

Profile: The Center for American Education, Sunway University

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Provost: Professor Peter John Heard

Head of the Center for American Education: Dr. Sim Tze Ying

Sunway University is a private not-for-profit university that is owned and governed by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation. Sunway University offers tertiary education leading to Bachelor's, Master's and PhD degrees in various fields of study. The American Degree Transfer Program (ADTP) is a unique transfer program offered in Sunway University.

- Vision:** To be a world-class university
- Mission:** To nurture individuals holistically through devotion to the discovery, advancement, transmission and application of knowledge that meets the needs of society and the global community
- Creed:** Encourages achieving our Mission with integrity and unwavering Dedication to excellence, enterprise, professionalism, financial self-reliance, innovation, mutual respect and team spirit
- Values:** Integrity, excellence and humility

Sunway University's Educational Goals:

Sunway University students will:

- become independent, lifelong learners who actively pursue knowledge and appreciate its global application to economic, political, social and cultural development
- be empowered with the competencies and capacity to contribute to a fast-changing economic, social and technological world
- develop strong leadership qualities and communication skills
- be prepared for careers that enable them to lead productive, fulfilling and meaningful lives
- value integrity and become ethical, accountable, caring and responsible members of society

History: The ADTP was birthed in 1987 as a Twinning Program with Western Michigan University in Sunway College. Subsequently Sunway College was upgraded to a University College in 2004 by the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education. At this time, distinctions were made between the "College" and the "University". To this day, Sunway College offers primarily pre-university and foundation programs, while most undergraduate and graduate degree programs are offered in the university. Between 2010 and 2012, the ADTP transitioned from an exclusive Twinning Program with Western Michigan University into a Transfer Program, allowing for other partnerships to develop. In January 2011, Sunway was further upgraded by the Malaysian Ministry of Education (MOE) to full university status offering diplomas, undergraduate and postgraduate programs and degrees. The ADTP is one of the programs offered in Sunway University through the Center for American Education (CAE).

Accreditation and Recognition: All Sunway University programs (including the ADTP) have the approval of the Malaysian MOE, have met the Malaysian Qualifications Assurance (MQA) accreditation standards and are compliant with Malaysia’s regulatory and quality systems. [ADTP Science/Engineering](#) and [ADTP Arts](#) (Arts includes Business and non-Math/Science).

The MQA has consistently rated Sunway University as a 5-Star (Excellent) Institution. In addition, QS rated Sunway University as a 5-Star institution for Teaching, Facilities and Employability. (Read more about Sunway University: <https://university.sunway.edu.my>).

Language of Instruction: English is the medium of instruction for all courses and programs offered in the ADTP and Sunway University, except for two courses teaching the Malay and Mandarin languages.



Location: Sunway University is strategically land conveniently located within the modern, well-planned township of Sunway City. Residential housing, a hospital, shopping mall, hotel, convention centre, recreation facilities and many food options are available on campus as well as within the Sunway City, and all are within walking distance via our unique canopy walkway. Sunway University is conveniently linked to public transportation to the greater metropolitan areas of Petaling Jaya and Kuala Lumpur.



Sunway University’s Center for American Education

The ADTP in Sunway’s CAE is patterned after the American Community College system and was developed specifically to allow students to complete the first two years of their undergraduate degree at Sunway University and then transfer overseas for degree completion. However, the Malaysian MOE has given the approval for CAE to offer some third year (upper level) courses, and for students to earn more than 60 credits to transfer to overseas universities or local universities. More information can be found here: <https://university.sunway.edu.my/american-degree>.

ADTP Courses: Courses offered in the ADTP were developed in consultation with American universities to ensure that students can transfer seamlessly to the United States of America (herein referred to as “America”) to complete their studies. Currently more than 100 courses are offered in the ADTP, most of which are freshman and sophomore-level courses that fulfil General Education/Liberal Education requirements and basic courses for various majors for universities in Canada and America. In addition, several third-year courses have been approved by the Malaysian MOE for Sunway University to offer an Advanced Standing Business Major (ASBM) in collaboration with Western Michigan University, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Eastern Connecticut State University, as well as an Advanced Standing Mechanical Engineering Major (ASMEM) in collaboration with Western Michigan University and South Dakota State University. ADTP students in the ASBM or ASMEM programs will be able to complete more than 60 credits at Sunway University, and finish their Bachelors’ degree at these institutions in America in less than two years.

ADTP Calendar: There are four intakes/year: January, March, June and August. The typical American university semester calendar is used with Spring (January), Summer (June) and Fall (August) intakes. One additional intake in March accommodates Malaysian students from the public school system.

ADTP Grading System: The standard American university grading scale is used. The 4.0 scale is used for Grade Point Averages. The chart below gives details for grading of courses in Sunway's ADTP.

Grade	Percentage Scale %	Interpretation	Significance/GPA
A	90-100	Outstanding, Exceptional	4.00
B+	85-89	Very Good	3.50
B	80-84	Good	3.00
C+	75-79	Satisfactory	2.50
C	70-74	Acceptable	2.00
D+	65-69	Poor, Inadequate	1.50
D	60-64	Unsatisfactory but Not Fail	1.00
F	0-59	Fail	0.00
I	----	Incomplete	---
W	----	Withdraw	---

Student Body: There are more than 7,000 students enrolled in Sunway University, and approximately 300 of these students are enrolled in the ADTP. About 65% of students enrolled in the ADTP plan to be STEM-field majors, 25% Business and 10% choose Communications and other majors. Engineering, Computer Science and Bio-related fields are top choices within the STEM fields.

Co-Curricular Activities: Students enrolled in the ADTP have access to the 80+ clubs on campus to cater for various interests of students. In addition, ADTP students can go through a selection process to be on the Student Committee in the CAE. The Student Committee plans and conducts fund-raising charity events and various social activities for students throughout the year. Volunteerism is encouraged, so many ADTP students provide support for various events and activities in the university and community.

Partnerships: The CAE has transfer agreements as well as other partnership agreements with several American and Canadian universities as well as universities in New Zealand and Australia. The vast majority of the ADTP students transfer to America and Canada. Besides transferring students overseas, Sunway University's ADTP has also hosted American students for a Semester Abroad from universities that have articulated our courses for transfer.

Transfer of Students from ADTP: While most students complete approximately 60 credits in Sunway University's ADTP before transferring overseas for degree completion, it is not compulsory for students to complete 60 credits before they transfer. The students who join the Advanced Standing programs at Sunway University will complete more than 60 credits in the ADTP before their transfer. ADTP students have transferred to Cornell University, University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, University of Waterloo and many other private and public universities in the America and Canada. Some students who have already transferred overseas take summer courses in Sunway University's ADTP to transfer additional courses needed for their degree completion overseas.

