



## **SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

### **MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**Academic Session  
2026 / 2027**

**“Social Science Matters!”**

# Table of Contents

|    |                                                 |       |
|----|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| 03 | Introduction                                    | ..... |
| 04 | Administration & Organizational                 | ..... |
| 9  | Postgraduate Academic Programme                 | ..... |
| 11 | Programme Overview                              | ..... |
| 12 | Master of Public Administration (MPA)           | ..... |
| 26 | Academic Staff, Research Interest and Expertise | ..... |
| 29 | Graduation Requirement                          | ..... |
| 31 | PTJ Facilities                                  | ..... |
| 38 | Academic Calendar                               | ..... |
| 40 | PTJ Directory                                   | ..... |
| 45 | Tuition and Other Fees                          | ..... |
|    |                                                 | ..... |

**School of Social Sciences,**  
Universiti Sains Malaysia  
11800 USM, Penang Malaysia  
Tel : +604-653 5389 / 5390  
No Fax : +604-657 0918  
Email : [nurajrun@usm.my](mailto:nurajrun@usm.my)  
Website : <http://www.soc.usm.my>  
Facebook : Socsc Postgrad

# BACKGROUND

**“Social Science Matters!”**

# Introduction

The School of Social Sciences at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has been at the forefront of advancing the social sciences in Malaysia. As one of the university's oldest faculties and among the first social sciences schools in the country, the School was established in 1970 with a core mission: to advance knowledge and facilitate desirable social transformation within Malaysian society. Over the decades, this mission has evolved, but our commitment remains steadfast to delivering quality education and conducting impactful research that contributes to national development.

Today, we offer three undergraduate programmes: the Bachelor of Social Sciences, the Bachelor of Economics, and the Bachelor of Social Work. At the postgraduate level, we provide five dynamic programmes: the Master of Public Administration (coursework), the Master of Economic Management (coursework), the Master of Social Work (mixed-mode), the Master of Social Sciences (research mode), and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). Our Master of Social Sciences (research mode) and Ph.D. programmes enable students to pursue advanced research across a wide range of social science disciplines.

The School is home to 56 dedicated academic staff and a vibrant community of approximately 1,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students. We are actively engaged in global academic collaborations and maintain strong partnerships with local industries, public sector agencies, civil society organisations, policymakers, and practitioners.



# ADMINISTRATION & ORGANIZATIONAL

“Social Science Matters!”

## ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION



**Assoc. Prof. Dr.  
Mohamad Shaharudin Samsurijan**  
DEAN  
B.P.M. (UUM),  
M. Soc. Sc. (UKM),  
Ph.D. (UKM)  
Office: C06/125, Ext: 3369  
email: dean\_soc@usm.my



**Dr. Boo Harn Shian**  
DEPUTY DEAN  
Academic, Career and International  
B. Soc Sc. (Hons),  
MSc (Bristol),  
Ph.D. (UNSW)  
Office: C06/121, Ext: 2385  
email: ddsa\_soc@usm.my



**Assoc. Prof. Dr.  
Paramjit Singh Jamir Singh**  
DEPUTY DEAN  
Research, Innovation and Industry-Community Engagement  
B.Soc.Sc. (USM),  
M.S.W. (USM),  
Ph.D. (USM)  
Office: C06/003, Ext: 3860  
email: ddpg\_soc@usm.my

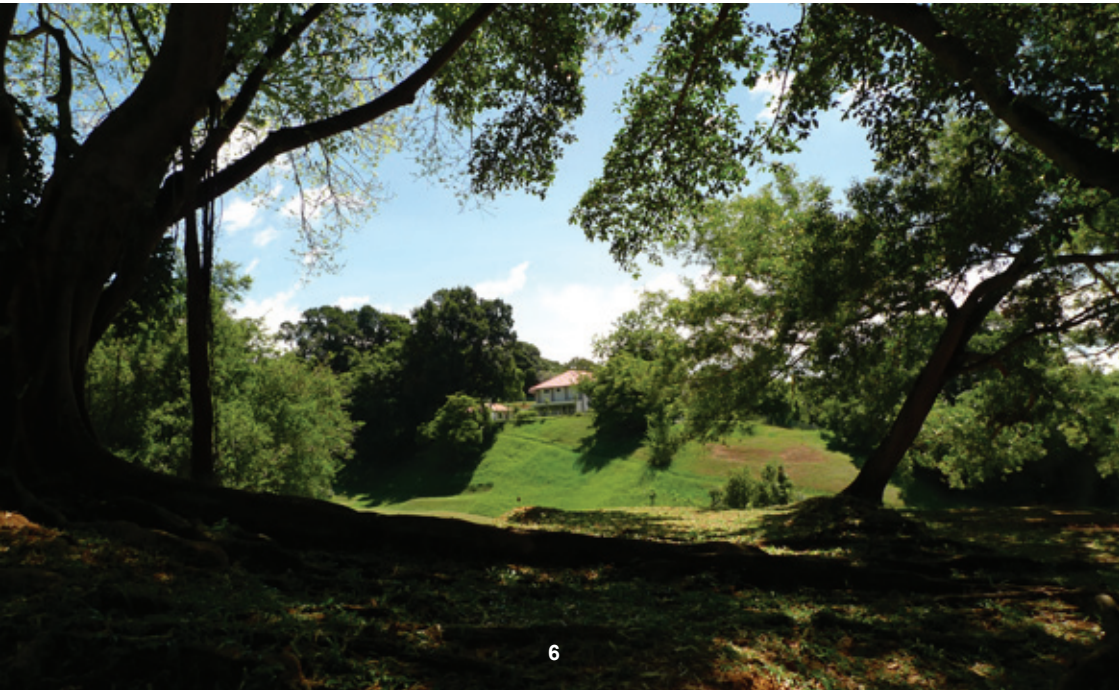
## PROGRAMME COORDINATOR



**Dr. Nur Ajrun Khalid  
(Coordinator)**

Master of Public Administration  
(MPA) email : [nurajrun@usm.my](mailto:nurajrun@usm.my)

---



## ADMINISTRATIONS



**Mr. Zamzami Rasidi**

Chief Assistant Registrar  
email : zamzami@usm.my  
Ext : 3362

---



**Mr. Muhammad Fikri Ali Yasah**

Senior Assistant Registrar  
email : fikri\_ay@usm.my  
Ext : 5389

---



**Mr. Ishak Suratee**

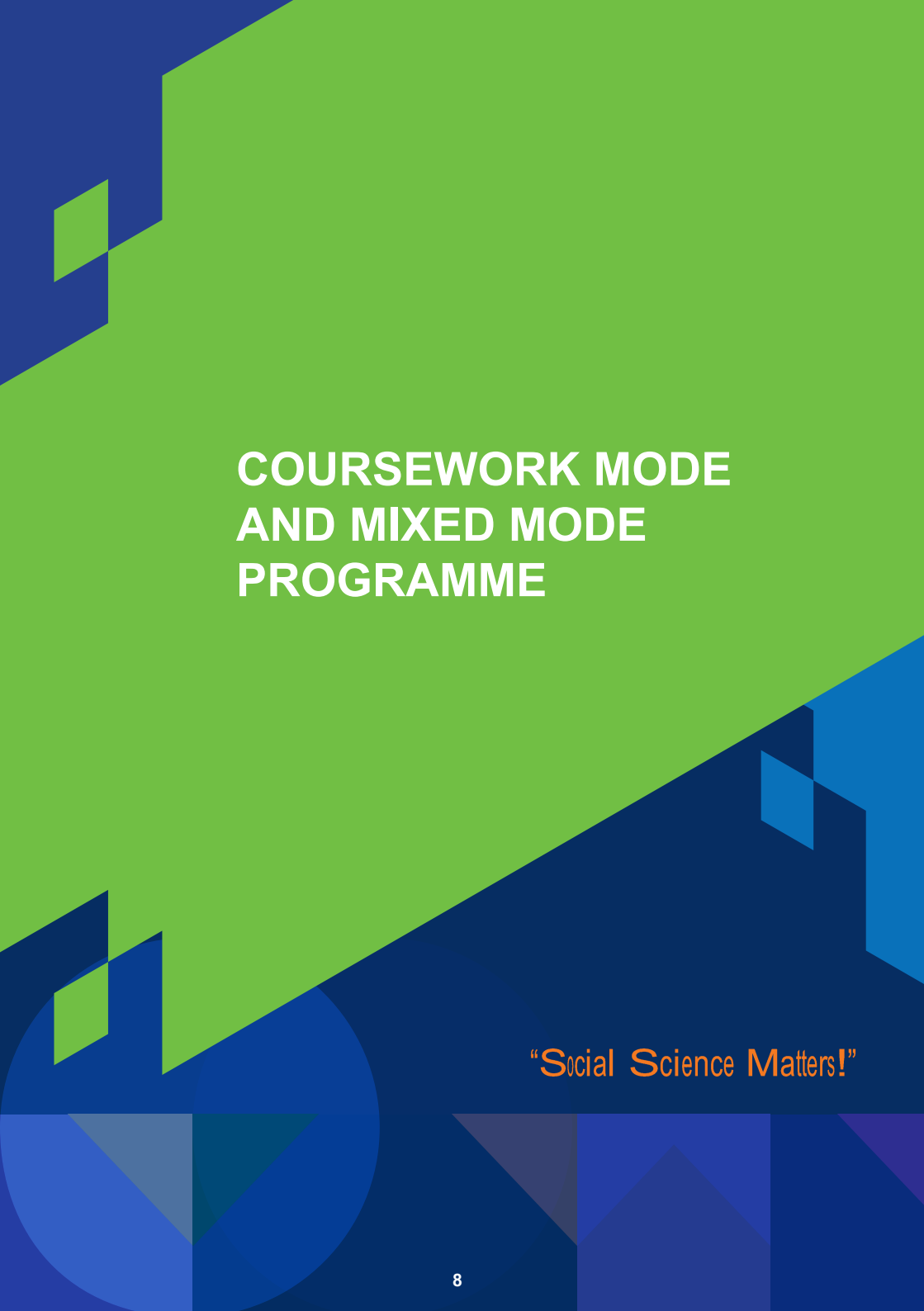
Assistant Administrator  
(Research Mode)  
email : ishak.suratee@usm.my  
Ext : 5384

---



**Mdm. Mahani Yusoff**

Assistant Administrator  
(Course Work/Mixed Mode)  
email : mahani\_yusoff@usm.my  
Ext : 5390



# COURSEWORK MODE AND MIXED MODE PROGRAMME

**“Social Science Matters!”**

# Our **COURSEWORK /** **MIXED MODE PROGRAMMES**

## **COURSEWORK**

1

### **The Master of Public Administration (MPA)**

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) programme is designed for those serving in the public sector and those planning a career in the public service. It is also open to those from other sectors for whom knowledge of the public sector is important. The basic entry requirement is a bachelor's degree from a recognized university.

2

### **Master of Economic Management (MEM)**

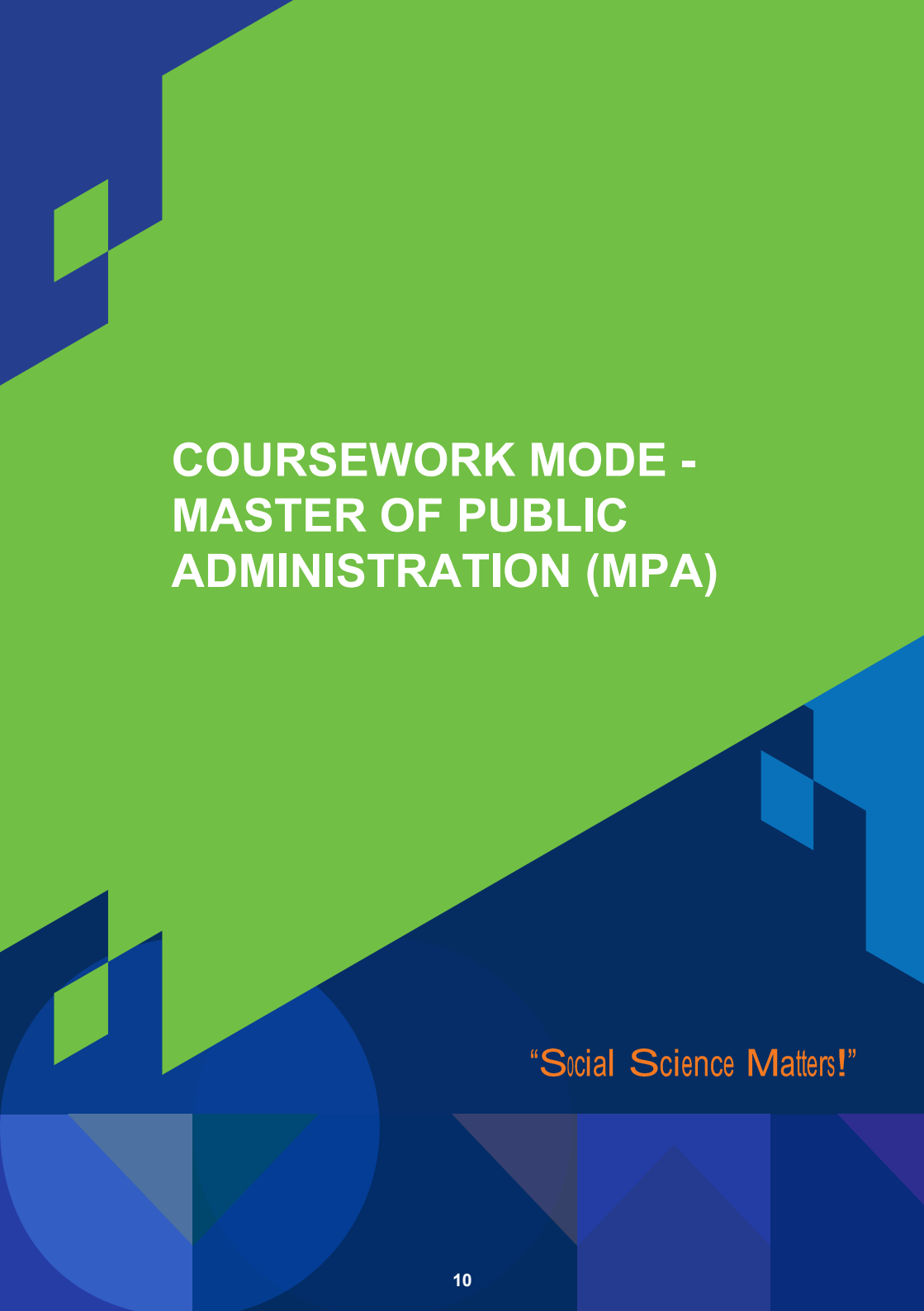
The Master of Economic Management Programme (MEM) is a unique programme that combines practical economic knowledge with an issue-oriented approach. It is designed to train innovative economics practitioners. The programme provides an interesting blend of essential theory and practical application-skills that are necessary for those involved in economic management and are likely to be confronted by a wide range of economic issues.

3

## **MIXED MODE**

### **Master of Social Work (MSW)**

The Masters of Social Work Programme is a programme that combines social work knowledge and field practice (practicum). It is designed to train social work practitioners from government and non-governmental organizations. This programme helps students to work in the social work field at both micro (individual and groups) and macro (organization and community).



# **COURSEWORK MODE - MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)**

**“Social Science Matters!”**

# OVERVIEW POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES: **COURSEWORK MODE - MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)**

## **Introduction**

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) programme is designed for professionals currently serving in the public sector, as well as individuals aspiring to build a career in public administration and public service. It is also suitable for professionals from the private and non-profit sectors who seek a comprehensive understanding of public sector governance, policy-making, and administrative practices. The programme equips students with critical knowledge and skills in public policy, governance, and administrative leadership. To provide greater accessibility and flexibility for working professionals, the MPA programme is offered at both Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Penang and USM@KL, enabling students to pursue their studies at either campus while benefiting from the same high-quality curriculum and academic standards.

## **Objective**

Specific objectives of the programme are to:

The general objective of the programme is to equip students with knowledge of the foundations, structures, and functions of the public sector, as well as policy analysis, management, and research. Additionally, it aims to expose them to global developments in the theory and practice of public administration that are required for effective performance in the changing national and international environment.

This will be achieved by focusing on:

- The normative foundations of public administration and the implications of the changing and increasingly challenging national and global context for effective governance and the achievement of national goals.
- A theoretically based examination of the structures and functioning of the public sector and public organisations in modern government, as well as alternative and innovative approaches for their improvement.
- The research and analytical skills needed for effective problem-solving and decision-making in the public sector.
- The development of an approach to public service that guides the efforts of civil servants and integrates their contributions with those of other governmental and non-governmental economic and social institutions in society, consistent with national aspirations.

## Programme Educational Objectives (PEO)

The MPA programme is designed to produce graduates who demonstrate a deep understanding of public administration principles, are capable of critical analysis and innovative thinking, and uphold ethical values in their professional practice. The specific educational objectives are as follows:

- PEO1: Graduates possess a strong understanding of the field of Public Administration (PLO1), demonstrate the ability to think critically and analytically (PLO2), and apply practical skills (PLO3) to integrate theory with complex public administration challenges, thereby contributing to the advancement of public administration.
- PEO2: Graduates apply theoretical knowledge to evaluate public sector governance and implement innovative approaches to enhance the effectiveness of public service delivery. They demonstrate strong interpersonal skills (PLO4) in strategic collaboration with diverse stakeholders, effective communication skills (PLO5) in presenting professional analyses, and digital competencies (PLO6) to support solutions to contemporary public administration issues.
- PEO3: Graduates apply research and analytical skills to support evidence-based decision-making. They utilise numeracy skills (PLO7) to analyse data systematically while demonstrating autonomous leadership and accountability (PLO8) in promoting sustainable public administration.
- PEO4: Graduates implement effective public sector governance and foster strategic collaborations in alignment with national and global aspirations. They demonstrate strong personal skills (PLO9), the ability to manage risks and challenges in the public sector (PLO10), and uphold integrity (PLO11), contributing to the enhancement of government service delivery and an inclusive society.

## Programme Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon completion of the MPA programme, graduates have the:

### **PLO1: Knowledge and Understanding**

Analyse and evaluate the fundamental concepts and theories of Public Administration by integrating ethical values, integrity, and accountability into public administration practices.

### **PLO2: Cognitive Skills**

Critically analyse, apply, and evaluate social science research methods in Public Administration and Public Policy to identify, interpret, and address issues based on the principles of justice, accountability, and integrity.

### **PLO3: Practical Skills**

Critically analyse and synthesise theories and approaches in Public Administration to evaluate and resolve problems and issues in government and public sector administration, guided by the principles of good governance, professionalism, and social responsibility.

### **PLO4: Interpersonal Skills**

Critically analyse and evaluate public administration issues at the local and global levels through effective interpersonal engagement, teamwork, and professional collaboration, and formulate, justify, and recommend evidence-based solutions and decisions to address these issues.

### **PLO5: Communication Skills**

Communicate strategically and effectively in both oral and written forms to diverse audiences and for various purposes by adapting communication approaches to professional and academic contexts.

### **PLO6: Digital Skills**

Apply and critically evaluate digital skills in problem-solving, information management, and learning activities, while effectively integrating digital technologies within the context of public administration.

### **PLO7: Numeracy Skills**

Critically analyse and evaluate economic issues and challenges in the public sector by applying numeracy and quantitative analytical skills to support evidence-based decision-making.

### **PLO8: Leadership, Autonomy and Responsibility**

Provide strategic leadership and demonstrate professional accountability in managing teams effectively and efficiently to achieve organisational objectives within the context of public administration.

### **PLO9: Personal Skills**

Embrace and integrate lifelong learning by acquiring, evaluating, and applying information critically through work and life experiences for continuous professional development.

### **PLO10: Entrepreneurial Skills**

Apply and critically evaluate self-management, time management, and information management skills, while analysing environmental risks and opportunities to support effective and responsible decision-making.

### **PLO11: Ethics and Professionalism**

Consistently practise and demonstrate ethical values, integrity, and professionalism in diverse and dynamic work environments, while adapting professional behaviour to evolving organisational contexts.

## Programme Duration

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) programme is structured as a three-semester coursework programme for full-time students. For part-time students, the programme is completed over six semesters. To be awarded the MPA degree, students must successfully accumulate 44 credits, comprising both core and elective courses. During the first two semesters, students will complete 32 credits of core courses, followed by 12 credits of elective courses in the third semester.

To accommodate the needs of working professionals, the programme is offered at both USM Penang and USM@KL with flexible class schedules. Classes at USM@KL are conducted on weekends (Saturday and Sunday), while classes at USM Penang are held on weekdays after normal working hours. The programme is delivered using the Blended Learning Substitution (BLS) approach, which integrates face-to-face instruction with online learning activities to provide greater flexibility while maintaining high academic standards.

## Degree Requirement and Assessment

Students will be awarded the Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree upon successfully completing 44 credits from core and elective courses. Academic performance is assessed using the Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) system, as outlined in the university's grading scale.

The minimum passing grade for each course is C+, and students must attain a minimum CGPA of 3.00 out of 4.00 to be eligible for graduation. In line with university regulations, students are permitted to repeat any course in which they obtain a grade of B- or below.

| Grade     | Grade Point | Explanation |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>A</b>  | <b>4.00</b> | <b>Pass</b> |
| <b>A-</b> | <b>3.67</b> |             |
| <b>B+</b> | <b>3.33</b> |             |
| <b>B</b>  | <b>3.00</b> |             |
| <b>B-</b> | <b>2.67</b> |             |
| <b>C+</b> | <b>2.33</b> |             |
| <b>F</b>  | <b>0</b>    | <b>Fail</b> |

## Programme Structure

The MPA programme is designed to provide a balanced integration of knowledge and skills essential for effective public administration. It emphasises the following core competencies:

- A sound understanding of the political and institutional context in which public administrators operate.
- Management skills to design and oversee internal operations, allocate and manage human and material resources, and evaluate performance.
- Technical, analytical, and research capabilities to produce high-quality advisory work for senior-level administrative or political officials, or to supervise and assess such work by others.
- Mastery of substantive policy issues to enable effective monitoring of developments, anticipation of emerging problems, and the formulation of practical policies and programmes.

The core and elective courses are structured around these four key domains of knowledge and skills, in addition to the Research Project. A detailed course list is provided in the table below. Courses are primarily conducted in English, but students have the option to complete examinations, term papers, and project papers in Bahasa Malaysia, based on their preference.

The programme requires students to complete a total of 44 credit hours, comprising 32 credits of core courses and 12 credits of elective courses.

**Structure of Credits**

| Course Type  | Credits (Units) |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Core         | 32              |
| Electives    | 12              |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>44</b>       |

The curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive foundation in public administration, policy analysis, and public sector management, with flexibility through a range of electives.

**Code and Course Title**

| <b>Code</b> | <b>Course Title</b>                            | <b>Course Hour</b> | <b>Course Type</b> |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| SPA501      | PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND THE POLITICAL SYSTEM | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA502      | RESEARCH METHODS                               | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA503      | ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT                      | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA504      | ECONOMICS FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR                | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA505      | GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN MALAYSIA            | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA506      | PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT                       | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA507      | ISSUES IN THE MALAYSIAN ECONOMY                | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA508      | POLICY ANALYSIS AND DESIGN                     | 4                  | C                  |
| SPA512      | CASE STUDIES IN MANAGING PUBLIC SECTOR         | 4                  | E                  |
| SPA515      | ETHICS AND ADMINISTRATION                      | 4                  | E                  |
| SPA517      | GLOBALISATION AND REGIONALISM                  | 4                  | E                  |
| SPA520      | PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND HEALTH POLICY        | 4                  | E                  |
| SPA591      | INDEPENDENT STUDIES                            | 4                  | E                  |
| SPA592      | RESEARCH PROJECT                               | 12                 | E                  |

**Full-Time (1 Year)**

Students complete the programme over three semesters:

- Semester I and II: Students are required to complete core courses, totalling 16 credits per semester.
- Semester III: Students will enrol in elective courses amounting to 12 credits. Alternatively, they may opt to undertake the Research Project (SPA592), which carries 12 credit hours, in place of the electives.

**Full-Time Program Structure (1 year)**

| <b>Semester I</b> | <b>Semester II</b>       | <b>Semester III</b>                 |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| SPA501/4          | SPA503/4                 | SPA512/4                            |
| SPA502/4          | SPA505/4                 | SPA515/4                            |
| SPA504/4          | SPA506/4                 | SPA517/4                            |
| SPA508/4          | SPA507/4                 | *Alternative: SPA592/12<br>SPA591/4 |
|                   | *Alternative: SPA 592/12 |                                     |
| <b>16 credits</b> | <b>16 credits</b>        | <b>12 credits</b>                   |

## Part-Time (2 Years)

Students complete the programme over six semesters:

- Year 1: Students undertake core and elective courses, completing 8 credits per semester.
- Year 2: Students complete the remaining core and elective courses. Semester III consists of 4 credits.
- Students may opt to undertake the Research Project (SPA592) in Year 2, which carries 12 credit hours. It is registered at the end of Semester I and carried through Semester II and III.

**Part-Time Program structure (2 years)**

| Year 1               |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Semester I           | Semester II          | Semester III         |
| SPA501/4<br>SPA502/4 | SPA503/4<br>SPA507/4 | SPA512/4<br>SPA515/4 |
| <b>8 credits</b>     | <b>8 credits</b>     | <b>8 credits</b>     |

| Year 2               |                                                 |                                                             |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Semester I           | Semester II                                     | Semester III                                                |
| SPA504/4<br>SPA508/4 | SPA503/4<br>SPA505/4<br>*Alternative: SPA592/12 | SPA517/4<br>SPA520/4<br>SPA591/4<br>*Alternative: SPA592/12 |
| <b>8 credits</b>     | <b>8 credits</b>                                | <b>4 credits</b>                                            |

\* Candidates who wish to register for SPA592 should register at the end of Semester I and enrol in Semester II until Semester III.

\* Candidates are allowed to register for SPA592 in year 2 of the academic calendar.

\* Subject SPA592 is equivalent to 12 credit hours.

## COURSE SYNOPSIS

### SPA501 - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND THE POLITICAL SYSTEM

#### Synopsis:

This course seeks to familiarize students with the political context of public administration, particularly in a democracy. A sound understanding of the underlying values of government and the country's political system is indispensable if the public administrator is to discharge his/her duties responsibly and to contribute positively to societal governance.

#### Course Objectives:

Familiarising students with the political context, particularly in democracies, and the impact of that context on the functioning of public administration.

### SPA502 - RESEARCH METHODS

#### Synopsis:

This course equips students with skills to design, commission, and evaluate social research. Students will learn to create research designs, frame questions, choose methods, analyse data, apply concepts and theories, and address ethics, using both qualitative and quantitative approaches for effective and responsible social science research practice.

#### Course Objectives:

Providing in-depth knowledge related to public sector economics in the teaching of public administration.

### SPA503 - ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

#### Synopsis:

Introduces students to the concepts, theories, and processes of management as well as organizational behavior in the public sector. Through case studies and critical discussions, students evaluate issues such as motivation, culture, and conflict, while linking them to real-world experiences and developing critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork skills.

#### Course Objectives:

This course aims to introduce students to the concept of behaviour management within organisations, particularly in the public sector. Another goal of this course is to enhance students' understanding of principles, organisational structure, skills, motivation, leadership, conflict, and other topics related to organisational management in the public sector.

## **SPA504 - ECONOMICS FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR**

### **Synopsis:**

This course aims to expose students to the roles and interventions of government in market economy, and also how government policies are shaped by both market efficiency and failure in return.

### **Course Objectives:**

Providing a deeper understanding of public sector economics in the teaching of public administration.

## **SPA505 - GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS IN MALAYSIA**

### **Synopsis:**

This course investigates the government structure and political processes in Malaysia. Discussion begins with the process of independence and analysis on the development of Malaysian government institutions. It continues with a discussion on Malaysian contemporary political issues. The extent to which Malaysia is a democratic system will also be examined.

### **Course Objectives:**

To discuss and analyse the governance structure and political processes in Malaysia. Such discussions and analyses will enable students to gain a comprehensive understanding based on the examination of political issues in Malaysia, thereby becoming concerned and critical-thinking citizens.

## **SPA506 - PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT**

### **Synopsis:**

This course provides students with the introduction of public sector management such as theory and practice of public sector. Beyond this, the course will examine issues, challenges and the changing nature of public sector

### **Course Objectives:**

To provide a deeper understanding of public sector economics in the teaching of public administration.

## **SPA507 - ISSUES IN THE MALAYSIAN ECONOMY**

### **Synopsis:**

This course will be devoted to understanding on how the economy is managed while analysing some of the major and related development strategies, policies and stability.

### **Course Objectives:**

To provide in-depth knowledge of economic issues in Malaysia and internationally that impact the country's administrative system.

## **SPA508 - POLICY ANALYSIS AND DESIGN**

### **Synopsis:**

This course explores the important role of public policy in Malaysian public administration, covering its concepts, theories, and formulation processes. Students critically evaluate policy developments and propose improvements. Overall, the course strengthens understanding of policy-making dynamics while developing critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork skills.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course aims to introduce public policy as one of the core disciplines in public administration. In this course, students will be exposed to the concepts, theories, and implementation of public policy, enabling them to understand the processes of policy formulation, implementation, evaluation, and the art of policymaking. The course also aims to provide students with the opportunity to evaluate public policies based on the concepts and theories they have learned, fostering a critical understanding of policy formulation and examining the factors that lead to the success or failure of a policy.

## **SPA512 - CASE STUDIES IN MANAGING PUBLIC SECTOR**

### **Synopsis:**

This short-term course aims to provide some fundamental understanding on how government must response, handle, decide and execute its day after day business.

### **Course Objectives:**

This short-term course will expose students to various policy and public administration issues in Malaysia.

## **SPA515 - ETHICS AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Synopsis:**

This course examines administrative ethics with a focus on contemporary issues, political dynamics, and the dilemmas faced by both the public and private sectors, while also covering the theories and practices of ethical empowerment at the national and international levels.

### **Course Objectives:**

Providing in-depth knowledge of ethical and administrative issues at both national and

## **SPA517 - GLOBALISATION AND REGIONALISM**

### **Synopsis:**

This course examines globalization and regionalism in political, economic, and socio-cultural contexts through selected theories, concepts, and case studies. Students explore historical and contemporary dynamics, evaluate positive and negative impacts, and analyze the relationship between both phenomena to critically understand changes in global power structures and the direction of world development.

### **Course Objectives:**

The goal is to introduce students to the paradigms, theories, and concepts that describe globalisation. This course will also give students insight into how the world works and evolves through globalisation.

## **SPA520 - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND HEALTH POLICY**

### **Synopsis:**

This course exposes students to empirical studies in health care policy. It focuses on issues, such as the dynamics between different actors, the interactions between health and politics, the rise of new technology, and the influence of global health governance, which have impact on the implementation of health care policy.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course aims to critically engage with theories and empirical studies of health policy. By the end of the semester, students will be equipped with the skills to analyse and compare various health systems both qualitatively and quantitatively. The course will also prepare students to consider the perspectives and involvement of various actors in examining the processes and politics of health policy formation and administration.

## **SPA591 - INDEPENDENT STUDIES**

### **Synopsis:**

This course is designed to be flexible, requiring students to select an appropriate supervisor and undertake research based on their area of interest. The final outcome of the course is the production of a creative and high-quality written work

### **Course Objectives:**

This course aims to provide students with the opportunity to conduct research on a topic of interest, enabling them to further develop what they have learned throughout their studies. It trains students to write critically and analytically about the chosen topic.

## **SPA592 - RESEARCH PROJECT**

### **Synopsis:**

This course is one semester and 12 units of credit. It is designed to provide students with actual experience in writing a small thesis. The final product is a project paper within the range of 25 to 40 thousand words.

### **Course Objectives:**

This course aims to provide students with the opportunity to conduct research on a topic of interest, allowing them to expand on what they have learned throughout their studies. It trains students to write critically and analytically about the selected topic.

### Step for Registration Master Project Paper (SPA592)

The Master Project Paper (SPA592) is a key component of the MPA programme that allows students to apply research skills to a topic of their interest within the field of public administration. The process begins with the preparation of a research proposal and the identification of a suitable supervisor based on the student's research area.

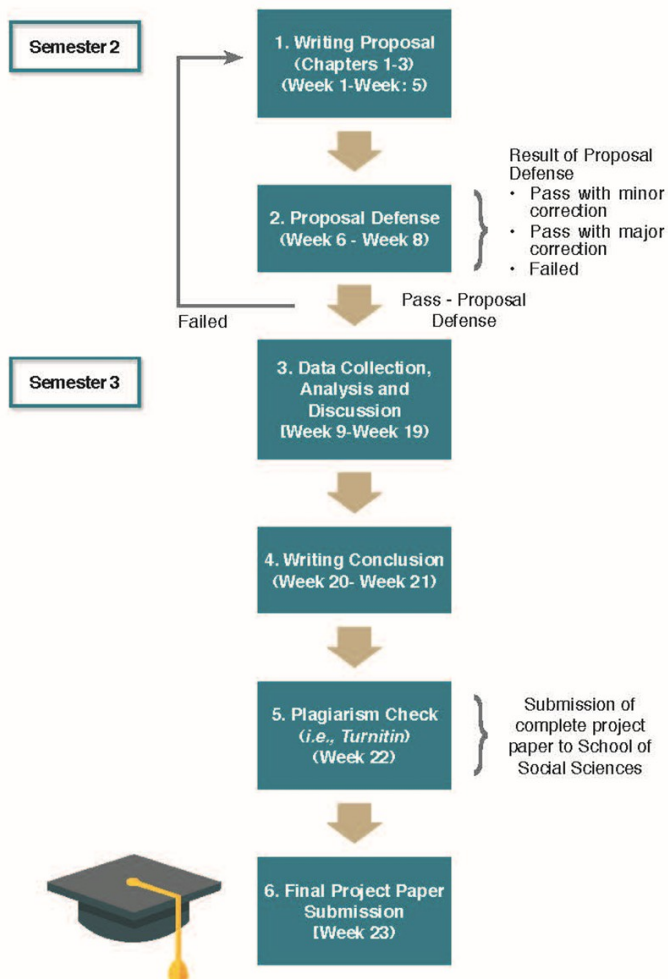
For full-time students, this process starts in Semester 1, followed by official registration in Semester 2, and submission of the completed paper in Semester 3. For part-time students, proposal preparation typically takes place in Semester 3 (Year 1), registration follows in Semester 1 (Year 2), and submission is expected in Semester 2 (Year 2). This structured timeline ensures students have adequate time for planning, research, and academic supervision.

| Full-Time Mode of Study |                                                    |                     |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1.                      | Prepare a proposal and find a potential supervisor | Semester 1 (Year 1) |
| 2.                      | Register for project paper (SPA592)                | Semester 2 (Year 1) |
| 3.                      | Submission project paper (SPA592)                  | Semester 3 (Year 1) |

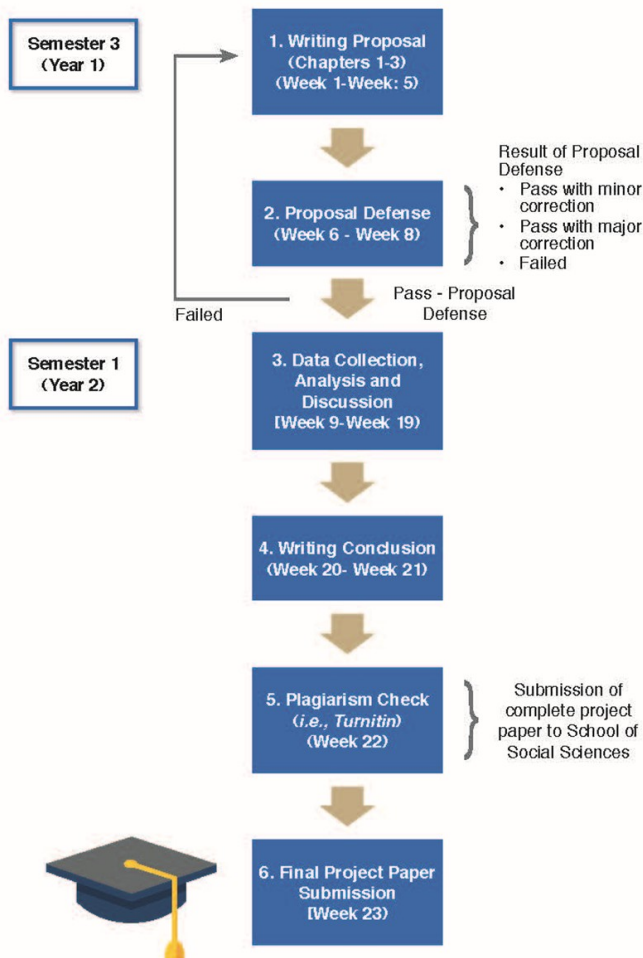
| Full-Time Mode of Study |                                                    |                     |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1.                      | Prepare a proposal and find a potential supervisor | Semester 3 (Year 1) |
| 2.                      | Register for project paper (SPA592)                | Semester 1 (Year 2) |
| 3.                      | Submission project paper (SPA592)                  | Semester 2 (Year 2) |



## Step for Submission Project Paper (SPA592) - Full Time Mode of Study



## Step for Submission Project Paper (SPA592) - Part Time Mode of Study

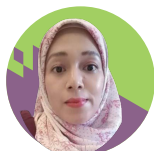




## **ACADEMIC STAFF, RESEARCH INTEREST AND EXPERTISE**

**“Social Science Matters!”**

**Public Administration, Political Sciences Digital Divide and Technology Accessibilities, Disabilities Studies, Quantitative Research Methodology and the Use of Structural Equation Modeling**



**Nur Ajrun Khalid**  
B.P.M., MPM., PhD. (UUM)  
Office: C13/118  
email: nurajrun@usm.my  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/nurajrun>

**Political Science, Cultural Politics, Democratization, Youth Politics and Social Movement**



**Muhammad Febriansyah**  
MA, Ph.D. (UKM)  
Office: C23, Ext: 5388  
email: febrian@usm.my  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/febrian>

**Political Economy of Health System, Health Financing System, Politics of Health, Bodies and Medicine; Politics of Heritage; Postcolonial Politics**



**Por Heong Hong**  
B.Sc, M.Sc (National Yang Ming University) Ph.D. (USM)  
Office: Cabin D5  
email: porheonghong@usm.my  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/porheonghong>

**Public Administration, Public Policy, E-government, Good Governance, Citizenship Education**



**Razlini Mohd Ramli**  
B.A (UM), M.P.A. (Liverpool),  
Ph.D. (Lancaster)  
Office: C05/013, Ext: 2798  
email: razlini@usm.my  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/razlini>

**New Public Service, Public Participation and Active Transport Policy**



**Nadhrah A. Kadir**  
BAS (UiTM), MPA (USM),  
Ph.D. (Virginia Tech)  
Office: C14/006, Ext: 2650  
email: nadhrah@usm.my  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/nadhrah>

**International and Comparative Politics, Public Policy Studies and Globalization and World Order**



**Siti Zuliha Razali**  
B.A (IIUM),  
M.A., Ph.D. (Denver)  
Office: C14/103, Ext: 3348  
email: siti\_razali@usm.my  
Senior Lecturer

[https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/siti\\_razali](https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/siti_razali)

**COMPARATIVE POLITICS AND POLITICAL SYATEM,  
PEACE, SECURITY AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION**



**Hipolitus Yolisandry Ringgi**

Ph.D. (ANU)  
Office: C05/128, Ext:  
email: [hipolitusringgi@usm.my](mailto:hipolitusringgi@usm.my)  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/hipolitusringgi>

**Public Administration, Representative  
Bureaucracy, Malaysian Politics, Public  
Employment, Affordable Housing**

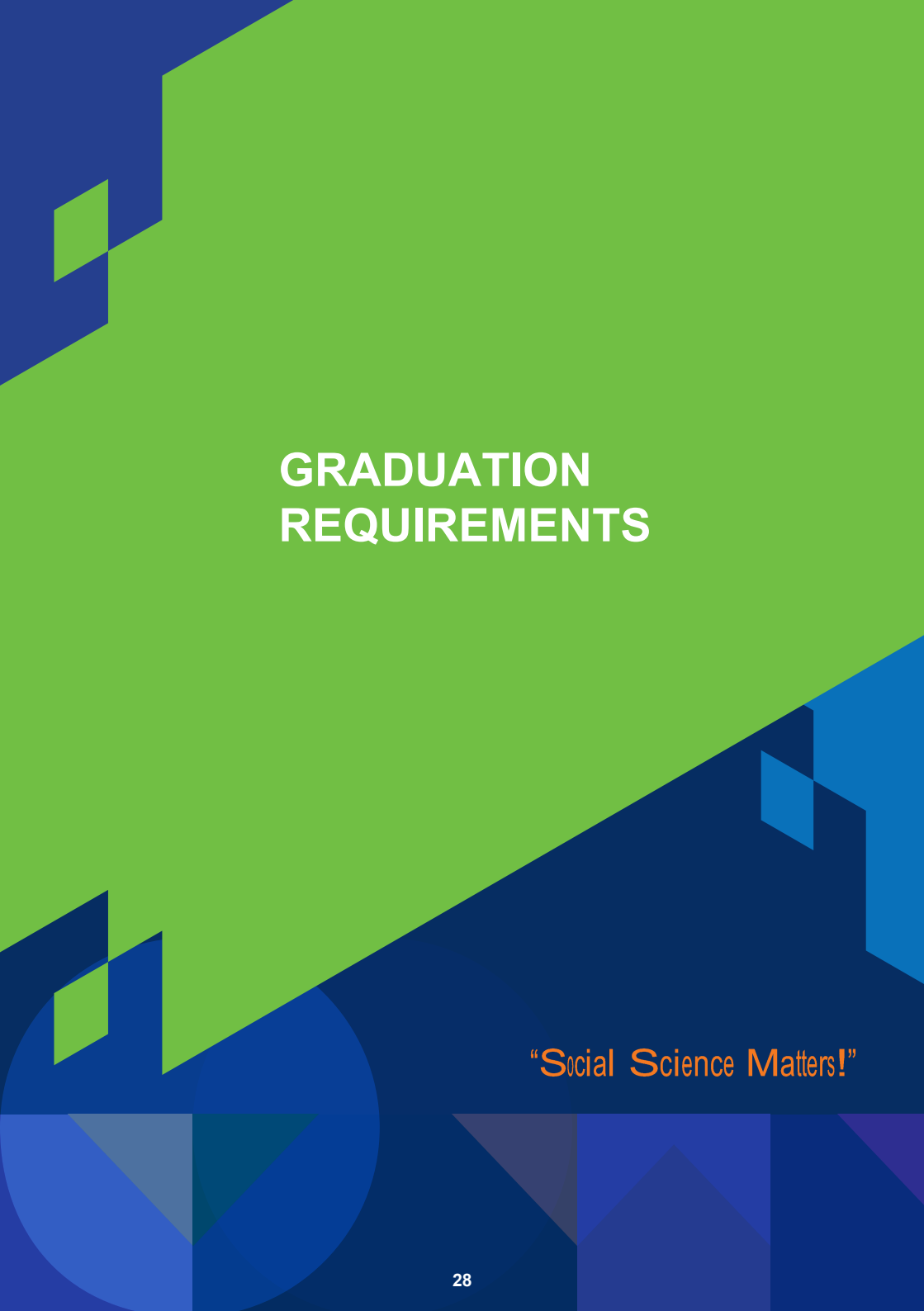


**Woo Kuan Heong**

B.Ed., M.P.A., Ph.D. (USM)  
Office: C13/109, Ext: 4616  
email: [khwoo@usm.my](mailto:khwoo@usm.my)  
Senior Lecturer

<https://experts.usm.my/cvitae/khwoo>





# GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

**“Social Science Matters!”**

To graduate from the MPA programme, students must fulfil the following requirements:

- (a) Fulfil the minimum duration of candidature.
- (b) Achieve a CGPA of at least 3.00 out of 4.00.
- (c) Accumulate a total of 40 credits.
- (d) Obtain a minimum grade of C for Malaysian Culture and Malay Language (LKM111). This course is compulsory for all international students.



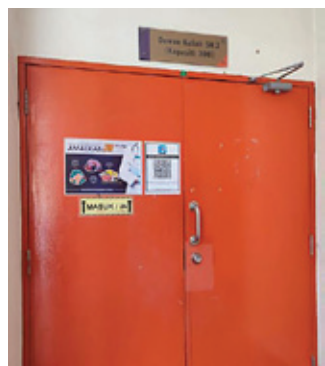
# PTJ FACILITIES

“Social Science Matters!”

## Facilities



## Building C 23



## Computer Lab

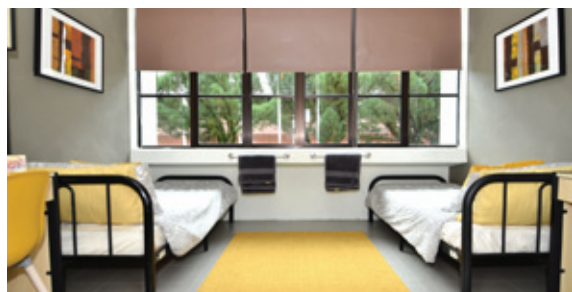




## Sport Facilities



## Accommodation



# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

**“Social Science Matters!”**



ACADEMIC CALENDAR - ACADEMIC SESSION 2026/2027

FOR ALL SCHOOLS (EXCEPT FOR SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES AND SCHOOL OF DENTAL SCIENCES)

Main Campus : Registration for New Student (18 - 20 September 2026) / \*\*Orientation Week (21 - 26 September 2026)

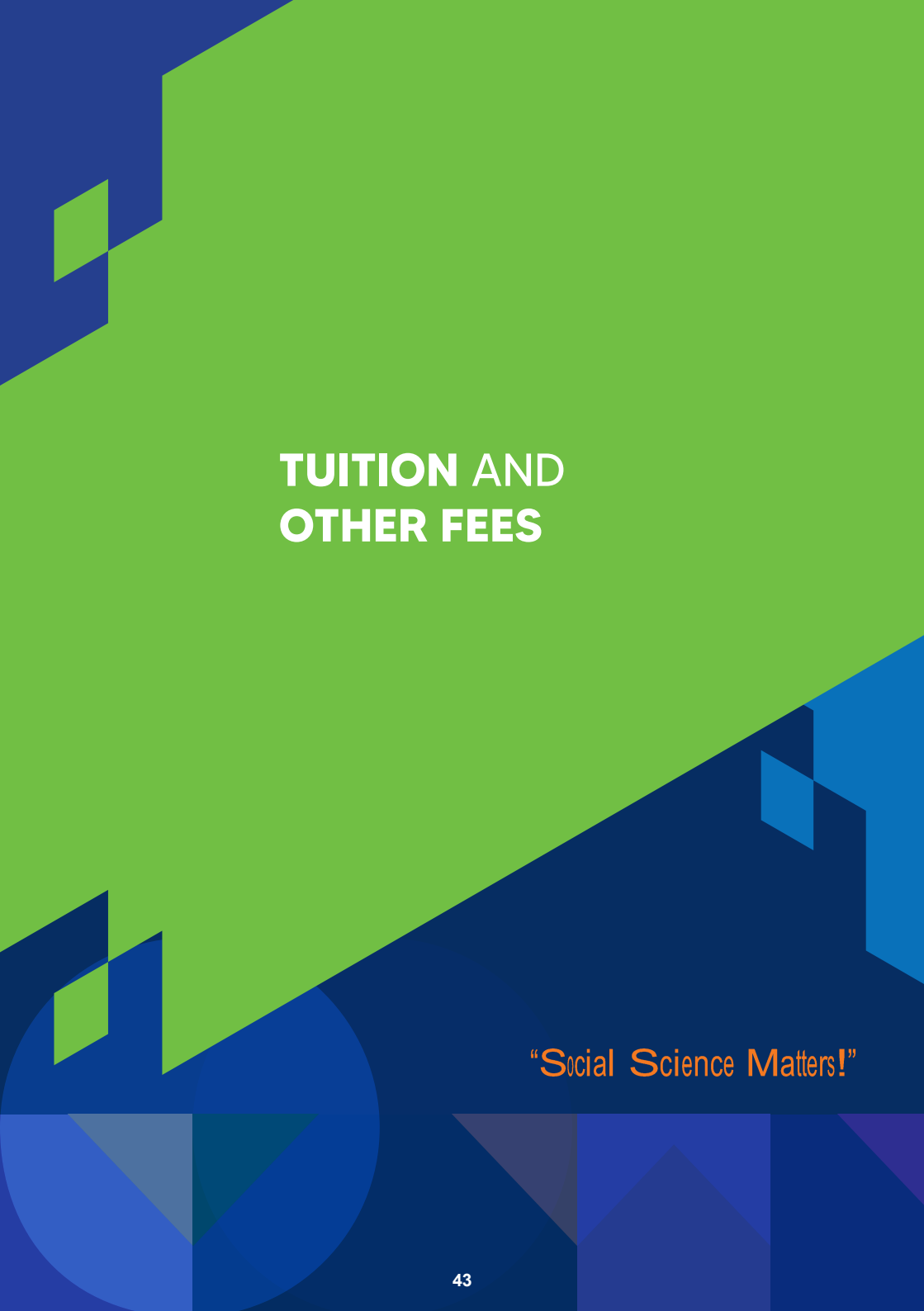
Engineering Campus : Registration for New Student (20 September 2026) / \*\*Orientation Week (21 - 26 September 2026)

Health Campus : Registration for New Student (19 September 2026) / \*\*Orientation Week (21 - 26 September 2026)

| SEM                              | WEEKS | ACTIVITIES                                               | DATES                                   | REMARKS                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ONE                              | 1     | Teaching & Learning<br>(T&L 7 Weeks)                     | Monday, 28.09.2026 - Sunday, 04.10.2026 | 29 & 30.09.2026, Tuesday & Wednesday - Sultan of Kelantan's Birthday (Health Campus)                                                                     |
|                                  | 2     |                                                          | Monday, 05.10.2026 - Sunday, 11.10.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 3     |                                                          | Monday, 12.10.2026 - Sunday, 18.10.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 4     |                                                          | Monday, 19.10.2026 - Sunday, 25.10.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 5     |                                                          | Monday, 26.10.2026 - Sunday, 01.11.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 6     |                                                          | Monday, 02.11.2026 - Sunday, 08.11.2026 | 08.11.2026, Sunday - Deepavali**                                                                                                                         |
|                                  | 7     |                                                          | Monday, 09.11.2026 - Sunday, 15.11.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 8     | Mid-Semester Break (Sem I)<br>(1 Week)                   | Monday, 16.11.2026 - Sunday, 22.11.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 9     | Teaching & Learning<br>(T&L 7 Weeks)                     | Monday, 23.11.2026 - Sunday, 29.11.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 10    |                                                          | Monday, 30.11.2026 - Sunday, 06.12.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 11    |                                                          | Monday, 07.12.2026 - Sunday, 13.12.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 12    |                                                          | Monday, 14.12.2026 - Sunday, 20.12.2026 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 13    |                                                          | Monday, 21.12.2026 - Sunday, 27.12.2026 | 25.12.2026, Friday - Christmas Day                                                                                                                       |
|                                  | 14    |                                                          | Monday, 28.12.2026 - Sunday, 03.01.2027 | 01.01.2027, Friday - New Year 2027                                                                                                                       |
|                                  | 15    |                                                          | Monday, 04.01.2027 - Sunday, 10.01.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 16    | Revision Week<br>(1 Week)                                | Monday, 11.01.2027 - Sunday, 17.01.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 17    | Examination<br>(3 Weeks)                                 | Monday, 18.01.2027 - Sunday, 24.01.2027 | 22.01.2027, Friday - Thaipusam                                                                                                                           |
|                                  | 18    |                                                          | Monday, 25.01.2027 - Sunday, 31.01.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 19    |                                                          | Monday, 01.02.2027 - Sunday, 07.02.2027 | 06 & 07.02.2027, Saturday & Sunday - Chinese New Year                                                                                                    |
|                                  | 20    | Mid-Semester Break /<br>Industrial Training<br>(4 Weeks) | Monday, 08.02.2027 - Sunday, 14.02.2027 | 08.02.2027, Monday - First Day of Ramadan                                                                                                                |
|                                  | 21    |                                                          | Monday, 15.02.2027 - Sunday, 21.02.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 22    |                                                          | Monday, 22.02.2027 - Sunday, 28.02.2027 | 24.02.2027, Wednesday - Nuzul Al-Quran                                                                                                                   |
|                                  | 23    |                                                          | Monday, 01.03.2027 - Sunday, 07.03.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
| TWO                              | 24/1  | Teaching & Learning<br>(T&L 7 Weeks)                     | Monday, 08.03.2027 - Sunday, 14.03.2027 | 10 & 11.03.2027, Wednesday & Thursday - Eid al-Fitr**                                                                                                    |
|                                  | 25/2  |                                                          | Monday, 15.03.2027 - Sunday, 21.03.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 26/3  |                                                          | Monday, 22.03.2027 - Sunday, 28.03.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 27/4  |                                                          | Monday, 29.03.2027 - Sunday, 04.04.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 28/5  |                                                          | Monday, 05.04.2027 - Sunday, 11.04.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 29/6  |                                                          | Monday, 12.04.2027 - Sunday, 18.04.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 30/7  |                                                          | Monday, 19.04.2027 - Sunday, 25.04.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 31/8  | Mid-Semester Break (Sem II)<br>(1 Week)                  | Monday, 26.04.2027 - Sunday, 02.05.2027 | 01.05.2027, Saturday - Labour Day<br>02.05.2027, Sunday - Substitute Holiday for Labour Day (Health Campus)                                              |
|                                  | 32/9  | Teaching & Learning<br>(T&L 7 Weeks)                     | Monday, 03.05.2027 - Sunday, 09.05.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 33/10 |                                                          | Monday, 10.05.2027 - Sunday, 16.05.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 34/11 |                                                          | Monday, 17.05.2027 - Sunday, 23.05.2027 | 17.05.2027, Monday - Eid al-Adha**<br>18.05.2027, Tuesday - Substitute Holiday for Eid al-Adha** (Health Campus)<br>20.05.2027, Thursday - Wesak Day     |
|                                  | 35/12 |                                                          | Monday, 24.05.2027 - Sunday, 30.05.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 36/13 |                                                          | Monday, 31.05.2027 - Sunday, 06.06.2027 | 06.06.2027, Sunday - Islamic New Year                                                                                                                    |
|                                  | 37/14 |                                                          | Monday, 07.06.2027 - Sunday, 13.06.2027 | 07.06.2027, Monday - Substitute Holiday for Islamic New Year (Main Campus & Engineering Campus)<br>07.06.2027, Monday - Yang di-Pertuan Agong's Birthday |
|                                  | 38/15 |                                                          | Monday, 14.06.2027 - Sunday, 20.06.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 39/16 | Revision Week<br>(1 Week)                                | Monday, 21.06.2027 - Sunday, 27.06.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 40/17 | **Examination<br>(2 Week)                                | Monday, 28.06.2027 - Sunday, 04.07.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 41/18 |                                                          | Monday, 05.07.2027 - Sunday, 11.07.2027 | 07.07.2027, Wednesday - Georgetown World Heritage City Day<br>10.07.2027, Saturday - Penang Governor's Birthday                                          |
|                                  | 42/19 |                                                          | Monday, 12.07.2027 - Sunday, 18.07.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
| COURSES DURING SEMESTER<br>BREAK | 43/20 | Semester II Break / Industrial<br>Training (10-11 Weeks) | Monday, 19.07.2027 - Sunday, 25.07.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 44/21 |                                                          | Monday, 26.07.2027 - Sunday, 01.08.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 45/22 |                                                          | Monday, 02.08.2027 - Sunday, 08.08.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 46/23 |                                                          | Monday, 09.08.2027 - Sunday, 15.08.2027 | 15.08.2027, Sunday - Prophet Muhammad's Birthday                                                                                                         |
|                                  | 47/24 |                                                          | Monday, 16.08.2027 - Sunday, 22.08.2027 | 16.08.2027, Monday - Substitute Holiday for Prophet Muhammad's Birthday                                                                                  |
|                                  | 48/25 |                                                          | Monday, 23.08.2027 - Sunday, 29.08.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 49/26 |                                                          | Monday, 30.08.2027 - Sunday, 05.09.2027 | 31.08.2027, Tuesday - National Day                                                                                                                       |
|                                  | 50/27 |                                                          | Monday, 06.09.2027 - Sunday, 12.09.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |
|                                  | 51/28 |                                                          | Monday, 13.09.2027 - Sunday, 19.09.2027 | 16.09.2027, Thursday - Malaysia Day                                                                                                                      |
|                                  | 52/29 |                                                          | Monday, 20.09.2027 - Sunday, 26.09.2027 |                                                                                                                                                          |

\*\*This Academic Calendar is subject to change

HEBAHAN BPA BIL. 1/2026 (13 FEBRUARI 2026)  
SENAT KEB-207 (20 JANUARI 2026)



## TUITION AND OTHER FEES

“Social Science Matters!”

| One-Off Fees                    |                 |                 |                     |                     |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                                 |                 | Malaysian (MYR) |                     | International (USD) |
| Registration fee                |                 |                 |                     |                     |
| Master of Public Administration |                 | 510.00          |                     | 275.00              |
| Personal Bond                   |                 | N/A             |                     | 1000.00             |
| Convocation Fee                 |                 | 200.00          |                     | 50.00               |
|                                 | Malaysian (MYR) |                 | International (USD) |                     |
|                                 | Full Time/sem   | Part Time/sem   | Full Time/sem       | Part Time/sem       |
| Master of Public Administration | 23,100.00       |                 | 8,800.00            |                     |

#### Disclaimers:

- 1) The above rates are effective from Academic Session 2026/2027.
- 2) Fees are subject to change.
- 3) Final fees should be confirmed before any commitment to be made.
- 4) Any discrepancies on the fees, the correct amount by USM Bursary are to be used.

Please direct all enquiries regarding postgraduate programmes to:

Dean  
School of Social Sciences  
Universiti Sains Malaysia  
11800 USM, Penang, Malaysia  
Tel: +604-653 3369  
Fax: +604-653 3860  
Email: dean\_soc@usm.my

Deputy Dean  
(Academic, Career and International)  
School of Social Sciences  
Universiti Sains Malaysia  
11800 USM, Penang, Malaysia  
Tel: +604-653 5389 / 5390  
Fax: +604-653 3860  
Email: ddsa\_soc@usm.my

Website : <http://www.soc.usm.my>  
Facebook : Socsc Postgrad

For information on admission requirements and fees, please visit <http://www.ips.usm.my/>

@ May 2026