

NPM528 Systems Thinking for Transformative Strategy

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

Synopsis:

The drive to achieving sustainable and positive social change is an arduous journey. The problem is complex and nebulous. Despite attempts by multiple stakeholders, there appears to be no breakthrough. Whether you are working in a non-profit organisation, foundation, government body or public agency, you might be challenged to do more with less. You can use systems thinking to increase your effectiveness, to facilitate productive conversations and meaningful collaboration across diverse stakeholders, identify high-leverage interventions and increase motivations to change. NPM528 Systems Thinking for Transformative Strategy tackles the question of social change from a systemic point with both a macro- and micro-focus. Students will learn first to discover and embrace systems thinking; second, reflect on systemic social change and its challenges; third, address practical models and solutions to put this in practice.

Topics:

- Systems thinking (linear, lateral, event-oriented, critical, systems)
- Systemic social change
- Systemic articulation of social change
- Stakeholder relationships
- Leveraging key resources
- Rules and norms
- Strategic thinking for social change
- Creating shared value
- Shared value model
- 3S model: Scale Up, Scale out, Scale Deep
- 4-stage change process
- Success factors and issues in systems thinking for social change

Textbooks:

Stroh, D. P. (2015). *Systems thinking for Social Change: A Practical Guide to Solving Complex Problems, Avoiding Unintended Consequences, and Achieving Lasting Results*. Chelsea Green Publishing
Stroh, D. P. Chelsea Green Publishing
ISBN-13: 9781603585811

Lim, C., Su, Y., & Sng, H. L. (2022). *Management and leadership of non-profit organisations in Singapore: A common language and shared meaning for transformation*. World Scientific. Lim, C., Su, Y., & Sng, H. L. World Scientific
ISBN-13: 9789811251498

Learning Outcome:

- Appraise the principles of Systems Thinking and Analysis
- Discuss the elements of a system, various models of social change using systems analysis, and the success factors and issues in systems thinking for social change.
- Create sustainable and systemic social change and examine why we engage in social change.
- Formulate systems thinking strategies for social change.
- Verify the interdependencies of elements in a system for social change.
- Combine strategic thinking and models of systems thinking for social change.

Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	PARTICIPATION 1	20
	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	30
Overall Examinable Components	FINAL REPORT	50
Total		100

*The information listed is subject to review and change.