

Mr Nathan Khoo knew that a career in IT was something he wanted, but was unsure of what to specialise in.

Thankfully, he chanced upon the Graduate Diploma in Systems Analysis programme (GDipSA) offered by National University of Singapore's Institute of Systems Science (NUS-ISS). The course provided him with the opportunity to explore a breadth of topics and fields, and paved his way to becoming a professional software engineer at Zühlke Engineering. Formerly a newbie to the IT industry, he shares his thoughts on the course.

Why do you think the GDipSA is relevant now?

Before Covid-19 hit, companies have already been dealing with the pressure to digitalise and automate their operations. The pandemic has accelerated this trend by limiting physical interaction, requiring increased maintenance of virtual operations.

Despite this challenging situation, the IT industry is thriving. For those looking to leverage such an opportunity, this programme represents an excellent starting point.

What did you enjoy about the course?

The skills imparted by the course are incredibly useful both in and out of the workplace. Even if I find myself out of a job because of the economic downturn, I could leverage these skills for community or personal projects, which will also add value to my resume.

You have no formal IT background. How challenging did you find this course?

This course sets a high bar for the student in terms of its content. Before the course, I had already spent some time on beginner online programming courses



PHOTO: NUS-ISS

Getting a head start in tech

With tech jobs currently in demand, it is becoming increasingly important to improve one's information technology (IT) skills and knowledge to match the current job climate

for my personal projects. Even then, I found the GDipSA to be rigorous and challenging.

The course administers a group project to end off most modules. While some projects weren't a particularly pleasing experience, I wouldn't have as strong a foundation now had I not gone through them. This course was difficult for me, but the curriculum provided everything that I needed to succeed.

Who would benefit from this course?

The GDipSA is suitable for non-IT graduates intending to craft a new career path in the

IT industry. Experienced professionals in non-IT industries who recognise the need to equip themselves with the latest IT skills to advance their careers may apply as well.

National University of Singapore's Institute of Systems Science

Graduate Diploma in Systems Analysis

Full-time: 12 months