**PART I – INSTRUCTIONS FOR 2021 ANALYST RECRUITMENT**

The 2021 Analyst Recruitment process comprise of two rounds.

**Round 1 interviews will take place between: 23 August to 27 August 2021.**

**Round 2 interviews will take place on: 4 September 2021.**

**How to apply: 1st Round**

1. Please **find and complete the application form** attached with the email titled “**SEM\_Application Form”**
2. Save your completed application form in **PDF** and title it:

[Year of Study: 1/2/3/4]\_[FullName]\_SEM\_Application

Example: 2\_KennyAngYongKang\_SEM\_Application

1. Title the email: **SEM Application 2021 - [Full Name]**
2. Upon receipt of your successful application, we will follow up with a **Wejoinin Link**. Please indicate your preferred Round 1 interview date and time. Slots will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis

Note: Application window **closes on Wednesday, 25 August 2021, 2359**. SMU Emerging Markets will not consider late or incomplete applications.

**2nd Round**

We will announce on **Saturday,** **28 August 2021** if you are shortlisted to attend the 2nd Round interview. If so, you will receive more instructions and information pertaining to the format of the interview and deliverables.

Successful applicants will be expected to:

1. Choose and analyse an industry and region to focus on and
2. Prepare **two deliverables**: an Executive Brief in Word Format, and a PowerPoint Presentation Deck
3. Submit deliverables by **Thursday, 2 September 2021, at 1200**
4. Present your analysis and outlook on your chosen industry and region on **Saturday, 4 September 2021**
5. 2nd Round interviews will only take place on **Saturday, 4 September 2021.** You will be asked to indicate your timeslot by **31 August 2021.**

More information pertaining to Round 2 interviews will be disbursed to successful applicants on 28 August.

**Application Timeline:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** | **Sunday** |
| **0** | 9-Aug | 10-Aug | 11-Aug | 12-Aug**Vivace** | 13-Aug**Vivace** | 14-Aug | 15-Aug |
| **1** | 16-Aug**Start of school****Sign-ups open** | 17-Aug | 18-Aug | 19-Aug**Info Session (1900 – 2030)** | 20-Aug | 21-Aug | 22-Aug |
| **2** | 23-Aug**Round 1 interviews** | 24-Aug | 25-Aug**Sign-ups close (2359hr)** | 26-Aug | 27-Aug | 28-Aug**Round 1 results****Release of instructions for Round 2 (1200hr)** | 29-Aug |
| **3** | 30-Aug | 31-Aug**Indicate timeslot for Round 2 interview**  | 1-Sep | 2-Sep**Deadline for Round 2 deliverables (1200 hr)** | 3-Sep | 4-Sep**Round 2 interviews** | 5-Sep**Release of results for Round 2**  |
| **4** | 6-Sep | 7-Sep**Acceptance offer** | 8-Sep | 9-Sep | 10-Sep**First General Meeting** | 11-Sep | 12-Sep |

**Contact Details**

Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any queries.

Email: sem@sa.smu.edu.sg

LinkedIn: SMU Emerging Markets

Instagram: SMU\_EM

Telegram Handle: @siakuanghong, @brennentan, @sierralab

**PART I – FAQS**

**1. What is SMU Emerging Markets (SEM)?**

SEM is the first student-led club in Singapore with an emerging market focus. There are a total of 6 regional desks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Southeast Asia (SEA)
* Emerging Europe (EME)
* Central & East Asia (CEA)
 | * India
* Latin America (LATAM)
* Middle East & Africa (MEA)
 |

Analysts will learn to perform in-depth research on various sectors in these regions and produce Executive Briefs (EBs), showcasing their analysis and outlook for the sector and region. Samples of our EBs can be found on our website [here.](https://www.smuem.com/executive-briefs)

Upon completion of the Analyst Programme after the first semester, they will be promoted to Associates. Associates work closely within their regional desks to produce monthly EBs, which will be published to the club’s external partners and alumni.

**1. What does SEM have to offer?**

As an Analyst at SEM, you will undergo a structured programme that spans one school semester (August to November). In terms of personal and professional development, Analysts will stand to benefit significantly in 3 main areas:

|  |
| --- |
| **Technical skills** |
| * Database proficiency (Bloomberg Terminal, CapIQ, Eikon)
* Ability to grasp financial jargons and understand emerging market intricacies
* Ability to research on, understand the macro, industry, and business environment, and formulate concrete theses and arguments
* Ability to express your arguments in a succinct and compelling fashion in writing
 |
| **Soft skills** |
| * Become confident in sharing and defending your ideas/outlook in a specific topic
* Develop teamwork skills, since the structure of the EBs demands a top-down fluidity of ideas
* Developing your presentation skills
 |
| **Career guidance, mentorship, and development** |
| * Members will tap into the club’s strong alumni network, who have established themselves in a large array of industries, from finance (investment banking, global markets), commodities, consulting, technology, and journalism
* Opportunity to network with esteemed industry practitioners during club and external events
 |

**2. What will I be doing in SEM?**

The commitment duration for a member in SEM is **1.5 years (three semesters).**

As an Analyst, you will undergo a structured training programme that spans one semester. You will first be assigned to a regional desk of your choice (depending on availability).

Throughout the programme, you will be exposed to concepts on the macro, industry, and company level. You will gain familiarity to macroeconomic policies, understanding the intricacies of various industries, competitive analysis, and company specific analysis, among others. Apart from lessons, you will also be given supplementary materials, such as industry primers and notes, which you may use to further your understanding in concepts or specific industries.

Under the guidance of Regional Desk Heads, analysts will work closely with their desk mates to perform in-depth research in different sector categories, such as Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG), Resource & Energy (R&E), Industrial Corporate Group (ICG), and Financial Institutions (FI). You and your peers will rotate between producing a Macro, Industry, and Company Executive Brief (EB) to maximise your learning opportunities.

At the end of the semester, Analysts will undergo an **Initiation Phase**, where they will apply what they have learnt throughout the semester to produce 3 Executive Briefs (Macro, Industry, Company) on a given sector in their regional desk. Analysts are promoted to Associates after passing initiation, where they will be involved in a total of **8 publishing cycles** for the remaining 2 semesters.

As such, as a member at SEM, you get to learn. A lot.

**3. What kind of candidates does SEM look out for?**

We do not expect applicants to have any prior experience in finance. What we value, and try to identify, among applicants is the curiosity in wanting to learn more about emerging markets, analytical rigour, and a strong work ethic.

Our training programme is structured to cater to Analysts without a background or prior knowledge in finance. The executive committee and desk heads are also committed to guide Analysts throughout their journey.

The SEM curriculum is rigorous and realistic to prepare members for the working environment in their future careers. Apart from lessons and guidance, the executive committee and desk heads may occasionally give Analysts a ‘push’ if deemed necessary. Ultimately, we want you to realise your full potential during your time with us. That said, we still expect Analysts to be driven, willing to take initiatives and learn independently.

**4. Why should I join SEM?**

SEM provides you with the hard and soft skills, as well as alumni networks which you can tap into to aid in securing internships and career opportunities. Many of our seniors and alumni have established themselves in the finance industry, such as investment banking, sales and trading, and hedge funds, who will sit in our lessons and initiation presentation to provide feedback, guidance, and sharing their experiences.

Although we position ourselves as a finance club, many of our seniors and alumni have too ventured beyond finance and established themselves in technology, consulting, and journalism. At SEM, the hard and soft skills you will pick up are very versatile. Even if you are undecided in choosing your future career, these skills and alumni network will eventually help to open up opportunities.

**5. What is the commitment like in SEM?**

As with most interest clubs, at SEM, we expect members to exhibit some degree of commitment. The total commitment duration for a member in SEM is 1.5 years.

As an Analyst, you are expected to attend weekly lessons on Fridays from 3.30pm to 6pm. Due to the rigour and fast-paced nature of the curriculum, Analysts might experience some difficulty in catching up should they miss lessons. Upon completion of the Analyst programme, members will also need to complete 8 publishing cycles over 2 semesters as an Associate.

Although our networking sessions and events are not compulsory, we highly encourage members to attend them as it aids in their holistic development.

**6. How might the desk preferences I have indicated in my application form affect my eventual desk designation?**

This will be based on our evaluation of your performance in the 1st and 2nd Round interviews. Also, desks like China & East Asia (CEA) and Southeast Asia (SEA) are traditionally more popular among associates. With these in mind, the team at SEM will nevertheless try our best to accommodate your preference.

Occasionally, there might be a slight reshuffle between some desks for dynamicity. Ultimately, you are not only confined to your own desk but have resources to understand more about your region. SMU Emerging Markets pride ourselves on being flexible and our global perspective.

**7. Are lessons / CCA programmes going to be fully virtual?**

As of now, SEM plans to adopt **a hybrid** (A mix of online and physical meetings) approach. This way, there will still be physical interaction between club members and the executive committee. Regional desk heads may also hold physical meetings within desks. This is also not the first time the club is adopting such an arrangement, and we are confident your learning and development will not be affected. **The school will also be conducting a review on restrictions sometime in mid-August, and SEM will amend our approach to physical interactions accordingly.**