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on: Restricted

CURRICULUM VITAE

PROFESSOR WALTER WOON Senior Counsel

Education & Qualifications

Professor Woon read law at the National University of Singapore on a Development Bank of Singapore Scholarship, graduating with First Class Honours in 1981. He was awarded the Law Society of Singapore Book Prize thrice (1978, 1979 and 1980), the Adrian Clark Memorial Gold Medal as top student (1981), the Leow Chia Heng Prize (1981) and the External Examiners' Special Cash Prize (1981).

He attended the Postgraduate Practice Law Course in 1981 and was awarded the Aw Boon Haw & Aw Boon Par Memorial Prize 1981 as top student, as well as the Tan Ah Tah Book Prize for professional ethics. He then proceeded to Cambridge University on a Commonwealth Scholarship, graduating with an LL.M (First Class Honours) in 1983. He was awarded the Whytehead Scholarship (1983) and the Wright Prize (1983) by St John's College Cambridge.

He was called to the Bar in 1984 and was appointed Senior Counsel in 2007.

Professional Experience

Professor Woon is currently Lee Kong Chian Visiting Professor at the Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University (with effect from 1 July 2022). He was elected to an Honorary Fellowship of St John's College Cambridge on 3 February 2022. He is also an Emeritus Professor at the National University of Singapore, having been David Marshall Professor at the Law Faculty from 2010-2022.

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He served as Attorney-General from 2008 to 2010, having previously been Solicitor-General from 2006 to 2008. He has also been Judge Advocate-General as well as a member of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights, the Legal Service Commission and the board of directors of the Monetary Authority of Singapore. SMU Classification: Restricted

Professor Woon was non-executive Chairman and Senior Consultant of the regional law firm RHTLaw Asia LLP (formerly RHTLaw Taylor Wessing LLP) from January 2015 until June 2025; subsequently he was Chairman Emeritus of the firm. He has appeared as counsel in the High Court and Court of Appeal on many occasions, including representing the President in Constitutional Reference No 1 of 1995, which is the only case heard by the Constitutional Tribunal to date. In addition, he has also been called upon to give expert evidence on Singapore and international law in several cases.

Since January 2022 he has also been Chairman of the Market Surveillance and Compliance Panel (MSCP) established under the Electricity Market Rules, which is part of the oversight mechanism for the National Electricity Market of Singapore (NEMS), having first joined in January 2016. In addition he is Patron of the Gunong Sayang Association (which was founded in 1910 to promote Baba culture).

From 1998 to 2006 he was Singapore's ambassador to Germany, Greece, the European Communities, the European Union, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and the Holy See, as well as the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. He was awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of St Gregory the Great by the Holy See in 2006.

In 2007 he was an alternate member of the High Level Task Force on Drafting of the ASEAN Charter (serving as Singapore delegation leader during the later half of the process) and presented the completed Charter to the ASEAN Foreign Ministers for signing by the Heads of Government at the Thirteenth ASEAN Summit on 20 November of that year.

He is Chairman of the Society of International Law Singapore (SILS). From 2009 to 2016 he was Deputy Chairman of the governing board of the Centre for International Law (CIL), National University of Singapore. He was also President of the Goethe-Institut (Singapore Branch) from 2010 to 2016 and an Executive Council Member of the Asian Society of International Law from 2011 to 2017.

He was a Nominated Member of Parliament (1992 to 1996), during which time he was instrumental in the passage of the Maintenance of Parents Act, which he introduced as a private member's bill. From 1995 to 1997 he was Legal Adviser to the President and Council of Presidential Advisers. In December 1994 Time Magazine named him as one of 100 Young World Leaders.

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Between 1989 and 2001 he was a director of Intraco Ltd (serving as chairman of the audit committee) and Natsteel Ltd, both companies listed on the Stock Exchange of Singapore. He was Chairman of the Steering Committee for Review of the Companies Act, which submitted its final report in April 2011. In 2011 he was inducted as an Honorary Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Directors. He from 2014-2025 he was a director of St John's Cambridge (Singapore), a charitable public company set up by St John's College Cambridge in October 2014, and was appointed Chairman in January 2023. He was also formerly a director of Asian SIL Holdings Pte Ltd, a company established to administer the Asian Society of International Law. In April 2016 he was appointed Special Counsel to the Steering Committee for the Re-writing of the Taiwan Company Act. As of 1 January 2024 he has been a Senior Accredited Director, a credential conferred by the Singapore Institute of Directors (SID). He is also a member of the Standards and Examination Board for SID Accreditation.

From 2010-2022 he was David Marshall Professor at the Law Faculty. He was previously Chairman of the Board of Legal Education (BLE) from April 2008 to April 2010. From April 2010 to September 2020 he was Dean of the Singapore Institute of Legal Education (SILE), which conducts the Bar Examinations and Foreign Practitioner Examinations for entry into the legal profession. Between 1988 and 1995 he was Sub-Dean and Vice-Dean of the Law Faculty of the National University of Singapore. He was awarded a Faculty Teaching Award for excellence in teaching five times (2013, 2014, 2015, 2017 and 2018) and a University Teaching Excellence Award thrice (2014, 2015 and 2021). He was also awarded a Dean's Teaching Excellence Award in 2023 at the Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University.

Presently he teaches Criminal Law at the Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University. In addition, he taught Company Law and Criminal Law in the Part A Bar Examination Course conducted by the SMU Academy. He was also Coordinator for Company Law in Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations conducted by the SILE from 2010 to 2020. His main areas of teaching at NUS were Criminal Law and Company Law. Subjects formerly taught at NUS were Legal Method, Securities Regulation and Crime & Companies. He was asked by NUS to chair the Committee for Review of the Sanctions Framework for Sexual Misconduct in 2021 and again in 2023.

In 2012 he was a Herbert Smith Visiting Fellow at St John's College Cambridge. The following year he was invited by the Rockefeller Foundation to be a Policy Fellow at the Foundation's Bellagio Center in Italy. In 2019 he was elected to a Beaufort Visiting Fellowship at St John's College, Cambridge, where he spent Michaelmas Term 2019.

He established the Woon Eng Chwee Memorial Bursary (in honour of his father) in 2019, to aid students from less-affluent backgrounds. A further Woon Chow Tat Memorial Bursary (in honour of his grandfather) was established in 2021.

Publications and Areas of Legal Interest

Professor Woon is the author of several law books, including *The ASEAN Charter: A Commentary* (NUS Press, 2015); *Walter Woon on Company Law* (now in its third edition, edited by Professor Tan Cheng Han; Sweet & Maxwell, 2005), which is a standard text on company law used in law and business schools in Singapore; *The Companies Act of Singapore: An Annotation* (originally co-written with Andrew Hicks, now forming the basis of *Woon's Corporations Law*, Lexis Nexis 2019); and *Towards a Rules-Based Community: An ASEAN Legal Service* (with Jean-Claude Piris) (Cambridge University Press, 2015). In addition, he was Consulting Editor *The Companies Act of Malaysia 2020*. He has also published articles in the *Malayan Law Journal*, the *Malaya Law Review*, the *Securities Industry Review*, the *Law Society Journal*, the *Singapore Academy of Law Journal*, the *Australian Journal of Corporate Law*, the *Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal*, the *Korean Society of International Law Journal* and the *Chinese (Taiwan) Yearbook of International Law and Affairs*.

His main areas of interest are company law, criminal law and international law.

Selected Publications

Books

Essential Criminal Law (Sweet & Maxwell 2026; co-author with Alexander Woon)
 Companies Act of Malaysia Desk Edition 2024 (LexisNexis, Malaysia) – Consulting Editor
 Companies Act of Malaysia Desk Edition 2020 (LexisNexis, Malaysia) – Consulting Editor
 Woon's Corporations Law (LexisNexis, Singapore) – editorial work and updates
 Walter Woon on Company Law (Sweet & Maxwell) (3rd Ed edited by Tan Cheng Han)
 The ASEAN Charter: A Commentary (NUS Press, 2015)
 Towards a Rules-Based Community: an ASEAN Legal Service (with Jean-Claude Piris)
 (Cambridge University Press, 2015)

Articles, Chapters in books, etc (selection)

Remembrance and Reconciliation published as *Japan's Pop Culture Whitewash of its Brutal Past Threatens Asia's Future Peace* South China Morning Post, 14 December 2025
How Historical Amnesia Fuels US-China Conflict, South China Morning Post 3-4 August 2025
The House of Cheang (Biblio Asia Vol 21 issue 3, Oct-Dec 2025; National Library Board)
The Mousedeer in the Middle Channel News Asia 14 April 2025
Report of the Sexual Misconduct Sanctions Framework Review Committee, National University of Singapore (December 2024)
The Non-Constituency Member of Parliament Scheme: Constitutional Position in Non-Constituency Members of Parliament: What's Next for the Scheme (World Scientific, Singapore;

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July 2024)

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Singapore's Role as a Neutral Interpreter of China to the West published by the Asia Peace Programme under the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore, 4 December 2023 and republished by Lianhe Zhaobao in Think China on 19 December 2023.

PE 2023 Offers Four Lessons published by Mothership.sg on 5 September 2023.

No Contest Elections are Bad, but Too Many Contenders Could Also be Undesirable published by Mothership.sg on 24 June 2023. Subsequently, the videos based on this article attracted more than 100,000 views.

Exporting Corruption – Liability for Corporate Officers published in Today Online, 6 June 2023.

Origins of the NMP Scheme: Contributing an Independent Perspective in The Nominated Member of Parliament Scheme (World Scientific, Singapore 2022; Anthea Ong ed), pp22-35

Rethinking the University Experience: Education in the Time of Corona and After published in Today Online, 26 January 2022

Report of the Sexual Misconduct Sanctions Framework Review Committee, National University of Singapore, 23 December 2021

China and America: From Trade War to Race and Culture Confrontation, Prism (2021) Vol 9 No 2, pp47-55

Remembering the India Connection India on Our Minds (World Scientific, Singapore 2020; Tommy Koh & Hernaikh Singh eds), pp123-127

China and America - The Power of Historical Memory RSIS Commentary (S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, NTU) 11 June 2020

Remembering Singapore's India Connection Today Online 11 March 2020.

Freedom, responsibility and COVID-19 Today Online 18 May 2020

Sexual Misconduct in Universities: Punishment must be based on principles, not guidelines Today Online 21 February 2020.

Lift Not the Painted Veil Singapore Comparative Law Review 2019, p185

Can the US and China Escape the Thucydides Trap? One of the top three essays in the Straits Times Contest, published online November 2019.

Punishing Corporate Corruption Straits Times 30 April 2018

The Fall of Singapore: Shades of Grey Straits Times, 25 February 2017

The ASEAN Charter – 10 Years On Contemporary Southeast Asia, Vol 39, No 2 (ISEAS August 2017)

The Public Prosecutor, Politics and the Rule of Law Straits Times 29 September 2017

The Teaching of Company Law – Reflections on Past and Future [2017] Sing JLS 258

Impact of Political Trends on Civil Society Civil Society and the State in Singapore, p71 (IPS and World Scientific 2017; Carol Soon & Gillian Koh eds)

Changing Social Mores - Protecting Children from Themselves in Speaking of Children: The Singapore Children's Society Collected Lectures (World Scientific Publishing, 2015) 43-64

Idealism & Realpolitik – Building the ASEAN Community Chinese (Taiwan) Yearbook of International Law & Affairs (Vol 32, p 27)

9 August - Two Anniversaries Straits Times, 13 August 2015

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Talks, Conference presentations, etc (selection)

The Exercise of Prosecutorial Discretion in Practice, seminar organised by the Chinese University of Hong Kong as part of their CUHK Law 20th Anniversary Lecture Series, Hong Kong 8 April 2026

The Evolving Practice of Criminal Law, seminar organised by the Singapore University of Social Sciences, 4 March 2026

From Law to Diplomacy: Exploring Careers Beyond Conventional Legal Practice, seminar organised by the Singapore Branch of the International Law Association, 27 February 2026

Extraterritorial Crimes in Singapore Law, seminar organised by Singapore Management University Academy, 22 August 2025

The Ethics of Prosecution, seminar organised by Singapore Management University Legal Academy, 3 April 2025

The Ethics of Prosecution, seminar organised by Singapore University of Social Studies, 10 February 2025

Chinese and Western Law: Meeting of the Twain, keynote speech at the Hwa Chong International School Law Conference, 17 August 2024

The Myth of the People's Mandate, keynote speech at the launch of the book "Non-Constituency Members of Parliament: What's Next for the Scheme", 19 July 2024

Artificial Intelligence and Natural Stupidity – Teaching Law in the 21st Century, Faculty teaching seminar, 1 March 2024

Literature and Criminal Law (aka Sex, Lies and Criminal Law), talk at the Yong Pung How Law School open house 25 February 2024

The Nominated Member of Parliament Scheme, seminar organised by the Stamford Alumni of Singapore, 14 November 2023.

Directors' Liability for Extra-territorial Corruption, seminar organised by Singapore Management University Legal Academy, 26 September 2023

Casting the Spotlight on Regulation, panelist at the Singapore Institute of Directors Conference on 20 September 2023

"Literature and Criminal Law (aka Sex, Lies and Criminal Law)", talk at the Yong Pung How Law School open house 26 February 2023

Criminal Liability of Directors, talk organised by LexisNexis, 15 December 2022

The Exercise of Prosecutorial Discretion, seminar organised by Singapore Management University Legal Academy, 21 November 2022

Education Beyond Studies, Master's Conversation Raffles Hall NUS, 20 October 2022

The Problem of Sexual Misconduct, keynote speaker at the NUS Criminal Justice Club Forensic Science Conference 2022, 26 February 2022

Judicial Education and Training in the Time of Pandemic: Challenges and Lessons webinar organised by the Council of ASEAN Chief Justices, 7 September 2021

The Politics of Regulating Majority Shareholders, presentation at the EU Asia Corporate Governance Dialogue, NUS, Singapore, 24 February 2015

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Rule of Law in Singapore, presentation at the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Rule of Law Seminar, Vientiane, Laos, 27-28 August 2015

Recollection and Reconciliation, Guest-of-Honour's Speech at the Remembrance Ceremony for the 70th Anniversary of the End of the Second World War, Kranji War Memorial, Singapore, 12 September 2015

Commitment to Defence, talk at the SAF Veterans' League, SAFRA Toa Payoh, Singapore, 30 October 2015

Building the Rules-Based ASEAN Community: Strengthening the Centre, David Marshall Lecture, Singapore, 13 November 2015

Realism in Examinations and Seminars, paper presented at the Faculty Teaching Seminar, NUS, Singapore, 10 February 2016

Leadership in a VUCA World, presentation at the Academy of Principals Global Leadership Conference, Suntec Convention Centre, Singapore, 9 March 2016

Capital Punishment in Singapore, presentation at the Taiwan Judges Academy Symposium on Issues Regarding Death Penalty Cases, Taipei, 16-17 November 2016

Development of ASEAN Dispute Settlement Mechanisms, presentation at the Center for Asian Legal Exchange, Nagoya University, Nagoya, 18 December 2016

Asia and the Rules-Based International System, ISEAS/Wilton Park Conference on the Rules-Based International System, Singapore 13 March 2017

As of July 2021 his various works have been cited in 294 cases in Singapore and abroad. There have also been 431 citations in academic and other works. (all figures approximate, according to a count by a Research Assistant).

Work in progress

Essential Company Law

The Legal Framework of the Opium Farm in Singapore