



**UNIVERSITI  
MALAYA**

*Faculty of Arts and  
Social Sciences*

# **FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAMMES**

# Welcome to FASS



The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences has a prominent history in the field of education, strives to empower every undergraduate with knowledge, skills and attitudes to reach their full potential shouldering the national responsibility of uplifting the higher education in Malaysia.

The year 2021 witnesses the augmentation of our degree programmes. The curriculum which has been continuously revised in compliance with the national demands and periodical global requirements is further enriched by a package of new courses to ensure interdisciplinary nomenclature of humanities and social sciences.

The Faculty along with a highly qualified and dedicated academic staff, is geared towards imparting values, expanding the boundaries of knowledge as well as developing skills required to enhance the prospects of graduates for future employment. Most prominently, untiring efforts have been made to enhance soft skills of students in the faculty thus enabling them to excel in their academic as well as professional arenas. It is worth mentioning that the student learning has further been accelerated with the introduction to digital humanity courses along with research skills and industrial trainings. These uplifts strengthen the employability skills of graduates fostering and promoting synergies between all stakeholders; academics, alumni, and employers.

The Faculty takes great pride in its capacity as a distinguished and influential institution steeped in tradition and committed to academic excellence. Our commitment to excellence in education, learning, and research is uncompromising. As today, the Faculty continues to reach outwards, welcoming students who have the desire and ability to learn and produce new insights that shift and deepen our understanding of the world around us.

## DATUK PROFESSOR DR. DANNY WONG TZE KEN

Dean  
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences



Partial view of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

*As a distinguished and influential institution steeped in tradition and committed to academic excellence, our commitment to excellence in education, learning, and research is uncompromising.*

## Mission

To be a leading centre for studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences in order to be able to contribute towards the development of the Malaysian society and the nation.

## Vision

To be an internationally renowned institute of higher institution in research, innovation, publication and teaching.

## Research Mission

To facilitate Faculty members to undertake the relevant and quality research in order to spearhead the Faculty's role in the development of the field of Social Sciences and humanities in Malaysia.



# Why FASS?

## World-Class Research

The breadth of our expertise creates exciting opportunities for genuinely original, innovative research that brings together diverse disciplines to make a positive impact on the world.



## Malaysia's Top Social Sciences and Humanities

Getting the unique opportunity to experience life at the Country most prestigious university which based in the heart of Kuala Lumpur.

## Innovative, hands-on learning

Inspiring and motivating our students through an innovative learning programme that encourages ambition, creativity and celebrate diversity.



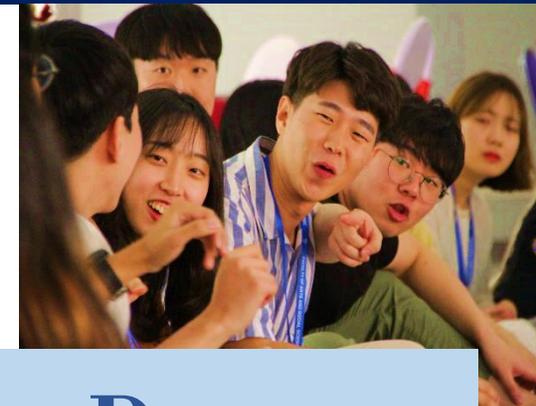
*"I knew right away that being a part of FASS was a blessing. I felt like any other newcomer at first, afraid to join the world of University. Yet, the apprehension soon disappeared, and I adapted quickly. When I reflect on myself as a FASS student, I conclude that the experience has enabled me to connect better, learn more, and grow stronger, not just academically"*

Ruthra Mary

## Prominent Academician & Experts

Our academic staff are experts in their field working as collaborators, teachers, writers and researchers to inform public policy and confront popular perceptions.





# Bachelor Degree Programme

*Internationally known experts teach our undergraduate students and their research and discoveries feed directly into our curricular to create academically rigorous programmes. Our flexible combination of Specialisation Electives are a significant aspect of our undergraduate teaching, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of our nomenclature. This means that, beyond any Core Courses, you can usually tailor your course to your own specifications and your choices may not be limited to those within your immediate subject field.*

- Bachelor of Arts Anthropology and Sociology
- Bachelor of Arts International and Strategic Studies
- Bachelor of Arts Southeast Asian Studies
- Bachelor of Arts History
- Bachelor of Arts English
- Bachelor of Arts Chinese Studies
- Bachelor of Arts Indian Studies
- Bachelor of Media Studies
- Bachelor of East Asian Studies
- Bachelor of Geography
- Bachelor of Environmental Studies
- Bachelor of Social Administration



*"I think studying here at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is such an asset, both personally and professionally. The reputation of the university will stay with you throughout your lifetime. My years here have been the best of my life. I have improved both academically and personally, meeting fantastic friends and learning a subject that I adore."*

Nur Nasha Alia



*"Studying at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences is an amazing experience for me. Throughout my three-year studying here, I can develop myself with essential skills for my future career, such as critical thinking, presentation and negotiation, through participating in classes and extracurricular activities. My field is also very interesting as it explores various fields including politics, economy, history, and international law. Overall, pursuing my studies here is worth it".*

Wan Hani Syamimi



# Anthropology & Sociology



Dr. Haslina Mohammad  
BA (Daekin) MA (Malaya) PhD (Monash)

Department of Sociology and Anthropology was founded in 1970 and the oldest in the Country. The department celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2020. The history itself is an evidence of its dedication to the advancement of academic and research knowledge in Malaysia. During the course of this period of five decades, the department has undergone a progressive change offering three important disciplines: Sociology, Anthropology and Psychology. At present, the department is staffed with 8 qualified lecturers.

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# International & Strategic Studies

Dr. Khoo Ying Hooi  
BA (Malaya) MA (Malaya) PhD (UPM)

The discipline of International Relations was first introduced to the Universiti Malaya in the 1970s under the Department of History. Due to an increase in demand for this discipline, in 1992, the International Studies Programme (ISP) was established under the auspices of the Dean's Office, with the first batch of undergraduates enrolling in 1992 and graduating in 1996. Apart from the introduction of the undergraduate programme, the department also began offering the M.A. and Ph.D. (by research) in 1992. In 1999, the ISP was upgraded and expanded to become the Department of International and Strategic Studies (JPAS). In the same year, the department also introduced the Master in Strategic and Defence Studies programme. The department launched the inaugural issue of its annual publication, the Malaysian Journal of International Relations (MJIR), in 2013

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# Southeast Asian Studies

Dr. Mala Rajo@Sathian  
BA (Malaya) MA (Malaya) PhD (NUS)

The Department Of Southeast Asian Studies was established in 1975 in accordance with one of the objectives of the 1967 ASEAN Declaration, namely to promote Southeast Asian studies. The Department is the only one in Malaysia offering undergraduate and graduate programs in Southeast Asian studies.

Bachelor of Arts in Southeast Asian Studies programme provides the environment for the development of teaching and learning, emphasising on an intensive study of the region including its politics, economy, culture, maritime, environment development and security. Using a multidisciplinary approach, students take departmental core subjects including a Southeast Asian language. Students in their final year of study are required to submit a research paper on any of the following topics: politics, economy, socio-culture, performing arts, ASEAN, issues on urbanisation, and maritime economy.

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## Chinese Studies

Associate Professor Dr. Fan Pik Wah  
BA (Malaya) MA (Malaya) PhD (Peking)

The Department of Chinese Studies was established in 1963 and has been steadily flourishing for the past 58 years. It has the prestige of being the oldest Chinese Studies Department in Malaysia, and remains an important centre of learning and research for Chinese Studies in the region. Since its founding, the department has produced students of high calibre. Many of our graduates have won scholarships to pursue further education in renowned universities abroad, whilst others are prominent figures in their respective career paths. As a major Department of Chinese Studies in Southeast Asia region, the Department strives to become an alternative venue for Chinese language study and research besides China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The Department of Chinese Studies has developed close relationships with many major foreign universities, especially those in China, Taiwan as well as Hong Kong. The significance is that not only the Department would further consolidate its academic achievements through insightful interactions with these universities, whereas students graduated from the Department might also obtain more opportunities provided by these foreign institutions of higher learning.

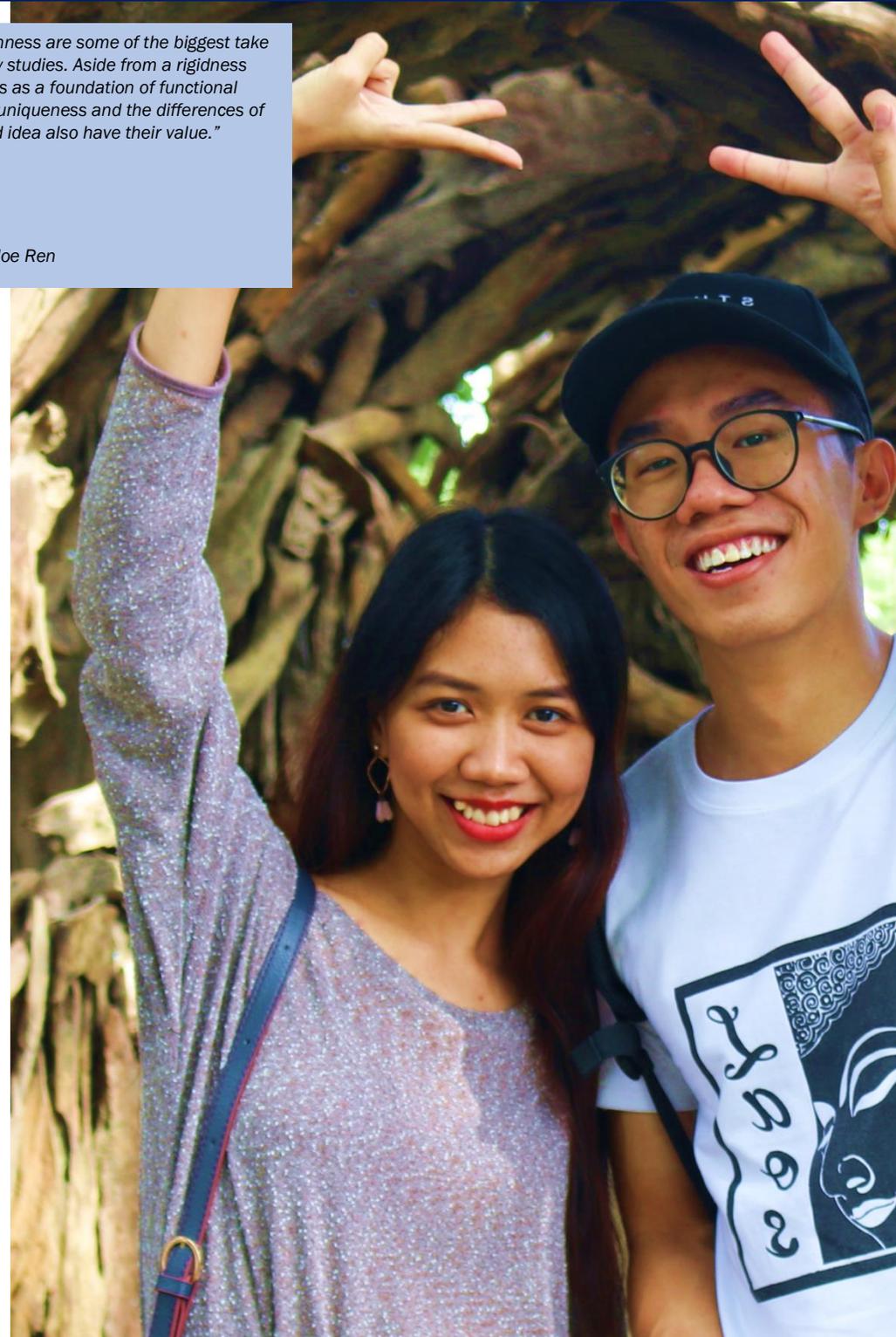
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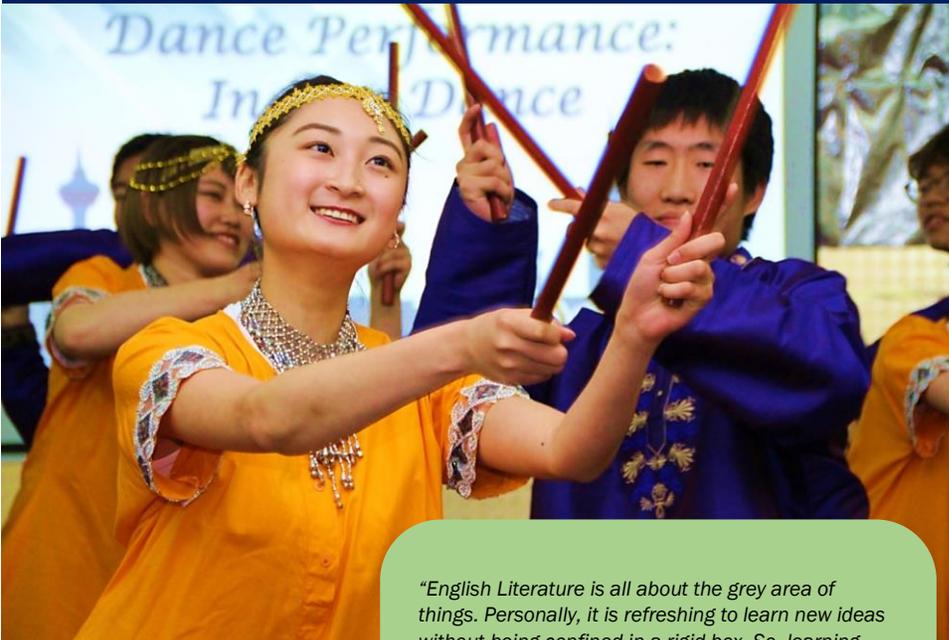
<https://chinese.um.edu.my>

*"Empathy and openness are some of the biggest take outs throughout my studies. Aside from a rigidness and logic that works as a foundation of functional human worldview, uniqueness and the differences of each individual and idea also have their value."*



Tiu Joe Ren





*“English Literature is all about the grey area of things. Personally, it is refreshing to learn new ideas without being confined in a rigid box. So, learning becomes fun when you can explore ideas and possibilities without limits”*



Muhammad Ikmal Safwan

*“Life as an undergrad helps me to equip myself with critical thinking and a mindset to always challenge myself to be better. I was exposed to a good learning environment in improving my skills. I believe that my years in the department toughened me and was very rewarding.”*

Siti Sarah Jasmine



# English

Mr. Looi Siew Tiep  
BA (Malaya) MA (Leeds)

The Department of English has a distinguished history. It is the oldest Department of English in the country, and can trace its beginnings to the establishment of the Faculty of Arts at the Universiti Malaya in Singapore in 1949. The Department of English subsequently became one of the first departments of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences set up on the present campus in Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur in 1959.

The department’s identity, which proudly sets it apart from every other Department of English in Malaysia, lies in its continued commitment to coverage of traditional British literature, from Chaucer and Shakespeare to the Victorians and the Modernists. Through its academic staff’s specialization and research interests, the Department offers expertise in a wide range of literary fields, including Medieval literature, Renaissance literature, Romantic literature, Victorian literature, Modernist and Postmodernist literature, Postcolonial literatures (with a strong interest in Malaysian literature), Travel literature, Ecocriticism, African literature, Feminist literature, Modern drama, Literary theory and more.

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# Indian Studies

Dr. Manimaran Subramaniam  
BA (Malaya) MA (Malaya) PhD (Malaya)

The Department of Indian Studies was established within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of Universiti Malaya in 1956 in Kuala Lumpur. The primary aim of its establishment was to conduct academic activities such as teaching and learning, research, consultation and to offer noble service to the nation building. Though since its formation, courses on Language and Literature, and Socio-cultural aspects of Indians have been given greater emphasis.

In the recent years, the department’s focus and area of interest coverage have been modified accordingly to meet the requirement of the contemporary needs. In accordance to it, besides offering courses on language and literatures, initiatives have been taken to include courses related contemporary Indian and issues related to them. Course at the departments are thought in three languages, Tamil, Malay and English. While courses related to Tamil language and literature of the ancient, medieval and modern periods are taught in Tamil language, courses on socio-cultural streams, such as India History, Social History of India, Socio-culture of Indians, Socioeconomy of Indian, Malaysian Indian Society, Philosophy and so on were taught in Bahasa Malaysia (Malay) and the English language.

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# History

Associate Professor Dr. Zulkanain Abdul Rahman  
 BA (Malaya) MA (Leeds) PhD (East Anglia)

The Department of History is the oldest and most distinguished history department in Malaysia. Established in 1959, the foundation was laid by notable historians including John Bastin, D.K. Bassett, C.M. Turnbull, Anthony J.S. Reid and William R. Roff. The department also had the privilege to host renowned local historians such as Wang Gungwu, Jeyamalar Kathirithamby Wells, Amarjit Kaur and the late Chandran Jeshurun.

At present, we are fortunate to be affiliated with eminent historians in the country including Dato' Wira Dr. Mohd Yusoff Hashim and Datuk Dr. Abdullah Zakaria Ghazali. We are proud to be one of the most renowned centres in the study of Malaysian history. Nevertheless, the department offers a balanced syllabus on global history featuring experts on the various regions of Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Middle East, the United States, Western Europe, Russia and Africa.

The Department of History is fully committed to objective and impartial study of the past and in exploring the boundaries of the discipline to better represent the past. Strongly committed to an integrated and holistic education, we encourage our students to explore and experience new ideas and areas of history.

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*"I think the experience and the exposure to different teaching styles has given me a different perspective about life and what I really want to do. In fact the classes are not only theoretical. We start with theory by then we jump into practical cases. This is really good practice for internships and for professional life in general."*

Mahrukh Beg Moghal



*"Learning history in the Universiti Malaya has taught me to be critical and analytical about world past events which are essential for all of us in understanding ourselves and the world around us. Such lessons are crucial for us who are living in the present to create a better future."*

Mohd Faiq Saifullah



# Media Studies

Associate Professor Dr. Md Azalanshah Md Syed  
 BA (Malaya) MA (Flinders) PhD (RMIT)

The Department of Media and Communication Studies, was first established as the Creative and Descriptive Writing Programme in 1976. This programme was further upgraded to the status of a full Department in the 1993/1994 session, known as the Department of Media Studies, in line with developments and new challenges in media and communication studies.

The bachelor degree programme at the Department of Media and Communication Studies aims to:

1. To nurture media and communication studies graduates with the capacity to understand, analyse and provide commentary if possible, suggesting solutions to particular issues faced by the community, using methods of social sciences and inquiry (concept and theory).

2. To produce graduates able to move and contribute towards the study of communication and media, as well as enhance the human condition in society.

3. To produce media studies graduates who are media-literate, communication technology and information-literate as well as able to produce good media texts for national, regional and global audiences.

4. Ensure graduates are able to explain, summarize and use theories to solve problems faced by the community and society.

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# East Asian Studies

Dr. Rohayati Paidi

BA (Kobe) MA (Shiga) PhD (Malaya)

The Department of East Asian Studies at the Universiti Malaya was established in 1996. Its history began with the establishment of the Japan Studies Program that was inaugurated in 1993. It was further developed as a result of the restructuring of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in the early 1990s. The Department offers programmes leading to the Bachelor of East Asian Studies, where students can choose to specialize in China Studies, Japan Studies or Korea Studies.

With the importance of East Asia in global affairs, as well as its economic and strategic significance to Malaysian-East Asian relations, the knowledge of and on East Asia benefits not only those who will eventually become East Asian experts in the intellectual context, but also those in other professional fields. At present, the Universiti Malaya is the only university in Malaysia that offers an interdisciplinary bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies. The program offers a well-rounded study of East Asia as well as more specialized training in particular areas of interest. Majoring in East Asian Studies provides students with a strong foundation for a variety of careers in the private and public sectors.

Head

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*"This Faculty has taught me a lot throughout my 2 years of studying here. There is such amazing teaching quality in both lectures and supervisions that you really do learn your course at an incredibly high level and can push well beyond the fundamentals and into the nitty-gritty of the things you're interested in."*

Nur Liyana



# Geography & Environmental Studies

Associate Professor Dr. Aziz Shafie

BA (USM) MA (USM) PhD (USM)

Geography became an academic subject at the tertiary level in 1928 in the Raffles College, Singapore. After the independence day of Malaya, the Universiti Malaya was set up in 1959 in Kuala Lumpur. The Department of Geography was amongst the first department established in the Universiti Malaya. The department currently offers an undergraduate programme leading to the Bachelor of Geography. This programme incorporates the concept of science, social sciences, physical and human geography towards an understanding of complex interactions from the geographical perspective.

The interdisciplinary approach is achieved from the consolidation of several fields of studies, including human geography, biogeography, economic geography, physical geography, urban geography, social geography, quantitative and qualitative analysis, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing, Cartography and many more.

Head

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*"This Faculty has a diverse and vibrant community, making it a great place to be a student. As well as having access to the vast range of academic and social activities on offer to all. Indeed, it has certainly lived up to my expectations. I really enjoy being the student here!! While there's academic prestige to consider, there're also lots of other things to do - I've found lots of stuff to get involved in!"*

Adlin Sofiya

# Social Administration

Dr. Mashitah Hamidi  
BA (UPM) MA (UPM) PhD (La Trobe)

The establishment of the Department of Social Administration and Justice, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya was approved in 1987, and the first session began on March 29, 1993. The primary function of the department is to provide quality education to the Undergraduate, Masters, and PhD students who pursue their interest in the field of human services. The ultimate goal of the Social Administration Program is to produce graduates in the field of human services, who are professional, ethical, committed, and contribute to the development and wellbeing of the nation.

The core business of the department is human services, which include critical courses such as social work, social administration, social policy, social welfare, social management and social justice. The nature of the business is in line with the needs of the university in assisting the nation to addressing social problems. In ensuring that, the department is committed in producing skilled human capital that is equipped with various social work practices and techniques, which eventually act as an effective tool for them to address various social problems that threaten the stability of the societal wellbeing.

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# Entry Requirements

All programmes may modify offers to take account of individual circumstances. Please see the Academic Administration and Student Services website for full conditions of entry (<https://aasc.um.edu.my/entry-requirements-bachelor2>)

## General Entry Requirements

### Malaysian Candidates

A Malaysian candidate who wishes to pursue a programme of study at the Universiti Malaya must fulfill the University's entry requirements as follows:

(1) Pass the *Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM)* with a credit (Grade C) in Bahasa Melayu/Bahasa Malaysia subject

or

a credit (Grade C) in Bahasa Melayu/Bahasa Malaysia July papers and pass in History (SPM 2013 and above);

and

(2) Achieve a minimum Band in the Malaysian University English Test (MUET) as required in special requirements of the programme.

and

(3) Have fulfilled all special requirements of the programme as may be prescribed by the Senate

### International Candidates

An international candidate who wishes to pursue a programme of study at the Universiti Malaya must fulfill the University's entry requirements as follows:

(1) National Higher School Certificate (or an Advanced Level equivalent) with the percentage of 80% and above

or

a Diploma from recognized Institutions with at least a CGPA of 3.00.

(2) Applicant may be required to undergo an interview session for certain selected programmes before being accepted by the respective faculties.

and

(3) Meet the English Language Requirements

TOEFL score of 500 (PBT), 173 (CBT) or 60 (IBT) and above

or

IELTS Band 5.0 - 6.5 and above Without any of the above English proficiency certificates, students that have been accepted would be issued with a conditional offer letter for subsequent fulfillment of the English language requirements.





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