

Master of Art in Social Science (Development Studies)

Academic Institution: Faculty of Social sciences, Chiang Mai University

Duration: Two (2) academic years

1) Preparation course: July 2016

2) Academic year 1: August 2016 – July 2017 (12 months)

3) Academic year 2: August 2017 – July 2018 (12 months)

Objectives:

The MA in Social Science (Development Studies) strives to develop a methodology that is not strictly bound by static or essentialist modes of thinking. The body of knowledge taught; therefore, is derived from dynamic models which are suited to social and environmental contexts. It uses multiple methods to encourage learning from local experience, and promotes local participation in the management and development of natural resources. The sustainability of natural life support systems and equitability of resource use are also explored.

We encourage our students to search for alternative policies and to strive for the promotion of sustainable development based on ecological sustainability and security of local livelihoods through the participation of local people. Research topics focus on, among other things, resource management, local knowledge, sustainable development, health, cross-border migration and gender.

Course Synopsis & Methodologies:

Core courses

169701 Social Sciences Theories

Prerequisite: None

This course studies how various schools of social sciences construct their theories. Emphasis is on the process of conceptualization at various levels of abstraction as well as the philosophical foundation and inner logic of each school. Included are debates on the similarities and differences between different theories in the social sciences and between social sciences and natural sciences.

169702 Conceptualization in Social Research

Prerequisite: 169701

The course examines the existing philosophical and theoretical foundations and methodological issues that are relevant to social research, including the strengths and weaknesses of various theoretical and methodological perspectives. Emphases will be placed on formulation of research by linking theories and phenomena, conceptualizing research questions, operationalizing the conceptual framework, and selection of relevant designs, methods, and tools. Field exposure and the experience of students are used as realistic exercises in conceptualization and research design.

177661 Development Theories

Prerequisite: None

This course will study and compare the development of, and debates on, the theories and concepts relating to development studies. The focus will be on the fundamental premises and approaches for the analysis of the ecological and social systems with an attempt to integrate both natural science and social science dimensions. The discussion will be made through concrete action programs on development studies with both state and local participation, such as community forestry, watershed management, agroecosystem, agroforestry, and indigenous health systems.

177661 Seminar: Special Issues on Development Studies

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

Seminar on local and regional issues related to sustainable development. Particularly, the issues of resource management, health related problems, trans-border trade and migration, and problems related to ethnic and gender relations.

169799 Thesis

Approval proposal or registering at the same time with the request of approval Proposal.

Elective courses

1. Courses in Geography

154711 Environmentalism and Environmental Policies

Seminar on ways that societies conceptualize environment. Construction of environmental discourses, and their uses in mobilization for changes in public policies related to environment in order to achieve ecological sustainability and social justice. Analysis of environmental ideologies and practices in different spaces and scales including local, national, regional and global. Analysis of relationships between ideologies, power and governance, and application in environmental management in societies with emphasis on cases in Southeast Asia.

154713 Policy Analysis and Resource Management

Prerequisite: None

The general concepts of environment and environmental problems, with particular emphasis on Thailand. Analysis of environmental problems and their effects on man. Ways to apply environmental theories to reduce or to solve such problems mentioned.

111611 Political Ecology

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

An analysis of the problems of natural resource and environmental degradation in the context of the political economic configuration. This study combines political economy with ecology, especially in terms of competing control over uses, conservation, and ownership of natural resources and the environment. Conflicting roles of the state, market economy, and civil institutions in natural resource management will be reexamined through current problems in developing countries. Property rights in natural resources in various levels of social setting are also the focal point of investigation. The contested point of view and discourse on society-environment interrelationships will be brought into discussion and for rebuttal.

111656 Geography of Health

Prerequisite: None

Spatial differences in health by focusing on the differences between developed and developing countries, analysis of health problems and illness in terms of space, geographical factors relating to health problems and the use of geographical concepts and techniques to analyse and explain health problems.

2. Courses in Ethnicity and Development

117661 Multi-culturalism in Modern Societies

Prerequisite: None

Study of the co-existence of different cultures in modern society as a result of globalization and transnationalism and the subsequent ethnic tension and conflicts; theories of multi-culturalism and their critiques; various forms of nationalism, religion and nationalism, the problems of national identity, citizenship and political participation; hybridity and cultural movement.

117661 Concepts and Theories of Ethnicity and Development

Prerequisite: None

Study of foundation and development of concepts and theories of ethnicity, ethnic classification, ethnic identity, relationships between nation-state, nationalism, globalization, ethnicity and multiculturalism; including the use of various social science theories and concepts to explain changes occurred within ethnic communities.

117661 Ethnic Studies in Southeast Asia

Prerequisite: None

Study ethnographic works about various ethnic groups in Southeast Asia spanning from the periods of pre-modern nation-state to present; explore a wide range of historical records including legends, inscriptions, journals, missionary and/or government official reports as well as ethnographic and anthropological writings from colonial times to the present.

117611 Ethnic Health, Development and Ecology

Prerequisite: None

Study of concepts in medical sociological/anthropological perspectives, culture and health, rituals and belief system, ecological change, and analysis of development policy and impacts of development projects on health among various ethnic groups, migrant workers, displaced persons, etc., including the way these ethnic people deal with problems related to health; international conventions and environment laws related to health and illness.

117617 Local Wisdom of Ethnic Groups and Development

Prerequisite: None

Study of local knowledge of ethnic groups as cultural system and every day practices; relationships between local knowledge, ecological systems and development; concepts in political ecology; revival of local knowledge under state policy and development models by ethnic and local leaders as well as experiences from different countries.

117618 Indigenous People Rights, Mechanisms and Processes for Human Right Protection

Prerequisite: None

Study of principles and concepts of indigenous people rights, impact of development and state policy on indigenous people rights, a variety of indigenous people rights, citizenship law and civil rights in Thailand, including claiming for rights of indigenous people; understanding international conventions and agreements on indigenous people and mechanisms of international organizations in protecting indigenous people rights.

117619 Ethnic Economy, Tourism and Consumer Culture

Prerequisite: None

Study of the development of economic systems among ethnic groups spanning from self-sufficient economy to market-oriented economy in the present, including the development and impacts of tourism and consumerism in ethnic communities.

3. Courses in Sociology and Anthropology**116611 Resource Governance and Civil Society**

Prerequisite: None

Debates on concepts and theories of rights and power over access to resources, political and economic processes of control and management of resources, multiplicity of various levels of rights, dynamics of community-based resource management, globalization and commoditization of resources, politics of contestation for resources and the formation of civil society, discourses and practices of resource governance, including decentralization of resource management and civil society participation, as well as knowledge spaces of common property management under the regionalization of development.

116615 Economic Sociology and Anthropology

Prerequisite: None

Diversity and complexity of changing economic processes in all levels of socio-cultural relations; local, regional and global, the debates on values and meaning of the gift exchange and the commodity, the problems of the transitional economy and the conflicts of access to resources under the capitalist market economy, multiplicity of the restructuring of rural economy under neo-liberalism, the discourses and politics of production, meanings of work and labor in agro-food industry, including the globalization of cultural economy, cultural industry and tourism.

4. Courses in Development Studies**177611 Regionalization in Development Process**

Prerequisite: None

Regionalization in Development Process in the Mekong Sub-region. An analysis of the history of notions relating to the Mekong as a region, changes resulted from development processes, market intervention, globalization, and the change of states from post-colonial to post-socialist eras. A study of the emerging notions of economic regionalism and the Mekong Sub-region and the impacts on agrarian transformation, social differentiation, conflict in resource management, environmental politics, change in gender roles, and the development of social movement in the region.

177611 Local Rights and Knowledge in Development

Prerequisite: None

To examine the crucial concepts of local rights and knowledge from diverse and contradicting perspectives such as property rights and regimes, customary rights and national laws, local knowledge and intellectual property, and ethnic domains and other related concepts. The course will place a special emphasis on the current debates on natural resource management and practices, and various forms of resource competition, conflicts, and social movement.

177611 Transborder Studies

Prerequisite: None

Border and transborder studies through inter-disciplinary approach including history, geo-politics, political sciences, anthropology, feminism, and development studies. An analysis of historical changes of notions relating to borders in Southeast Asian countries from pre-modern to colonial, post-cold war and contemporary periods. Ramification of such changes in relation to flows of people, capital, goods, information, and culture. Changing development forces and cultural, ethnic, and gender identities within the context of globalization and transnationalism.

177671 Operationalization in Development Research

Prerequisite: None

Learning and exchange from experience in actual research operation of different research approaches and methods. Case studies using a number of selected thesis and research monograph. Emphases on the operationalization of field research, research proposal writing, field data collecting, data processing and analysis. Presentation of research findings including thesis writing, research synopsis, and bibliographical format in academic writing.

177666 Selected Topics on Development Studies

Prerequisite: None

Directed study of a selected topic on sustainable development. Theoretical and concept formulation for research and problem identification relating to thesis.

5. Courses in Women's Studies**168700 Critical Interdisciplinary Women Studies**

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

Introduction to critical interdisciplinary women's studies with an emphasis on feminist intersectionality theory – which uses gender, class, ethnicity, and other relevant factors as units of analysis and the bases for research design.

168710 Human Rights and Women's Rights

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

Relationship between human rights and women's rights at the conceptual and practical levels; case studies of feminists' integration of human rights at the international level; the Universal Declaration on Human Rights Convention on the Elimination of All Discrimination against Women and other relevant international conventions and declarations.

168722 Women and Economy

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

Feminist economics and feminist analysis of women's roles, status, and well-being in patriarchal societies under feudal, socialist, capitalist, and transnational capitalist economies.

168741 Sex Crimes and Violence Against Women

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

A study of feminist approaches to sex crimes and violence against women; and feminist analysis of these issues within Thailand's cultural, political, and economic contexts.

168743 Women and Health

Prerequisite: Consent to instructor

Gender-related health issues within the contexts of Thailand's culture, politics, and economy and their implications for Thai women's roles and status in the family and society at large.

6. Courses in Health Social Sciences

165661 Health Illness and Society

Prerequisiste: None

Social dimensions and social production of health and illness, social concept of health and illness, social organization and health, health inequity and social pattern of health and illness, health and illness as social construction, social network, social capital and health, globalization and health.

165665 Population Change and Health

Prerequisiste: None

The relationship between population and health, population key components, population composition; child, adult and the elderly, urban and rural population changing process and health, population policy and health.

165615 Socio-cultural Perspectives of Food and Health

Prerequisiste: None

Food and health in global and local contexts situation and trend, food as socio-cultural construction , modern food system, the politics of food and health, food, gender and family, food and identity, current food issue and social movement.

165616 Health and Medicine in Changing Society

Prerequisiste: None

Changing society and changing health concept, lifestyles and health, risk and health consumption, Health service utilization and access, chronic diseases and disability, chronic diseases and disability, ageing and the life course and changing society and challenge to medicine.

Qualifications:

- 1) All applicants who have a bachelor degree or equivalent in any discipline, as accredited by the Ministry of University Affairs, are eligible to apply for the MA in Social Science (Development Studies).
- 2) Applicants must also have passed TOEFL with a score of at least 500 (paper-based), 173 (computer-based) or 61 (internet-based), or have passed IELTS with a score of 5.5, or have passed TEGS with a score of at least 65.

Document Required:

- 1) A completed copy of the application form for the MA in Social Science (Development Studies)
- 2) A recent passport style photograph
- 3) An official subject transcript written in English
- 4) Copy of degree certificate(s) (with English translation)
- 5) Three letters of recommendation
- 6) A TOEFL certificate showing a score of at least 500 (paper-based), or 173 (computer-based), or 61 (internet-based), an IELTS certificate showing a score of at least 5.5, or a TEGS certificate showing a score of at least 65. Certification must be current for the application period
- 7) The applicant's proposed research outline
- 8) The application fee (Bt. 900).

Number of Participant: 3

Eligible Countries:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cape Verde, Comoros, Eritrea, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Lesotho, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Seychelles, Rwanda, Senegal, Solomon Island, South Sudan, Sudan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Togo and Vanuatu.

Closing Date for Nominations:

March 2016

Contact:

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