Go for a degree in security studies

SIT opens applications for Liverpool University course

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THE Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) has opened applications to the criminology and security studies degree programme, which will be launched in September.

Students who have a polytechnic diploma or A levels can apply for a place on the three-year degree course which is being offered by Liverpool University, one of the prestigious Russell Group of leading British research universities.

SIT offers niche degree programmes with overseas universities. Most of its students are diploma holders from local polytechnics. With the criminology degree, it will be offering 27 degrees in all.

The programme, which will be customised and contextualised to the needs of the safety and security industry here, was announced two months ago by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Second Minister for Home Affairs S. Iswaran said it will provide ministry officers with opportunities for professional development and career advancement. The officers half from, among others, the Singapore Police Force, the Singapore Civil Defence Force and the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority.

In the first year, students will take up modules in sociology, social policy and criminology. In the second, they will focus more on criminological theory and research before going on to specialise in a range of criminological subjects in the third year.

All students will also undertake a four-week summer programme at the University of Liverpool campus.

This will include a series of lectures and seminars on key British and European criminal justice and security initiatives, as well as visits to criminal justice institutions and sites in Britain.

Students will also have the opportunity to conduct independent research in Britain.

Professor Fiona Beveridge from the University of Liverpool’s School of Law and Social Justice said the university has a long history of providing education in sociology and social policy, and has offered criminology as part of these degree programmes for many years.

She added: “We now have a full degree programme in criminology and are at the forefront of criminology research. The opportunity to work so closely with key partners will make a marked difference in the quality of professionals in the sector.”

SIT said there will be about 40 places available on the course. Fees are set at $18,600 a year for Singaporeans. Over three years, they add up to $55,800.

The institute said it was already screening the applications it received from officers in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

SIT, which is being remade into Singapore’s fifth public university, received a record 5,300 applications for the 1,400 places it is offering this year on its other 26 degree programmes.