# FAS2882F Cyberpsychology: Technology and the Human Mind
# FASStrack 2025

## Course Description
This course examines the theories and findings regarding the impact of digital use across one's lifespan. Through the module, students would gain a deeper understanding of the psychological, social, and organizational implications of digital use, including smartphone use and social networking practices. After building a theoretical understanding of how digital use affects individuals, students would apply the learnings to explain individual digital use and translate their learnings to bite-size information for public education.

## Preclusion/ Prerequisite
Nil

## Lecturer
Shuna Khoo, Research Psychologist, shkhoo@nus.edu.sg

## Course Assessment

| Assessments | | Assessment deadlines |
|---|---|---|
| Class participation | 20% | Nil |
| Individual essay | 20% | 17 July |
| Group Project | 30% | 18 July |
| Mid-term quizzes | 30% | 9 July, 15 July |
| Total for CA: | 100% | |

- **Class participations (20%):** Students are expected to actively participate in classes. There would be in-class activities such as jigsaw discussions and in-class group activities that provide opportunities for active participation and peer learning.

- **Individual essay (20%):** Students would write one short reflection essay on a cyberpsychology topic of their own choice (max 1000 words, 12pt, double spaced). Each student would choose a target for observation; the person could be oneself, a family member, or a friend. The focus of the essay is to examine the individual's digital use using cyberpsychology theories/frameworks and discuss recommendations on how the digital use can be improved. More details on the individual essay will be provided in class.

- **Group project (30%):** In groups, students would review a research article of their choice and write a science communication article about it. The science communication article should inform the public about how the findings may have important implications locally or globally

(e.g., smartphone addiction or technology use during COVID-19). The group project's deliverables will include a written report (15%) and a class presentation (15%). More details on the group project will be provided in class.

- **Mid-term quizzes (30%):** There will be two mid-term quizzes (15% each). They are closed-book, and consist of mostly Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQ), some fill-in-the-blanks and some short answer questions (SAQs)

**Course Topics**

| Week/Date | | Topics | Session activities |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 July (Fri) | (I) Introduction and Methods<br><br>(II) Growing up online: Children & adolescents | - Administrative tasks<br>- Formation of students group |
| 2 | 8 July (Tue) | The digital self: Self-presentation, self-esteem and self-disclosure | - Jigsaw discussion |
| | 9 July (Wed) | Online deviance and being alone | - **Midterm 1**<br>- Introduction of individual assignment |
| | 10 July (Thu) | (I) Love in in a Digital World: Sexuality and Online Dating<br><br>(II) Technology as an enabler: Older adults and special need | - Jigsaw discussion<br>- Introduction of group project |
| | 11 July (Fri) | Excessive digital use | - In-class group activity |
| 3 | 15 July (Tue) | Online consumer behaviours | - **Midterm 2** |
| | 16 July (Wed) | Organizations and social media use | - In-class group activity |
| | 17 July (Thu) | Cybercrime and ethical principles | - Q&A session<br>- Individual assignment submission |
| | 18 July (Fri) | Group presentations | - Group and peer evaluation |