Master of Social Sciences (MSS) (By Research)

The MSS (By Research) programme is specifically designed to meet the needs of postgraduate students who intend to specialise in the area of social sciences. This blended learning programme is targeted to individuals keen on advanced research and academic pursuits at educational institutions, as well as those who wish to enhance their knowledge and skills in these areas. The MSS (By Research) is offered by Asia e University, a multinational and dual mode university recognised by 31 member countries of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD).

Learning Objectives

- Enhance students’ practical knowledge and ability to solve current issues and problems faced by contemporary Asian society in any field of social sciences.
- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of concepts and theories in the field of social sciences.
- To develop students’ relevant skill of research and apply it efficiently and effectively to suit various type of employment needs.
- To develop thorough understanding of classical and modern theories, methodologies, practices and their implications in any selected topic of research.
- To train students as the future Asian leaders who are knowledgeable and competent in the chosen fields of study.

Entry Requirements

- Bachelor’s Degree in relevant field OR
- Other fields recognised by the AeU Senate OR
- Open entry qualifications recognised by MOHE and the AeU Senate
  (at least 35 years old and possess STPM/Matriculation/Diploma equivalent)

Highlights

- Accredited by Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), Ministry of Higher Education.
- No proposal is needed at point of entry.
- Transfer of candidature is possible.
- Supervised by local or international supervisor that is suitable for research area.
- Supported by research workshops, colloquia and clinics.
- Close monitoring by the School of Graduate Studies.

Mode of delivery: Student can opt to come for monthly workshops conducted in selected locations.
SUBJECTS

Research Areas

1. Social Science
   a. Ethnic Studies
   b. Economics
   c. Gender Studies
   d. Political Science
   e. Sociology
   f. Media Studies
   g. Area Studies
   h. Social Work
   i. Environment
   j. Future Studies
   k. Policy Studies

Audit Subjects

1. Research Methodology
2. Quantitative Data Analysis
3. Qualitative Data Analysis

Required Skills for Master Students

Be independent: In a master programme, it is learner-centred and students conduct their research with the assistance of a supervisor. Though the university may stipulate guidelines and expectations, it is the students’ responsibility to complete the phases.

Be tenacious: As a master research thesis may take up to 2 (two) years, students must be committed to complete the programme.

Be effective in time management: Students need to prioritize and manage tasks and commitments effectively to ensure completion of one task before moving on to the next. Focusing on goals is key.

Adapt to challenges: During your research journey, students may face obstacles and challenges in completing the research. Students need to adapt and be flexible to issues that may hinder progress of research.

Communicate effectively: To earn recognition as a master student and a researcher, students need to be confident in delivering the Research Proposal Defense and Viva Voce, as well as communicate effectively and clearly in writing the thesis.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When are the intakes?
   • Anytime.

2. How do you apply?
   • Go to our website: www.aeu.edu.my
   • Click on “Apply Online”
   • Submit the form

3. How is the grading system for postgraduate programmes?
   • For MSS (by Research) there is no coursework but candidates are expected to go through several stages of research phases. Research work is graded either as Satisfactory ‘S’ or Unsatisfactory ‘U’. No point value is given to the research work.

4. How frequently do I need to be in contact with supervisor?
   • As frequently as you can but you are advised to have at least 3 meetings per semester.

5. Am I able to embark on a research area other that the ones listed?
   • Yes. We shall assist you to suit your research interest.

6. If I have done some initial work for my research at a previous institution, can I transfer it to AeU?
   • Yes, you are allowed to apply for transfer of candidature and continue your research work subject to Senate approval.

7. Can I maintain my supervisor(s) from my previous institution to complete my research?
   • Yes, with approval from AeU Senate.

* Terms and conditions apply

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

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PROGRAMME FACTS

| Full Time | ✓ | Part Time | ✓ |
| Fully Online | ✓ | Blended Learning | ✓ |
| Duration | 1 - 2 years |
| No. of Semesters | 3 - 6 Semesters |
| Frequency of Research Workshop / Colloquia (Optional) | Once a month - (Saturday & Sunday) |
| Supervisor | Provided by AeU |
| MQA Accreditation | JPT/BPP N/143/6/0016 08/16, PA0665 |
| EPF & HRDF Claimable (Malaysians Only) | YES |

All learning materials are provided, no need to purchase textbooks.