PUBLIC POLICY

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY A CLASS ABOVE

Postgraduate

- Prospectus -2025



CONTENTS

- 1 Why study at Sunway University?
- 2 The Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia (JCI)
- 3 Entry Requirements
- Application Checklist
- Scholarships & Bursaries
- 4 Master in Public Policy
- 8 Who you will be working with



CONTACT:

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY DU025 (B)

Registration no : 200701042913 (800946-T)







(+6 (03) 7491 8622







Owned and governed by the



Nurturing the Seeds of Wisdom

SUNWAY IS ONE OF THE TOP 150 UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD UNDER 50 YEARS OLD

As one of Malaysia's leading and internationally recognised private universities. Sunway University is positioned amongst top universities in the world by QS World University Rankings. Sunway University is ranked #1 private university in ASEAN region by AppliedHE ASEAN Private University Ranking 2025 and recognised as the #1 Malaysia's highest-ranked private nongovernment linked university in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2025. The University is also #539 in the QS World University Rankings 2025.

Sunway University has been awarded #1 in Graduate Employability among all universities in Malaysia, for the third consecutive year, by Talentbank Group through the National Graduate Employability Index.

The University has achieved a significant milestone by making its debut in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) for 2024. This achievement places Sunway University among the top five universities in Malaysia, alongside the top four research-intensive public universities, and establishes it as the only private higher education institution in the country to be included in this prestigious global ranking.

Collaborating with world class partners -Lancaster University and Le Cordon Bleu International, Sunway University offers premier education with international repute. The University also partners University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and University of California, Berkeley.

MALAYSIA'S #1 NON-GLU* PRIVATE UNIVERSITY

as awarded by
Times Higher Education



World University Rankings 2025

The Only Private University in Malaysia to be included in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2024



SHANGHAI RANKING







THE JEFFREY CHEAH INSTITUTE ON SOUTHEAST ASIA (JCI)



SOLVING ASIA'S DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

The Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia (JCI) was established in March 2014 as an independent public policy think tank, based in Sunway University on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur.

- The mission of JCI is to develop efficient and equitable solutions to some of the region's most pressing development problems.
- Its research programme is grouped around three core areas: economic development, governance, and social progress (including education). JCI works closely with the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development (JSC) at Sunway University for the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations in 2016.
- JCI engages with policymakers, scholars and ordinary citizens through regular public lectures and specialised workshops.
- JCI has forged many academic partnerships in the region and the wider Asia-Pacific. International partners include Harvard University (United States), Columbia University (United States), ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute (Singapore), Keio University (Japan), Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), and Shanghai Jiao Tong University. In Malaysia, JCI's collaborators include the Foreign Policy Study Group, Merdeka Center, Penang Institute, and the Centre for Public Policy Studies.

RESEARCH PILLARS

ECONOMICS

- Capital Markets
- Development Economics
- Foreign Direct Investment & Trade
- Human Capital Development
- Monetary Economics
- Political Economy
- Productivity & Economic Growth
- Regional Economics

GOVERNANCE

- Electoral Reform
- Institutional Reform
- Political Science
- Public Administration

EDUCATION & SOCIAL PROGRESS

- Education Reform
- Pandemic Resilience
- Social Policy & Welfare
- Social Protection
- Urban Studies



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

PROGRAMME	ENTRY REQUIREMENTS	ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
Master in Public Policy	 A Bachelor's degree with a minimum CGPA of 2.50 in a related discipline or equivalent. This programme is designed for those with relevant working experience however fresh graduates will also be considered on a case-to-case basis. Any other qualifications will be considered on a case-to-case basis. 	Candidates should demonstrate sufficient English proficiency for the needs of the programme.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

HOW TO APPLY	PROGRAMME	CONTACT
Kindly email the following documents for an eligibility check: Curriculum Vitae Bachelor's/Master's degree transcript Completion certificate After passing the eligibility check, the school administrator will brief the student further regarding the application process and other documents that are required.	Master in Public Policy	jci@sunway.edu.my



SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

For more information regarding available scholarships and bursaries, please refer to https://scholarship.sunway.edu.my/

* Terms and conditions apply



MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY



DURATION

Full-time - 1 year Part-time - 2 years



INTAKES

January, May & September



TAUGHT PROGRAMME

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION:

We provide support, social networks and flexibility in an innovative learning and environment.

The Master in Public Policy at the Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia prepares students to develop practical solutions to real-world policy problems in the region through a multi-disciplinary focus in economics, quantitative analysis and public policy management.

This programme is formulated to equip graduates and mid-career professionals to develop greater technical capability in evidence-based policy analysis and to possess deeper understanding on fundamental concepts and contemporary issues on economic development, social inclusion, political governance and technological trends.

CAREER PROSPECTS



Graduates find themselves well-equipped for roles in government agencies and international institutions, where they can shape policy frameworks and drive meaningful change at local, national, or international levels. Additionally, opportunities abound in non-profit organizations and think tanks, where policy analysis and advocacy play pivotal roles in shaping public discourse and influencing decision-makers. The private sector also offers avenues for public policy graduates, with roles in corporate social responsibility, sustainability, regulatory compliance, and strategic consulting. Moreover, careers in academia and research beckon those inclined towards further scholarship.



IPT/RPP[II](R/0312/7/0003/EA11999)08/31 JPT/BPP(U)(N-DL/310/7/0028/FA14732)06/26



INEQUALITY. DIGITALISATION. AUTOMATION. PLANETARY HEALTH.

The complexities of modern governance demand proficient policy solutions that can navigate the intricate landscape of global issues.

Now, more than ever, the world requires skilled policy professionals equipped with a comprehensive understanding of theoretical frameworks, technical expertise, and the capacity for effective implementation.

WHERE THIS PROGRAMME **COULD TAKE YOU**

With the skills accumulated in this programme, graduates will be equipped to address the policy challenges of rapidly-changing socioeconomic dimensions in the region.

The programme's multidisciplinary emphasis on knowledge, analytic skills and management is highly transferable across sectors, issues and regions.

Graduates are able to work throughout the world in key roles in the public, private or non-profit sectors.



UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

(Conventional):

- 1 2 years programme of 8 Modules:
- 4 Core Modules
- 2 Electives
- 2 Capstone Research Project

Modules:

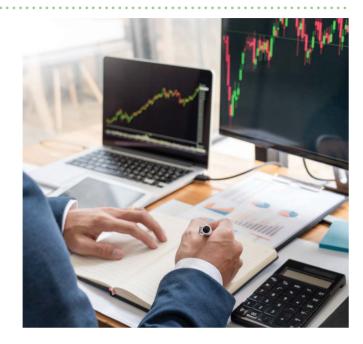
- Applied Micro-foundation for Public Policy
- Macroeconomic and Financial Market
- Quantitative Research Methods for Public Policy
- History of Economic Development and Thought
- Capstone Research Project 1 and 2

Electives:

- Financial Market Development & Macroeconomic Policies
- International Trade, Regionalism & Global Production Value Chain
- Sustainable Development Policies
- Social Entrepreneurship & Inclusive Growth

Class Schedule:

• Weekends (daytime) & weekdays (evenings)





PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

(Open and Distance Learning):

- 1 2 years programme of 10 Modules:
- 4 Core Modules
- 2 Electives
- 2 Capstone Research Project
- 2 Specialisations

Modules:

- Applied Micro-foundation for Public Policy
- Macroeconomic and Financial Market
- Quantitative Research Methods for Public Policy
- History of Economic Development and Thought
- Capstone Research Project 1 and 2

Specialisation Modules:

- Sustainable Development Policies
- Sustainable Economic Development

Electives:

- Financial Market Development & Macroeconomic
- International Trade, Regionalism & Global Production Value Chain
- Social Entrepreneurship & Inclusive Growth

Class Schedule:

• Optional - weekends (daytime) & weekdays (evenings)









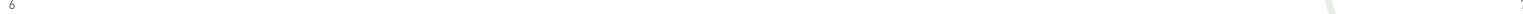
- Accredited programme
- Create strong social networking
- Combining online learning with live discussions & lectures
- Effective & strong online learning platform
- Flexible & innovative teaching
- High quality teaching
- Online discussions, presentations & e-forums
- Research projects are mentored & guided by leading academics & researchers

.....

• Strong teaching staff with regional & global expertise

CONTACT

For more information, please email jci@sunway.edu.my



WHO YOU WILL BE WORKING WITH







PROFESSOR SHANDRE MUGAN THANGAVELU

Head, Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia Programme Leader, Master in Public Policy

PhD, Queen's University, Ontario; Master of Arts, Queen's University, Ontario; Bachelor with Honours, University Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Professor Shandre is the Head of the Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia at Sunway University. He is also the Trade Advisor to the Minister of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce, Kingdom of Cambodia. For his contribution to Cambodia's trade and development, Professor Shandre was awarded the Royal Order of Sowathara Commander.

Before his appointment at the Institute, he was a Regional Director at Centre for International Economic Studies at the Institute of International Trade and the Director of the Asia Growth Research Centre at the University of Adelaide.

He is an active researcher on human capital development, technology transfer, foreign direct investment, trade, government infrastructure investment, productivity and economic growth. He has written extensively on ASEAN integration, FDI, human capital development, technology transfer and economic growth and has published his research in major international journals. He has written several books on trade, investment, integration and outsourcing in Asia. He has also worked on several international projects commissioned by UNDP, World Bank, ASEAN Secretariat, APEC, and Asian Productivity Organization (APO).



At the 2024 China-ASEAN Seminar held on 21 April at Sunway University, Prof Shandre Mugan Thangavelu, Head of the Institute, spoke on the potential possibilities that can arise from an ASEAN-China strategic partnership.

Professor Shandre's presentation spotlighted four main policy developments that will determine the road ahead for ASEAN and China's relationship.



PROFESSOR YEAH KIM LENG

Director, Economic Studies Programme, Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia Professor, Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development Professor of Economics, Sunway Business School

PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Hawaii MBA, University of Hawaii; Bachelor of Science degree in forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

Professor Yeah is a Senior Fellow and Director of the Economic Studies programme at the Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia at Sunway University. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry and a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics.

His research interests span development economics, monetary economics, capital markets and industry studies. These topics reflect his previous experiences as an economic analyst at a national policy think-tank, a chief economist at a credit rating agency, a lead consultant at an economics consultancy services subsidiary and a former external member of the central bank's Monetary Policy Committee. His current project at the Jeffrey Cheah Institute focuses on tax systems and structures and their effects on fiscal sustainability, economic growth and income inequality. He is currently the President of the Malaysian Economic Association (MEA) and was recently appointed by the Prime Minister of Malaysia as one five advisors in the Policy Advisory Committee to the Prime Minister (PMAC).



PROFESSOR SHAKILA YACOB

Professor, Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia

PhD, University of Reading; Master of the Arts, Western Michigan University; Bachelor of Arts with Honours, University of Malaya.

Professor Shakila Yacob, a former business history professor (1994-2022) and executive director at the International Institute of Public Policy and Management (INPUMA) from 2018 to 2021, has held key leadership roles at the University of Malaya. She has also held visiting scholar positions at universities in the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States (US), and more recently served as a visiting fellow at Phillipps-Universität Marburg. Her research interests span business history, international business, comparative politics, and public policy, and are enriched by her multidisciplinary academic background across the three academic systems.

As an experienced policy lab specialist and academic leader, Professor Shakila has led multi-stakeholder policy labs and pioneered immersive labs in diverse areas, including the internationalisation of higher education, technical and vocational education, solid waste management, refugee management, indigenous rights, and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy and refusal.







PROFESSOR MAHENDHIRAN SANGGARAN NAIR

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Sustainability), Sunway University

Professor Mahendhiran Sanggaran is the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research and Sustainability) at Sunway University. He is a Fellow of CPA (Australia) and Fellow of Academy of Sciences Malaysia. He is also a member of the National Science Council of Malaysia and the National High-Tech Council.

Professor Nair is trained as an econometrician and data scientist. He holds a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree in Mathematics from Brock University. Canada; MA in Statistics, MA in Economics and PhD in Economics with a specialisation in econometrics from York University, Canada. His research interests are in development economics, economic policy modelling, sustainable development, and planetary health.

Professor Nair is the architect for the Malaysian Science, Technology and Innovation (10-10 MySTIE) Framework, jointly developed with the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. The 10-10 MySTIE provides a framework to deepen the impact of the 10 global science & technology drivers to Malaysia's 10 socioeconomic drivers, transforming the nation into a knowledge-intensive and globally competitive country by 2030. This framework is used by the various government ministries, agencies and industry to develop their strategic plans.

Professor Mahendhiran has been a subject matter expert for government agencies, public policy organisations, 'think-tanks' and community organisations in Malaysia. He has led the formulation of several national economic & technology plans and studies for the Malaysian government and the Asia Pacific Region. He is currently leading several studies for various ministries, government agencies and industry

He also provides regular commentaries on the state of regional economies in local and international media. He is acknowledged as the 100 Most Inspirational Linkedin Icons in Malaysia in 2019.



Sunway University researchers Professor Mahendhiran Sanggaran, Santha Vaithilingam, Jason Ng and Li-Ann Hwang met the Minister of Digital, YB Tuan Gobind Singh Deo at the Program Titian Digital Malaysia (PTDM) ICT School Competition on 4 January 2025.

IGSC - Sunway Institute for Global Strategy and Competitiveness is working closely with PTDM to study the impact of ICT education on children from vulnerable, urban-poor and rural communities. The Sunway team is also working with PTDM on Orang Asli (indigeneous community) ICT education in Malaysia.











Town Hall with Professor Marc Lim, Dean of Sunway Business School (14 November 2024), proved to be a transformative experience for students, fostering a profound connection and offering valuable insights. The open dialogue provided an avenue for students to voice their ideas, seek quidance, and better understand the strategic direction of the school.

This Town Hall covered a range of impactful topics, including academic advancements, industry trends, and the importance of student leadership. Professor Marc's motivational discourse inspired students to strive for excellence, emphasising personal growth and community contribution. His ability to bridge academic rigor with practical industry insights not only empowered students but also reinforced a dynamic, forward-thinking learning environment at Sunway Business School.



PROFESSOR LIM WENG MARC

Dean and Professor, Sunway Business School

Professor Lim Weng Marc, PhD, is the Dean of Sunway Business School. He also serves as the Editor in Chief of Activities, Adaptation and Aging (Routledge), Global Business and Organizational Excellence (Wiley), and International Journal of Quality and Innovation (Inderscience), as well as an Associate Editor of Journal of Business Research (Elsevier) and Journal of Strategic Marketing (Routledge).

Professor Lim is an award-winning multipotentialite who is ranked in the Top 2% of Scientists in the World based on the Science-wide Author Database developed by Elsevier BV and Stanford University in 2020 and 2021. He is also the Record Holder for "Youngest Professor" in the Malaysia Book of Records (MBR) since 2020, and an Honoree of the 2019 Ten Outstanding Young Malaysians by Junior Chamber International (JCI).

Postgraduate **Programmes**

WHO YOU WILL **BE WORKING** WITH (CONTINUED)









DR NUR AIN SHAHRIER

Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics and Finance, Sunway University Business School

Dr Nur Ain Shahrier is an Assistant Professor at Sunway University. She was previously an economist at the Central Bank of Malaysia and the Asian Development Bank in the Philippines. In addition, she was also selected as visiting research fellow to Harvard University.

She holds a PhD and Master of Science in Regional Science and a Master of Engineering in Financial Engineering from Cornell University, along with a Bachelor of Science (Honors) in Actuarial Science, Economics and Mathematics from University of Iowa. In addition, she is a qualified associate of Financial Planning Association Malaysia (FPAM) and Islamic Financial Planning Association Malaysia (IFPAM).





Dr Chen Jit Ern at the ESG Horizons 2024 Conference—Towards a Better Tomorrow: Malaysia's Sustainability Agenda in Driving Economic Development— brought together over 100 participants for insightful discussions led by ESG-driven organisations as they sparked critical discussions on how sustainability is transforming industries across sectors.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR CHEN JIT ERN

Head, Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development

Dr Chen Jit Ern completed his PhD at the University of Cambridge working on identifying genes involved in lipid biosynthesis in microalgae for biofuel production.

His work in Sunway University is focused on studying the possibility of inducing experimental evolution in Symbiodinium in order to develop more heat-tolerant strains that may be more resilient to heat-driven mass coral bleaching events caused by climate change.

Prior to joining Sunway, he was a Post-Doctoral Fellow in KAUST, Saudi Arabia, working on the genetic manipulation of the coral endosymbiont Symbiodinium. Dr Chen received his B.A. (Hons) in Natural Sciences and his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge.







PROFESSOR PERVAIZ K AHMED

Director, Sunway Institute for Global Strategy and Competitiveness Distinguished Research Professor of Management

Pervaiz K Ahmed is a Management scholar exploring innovation and strategic dynamics of entrepreneurial change. His outlook on management is colored by moral responsibility, particularly ethics of care and sustainability. Pervaiz has held several senior positions in the UK before coming to Malaysia. He has published extensively in international journals and is a regular keynote speaker with a number of academic awards for his research. In addition, he has served as editor and sits on the editorial boards of several international journals. He has extensive experience working with and advising blue-chip companies and public sector organizations, such as Unilever, Ford, AT&T, NCR, British Telecommunications, and the NHS in Europe. He has also been involved with corporate clients in Asia, as well as government agencies, such as the Singapore National Productivity Council.

In recent times Pervaiz has been involved with the Government of Dubai's Public Sector Innovation and Improvement Initiative, and also served on projects commissioned by Economic Planning Unit (EPU), Ministry of International Trade (MITI), and APEC Secretariat.







PROFESSOR SANTHA VAITHILINGAM

Deputy Director, Sunway Institute for Global Strategy and Competitiveness

Prof. Santha is a Professor of Econometrics and Policy Modelling at Sunway University. She is trained in mathematical modeling. Her current research interest revolves around behavioral econometrics, using mathematical and statistical modeling to understand human behavior and the decision-making process. Her research work is also focused on developing good research instruments and using robust data analytics & advanced statistical tools to research technology, innovation, and economic policy modeling for enhancing sustainable economic development. These tools are in high demand for researchers and trained personnel to undertake sound empirical analysis for effective policy formulation at the national, state, industrial, and community-level economic development issues.

SUNWAY

She is currently involved in national and regional projects with the Academy of Science Malaysia (ASM), industry, and community organizations in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, she has published extensively in leading international refereed journals in the field.

WHO YOU WILL BE WORKING WITH (CONTINUED)







ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR CALVIN CHEONG WING HOH

Deputy Dean, Associate Dean (Education), Associate Professor, Sunway University Business School

Associate Professor Dr Calvin Cheong is the Deputy Dean and Associate Dean (Education) at Sunway Business School and an Adjunct Research Fellow at Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak. He is also Associate Editor of the Asia Pacific Journal of Business Administration, and an Editorial Board Member of the International Journal of Emerging Markets. He also currently serves as Senior Policy Advisor for various ministerial committees across the globe. He was formerly a senior partner of an international management consulting firm that specializes in providing strategic advisory and leadership advice to corporations in over 20 countries.

A firm believer of life-long learning, Calvin has to date completed a Bachelor, an Honours, and a PhD from Monash University. He has also completed a Post-doctoral certificate in higher education from Swinburne University, as well as a certificate in crowdfunding from Wharton Business School. Calvin also holds certificates in Advance Life Support and Pre-Hospital Care and is still exploring methods to improve the efficiency of Malaysian emergency services.

Calvin's research focuses on practical and practicable international and corporate finance issues that tries to steer clear of the ceteris paribus assumption. That being said, he has so far co- and solo-authored a number of articles in Q1 journals. He has also influenced many next-generation researchers, supervising over 20 Doctoral, Masters, and Honours students to successful completion in various topics including public policy, (international) community development, cryptocurrency, international trade and development, banking regulation, asset bubbles, commodities, and currency issues. He has also been the Principal Investigator of research grants from foreign governments amounting to more than USD 10 million for various projects including social development, financial market development, and FinTech, as well as the coveted Fundamental Research Grant Scheme by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia. He has also received a number of awards for these efforts including Letters of Commendation from the President of Colombia and the United States of America.

Above all else, Calvin believes in the service for mankind no matter how small the act; that everyone deserves a shot (or two!) in fulfilling their potential regardless of circumstances. This requires small acts of defiance that are ethical yet hit hard against age-old defunct traditions. Doing so will only help one find the strength and confidence to challenge and innovate in any field. For it isn't who we are underneath, but what we do that defines us.



PROFESSOR TAN SRI DATO' DR LIN SEE-YAN

Research Professor, Sunway University Former Deputy Governor, Bank Negara Malaysia President, Harvard Club Malaysia

Tan Sri Dato' Dr Lin See-Yan, a former banker, is a Harvard-educated economist and a British Chartered Scientist.

Prior to 1998, he was Chairman and CEO of a publicly listed commercial banking group, having previously been a central banker for 34 years. After retiring as Chairman of EXCO, Khazanah Nasional in 2000, he continues to serve the public interest, including Member, Prime Minister's Economic Council Working Group and Member, Competition Appeal Tribunal, as well as Member of some Ministry of Education Senior Committees on higher education; and Economic Advisor, Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia.

In addition, he sits on the Boards of many publicly listed and private enterprises in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand, engaged in mining, oil and gas, plantations, manufacturing, real estate, hospitality and entertainment, ICT, food and beverage, executive education, and power generation, as well as of universities and foundations. He served as Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Sains Malaysia (2000-2010). He is Chairman Emeritus, Harvard Graduate School Alumni Association Council at Harvard University and President, Harvard Club of Malaysia.



PROFESSOR JEFFREY D. SACHS

President, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Earth Institute SDG Advocate under UN Secretary General António Guterres

Professor Jeffrey Sachs is a University Professor and Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, where he directed the Earth Institute from 2002 until 2016. He is also President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and a commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Development.

He has been advisor to three United Nations Secretaries-General, and currently serves as an SDG Advocate under Secretary-General António Guterres. He spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University, where he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. He has authored numerous bestseller books.

His most recent book is Ages of Globalization: Geography, Technology, and Institutions (2020). Sachs was twice named as Time magazine's 100 most influential world leaders, and was ranked by The Economist among the top three most influential living economists.



MALAYSIA'S



IN GRADUATE **EMPLOYABILITY**

For the 3rd consecutive year, Sunway University has been recognised as Malaysia's No. 1 in Graduate Employability*.

We are immensely proud of the accomplishments of our graduates who have gone on to make a huge positive impact to the success of major Malaysian companies and indeed some of the world's leading organisations.

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY GRADUATES, TRULY A CLASS ABOVE

*Talentbank GE Index 2024

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY 200401015434 (653937-U) DU025(8) A member of Sunway Education Group No.5, Jalan Universiti, Bandar Sunway, 47500 Selangor Darul Ehsan.