



INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES INSTITUTE

สถาบันการศึกษาการพัฒนายั่งยืนนานาชาติ

PROGRAM SUMMARY

PEOPLE, ECOLOGY AND DEVELOPMENT: A study-abroad program at the International Sustainable Development Studies Institute, Chiang Mai, Thailand

On unique community-based Expedition Field Courses, students work with and learn from local people about the challenges and benefits of living sustainably. Spend time living and learning in the villages, rivers, forests, islands and coasts of Thailand while studying the link between culture and ecology. Academically challenging and intensely experiential, each course at ISDSI focuses on a specific community and ecosystem, from the tribal people and forested mountains of Northern Thailand to the fishing communities and islands of the Andaman Sea.

SEMESTER COURSES

Thai Foundations: Thai Language, Society and Development: This intensive course focuses on the acquisition of the Thai language and understanding of Thai society and key issues in development. In addition to small intensive language classes, students study the urban geography of Chiang Mai city and selected topics in Thai culture and society. Language/Sociology

Sustainable Food Systems: Social and Biological Factors in Sustainable Agriculture: Food—or the lack of it—is probably the most important challenge facing the poor. This course looks at the problem of sustainable food production by examining agroecology—sustainable farming based on ecological principles. Biology/Sociology

Political Ecology of Forests: Upland People and Natural Resources: This course explores the ethno-ecological relationship between people and forests. The course is located in upland forest-dwelling communities in the mountains of Northern Thailand, learning from and working with Ba'ken'yaw communities. Anthropology/Ecology

Culture and Ecology of the Andaman: Islands, Reefs and Mangroves: Coastal communities are on the front line of the ecological impact of marine resource depletion and global fish stocks. This course examines islands, reefs and mangroves, focusing on the human communities that depend on fishing and on reef ecology in the Andaman Sea, Southern Thailand. Ecology/Geography

We also offer internship opportunities. For course details and syllabi, go online to www.isdsi.org.

DETAILS

Location:	Based in Chiang Mai, Northern Thailand, but with courses throughout the country.
Program length:	1 semester (16 weeks consisting of 4 month long block courses). A full year option is available.
Amount of credit:	18 semester credits (6 for Thai Foundations, 4 for each of the other courses)
Contact hours:	Foundations (116 Language / 55 Society and Development), Other courses: 41 (21 classroom, 60 hours directed field studies counted at 3 to 1)
Housing	Home stays (urban and rural), apartments (in the city), guest houses, camping
Eligibility / Requirements:	Enrolled in a US college or university
Application deadline:	Fall Semester: March 15 (early decision deadline February 15) Spring Semester: October 12 (early decision deadline September 12)
Transcripts	Direct through ISDSI or from Guilford College

For more information, see www.isdsi.org.