

## Course Outline

**Course Code** : RE4702  
**Course Title** : Professional Practice and Ethics  
**Semester** : Semester 2, Academic Year 2025/26  
**Faculty** : Adjunct Assoc Prof Helen Chen and Adjunct Assoc Prof Tan Poh Hong  
**Department** : Real Estate  
**Email** : [bizhech@nus.edu.sg](mailto:bizhech@nus.edu.sg) and [bizpht@nus.edu.sg](mailto:bizpht@nus.edu.sg)

### Overview

This course discusses the professional practice in the real estate field covering among others, valuation, property and facility management, marketing and property consultancy. It aims to provide students with an appreciation of the challenges and practical issues involved in professional practice. It highlights the ethical issues in professional practice and deals with professional communication and interactions with clients and other professionals.

### Learning Outcomes

This course is intended to help students understand economic, legal and ethical responsibilities to improve their professional life. Students will learn to:

- Identify the general obligations imposed by code of ethics and professional conduct.
- Evaluate challenging situations through a decision-making process that balances business, ethical and social considerations.
- Implement strategies to translate problems into successful outcomes.
- Develop personal strength and best practices for making difficult ethical decisions.

### Course Prerequisite(s)

Nil

### Course Preclusion(s)

Nil

### General Guide & Reading

To be advised by lecturers

### Tentative Schedule & Outline

Week	Date	Topic	Activity
1	15 Jan	Eco-system of Real Estate and Key Actors	
2	22 Jan	Government's role in Real Estate	
3	29 Jan	Real Estate Business and Practices	Online forum
4	5 Feb	Industry and Organisation Transformation, Personal Development	Online forum
5	12 Feb	Guest Speaker	
6	19 Feb	Group Project Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group project presentation</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual assignment due end of week 6/7</li> </ul>
	<b>21 Feb – 1 Mar</b>	<b>RECESS WEEK</b>	
7	5 Mar	Ethics & Ethical Theory	
8	12 Mar	Ethical Decision Making & Leadership	
9	19 Mar	Business Ethics & Corporate Social Responsibility	Individual Assignment for <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Half Sem</u> due on 20 Mar
10	26 Mar	Corporate Governance & Professional Responsibilities	
11	2 Apr	[NUS Well-Being Day] No Class	
12	9 Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Case Study on Corruption</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Half Semester Test</li> </ul>	Group Presentation Slides due on 10 Apr
13	16 Apr	Group Project Presentations	Course Review (Pre-recorded)
	<b>18 – 24 Apr</b>	<b>READING WEEK</b>	
	<b>25 Apr – 9 May</b>	<b>EXAMINATION (2 WEEKS)</b>	

### Assessment

Assessment Components	1 <sup>st</sup> Half (%)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Half (%)	Weightage (%)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class Participation</li> </ul>	5	5	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group Project</li> </ul>	15	15	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 x in-class test</li> </ul>	-	15	15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual Assignments</li> </ul>	30	15	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

### Academic Honesty & Plagiarism

Academic integrity and honesty is essential for the pursuit and acquisition of knowledge. The University and School expect every student to uphold academic integrity & honesty at all times. Academic dishonesty is any misrepresentation with the intent to deceive, or failure to acknowledge the source, or falsification of information, or inaccuracy of statements, or cheating at examinations/tests, or inappropriate use of resources.

Plagiarism is “the practice of taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own” (The New Oxford Dictionary of English). The University and School will not condone plagiarism. Students should adopt this rule - You have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is being presented as entirely your own work. This is a minimum standard. In case of any doubt, you should consult your instructor.

### Additional guidance is available at:

- <http://www.nus.edu.sg/registrar/administrative-policies-procedures/acceptance-record#NUSCodeofStudentConduct>
- <http://nus.edu.sg/osa/resources/code-of-student-conduct>

## **About me**

### **Adj. Assoc Prof Helen Chen:**

I am a Professional Architect and Project Director. As the SVP of a large architectural firm, I had led my team to win many design awards. In the public sector, I headed the Land Policy Division in the Ministry of Law and the Centre for Public Project Management at the Ministry of Finance. I am a member of the Adjunct Faculty and Expert Network at the Chandler Academy of Governance. I currently sit on several public sector boards and committees on project development and dispute resolution.

### **Adj. Assoc Prof Tan Poh Hong**

I was the CEO of the former Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority; and prior to that, the Deputy CEO of HDB. I held various positions in HDB ranging from estate and sales operations, policy and strategy formulation, to corporate functions. Currently, I sit as an independent director on various listed companies.