

GLOBAL IMPACT STARTUP CHALLENGE

**Information Pack
(International Students)**

10 May to 16 May 2026

ABOUT THE SINGAPORE UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

The Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) is a leading institution dedicated to lifelong learning, applied education, and social impact. With a strong focus on wellbeing, sustainability, and community development, SUSS nurtures future-ready leaders who drive meaningful change in society.

With its applied learning approach and strong global partnerships, SUSS empowers students and professionals to lead initiatives that enhance community resilience, promote sustainable living, and improve quality of life.



ABOUT GISC

The **Global Impact Startup Challenge (GISC)** is a week-long programme that brings together students from all over the world in Singapore for an immersive entrepreneurship bootcamp.

Participants will form teams, develop and validate business ideas, design prototypes, and pitch to industry judges. You will collaborate with international peers, engage with Singapore's thriving startup ecosystem, and gain insights from industry experts.

Looking to build a startup?
Expand your network?
Explore regional opportunities?

GISC is the launchpad.

The theme is
Gerontology--Ageing Solutions and Opportunities

**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**



WHY GO GLOBAL WITH US?

Enterprising students can expect to:

Build a Global Network

Connect, collaborate, and innovate with entrepreneurial students from across the region, fostering a diverse community of changemakers eager to tackle global challenges.

Gain Practical Insights into Startup Ecosystems

Learn how businesses scale and thrive in different markets through hands-on exposure to local startups, industry leaders, and innovation hubs, gaining firsthand knowledge of emerging trends and opportunities.

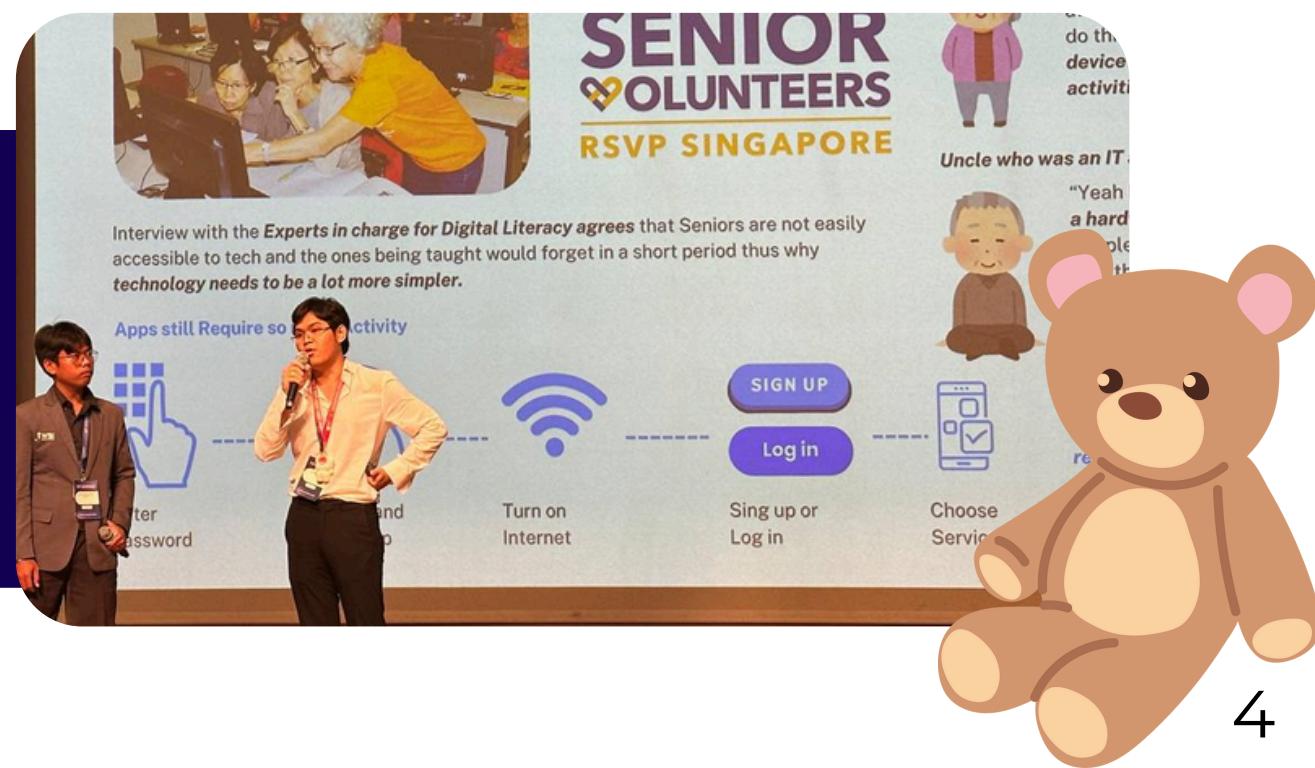
Develop Entrepreneurial & Pitching Skills with Industry Mentors

Participate in curated training sessions led by seasoned mentors, refining your ability to validate business ideas, design prototypes, and deliver compelling pitches to investors and industry experts.

Earn a Certificate of Participation

Upon successful completion of the programme, receive a Certificate of Participation, recognizing your dedication to building impactful and scalable solutions.

Pocket Nephew, winner of GISC '25, dreamed up a teddy bear that's more than a toy—it's a gentle companion designed to ease seniors' isolation and link them to care services through human-centered technology.



GISC PROGRAMME

PRE-PROGRAMME

Date	Item	Details
April 2026 (TBA)	Briefing for International Students	International student specific administration and information
27 April 2026 Zoom Conference Call 7pm - 10pm (SGT GMT +8)	Context Setting	Introduction to Age-inclusive care efforts in ASEAN-China-India and the Lean Startup Methodology
	Admin Briefing	Admin Briefing for all participants and FAQs

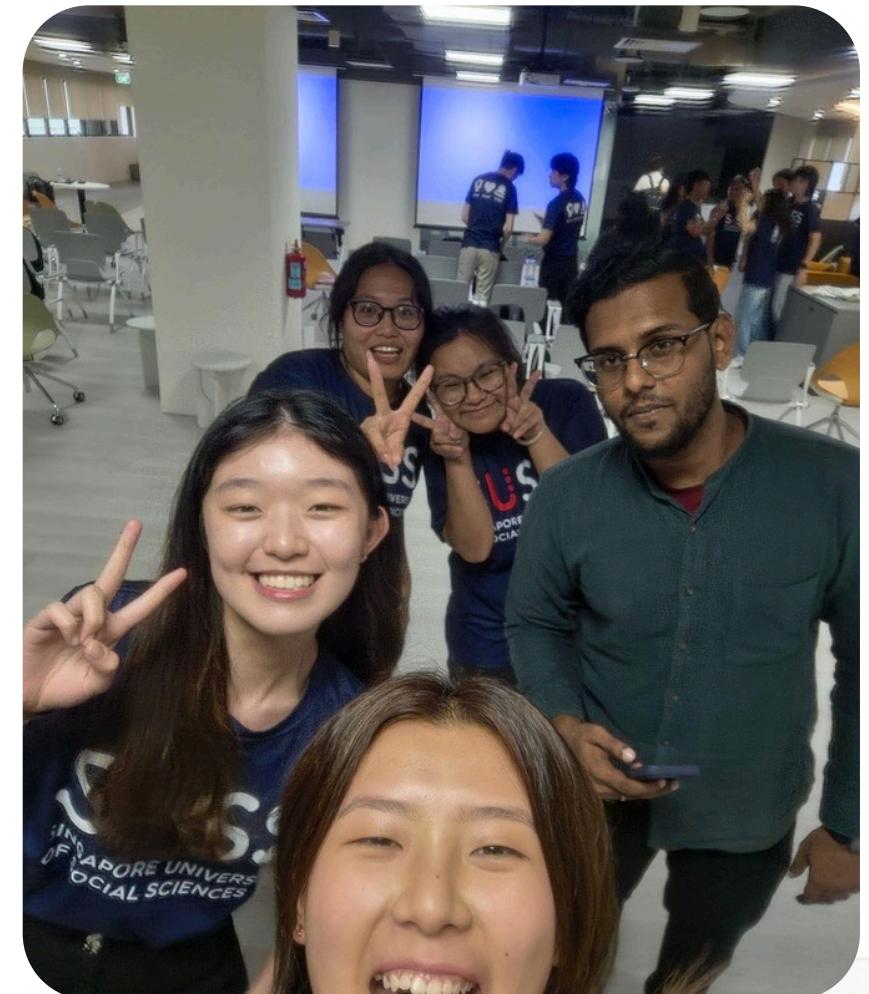
CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION

	Details
<u>Lean Startup Methodology</u> <u>by Dr Kelvin Tan</u>	<p>A series of modules as part of the Global Impact Startup Challenge to introduce and guide participants on key aspects of venture creation and market expansion.</p> <p>Learning Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apply The Lean Startup Model to develop and refine business ideas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master Business Pitching to effectively communicate ideas to stakeholder



CURRICULUM (CONT):

	Details
Session 1: Introduction to Javeline Board	The Javelin Experiment Board is a tool to validate ideas through experimentation. It is easy to understand, gets you started quickly and helps you focus, fail fast to succeed faster
Session 2: Customer & Problem Hypothesis	Define your customer and their core problem to build a foundation for your startup's success
Session 3: Designing Experiments	Learn how to test ideas quickly and effectively with hands-on experimentation techniques
Get-Out-Of- Building	Literally get out of the building for customer interviews and community walks to formulate impact solutions that truly meet a need
Session 4: Pivot & Persevere	Master the art of adapting your strategy--knowing when to pivot and when to persevere in building your venture ideas

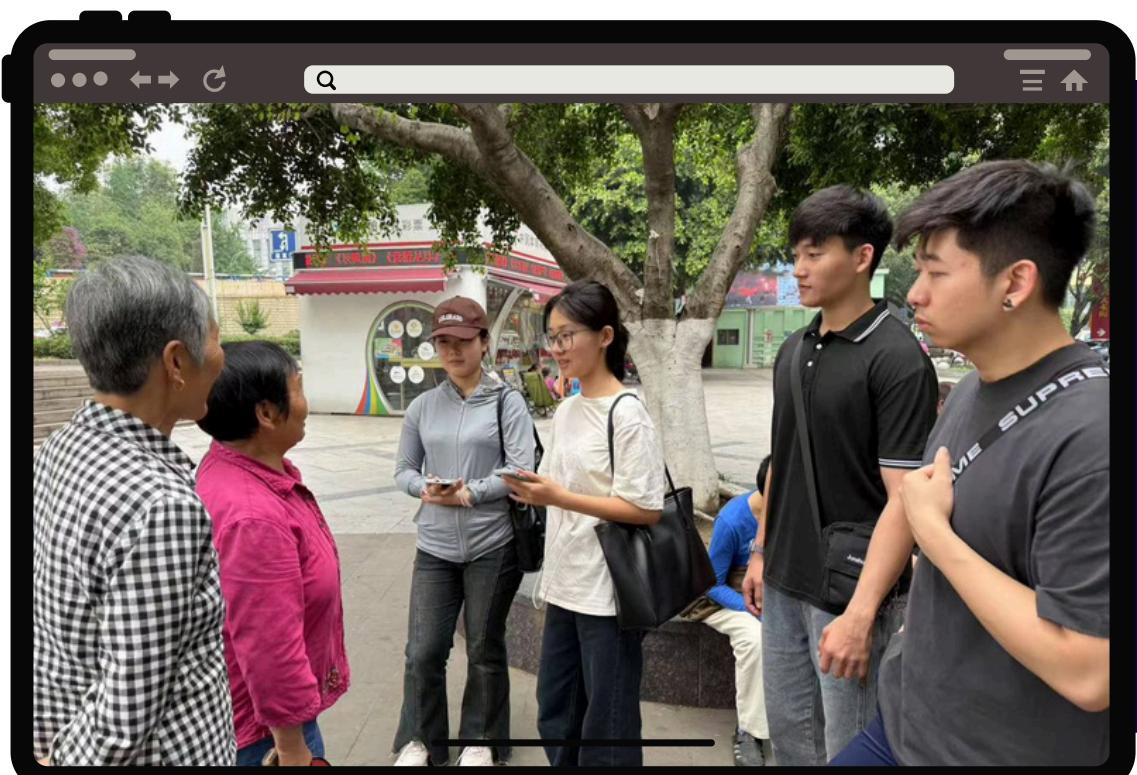


Participants will be grouped cross-culturally and across disciplines, based on shared problem statement interests.

They are expected to commit to their team's success and resolve any differences constructively.

CURRICULUM (CONT):

	Details
Session 5: Value Proposition Canvas + Solution Testing + Minimum Viable Product	The Value Proposition Canvas is a tool which helps ensure that a product or service is positioned around what the customer values
Session 6: Pitch Deck	Build a pitch deck that highlights your Go-To-Market strategy and unit economics for investor confidence
Pitching & Presentation	Participants will present their solutions from their consolidated experience and learnings from GISC
Impact Startup Inspiration	Explore innovative solutions and gain inspiration from curated visits to startup ecosystem enablers like Action Community for Entrepreneurship



Experimentation and iteration are key features of the Lean Startup Methodology. Participants will be challenged to source for suitable interviewees-potential customers- to validate their business ideas.

Business-to-Customer (B2C) ideas are thus encouraged.

GISC APPLICATION

	Details
Application Process	<p>Applicants have to be officially nominated by their home institution. Applicants who are interested in the programme should approach their respective university representatives to register their interest.</p> <p>The course will take in a maximum of 45 learners globally. Application will be assessed on a rolling basis until 27th February 2026.</p> <p>The GISC team will share more programme details and collect other student details upon the student's acceptance into the programme.</p>
English Proficiency Requirement	<p>The speaking and written medium of communication will be English.</p> <p>A working level of English proficiency is required for effective participation. Applicants will be assessed on their ability to articulate their motivations for joining the programme in their application form.</p>
Programme Fee	SGD\$850 (inclusive of 9% GST) for all international participants.

EXPENSES COVERED BY PROGRAMME FEE

Expenses covered

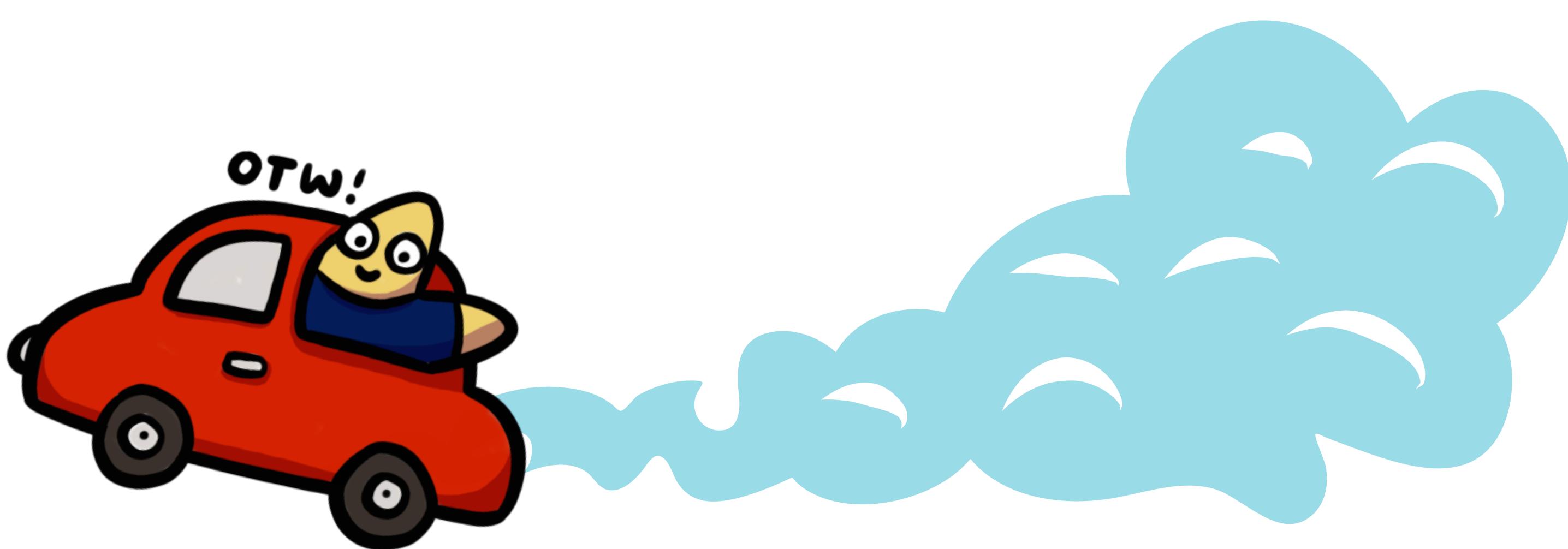
- Accommodation (twin-sharing room)
 - Participants will be grouped with other participants of the same gender and same home institution/country wherever possible
- WiFi and daily breakfast included
- Lunch for 3 days
- Welcome Dinner on 11th May 2026
- Transportation from lodging to SUSS and SUSS to lodging
 - Participants to adhere by bus charter schedule
 - Bus will leave on time

Self-Funded Expenses

- Meals not catered
- Transport around Singapore outside of provided transportation
- Flight Tickets to/from Singapore
- Travel Insurance
- Visa (if necessary)
- Local SIM Card/e-SIM with mobile data plan
- Personal Expenses

HOIEL STAY & AIRPORT TRANSFER

	Details
Accommodation	<p>Hotel accommodations will be provided for all international participants for the entire duration of GISC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check In: 10 May 2026 • Check Out: 17 May, 12PM <p>Participants who wish to travel to Singapore before GISC or extend their stay in Singapore after GISC are required to make their own accommodation arrangements.</p>
Bus Transfer from Airport to Hotel	<p>Airport pickup service to the first programme will be offered to GISC participants on 10th May.</p> <p>More information about flight bookings and airport reception will be shared during a programme briefing, April 2026.</p>



TRAVELLING TO SINGAPORE

	Details
Entering, Transiting, and Departing Singapore	<p>Participants travelling to Singapore must comply with the prevailing Public Health and Entry Requirements.</p> <p>Please click on the links below for important information for participants' travel to Singapore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automated Self-Help Tool for Entry Requirements • Health-related Border Measures
Public Health Requirements	<p>Public Health Requirements for Travellers to Singapore:</p> <p>Yellow Fever Requirements</p> <p>Students coming from or who have passed through any country at risk of yellow fever six (6) days prior to arriving in Singapore, are required to have valid certificates of vaccination for yellow fever.</p> <p>More information on the Public Health Requirements is available here.</p>
Entry Requirements	<p>GISC participants are exempted from requiring a Student's Pass and may use a Short-Term Visit Pass issued at the Singapore Checkpoint.</p> <p>Participants are not allowed to engage in employment activities during the programme period.</p>

TRAVELLING TO SINGAPORE

	Details
SG Arrival Card	<p>Submission of SG Arrival Card (SGAC) with Electronic Health Declaration:</p> <p>The SG Arrival Card should be submitted within three (3) days prior to the date of arrival in Singapore. More information may be found here.</p>
Insurance Coverage	<p>International participants are encouraged to purchase sufficient insurance coverage for their stay in Singapore.</p> <p>International students are not covered under any SUSS student travel insurance schemes during their stay in Singapore.</p>



GISC 2025 brought together students from 8 cities across ASEAN, China, India and the United Kingdom.

CONTACT US

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