



Aim

The Anatomy of Issues (AI) Programme fills a genuine need for academic expertise and customised learning resources in Social Studies and Issue Investigation, by having students learn first-hand how social science researchers work. The programme offers 3-hour workshops, where students work closely with experienced educators and researchers to map the anatomy of a social issue in its full context. Students will explore the causes of the issue and its wider implications, appraise diverse sources and data, make sound conclusions, and consider ways to rationally tackle the issue as active citizens.

Sample Programme: Old + Poor (+ Female) in Singapore

Inquiry Question	<i>How are the stories and voices of the elderly poor important in addressing the issue?</i>		
Inquiry Focus	Living in a Diverse Society		
Learning Objectives	1) Understand the causes and implications of the elderly poor in Singapore, especially among women. 2) Discern the voices and perspectives of the elderly poor. 3) Discuss ways for students to address the issue.		
Skills Outcomes	Critical thinking, evaluation of sources, sound reasoning, empathy, reflective thinking.		
Values Outcomes	Active citizenship, civic responsibility, concern for others.		
Methodology	1) Appraise primary and secondary sources, including qualitative material from interviews and newspapers, and quantitative data. 2) Map the socio-economic circumstances of the elderly poor. 3) Consider ways to rationally tackle the issue.		
Sample Data	<i>Monthly income</i>	<i>% of Men above 55</i>	<i>% of Women above 55</i>
	Under \$500	19.0	21.8
	\$500-999	27.9	40.2
	\$1,000-1,999	30.8	28.4
	\$2,000 and above	22.2	9.6
	<i>- National Survey of Senior Citizens 2011</i>		
Sample Interview	Respondent #88: 81-year old woman, has been separated from her husband for around 12 years, after he went to the United Kingdom and lost touch. Interviewers reported: She is very concerned about money. 'Food is expensive,' she says. She also visits the doctor for her physical problems – 'two trips a month on average' and receives no medical subsidy. 'My situation is bad – how to live like this?' she asked. - Lien Centre for Social Innovation. <i>Elderly Population in Singapore</i> . 2015		
Lesson Development (3 hours)	<u>Hour 1</u> : The trainer will discuss the issue of the elderly poor, introducing the causes, social implications and people's experiences. They will play a short poverty simulation game to empathise being an elderly poor. <u>Hour 2</u> : Students will work in groups on diverse sources on the stories and voices of the elderly poor, with the trainer and teacher facilitating. <u>Hour 3</u> : Groups will present their findings to the class. The trainer will comment and the students will reflect on their learning.		



Learning outcomes	Students will be able to understand, empathise and critically appraise the issue of the elderly poor in its full context.
Cost	\$600 for class of 30-40 students. \$500 for under 30.

Other AI Workshops

Social Media Influencers	The impact of social media influencers on society today.
Train Breakdowns	What students can do to understand train breakdowns as an issue of governance and citizenship.
Reading Fake News	How students can critically read and assess news and fake news on the social and mainstream media.
3Ms, Uneven Edges	Considers the 3 'Ms' (multiracialism, multiculturalism and meritocracy) amid demographic and economic trends.
The Gig Economy: Bane or Boon?	How Grab, Food Panda and Qoo10 are transforming the nature of work and the social implications.
Retreat of the Public Sector	The costs and benefits of the corporatisation of public services, in healthcare, housing or transport.

Other AI Programmes

Follow-through Programme	Continuing consultation subsequent to the workshop, addressing students' interests and queries.
AI Learning Packages	Customised learning resources for students, including a variety of sources with full lesson plans.
Talks and Seminars	Content- or skill-focused as decided with the school.

The creators of AI...

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Dr Loh is among the few historians who work on Singapore history. He is a prolific scholar whose work includes the award-nominated *Squatters into Citizens: The 1961 Bukit Ho Swee Fire and the Making of Modern Singapore* (shortlist for 2015 EuroSEAS Humanities Book Prize). Loh is Principal Investigator of the heritage research project, *Theatres of History and Memory: Industrial Heritage of 20th Century Singapore*, funded by the National Heritage Board. A former teacher, he gives talks to school students and develops educational resources for schools and agencies, including the Ministry of Education textbook *All about History: European Dominance and Expansion in Southeast Asia in the Late 19th Century*.

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