JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY
SINGAPORE

Empower lives with **Guidance and Counselling**

JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY
Townsville | Singapore | Cairns | Brisbane

1 university • 2 countries • 4 distinct locations

Creating a brighter future for life in the Tropics and beyond, through education and research that makes a difference locally, and globally.

The Singapore campus of James Cook University

Established in 2003

The Singapore campus of James Cook University is fully owned by James Cook University Australia, which is ranked in the top 2% of universities in the world [1]. James Cook University Australia established its Singapore campus in 2003 as part of its expressed intent of internationalising its activities and offers a suite of university level programs at the Singapore campus covering the areas of Business, Information Technology, Psychology, Guidance and Counselling, Science, Commerce, Accounting, Aquaculture, Environmental Science, Cybersecurity, Economics, Tourism and Hospitality.

James Cook University offers Higher Degree by Research programs such as Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Philosophy and pathways to a higher degree.

Additionally, the campus offers courses at the pre-university level, specifically designed to provide pathways for students who are unable to immediately meet university entrance standards.

The Singapore campus of James Cook University is located at Sims Drive. The campus provides students with access to a full range of facilities and services to support their learning. These include lecture and seminar rooms, library and associated study facilities, computer laboratories, aquaculture research and teaching facility, financial lab and access to a variety of sporting facilities.

James Cook University Inter-campus Exchange Program*

James Cook University provides the opportunity for students to study in Singapore and in Australia. This is a unique program designed to ensure that students get the best possible outcomes from their years of study with the university, which operates across two countries. Students will get to experience international study environments within one study journey, with exposure to diverse cultures, communities, and ways of life.

EduTrust Star

James Cook University has the highest level of quality assurance in Singapore for Private Education Institutions. This is known as EduTrust Star and is a symbol of recognition for outstanding achievement. EduTrust Star is awarded to those institutions for attaining a commendable level of performance in managing their institutions and providing an outstanding quality of education and welfare for their students.

James Cook University is the first organisation with EduTrust Star. By obtaining this award for the third time in 2023, James Cook University has displayed its commitment and focus as a student centric educational institution.

Tropical Futures Institute

Given that research is a core component of the university, James Cook University established the Tropical Futures Institute to leverage off the university's research capability and strength and that creates substantive value-add to the research ecosystems of Singapore and the ASEAN region. The Tropical Futures Institute is the first research institute established by an Australian university in Singapore.

James Cook Institute

James Cook Institute is a wholly-owned subsidiary of James Cook University in Singapore that offers short courses and training programs in Industry 4.0 and areas that fit the needs of the workforce and community. This includes a wide range of short courses and training programs in information technology, digital marketing, communication, and more.

James Cook Institute is committed to further diversifying and enhancing its short course offerings, as well as delivering customised training programs for corporate clients to provide more people with the opportunity to upgrade their skills and stay relevant and employable in today's ever-changing world.

[1] 2026 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings and 2024 ShanghaiRanking Academic Ranking of World Universities as a percentage of higher education providers in the International Association of Universities (IAU) database

* Terms and conditions apply

edutrust SINGAPORE STAR
Cert No. : EDU-1-1001
Validity : 10/04/2023 - 09/04/2027

The Master of Guidance and Counselling Program is designed to meet academic and vocational needs regarding career development or career transition. It offers an enrichment to current working practices as well as an option to specialize in the field of Counselling.

Note: International students in Singapore on a Student Pass are not permitted to work. For more information please visit www.ica.gov.sg

James Cook University is EduTrust-certified. The EduTrust Certification Scheme (EduTrust) is a quality assurance scheme administered and governed by Skills and Workforce Development Agency (SWDA) for Private Education Institutions (PEIs) in Singapore. The EduTrust Certification Scheme requires all students to be covered under the Fee Protection Scheme (FPS). In James Cook University, this is provided through Fee Protection Scheme Group Insurance. All students from James Cook University are covered hospitalization, surgery and treatment costs in accordance to insurance policy term and conditions under the Group Hospitalisation and Surgical insurance scheme. James Cook University will advise in the Standard Student Contract the total amount of insurance payable.

For more details please visit Skills and Workforce Development Agency (SWDA) website: https://www.swda.gov.sg/

"My journey to James Cook University (JCU) began with a mid-career switch into counselling, fueled by a passion for mental health after five years of volunteering. I chose JCU for its strong accreditations from the Singapore Association for Counselling and Australian Counselling Association, which assured me of the program's quality and its alignment with industry standards."

Colin Toh Jun Hong
Master of Guidance and Counselling, 2024

Master of Guidance and Counselling

Human, personal, educational, and employment needs are becoming ever more complex in the 21st century context of continuing and rapid change. Counselling professionals provide an invaluable service by helping people grow and thrive in such an environment.

Our Master of Guidance and Counselling (MGC) course provides advanced academic and practical training in the professional discipline of counselling. It is designed to meet the developmental needs of individuals wishing to enter the counselling profession, as well as individuals seeking to develop important human and interpersonal skills in other professions.

The course has the advantage of being formally recognised as an initial counsellor training course by the Singapore Association for Counselling (SAC). The same course delivered in our Australian campus is also accredited by the Australian Counselling Association (ACA).

Duration:
24 months part-time (Commencing in Trimester)

Intakes:
Trimester: January, May, September

Course Structure:
take 1-2 subjects per Trimester

Total Tuition Fees*: S$42,902.40 (Domestic)**

** Effective for students commencing from Trimester 2, 2026. Tuition fees are subject to change in following years.*
*** Fees apply to all Singapore residents (Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents and all pass holders excluding those holding a Student Pass).*

Note:
- *All course fees include the corresponding 9% Singapore Goods and Services Tax (GST).*
- *The details of the instalment breakdown will be provided in your Student Contract. Please contact us for further details.*

Career Prospects:

The Master of Guidance and Counselling (MGC) degree equips graduates with the requisite skills, knowledge, understanding and personal awareness to become professionally equipped counsellors in a variety of locations and settings.

Equally, for those not wishing to pursue the professional counselling route, the MGC Course will advance graduates professionally via enrichment of their people skills, knowledge, understanding and self-awareness to become more empowered personally and professionally within their contexts of choice.

Study Program

Students are required to complete 12 subjects (36 credit points) based on availability and scheduling.

8 core subjects (24 credit points):

- Foundations of Counselling Theory
- Foundations of Counselling Practice
- Advanced Counselling Practice
- Assessment and Case Conceptualisation
- Human Diversity
- Career and Leisure Guidance and Counselling
- Reflective Practice Research in Guidance and Counselling
- Practicum in Guidance and Counselling

+

Any of the following 4 subjects (12 credit points)

- Introduction to Educational Research
- Educational Leadership
- Community Development
- Workplace Psychological Health
- Health Coaching and Behaviour Change
- Leading and Managing Organisational Change
- Organisational Practice
- Professional Values and Ethics
- Mental Health and Trauma Informed Practice

OR

2 subjects (12 credit points) Research Pathway

- Research Planning
- Research Project

**Admission to Research Pathway is subjected to course coordinator's approval on a case-by-case basis.*

Advanced Standing

- Students may be granted advanced standing if, in addition to meeting the entry requirements, they can provide evidence of relevant work experience.
- Students may apply for a credit transfer for previous tertiary study or informal and non-formal learning in accordance with the Credit Transfer Procedure. Credit will be granted only for studies completed in the 10 years prior to the commencement of this course.

Course Requirements

- Each 3 credit point subject requires a minimum of 130 hours of study time per trimester.
- Practicum consists of 110 hours of practice (100 hours minimum face-to-face counselling) over a period of two trimesters.
- Students are supported in sourcing and making arrangements for practicum placements. The University meets the cost of 10 hours of Clinical Supervision support in keeping with ethical codes and requirements.
- This 100 hours of direct Counselling needs to be ethically supported by a minimum of 10 hours of individual Clinical Supervision provided by a SAC Registered Counsellor or a practitioner of equivalent standing.

Entry Requirements

- Completion of an AQF Level 7 bachelor degree in a cognate discipline. Cognate disciplines include, but are not limited to, career development, community services, education, life coaching, mental health, pastoral care, health, human services, psychology, social sciences, behavioural science, social work, law, or youth work

English Requirements

- Applicants of non-English speaking backgrounds must meet the English language proficiency requirements of IELTS 6.5 (no component lower than 6.0) / TOEFL (Internet Based) 86 (no component less than 21) / Pearson PTE Academic 58 (no component less than 54); or
- Satisfactory completion of James Cook University Singapore English Language Preparatory Program (ELPP); or
- Successful completion of other qualifications completed in English Language deemed comparable to Australian standards on a case-by-case basis in accordance to JCU admissions guidelines.

"With over five years of experience in the counselling field, I realised that to better serve my clients and contribute to the community, I needed to deepen my knowledge and skills. James Cook University's practical approach, excellent faculty, and strong practicum support aligned with my goals of enhancing my professional capabilities and making a greater impact."

Kiran Shukbir
Master of Guidance and Counselling, 2024

Master of **Guidance and Counselling**

Your Local Representative:

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James Cook University Pte. Ltd. | 149 Sims Drive, S(387380) | UEN and PEI Registration No. 200100786K | PEI Period of Registration: 13 July 2026 to 12 July 2032
James Cook University Australia offers pathway, undergraduate and postgraduate programs at the Singapore campus of James Cook University.
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