



B.E. International Program

Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University



Course Syllabus

Semester S/2018

EE391 Thai Rural Studies / EE366 Local Study and Development 6 credits

Lecture Time: 12 hours of orientation lecture, 6 weeks stay in rural community

Prerequisites: EE390 or Lecturer's consent / EE365 or with the consent of the lecturer.

Instructor: Chol Bunnag

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Course Description:

Objective of the course is to let students learn and understand present situations of Thai rural community through an extensive field study. The course requires the students to live and work with chosen rural families for a period of 6 weeks. The students are also required to collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data on physical, economic, social, political, and natural resource aspects as well as potential of the communities.

Evaluation: Evaluation of this course is of 2 levels, Satisfactory (S) and Unsatisfactory (U) At least 65% of total scores would be considered 'S'.

Format of the course:

- Every student has to join a workshop to prepare for the fieldwork. The workshop is a three-day workshop, aiming to equip you with basic knowledge of Thai rural areas, the fieldwork areas, and related economic framework.
- Students will be allocated to different villages. Two students per village. Each student in the village may be allocated to a host family or the two students may stay in the same family. This depends on the host family.
- Missions:

- First 3 weeks – understanding the community, using research tools taught in the workshop,
- Field visit 1 – Lecturer visits the students. The students present findings and reflection of the first 3 weeks. Topic for mini-research project is discussed.
- Last 3 weeks – study the community on the topic selected (the mini-research project).
- On the last day before leaving – presenting the research findings to the communities.
- Writing a diary: One-photo-a-day reflection, posting on Facebook.

Rules of Conduct for Field Study

1. Student must observe and strictly follow Thammasat University’s rules of regulations concerning student’s conduct.
2. Students must stay in the assigned rural area the whole period of field study.
3. Students are allowed to be absent from the assigned area *only* in necessary case (which would be considered case by case; and the absence must not exceed 3 days successively).
4. Students must inform *the host family* and *the instructor* every time that the students have to leave the assigned area and/or stay overnight elsewhere.

In case that the students violate or do not follow the above rules of conduct, it will affect the evaluation of students’ performance, that is, the students will get “U” (Unsatisfactory) for the course enrolled.

Venue

Dan Sai district, Loei Province

The selection of this area is based on its interesting community development issues and the fact that there is a Community-Based Research team of Thailand Research Fund (TRF) in the area. Therefore, during the students’ stay, they are not only supervised by the lecturer of the course but also by the local research team. In addition, with the help of the local research team, the selection of host family will be more thorough. The lecturer will be visiting the host families at their houses before send the students to stay with them to make sure of the students’ safety.

*Further details regarding the traveling, and other preparation will be informed in the workshop.

Tentative Schedule

Date	Activity
June 17 th – 19 th , 2019	Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduction, basic information and preparation- Data collection, working techniques with the community- Workshop “Community Analysis Tools”
June 24 th , 2019	- Departure to Loei province
June 24 th , 2019	- Meet Loei Governor and the host families at the Governor office
July 12 th – 14 th , 2019	- First field supervision
August 1 th – 2 nd , 2019	- Second field supervision
August 3 rd , 2019	- Presentation of the mini-research findings - Leaving for Bangkok
August 9 th , 2019	- Presentation and submission of field study reports