

Will the East and West Digital World Split in Two: Policy Implications for Entrepreneurs, Corporates and Governments

In this 2-day course, we will examine the ways in which China is pursuing legitimate alternatives to financial arrangements traditionally controlled by the West. These include SWIFT, cloud, quantum communications and computing, multi-national lending, development aid, 5G, and payments. We will explore and offer opinions about expected outcomes in a digital clash of civilisations. This has important implications for staffing and balance sheet management for banks and insurance, strategic planning for corporations, long term planning for governments, and lending allocation for multilateral institutions. The intersection of this is 5G and control of digitalisation — it's all about fintech.

Objectives

A. Knowledge and Understanding (Theory Component)

At the end of this course, participants should be able to:

- Describe the political, technological and financial roots of this East-West clash of digital civilisations
- Explain the connection among cloud, 5G, blockchain, credit and power
- Discuss the importance of using a central bank 'coin' to offer an alternative to SWIFT
- Summarize the political sensitivity of cloud activity for sovereign control
- Identify key objectives of OBI and see if these are compatible with World Bank and IMF
- Recognize the importance of India as a testing ground for rollout of payments, food, e-commerce

B. Key Skills (Practical Component)

At the end of this course, participants should be able to:

- Formulate the key risks when aligning to a business, bank or government with one side or another
- Assess the political third rails to avoid as the clash between East and West unfolds
- Discuss the types of cloud services and those that are politically expedient
- Implement strategies for start-ups in the coming rift
- Appraise the concrete steps that Singapore is taking to maintain its lead

Topics

Time	Agenda
Day 1	
09:00 – 09:15	2-Day Course Overview
09:15 – 10:45	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The difference between a good citizen and a good credit - All lending is political; starve a country of credit and you get political unrest: GFC - Creation of SME credit in OBI via e-commerce/AI a central goal of China - Why Grab, Alibaba, Gojek, Amazon, Tencent are all going after SME/individual credit? - Banks are out of this market — why? - The US strategic freak out began with PRC quantum computing
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 13:00	The New Competition with Blockchain, HTTP and Swift: How China is Creating a Parallel Universe with the US for Financial Hegemony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quick recap on blockchain and uses — protocols, layers and comparisons - Case studies: UBS, Google, Consensus, AWS, Dianrong, RBC, DTCC - Industry: Charity, voting, food supply, data rewards, fraud, medical supply
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Battle of the Tech Giants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The political reality of Alibaba covering the OBI - The race for food supply, grocery delivery and the data that comes from that - Ping An, O2O and biometrics - Huawei and the Battle for 5G and Cloud - Huawei geographical and product range: margins, market share, M&A - Qualcomm vs Huawei
15:30 – 15:45	Break
15:45 – 17:30	India as a Global Battleground for the IOT Non-aligned Movement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amazon’s strategy in India — can it put Standard Chartered out of business? - PayTm and Alibaba — powerful juggernaut - Strategies for streaming — form vs domestic and political control of content - Can Flipkart compete with these powerhouses? - Can Walmart and Tencent do anything meaningful?

Day 2	
09:00 – 09:15	Overview of the Day and a Quick Recap
09:15 – 10:45	Cloud Wars — Aliyun vs Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Azure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who controls the cloud data and where is it? - Types of cloud services — IaaS, PaaS, SaaS, public, private, hybrid - Market share and the sensitivity of China: Huawei, Aliyun and AWS - Can the US expel Huawei from the US while China allows AWS/Azure in?
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 12:30	The Future of Singapore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network Trade Platform - Smart City — alignment with Silicon Valley - Digital Economy Roadmap - Enterprise Singapore
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Quick Overview of Corporate Strategies: Are these Mini Nation-states? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Case studies of Aliyun, Ping An, Lufax, Tencent, Zhong An, Softbank, Amazon, Google, Apple, and Facebook
15:30 – 15:45	Break
15:45 – 17:00	Conclusions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can the digital world be torn in half? - Can the US isolate China successfully — even the digital world? - What should be the counter narrative of China? Why is China so mute? - Will GEMS countries push back with Alibaba? - Can Alibaba/PBOC create a new SWIFT/CNY coin circulation in OBI? - Are we going into a new digital non-aligned movement? - What is the role of Singapore in a bifurcated digital Cold War? - Will countries insist on localizing cloud? - Should these big companies be broken up?
17:00 – 17:30	Assessment

Requirements

For any enquiries regarding the workshop requirements, please email suss_ftb@suss.edu.sg.

Duration: 2 days

Venue: Singapore University of Social Sciences

Minimum number to run: 25 participants

Certificate of completion is awarded upon fulfilling course requirements.

Participants are required to achieve at least 75% attendance and/or sit and pass any prescribed examinations/assessments or submit any course/project work (if any) under the course requirement.

Trainer's Profile



Paul Schulte

Founder & Editor, Schulte Research

Paul Schulte is founder of Schulte Research, set up in 2012 researching financial institutions and financial technology.

He has spent 3 decades in research on financials. He has worked for all 3 branches of US government, including the NSC at the White House. He currently teaches in 3 universities, has written 5 books and authored hundreds of articles. He has worked for the Number 1 investment bank from US, UK, Japan, China and Switzerland starting in 1990. He has taught on 5 continents. His focus is technological change in banks and insurance. He has been a source for the WSJ, NYT, Bloomberg, Nikkei, FT, Economist, Barron's and Forbes.

His clients include some of the largest sovereign, pension, mutual and hedge funds globally. He is the author of "The Next Revolution in Our Credit Driven Economy".