

Flexible, affordable and personalised learning

LIFELONG learning is an important trait of self-improvement and Asia e University (AeU) is one of the institutions that allows an individual to pursue that aspect of their lives. Working adults and students who pursue learning out of sheer passion are the main demographic that enrol in AeU's postgraduate courses. Students with industry experience tend to know what they want, which is where AeU's motto 'personalised education for you' plays a role in attracting potential students.

The university also provides flexible entry for students who may have the required experience but lack in the academic qualifications due to missed opportunities when they were younger or due to responsibilities they had to pick up during the studying ages. "But students have to know that just because we have flexible entry requirements, it doesn't mean we have a flexible exit," says Professor Dr Siow Heng Loke, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies at AeU. "Our courses and examinations are set

to very high standards to make sure that we produce high calibre graduates."

The university also uses other high ranking universities as its benchmark for performance, with lecturers' theses compared to standards of Oxford and Cambridge.

As postgraduate studies can sometimes be a lonely journey, the university offers an encouraging study environment for students. "Morale usually isn't a problem because our students are already self-motivated," says Professor Siow. "But we still push students to work harder and at the same time try to have fun in class. We also have a lot of activities for our postgraduate students to prevent them from fizzling out." The university also offers counselling to students who want advice outside of academics.

The doctorate programmes are divided into two types: academic and professional. The academic programme allows for a more knowledge-based approach while the professional pro-

gramme gives a more industry focused perspective and allows graduates to contribute to practices.

Both programmes are of the same rigour and depth with similar Level 8 doctoral qualification.

Being an e-university, the main method of communication between supervisors and their students is on-line particularly by e-mails and other digital forms. Video conferencing sessions are also organised to facilitate discussions among students from different countries as well as for examination purposes. Distance and time is not a factor at this institution.

"I'm glad to say that during my time here, I've watched the university grow more vibrantly, and it has been moving in the right direction," says Professor Siow. "Our goal for the next decade is to have our postgraduate programmes be the preferred choice of students worldwide, and be ahead of our competitors."

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