interpersonal skills, including effective virtual communication etiquette, and conducting oneself professionally in the workplace. In addition, essential career preparation skills such as resume writing and interview skills, needed to seek and secure work

would be included. The **Message, Audience, Purpose** and **Strategy** (MAPS) framework would also be applied when engaging in written and verbal communication. There will be opportunities to communicate and collaborate through active learning activities, apply digital and information literacy skills and build competence through self-directed learning.

**GTP1301**

**Current Issues & Critical Thinking**

**3**



This subject covers current issues, including diverse local and global concerns, that will impact lives and may have critical implications for Singapore. There will be opportunities to build competence through self-directed learning, communicate and collaborate in active discussions and objectively analyse issues using digital and information literacy skills and critical thinking scaffolds.

**GTP1201**

**Career Readiness**

**1**



This subject focuses on personal management skills. It develops an understanding of one's career interests, values, personality and skills for career success. It covers the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to succeed in the workplace and achieve professional goals. There will be exposure to apply digital and information literacy skills, build competence through self-directed learning methods, and acquire the skills of being a lifelong learner.

**GTP1202**

**Career Management**

**1**



This subject focuses on career management skills. It covers the importance of workplace readiness skills to adapt and respond to the changing job market environment. Career ownership and continuous learning for lifelong employability will

be emphasised. There will be exposure to apply digital and information literacy skills, build competence through self-directed learning, and acquire the skills of being a lifelong learner.

**GGSI002**

**Global Studies**

**3**



This subject provides essential skills and knowledge to prepare students for an overseas experience. They will examine the elements of culture and learn the key principles of cross-cultural communication. In addition, they will gain an appreciation and awareness of the political, economic, technological and social landscape to function effectively in a global environment. The subject prepares students to be responsible global citizens and leaders who can contribute to the global community through effective communication and collaboration.

**GTP1302**

**Guided Learning\***

**3**



The subject introduces students to the concepts and process of self-directed learning in a chosen area of inquiry. The process focusses on four stages: planning, performing, monitoring and reflecting. Students get to plan their individual learning project, refine and execute the learning plan, as well as monitor and reflect on their learning progress and project. The learning will be captured and showcased through a curated portfolio. The self-directed learning project will broaden and/or deepen a student's knowledge and skills. Students will enhance their problem solving and digital literacy skills through this subject.

**GIN1001**

**Innovation & Entrepreneurship**

**2**



The subject is designed for learners from all disciplines to embrace innovation in either their specialised field or beyond. Learners will be

taught to apply the Design Thinking framework to develop problem statements, ideate and identify feasible solutions. Learners will be exposed to several tools for prototyping. In addition, commercial awareness will be imbued in learners through various innovation and entrepreneurship concepts or tools. This subject also prepares students to be self-directed lifelong learners who are digital and information literate. It nurtures communicative and collaborative citizens who can use objective analysis in problem-solving.

**GTP1101**

**Leadership Fundamentals**

**2**



This subject focuses on self-leadership based on the values of integrity, respect, and responsibility. Increasing awareness of self and others will lay the foundations for personal and relationship effectiveness. Consequential thinking, clear articulation of personal values and visions, emphatic listening, and collaboration in serving others are some of the essential skills covered in this leadership journey. There will be opportunities to build and to apply the concepts of being a values-centred leader.

**GTP1102**

**Leadership in Action**

**1**



This subject focuses on Service Learning as an experiential platform to apply the tenets of Self and Team Leadership. Service Learning will be the capstone project for this subject, which will require an analysis of the diverse needs of the community, collaboration with community partners and demonstration of learning, including key elements of empathy. There will be opportunities to build and to apply the concepts of being a values-centred leader.

**LSW1002**

**Sports & Wellness**

**2**



The subject enables students to build a good foundation for healthy living. Students will have the opportunity to participate in hands-on practical sessions where they will experience and develop both physical and technical skills in their chosen sports or fitness activities. Through a structured curriculum that facilitates group participation, practice sessions and mini competitions, students will be able to build lifelong skills such as resilience, leadership, communication and teamwork. Physical activity sessions will also be supplemented by health-related topics that span the dimensions of health, such as diet, nutrition, stress and weight management, to provide students with a holistic approach to healthy living. This subject also prepares students to be self-directed and accountable for lifelong learning for good health.

**TGS1001**

**Sustainability & Climate Action\***

**3**



This subject prepares students to be responsible global citizens and future leaders who can contribute to the global community. It introduces the topics of sustainability and explores how human societies can act to build a sustainable future. This subject focuses on the impact of climate change, potential solutions to climate change, and the future of the green economy from global and local perspectives.

\* Students must choose to take either **Sustainability & Climate Action** or **Guided Learning**.



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| TP Fundamentals subjects | min 36 credit units |
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|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Diploma Core subjects | min 72 credit units |
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|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Diploma Elective subjects | min 12 credit units |
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|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Total Credit Units Completed</b> | min 120 credit units |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|