COURSE DETAIL

BUDDHISM IN THAILAND
Country Thailand
Host Institution Thammasat University
Program(s) Thammasat University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) South & SE Asian Studies Sociology Religious Studies
UCEAP Course Number 101
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title BUDDHISM IN THAILAND
UCEAP Transcript Title BUDDHISM THAILAND
UCEAP Quarter Units 5.00
UCEAP Semester Units 3.30

Course Description

This course examines how the story of the Buddha has come for some to be a story of authenticity, individualism and wisdom-seeking. Yet it has not always been so. It explores how Buddhism in Thailand has followed a gamut of historical changes, from promoting monarchy through monumental architecture to modernization and meditation to, at times, being a handmaiden of military rule. It has often in Thailand been accompanied by narratives of ghosts and dark magic, as well as of tiger-defying monks and romantic tales of bodhisattvas. By stressing how Buddhism has changed in Thailand over time and place, this course looks critically rather than romantically or conservatively at what Buddhism has been in Thailand over the centuries, of how it has tied itself to and reflected the desires, fears and political wills of its followers.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
PD 353,THS204,THS242

Host Institution Course Title
BUDDHISM IN THAILAND

Host Institution Course Details
https://oia.tu.ac.th/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/courseoffering_2025-Thai-Studie...

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Thai Studies

Course Last Reviewed

2025-2026

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