

## Course Syllabus

1. **Program of Study** Bachelor of Arts (Social Science)  
**Faculty/Institute/College** Mahidol University International College
2. **Course Code** ICSA 253 **Course Title** Thai Society and Culture
3. **Number of Credits** 4 (**Lecture / Lab**) (4-0)
4. **Prerequisite (s)** none
5. **Type of Course** Elective for Southeast Asian Studies concentration
6. **Trimester / Academic Year** Third trimester / Every year

7. **Course Description**

Traditional Thai culture. Social structure and hierarchy. Interpersonal relations. Kreng Jai. Family. The role of Buddhism and Animism. Folk traditions (birth, life, marriage, death) The modern period. The impact of Chinese, Western and Japanese cultures.

8. **Course Objective (s)**

- (i) To give students an overview of the main historical developments in Thai society and culture.
- (ii) To increase students' awareness of the nature of social science thinking and methodology.

9. **Course Outline**

Week	Topic		Instructor
	Lecture	Hour	
1	Course introduction	4	Dr. Marinee Suwanmoli
2	Thai social structure	4	
3	Concepts of power in Thai society	4	
4	Buddhism and Thai society	4	
5	Thai traditions from birth to adulthood	4	
6	Thai traditions	4	
7	Thai folk tales	4	
8	Three pillars of Thai society	4	
9	Thai culture	4	
10	Thai culture	4	
11	Course summary	4	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	

NB. The lecturer has the right to vary the topics as he / she see fit.

**10. Teaching Method (s)**

Lectures; questions and answers; classroom discussions.

**11. Teaching Media**

Notebook of lecture summaries.

**12. Measurement and evaluation of student achievement**

(i.e. Grading Scheme) Grades given according to a fixed scale (Students receiving marks of 90% and above will receive letter grade A; those receiving less than 50% will fail, etc. Borderline cases (45 - 50%) may be passed if the student's attendance record, punctuality, and classroom demeanor have been exemplary.

**13. Course evaluation**

(i.e. Grading components) : Evaluation will be based on two examinations (Mid-term/Final) each carrying 50% of the marks. Questions will normally take the short answer and / or essay format.

**14. Reference (s)**

- (i) Mulder, Niels : Inside Thai Society : An interpretation of Everyday Life. DK Books. Bangkok 1994.
- (ii) Cohen, Eric : Thai Society in Comparative Perspective. White Lotus. Bangkok. 1991.

**15. Instructor (s)**

Dr. Marinee Suwanmoli

**16. Course Coordinator**

Dr. Marinee Suwanmoli