

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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