

From Zero to Fluent Thai in Four-Year University Program

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Outline

- Kanda University of International Studies
- Thai Major
- Studying Thai: In and out of the classroom
- Motivating Students:
 - creating a Thai environment
 - promoting unity among the Thai majors
- Extracurricular activities

Kanda University of International Studies (located in Chiba, founded 1987)

In 2013:

- 3,809 undergraduate students, 10 postgraduate students
- 394 teachers: 258 Japanese, 136 native language teachers

- Department of English (1,832 students)
- Department of International Communication (950)
- Department of Spanish and Portuguese (440)
- Department of Asian Languages (587)
 - Chinese (244)
 - Korean (153)
 - Indonesian (75) (double major with English)
 - Thai (63) (double major with English)
 - Vietnamese (52) (double major with English)

Thai Major (established in 2001)

- Double major: 124 credits (34 credits for English, 30 credits for Thai)
- 15-20 students enroll each year
- 63 current students
 - 20 students in 1st year
 - 12 students in 2nd year
 - 18 students in 3rd year
 - 13 students in 4th year
- 128 graduates since 2004
- 19 students currently working in Thailand

Program overview

- Years 1-2
 - Focus on
 - Acquisition of vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation
 - Developing Thai reading and writing ability
 - Basic speaking skills
 - Thai culture
- Years 3-4
 - Focus on
 - Using Thai as a subject language

Studying in the Thai Major

- 1st year students
 - In class
 - Monday to Friday, 90 minutes per lesson
 - Monday: Grammar (Japanese teacher)
 - Tuesday: Reading (Thai teacher)
 - Wednesday: Writing (Thai teacher)
 - Thursday: Speaking (Thai teacher)
 - Friday: Listening (Thai teacher)
 - Out of class
 - Meetings with Thai people (exchange students & teachers)
 - 30 meetings open-topic (graded)
 - Homework assistance
 - Socializing over lunch
 - Using online self study

Moodle Thai course for 1st year



Power point presentations about Thailand in Moodle



Multiple choice quizzes



How to write Thai numbers (interactive Flash animation)



Thai number matching (interactive Flash animation)



Thai food through pictures and sound

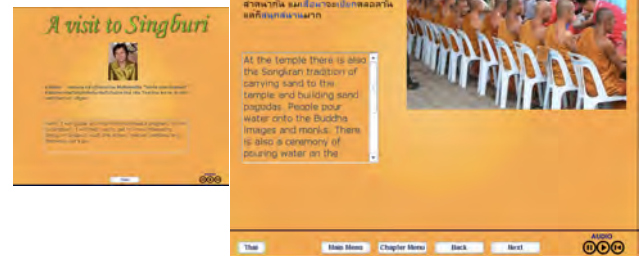


Studying in the Thai Major

- 2nd year students
 - Have completed 250 hours of Thai learning
 - Students are able to read and write Thai
 - Students are able to talk about their daily lives
 - In class
 - Classes 4 days/week
 - Monday: Grammar (Japanese teacher)
 - Tuesday: Reading & Writing (Thai teacher)
 - Thursday: Speaking (Thai teacher)
 - Friday: Listening (Thai teacher)
 - Speech and Power point presentation in class
 - Out of class
 - Meetings with Thai people
 - 15 meetings (writing reports of the meetings plus vocabulary lists)
 - Weekly assignment
 - Moodle
 - CD-ROM
 - Recite 30 words with teacher



CD-ROM self-study

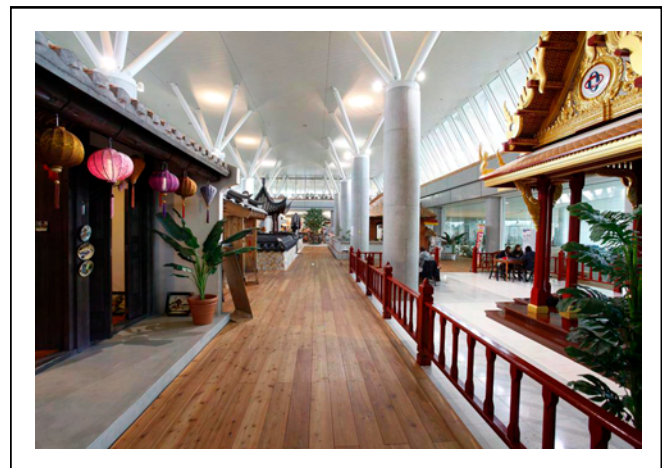


Listening to phrases and finding the matching picture



Studying in the Thai Major

- 3rd & 4th year students
 - Elective classes that are taught in Thai:
 - Debate
 - Students post ideas on moodle before class. Teacher will correct their mistakes.
 - Folktales
 - Making of story books and "kamishibai"
 - Class performance of one story for public in MULC hall
 - News
 - Individual students present Thai news selected from the internet
 - Email writing
 - Music
 - Elective classes that are taught in Japanese:
 - Thai Culture & Society, Thai Economics, Ethnology, Thai History etc.
 - 4th year students are able to choose to write a Thesis or Mini-Thesis in Thai



MULC

- Area of 7 languages: Portuguese, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese
- Environment that encourages spending time with fellow major students
- Place to meet with exchange students and native teachers (on duty)
- Cultural events
- Library on the 1st floor
- Classrooms and Hall

Promoting unity

- Buddy system: 2nd year students take care of 1st years
- Students will be called by a Thai nickname for all 4 years.
- They will “wai” (a pose of respect) every time they see a teacher
- Cultural events and parties held at the Thai area.
- Events related to Thai culture:
 - Songkran Day (Water festival Day in April)
 - Teacher’s Day (Respect for Teachers Day in June)

Extracurricular activities

- Study Tour
 - End of 1st year during spring vacation
 - 3 weeks of intensive study of language and culture
 - Homestay
 - Thai cultural activities: cooking, fruit carving, boxing, music, Thai design drawing

Extracurricular activities

- Speech Contest
 - Mid December at Kanda U.
 - Students from 2nd year to 4th year (8-10 students participate)
 - Among universities in Japan: Tokyo University of Foreign Languages, Keio U., Tsukuba U., Utsunomiya U., Tenri U. (Nara), Osaka U.
 - Sponsored by the Royal Thai embassy
 - Judges from the Thai Embassy, The Tourism Authority of Thailand, NHK, Foreign Ministry etc.

Thai Speech contest 2012



Extracurricular activities

- Club
 - Thai Dance club
 - Senior students teach freshman students
 - Meets twice a week after school
 - Thai Music club
 - Thai music teacher from Thai university (MOU)
 - Exchange students must be able to play Thai instruments
 - Meets once a week after school
 - Performs at Thai Festival in Yoyogi park, Senior Centers, etc.
- Cultural events
 - Making Green Curry for various festivals
 - Hamakaze sai – Kanda festival
 - Makuchari – festival for charity

Study Abroad

- Exchange student programs
 - One year study in Thailand (attending regular classes)
 - Burapha University (4-5 students)
 - Chiang Mai University (1 student)
 - Intensive Program
 - Half year study in Thailand (attending a program for foreign students)
 - Chiangmai University (2-4 students)