



SINGAPORE IMMERSION PROGRAM



Overview

The New Colombo Plan is a signature Australian government initiative to develop Australian students' understanding of the Indo-pacific region. Through this grant, the University of Sydney Business School has secured funding to support 18 **undergraduate Business** students to participate in a short-term cultural and research immersion program to Singapore from 1 to 15 December 2019.

This program in Singapore is highly experiential and thematic that aims to develop your cultural understanding of a context for research purposes. Immersing yourself in a cultural context develops your cultural competence and resilience in dealing with a new environment. Researching a thematic project in a context different to your frame of familiarity challenges what you already know as well as opening your lens to new insights that shape you as a Business graduate, enabling you to understand the bigger picture and the importance of context in influencing policy, business decisions and market dynamics. This immersion program is designed to develop you as a researcher, not a tourist.

Students will be fully supported for the duration of the program by an academic from the Business School, Dr Jeaney Yip.

New Colombo Plan Government funding is available to eligible students accepted into the program.

Program dates in country	1 to 15 December 2019
Application dates	12 April to 24 May 2019
Face to face interviews	3, 4 and 5 June 2019
Compulsory pre-departure workshops	30 September 2019 11 and 12 November 2019

Who should apply?

This immersion program is most suitable for Business students who have not travelled to Singapore or Southeast Asia in order to develop your understanding of the region and build your research skills. Specifically:

- Undergraduate students enrolled in a Business School degree (or combined Business School degree) may apply, with all majors being eligible.
- All applicants must have completed a minimum of three full semesters of Business School units prior to applying to this program (or will complete 72 credit points by semester 1 2019).
- A minimum 70% WAM across your degree program to date.
- Applicants are expected to be an outstanding ambassador for the Business School. Evidence of this will be demonstrated through academic and personal achievements.
- Applicants must have a minimum of 6 elective credit points available in their degree. Students are not able to exceed their degree requirements to participate in this program.

- This is a New Colombo Plan short-term mobility program, only Australian citizens between 18 and 28 years of age on 29 June 2019 are eligible.
- Students can participate in only one Business School placement program during the course of their degree i.e. Local Industry Placement Program, International Industry Placement Program or other related programs. Students will only be awarded a second placement opportunity in exceptional circumstances. In addition, students may also participate in a study tour/business practicum/project-based unit and/or the Self-Sourced Placement Program if their degree will accommodate them enrolling in more than one program. Please contact business.placements@sydney.edu.au if you require clarification

Note:

The Singapore Immersion Program (BUSS9406) is an elective unit of study worth 6 credit points which cannot count towards a major/specialisation. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have room in your degree to undertake this unit.

It is also your responsibility to ensure that your study plans conform to the relevant degree and faculty resolutions that are applicable to you. Please make sure to read [the student responsibilities statement](#) on the current student's website to ensure you understand those responsibilities. Please refer to the [Business School Handbook](#) for the requirements of your degree.

How to apply

The Business School application process includes the following:

Step 1: online application through Sonia Online

An online application must be completed in [Sonia Online](#) – log in using your UniKey and password.

To complete your online application, you are required to:

1. Attach a copy of your resume;
2. Attach a copy of your academic record downloaded from Sydney Student;
3. Attach an image of your current passport identification page or indicate that you will be applying for an Australian passport if accepted into the program.
4. Answer all questions as requested on the application form.

Step 2: face to face interview

Once you have submitted an online application and applications have closed, you will receive email notification that acknowledges your application. If shortlisted, you will be contacted for a face to face interview on a date to be confirmed (either on 3, 4 or 5 June 2019)

Please contact [Dr Jeaney Yip](#) if you have any questions regarding the application process.

Unit of Study

Students will be enrolled in BUSS9406 during the Intensive December session - administered by the Business School. This unit is compulsory for all students accepted into the program.

The unit is a short-term study NCP mobility program designed to develop students' research and cultural competence in an international context.

It is an elective unit of study worth 6 credit points and cannot count towards a major/specialisation. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have room in your degree to undertake this unit. Students are not permitted to exceed their degree requirements to participate in this unit.

It is also your responsibility to ensure that your study plans conform to the relevant degree and faculty resolutions that are applicable to you. Please make sure to read the [student responsibilities statement](#) on the current student's website to ensure you understand those responsibilities. Please refer to the [Business School Handbook](#) for the requirements of your degree.

Program

In this short-term research program*, you will spend two weeks in Singapore to understand the business of space in this context. Singapore is regularly profiled and ranked as a top global, livable, connected and competitive city, along with Australian cities such as Sydney and Melbourne. Singapore however is a land scarce country and is highly constrained by its small geographic space, which creates both challenges and opportunities. Urban space, commercial space, public space, private space, leisure space, religious space and green space is strategically and meticulously planned but are also shaped by economic, political, natural, technological and socio-cultural forces that impacts individuals, businesses, societies and markets. In this highly experiential program, we will explore various places and spaces in multi-ethnic Singapore to immerse in its culture, understand its spatial challenges, learn from its experiences and even offer insights for innovative ways in space optimisation. We will explore space related themes such as urban planning, sustainability and the environment, urban farms, the importance of community in neighbourhoods, housing affordability, transportation infrastructure, trends in space utilisation and the role of space in identity projects.

There are a number of components to this program:

Pre-departure classes: Before travelling to Singapore, you will participate in a comprehensive study program that includes background study of Singapore and exposure to research methodologies and frameworks. Note that these classes are mandatory and acceptance into program is conditional upon full attendance in all three classes prior to departure.

In-country component: You will participate in lectures and activities to culturally immerse yourself in order to understand the context of your research as well as formulating a space-related research question. You will work individually and in small teams to research about a particular aspect of space in Singapore and present your findings/recommendations in-country. Other activities include:

- Visiting organisations related to program theme.
- Conducting observations and field visits in relation to your space-related research question.
- Participating in activities that promote social good in relation to program theme.

Academics from the National University of Singapore and representatives from relevant organisations will contribute to the program.

Depending on the final confirmed itinerary, individualised assessment plans will be tailored to each participating student. You will be required to complete team-based tasks and presentations in-country, blog about your experience and submit an individual written assessment upon your return.

For further information about the program, please see blog posts from students who participated in the program last year:

- [Sabrina's take on Singapore's Peranakan culture and food](#)
- [Libbi's reflection on the Singapore Immersion program](#)
- [Samuel's thoughts on Singapore food and identity](#)
- [Harry's learning experience on Singapore](#)
- [Exploring Singapore with Oliver Pang](#)
- [Allan's Take on the Singapore Immersion Program](#)
- [James' Sinclair's thoughts on the elderly population of Singapore](#)

* Please note, the information provided here is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change without prior notice. Details are provided in the pre-departure classes.

Important Dates

Details	Dates
Application period	9am 12 April to 4pm 24 May
Short-listed applicants notified	27 to 31 May
Face to face interview period	3, 4, and 5 June
All applicants notified of outcome	7 June
Students confirm participation and pay A\$500 deposit	14 June
Students to apply for departmental permission to enrol into the unit	2 August
Pre-departure class 1	30 September
Full program fees due (AUD\$2,000)	30 September
Pre-departure class 2	11 November
Pre-departure class 3	12 November
Arrival in Singapore	1 December
End of program	15 December
Final assessment due*	17 January 2020

* *There are assessments due while in-country.*

Fees and Scholarship

Fees consist of the following 2 components:

1. BUSS9406 unit of study fee which is the normal tuition fee associated with a unit of study at the Business School and will be charged through the normal University billing process.
2. The program fee is AU\$2500 and includes:
 - Accommodation for fourteen nights
 - Classes in Singapore
 - Organisational visits
 - Thematic activities and tours related to program theme

Students are responsible for the following costs which are not covered by the program fee or unit of study fee:

- All airfares
- Meals, entertainment and personal expenses
- In country incidentals such as transportation expenses, some entry fees to project related places/activities considered additional to program

Scholarships

NCP Government funding is available to eligible students (18 x grants to the value of AUD\$3,000). This grant is intended to contribute towards your program fee and some expenses related to the program. Other necessary in-country expenses are considered out of pocket.

Please note:

1. If you have received an NCP grant in another program (organised by the Business School or University) you are not eligible to receive a second one to apply for this program.
2. Eligible students who have previously received a scholarship/funding (including Business School scholarship, NCP, Endeavour, VC Global Mobility scholarship) for any Business School work integrated learning unit of study will only be awarded a second scholarship/funding in exceptional circumstances. Priority will be given to students participating in their first work integrated learning unit of study.

Travel

Students must ensure they possess a current passport with 6 months validity after their date of return.

Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from Singapore.

Students are covered by the University of Sydney travel insurance for the duration of the program. Any personal travel (before or after the study tour) will not be covered by University insurance and students will need to organise their own cover for this travel period. Please refer to the [Student Travel Insurance](#) page (including the policy variations/amendments downloads) for further information.

We strongly advise that you do not confirm/pay for your flights until you have received official confirmation that you have been accepted into the program. After acceptance, you are to purchase your return airfares to Singapore by 31 July 2019 and must keep a copy of your e-ticket and receipt as proof of purchase.

Accommodation

Accommodation will be provided for the duration of the program and is included in the program fee. Further details on accommodation will be communicated to accepted students in the pre-departure classes.

As a requirement of the program, all students must stay in the accommodation provided with room allocation being at the discretion of the program unit of study coordinator. Students are **not** permitted to stay with family or friends or to otherwise arrange their own accommodation.

Program conditions

By submitting an application, you agree to the following program conditions:

Selection criteria and application process

- Acceptance into the program is competitive and is based initially on the student's online application and confirmed after the face to face interview.
- All applicants must have completed (or will complete in semester 1 2019) at least 3 full semesters of Business related units.
- Applicants must have a minimum Credit (70%) average across your degree program to date.
- Applications will only be accepted during the specified application dates and late applications will not be considered.
- Applicants must not apply to graduate prior to completing their unit of study requirements.
- The University of Sydney Business School will administer all applications and all enquiries should be directed to [Dr Jeaney Yip](#).

Program

- The in-country program will take place from 1 – 15 December 2019, with three pre-departure sessions in Sydney on 30 September, 11 & 12 November 2019.
- Students are expected to represent the University in a positive manner at all times. Inappropriate behaviour or misrepresentation of the University's name and resources, either professionally or otherwise may result in the immediate termination of the student from the program and a refund of the awarded New Colombo Plan grant.
- Students will earn 6 credit points upon successful completion of the program.
- All efforts will be made to meet the short-term study tour in-country program. However, if for reasons beyond our control this cannot be achieved, then all efforts will be made for alternative learning opportunities to be offered to student/s in order to meet the unit of study learning requirements.

Travel Arrangements

- Students must ensure they possess a current passport with 6 months validity after date of return.
- Students are responsible for their own travel arrangements to and from Singapore. They must arrive in Singapore by 1 December 2019.
- Students are covered by The University of Sydney travel insurance for the duration of the program. Any personal travel (before or after the program) will not be covered by

University insurance and students will need to organise their own cover for this travel period.

Fees

- The program package fee is AUD\$2,500 plus:
- The unit of study fee for BUSS9406 is the normal tuition fee associated with a unit of study at the Business School and will be charged through the normal University billing process.
- A deposit of AUD\$500 is due by 14 June 2019 and the full fees are due by 30 September 2019. The deposit is required to confirm your commitment while the program fees are required to cover group expenses related to the program.
- Approved successful applicants will receive \$3,000 NCP grant funding to assist with costs, however students are responsible for additional costs over and above this including return airfares, airport transfers, food and entertainment costs and any other incidental costs in-country due to the dynamic nature of the program.

Media

- Students are expected to agree to photographs or videos taken in connection to the program being used for marketing purposes by the University of Sydney Business School.

Confidentiality

- Student information as required for administering all aspects of the program will be transferred from the University of Sydney Business School to the organisations in Singapore, if requested, to facilitate visits.

Refund Policy

- In the event that the program is cancelled prior to departure, students will receive a 100 per cent refund of the program fees.
- Upon acceptance, all students must pay a deposit of AUD\$500 by close of business on 14 June 2019, which will only be refunded in the event that the program is cancelled.
- Cancellation fees apply for students who withdraw from the program after confirming their participation. (Cancellation fee varies up to 100% of the program fee, depending on the date the student withdraws).
- 100% FEE-HELP debt for the BUSS9406 unit of study will be incurred after the census date. No refund of program fee is payable for unit of study withdrawals received after this date.
- Applications to withdraw from the program must be received in writing and lodged with **Dr Jeaney Yip**.