

# **PSS101 Introduction to the Singapore Legal System**

**Level:** 1

**Credit Units:** 5 Credit Units

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Presentation Pattern:** EVERY JULY

## **Synopsis:**

PSS101 Introduction to the Singapore Legal System provides students with an overview of the legal system and the operational context of the Singapore Criminal Justice System (SCJS). Students will learn about the administration of law and justice. They will learn about the different processes within the system. Students will gain insights into the development of law in Singapore and the roles played by the different stakeholders. This course will also teach students basic legal skills such as understanding and analysing case law, correctly interpreting statutes and correct use of precedents in developing legal arguments.

## **Topics:**

- Overview of Singapore Legal System and its ethos
- Criminal Justice and the Constitution I – Separation of Powers, The Legislature
- Criminal Justice and the Constitution II – The Executive: Investigation and Prosecution
- Criminal Justice and the Constitution III – The Judiciary
- Criminal Justice and the Constitution IV – Fundamental Liberties
- Objectives of the Criminal Justice System
- Overview of Criminal Procedure in Singapore
- Singapore Courts I – The State Courts
- Singapore Courts II – The Supreme Court
- Understanding Statutory Law
- The Common Law: The Role of Precedent
- The Common Law: The Correct Use of Precedent

## **Textbooks:**

PSS101 Studyguide

ISBN-13: SG-1813

**Learning Outcome:**

- Examine the operational context of the Singapore Legal System including the Criminal Justice System
- Explain the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders comprising the SCJS
- Discuss trends and challenges within the Singapore Criminal Justice System
- Review the effectiveness of SCJS in achieving its aims
- Describe and discuss the hierarchy of courts in the Singapore Criminal Justice System and the role of precedent
- Identify the key principles underpinning the Singapore Criminal Justice System
- Develop strategies relating to delivery of justice

**Assessment Strategies - Regular Semester (Daytime Class):**

<b>Components</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weightage Allocation (%)</b>
Overall Continuous Assessment	PRE-CLASS QUIZ 1	5
	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	30
	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	30
	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 2	35
<b>Total</b>		<b>100</b>

\*The information listed is subject to review and change.