



University of St.Gallen

St.Gallen Institute of Management in Asia



HSG Asia Compact Courses in Singapore

The University of St.Gallen's unique offer of compact courses at the master level taking place in Singapore

«An educated foray into another continent
and context that enriches your semester break»



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“Be Here, Live It, Connect!”

Asia Compact in a Nutshell

Asia Compact courses are tailor-made for HSG's master's students and take place in Singapore during the regular term breaks (Spring: calendar weeks 14&15; Autumn: calendar weeks 44&45). Each lasting one week, they are designed to impart Asia-themed learnings augmented by contextualized industry, field, and cultural exposure. Being on site in Singapore further enables interaction with the local business community and yields an experience resembling that of a business study mission.

The St.Gallen Institute of Management in Asia (SGI-HSG), the University's first international institute founded in 2011, hosts these core electives or electives in collaboration with HSG's master's programs. The week-long block nature of these courses and the array of available offerings allow students to combine two Asia Compacts within a two-week stay.

Asia Compact courses aim to inspire and enlighten students with key local insights through condensed and structured coursework. The SGI also aspires to offer students an open platform of interdisciplinary exchanges—through academic discussions and social events—and fosters global thinking and idea cross-fertilization during their sojourn in Singapore.



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«An intensive
and
contextualized
learning
experience that
cultivates
sensitivity
and fosters
global thinking»



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Why Singapore?



A Modern Landscape with Preserved Cultural Heritage

Singapore comes with the reputation of a state that has transformed itself from a port with scarce resources to the financial hub of Southeast Asia. Beyond the rapid economic development the country has seen, probably best illustrated by its breathtaking downtown skyline, Singapore prides itself as a multicultural society where diverse languages, ethnicities, and religions co-exist and are equally respected.

One may find that places of worship of different religions line up the same street, just as hawker centers teem with stalls of cuisines of various kinds. Singapore in this sense provides a snapshot of, also an entry point to, the colorful cultures Asia has to offer. These are the real jewels amidst the lively business scenes that HSG students will get to explore that form part of their Asia Compact experience.



Key Facts about Asia Compacts

Course Format

Asia Compacts are block courses that typically consist of one kickoff session in St.Gallen and five days of intensive coursework during term breaks in Singapore (minor variations apply). The program may include lectures, guest talks, and company or field visits. Asia Compacts are held in seminar rooms on the premises of the St.Gallen Institute of Management in Asia. The SGI also serves as the hub of students' activities during their stay in Singapore.

Application Timeline

Asia Compact courses follow a special application process that takes place prior to the preliminary bidding round of the respective term. The application is handled and determined individually by each course's instructor, though the dossier is likely to entail a CV and a brief motivation note. Selection results will be communicated prior to or during the first bidding window so that students have clarity when bidding for other courses. Students are advised to refer to course fact sheets for concrete details.





PROGRAM
2025

Course Offerings

A sample of courses & corresponding master's programs

Asia Compacts are master-level core electives or electives or Contextual Studies courses. Each course is directly affiliated with a master's program and aligned with its curriculum. The chart below offers a glimpse of confirmed offerings in the Spring of 2025 and tentatively scheduled courses in the Autumn of 2025 (new courses might be added).

For an up-to-date course chart, please visit unisg.ch/asiacompact for details.

● Black dots denote directly affiliated programs.

● Blue dots indicate the recognition of credits in other master's programs.

● Yellow dots suggest non-elective recognition.

Spring Term 2025 (Calendar Week 14/15)	MGM	MBF	MBI	MiMM	MACFin	SIM	MIA	MOK	MEcon	MiQE/F	MLaw	MLE	MIL	MCS	KTX Contextual
Food Politics in Asia (NEW) (W14)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Rising China in Developing Asia (W14)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
AI Governance & Ethics in Asia and Around the World (W15)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Marketing and Sales in Asia (W15)				●											
Private Equity in Emerging Markets (W15)		●													
Autumn Term 2025 (Calendar Week 44/45)	MGM	MBF	MBI	MiMM	MACFin	SIM	MIA	MOK	MEcon	MiQE/F	MLaw	MLE	MIL	MCS	KTX Contextual
Intercultural Competence Fieldschool in Singapore (W44)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Social and Sustainable Entrepreneurship in Singapore and Southeast Asia (NEW) (W44)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	
Sustainable Real Estate Economics and Finance in Asia (W44)		●			●				●	●					
Fintech Innovation in Singapore and Southeast Asia (FISSA) (W45)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		
International Management in the New Asia Pacific (W45)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●		●		
Principles and Practice of Forecasting (NEW) (W45)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

*This chart is meant to provide an impression of the course overview and does not readily contain all master's programs. Students from other programs might still be eligible for these courses. For most accurate listings,



I don't think it would be possible to understand how the city is evolving, how they promote innovation, or the culture from abroad. It was really great being able to go around the city and see how Singapore "works" as talked about in class for ourselves. I would really recommend Asia Compacts to other students. It's really an eye-opening experience.

Guillaume Bongard, MACFin
Asia Compact: Fintech in Singapore and Southeast Asia (2022)

Interdisciplinary Encounters

Asia Compacts are distinctive offerings not just because of their geographic settings. The nature of these courses taking place concurrently at an HSG overseas hub is conducive to creating a sense of “belonging” and cultivating cross-program encounters, fellowship, and dialogues among master’s students. Through group projects on a foreign soil, social events—the like of welcome drinks or barbecues—and potential panel discussions, Asia Compact students bond and develop a stronger cohort dynamic that also becomes an asset acquired through their learning journey in Singapore.



About the SGI

The St.Gallen Institute of Management in Asia

Along one of the shophouse strips in the Chinatown neighborhood, the St.Gallen Institute of Management in Asia (SGI) is nestled in Singapore's central business district. As the University of St.Gallen's first overseas institute, the SGI has sought since its foundation in 2011 to enable intercontinental exchanges and enhance mutual understanding between Asia and Europe through teaching, research, and outreach. It allows students from the University of St.Gallen to spend part of their academic careers in Asia.

Teaching

The SGI hosts students enrolled in different programs, ranging from bachelor-level, master-level, to executive education. The teaching, while tailored to meet distinct cohort needs, shares the overarching theme of Asia. It is also against this backdrop that business insights are transferred through comparison in a "glocalized" context.



Research

The five competence centers at the SGI, respectively for Business Development, Customer Centricity, Entrepreneurship, Intercultural Competence, and Wealth Management, conjointly contribute to field-specific knowledge in Southeast Asia. SGI researchers based in Singapore, in collaboration with faculty members in St.Gallen, investigate the role contexts play in variations of business models, SME development, corporate strategies, and cultural boundaries, to name a few. These results advance academic frontiers, enrich teaching, and benefit both the Singaporean and Swiss business communities, producing actual impacts at large.

Outreach

With its permanent presence and faculty members in Singapore, the SGI has over the years established strong ties with corporate partners across Singapore and Asia, representing the University of St.Gallen in local academic, government, and business environments. These valuable networks on the one hand allow HSG's and partner universities' students exclusive access to industry exposure and wisdom. On the other, they attest to the University of St.Gallen's high visibility in the region and recognized excellence in educating the next generation of business leaders.



“Be Here, Live It, Connect!”



Many people nowadays travel to consume and not to learn. Asia Compacts tackle exactly that. It is truly a unique learning experience allowing for a deep dive into a foreign culture and its nuances. There is no better way to spend your semester break!

Jacqueline Senfft, MIA Student



The experience is really on a whole new level. You're here, you feel the culture, and you can talk to locals at the hawker centers for our actual project of digital and mobile payment options. Asia Compact is the best way to start your journey in Singapore and Asia. Definitely the highlight of my semester.

Julia Schmedding, MGM Student



You are not going to understand international management if you don't go anywhere international. With Asia Compacts, you just see how it's lived and done in Singapore. Also, all the students really came together as a unit, exchanging what we saw and learned. It was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Stefan Schorb, MGM Student

«Enrich your term break through learning,
sense the intangible cultural and industry vibes,
& meet your fellow HSGers for a Singapore experience»



Asia Compact

www.unisg.ch/asiacompact

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Instagram:

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Video:

[Asia Compact on HSG Start](#)



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