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Doctor of Philosophy Programme in Buddhist Studies (International Programme)

Department of Humanities

Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities.

There are two major concentrations

1. Theravada Buddhism
2. Mahayana Buddhism/Vajrayana Buddhism

Admission Requirements

A Candidate must :

1. Plan 1

For students with a Master's degree

- 1.1 Hold a Master degree in Buddhist Studies, Buddhist Philosophy, Pāli or Sanskrit Studies, or in the final year of study for one of the degrees.
- 1.2 Have a grade average point of at least 3.50
- 1.3 Have a very good background in Pāli or Sanskrit
- 1.4 Have direct, working experiences in doing research on Buddhism for no less than three years, which are not part of any Degree study and have published, at least, two articles in strongly peer-reviewed journals or highly accepted proceedings.
- 1.5 Have a clearly defined complete thesis plan, which is well accepted as suitable to the PhD's level by the Committee of the PhD Programme
- 1.6 Have a TOEFL ITP score of at least 500, TOEFL Internet-based score of 61 or IELTS score of 5 .

(Candidates who are native English speakers, or who have taken a full BA or MA degree in an English-speaking country, or who on the basis of an interview with the PhD Programme Committee can clearly demonstrate that their English is excellent, may be exempt from submitting a TOEFL exam result.)

Exceptions from the above requirements may be made by the Programme Committee and the Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies

2. Plan 2

2.1 For students with a Master's degree

- 2.1.1 Hold an MA degree, or are studying in the Final year of a MA degree in Buddhist Studies, Buddhist Philosophy, or Pāli and Sanskrit Studies programme.
- 2.1.2. Have a grade average point of at least 3.50
- 2.1.3. Have a TOEFL ITP score of at least 500, TOEFL Internet-based score of 61 or IELTS score of 5 .

(Candidates who are native English speakers, or who have taken a full BA or MA degree in an English-speaking country, or who on the basis of an interview with the PhD Programme Committee can clearly demonstrate that their English is excellent, may be exempt from submitting a TOEFL exam result.)

Exceptions from the above requirements may be made by the Programme Committee and the Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies

2.2 For students with a Bachelor's degree

2.2.1 Hold a BA degree, or are studying in the Final year of a BA degree in Buddhist Studies, Buddhist Philosophy, or Pāli and Sanskrit Studies programme.

2.2.2 The degree is obtained with First Class Honours or its equivalent level

2.2.3 Have a TOEFL ITP score of at least 500, TOEFL Internet-based score of 61 or IELTS score of 5.

(Candidates who are native English speakers, or who have taken a full BA or MA degree in an English-speaking country, or who on the basis of an interview with the PhD Programme Committee can clearly demonstrate that their English is excellent, may be exempt from submitting a TOEFL exam result.)

Exceptions from the above requirements may be made by the Programme Committee and the Dean of Faculty of Graduate Studies

Curriculum Structure

	Credit
Plan 1	
For students with Master's degree	
Dissertation	48
Plan 2	
For students with Bachelor's degree	
Prerequisite Courses	-
Core Courses	12
Required Courses	15
Elective Courses not less than	9
Dissertation	48
Total not less than	84
For students with Master's degree	
Prerequisite Courses	-
Core Courses	9
Required Courses	12
Elective Courses not less than	3
Dissertation	36
Total not less than	60

	Credit
Prerequisite Courses	
SHBS 500 Pali, Sanskrit, Tibetan, or Chinese languages I	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 501 Pali, Sanskrit, Tibetan, or Chinese languages II	3 (3-0-6)
Core Courses	
For students with Bachelor's degree	

SHBS 503	Seminars on Buddhism in South-East Asia	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 504	Buddhist Hermeneutics and Critical Methods	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 505	Manuscripts and Textual Criticism	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 506	Seminars on Buddhism in the Context of Sanskrit Hindu Literature	3 (3-0-6)

For students with Master's degree

SHBS 503	Seminars on Buddhism in South-East Asia	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 504	Buddhist Hermeneutics and Critical Methods	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 505	Manuscripts and Textual Criticism Hindu Literature	3 (3-0-6)

Required Courses

For students with Bachelor's degree

Major : Theravada Buddhism

SHBS 507	Seminars on Pali Literature in South-East Asia	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 508	Vinaya Literature	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 509	Suttanta Literature	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 510	Abhidhamma Literature	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 511	Seminars on the Pali Tipitaka and Its Commentaries	3 (3-0-6)

Major : Mahayana Buddhism/Vajrayana Buddhism

SHBS 512	Seminars on Early Mahayana Sutras	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 513	Seminars on Madhyamaka Sutras	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 514	Seminars on Yogacara Sutras	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 515	Seminars on Tantric Buddhist Texts	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 516	Seminars on Mahayana and Tantric Buddhism	3 (3-0-6)

For students with Master's degree

Major : Theravada Buddhism

SHBS 507	Seminars on Pali Literature in South-East Asia	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 508	Vinaya Literature	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 509	Suttanta Literature	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 510	Abhidhamma Literature	3 (3-0-6)

Major : Mahayana Buddhism/Vajrayana Buddhism

SHBS 512	Seminars on Early Mahayana Sutras	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 513	Seminars on Madhyamaka Sutras	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 514	Seminars on Yogacara Sutras	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 515	Seminars on Tantric Buddhist Texts	3 (3-0-6)

Elective Courses

SHBS 517	Seminars on Early Buddhism	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 518	Seminars on Non-Mahayana Sanskrit and Prakrit texts	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 519	Seminars on Buddhism and Philosophy	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 520	Seminars on Movements of Modern Theravada Buddhism	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 521	Seminars on Buddhism and Modern Sciences	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 522	Seminar on Pali Literature of Thailand	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 523	Seminar on Aspects of Tibetan or Chinese Buddhism	3 (3-0-6)
SHBS 524	Independent Study	3 (3-0-6)

Dissertation

Plan 1

For students with Master's degree

SHBS 898	Dissertation	48(0-144-0)
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Plan 2

For students with Master's degree

SHBS 699	Dissertation	36(0-108-0)
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For students with Bachelor's degree

SHBS 799	Dissertation	48(0-144-0)
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* These May Change in Cases Where There are Suggestions for The Improvement of The Curriculum

Additional advantages of the programme

Candidates with academic articles published in internationally accepted journals can apply to study without taking any course.

Details of Scholarships

There is no Scholarships for foreign students. For Thai Students, there is the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Program Scholarship available to apply via Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Additional information for applicants

Some students may be required to have an interview and write an essay to test their English and Knowledge of Buddhism.

Proposal / Concept Paper

All candidates are required to submit their thesis Proposal too.

Job option after graduation

1. lecturers at Universities
2. Researchers at international organizations
3. Buddhism Academic
4. Leadership in Religious Organization
5. Dhammadhuta or The Missionary

Application Process

Application is only available via online application at www.grad.mahidol.ac.th

Required Documents

Prepare the following required documents to submit via online admission system or post:

1. Completed an Online Application at www.grad.mahidol.ac.th which comprised with
 - Form A** : Application Form
 - Form B** : Background and Proposed Field of Study
 - Form C** : Recommendation Forms (directly submitted by at least 2 referees)
2. Two copies of Degree Certificate (with officially certified English translation)
3. Two copies of Academic Transcript (with officially certified English translation)
4. Two copies of Recent Photos (Passport size)
5. Two copies of Passport
6. Two copies of English certificate (TOEFL/ IELTS/ MU-Grad Test)

(For Doctoral Program)

- TOEFL ITP score of at least 500, TOEFL Internet-based score of 61, or IELTS score of 5

(For Master's Program)

- TOEFL ITP score of at least 480, TOEFL Internet-based score of 54, IELTS score of 5 or MU GRAD TEST score of 60.

Notes

- Only accept TOEFL ITP score from examination center arranged by Faculty of Graduate Studies, Mahidol University.
 - TOEFL ITP taken from other domestic and overseas institutes are invalid.
 - The test date must be within previous 2 years before application date
 - Applicant who obtained a valid English score must submit an **official score certificate** along with your application. Otherwise, your English score will not be considered.
 - Detail of English Competency Standard for Admission:
<http://www.grad.mahidol.ac.th/en/current-students/language-center.php>
7. Two copies of Curriculum Vitae
 8. Two copies of Statement of Purposes and Career Goals
 9. Two copies of Current bank statement / Scholarship letter (if any)
 10. Two copies of Concept paper / research proposal (recommended for all applicants)
 11. Two copies of additional documents may be requested by each program (such as letter of work experience / professional license/ related certificates and awards)

Submitting documents via online admission system.

- All documents must be in pdf format (maximum size 2 MB)
- Recent photograph must be in jpeg format only (maximum size 2 MB)

Further information may be obtained from the Director of Graduate Studies, Buddhist studies :

1. **Dr. Mattia Salvini** (E-mail: prasajya@gmail.com)
Floor 3, Department of Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities,
Mahidol University, Salaya.
Tel : 02 - 4419326 Fax : 02 - 4419326

Program Coordinator

- Miss. Watina Watchararangsi** (E-mail : watina.wat@mahidol.ac.th)
Floor 3, Department of Humanities, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities,
Mahidol University, Salaya.
Tel : 02 - 4419326 Fax : 02 - 4419326

Note 1. For more education information : www.grad.mahidol.ac.th

For more Information please contact The Student Admissions Section.
Tel. +66 0 2441 4125 ext. 208-210, +66 0 2441 9129, E-mail: gradinter@mahidol.ac.th

PHD PROGRAMME IN BUDDHIST STUDIES
APPLICATION FORM

Name..... Surname.....

Please submit this form along with your application

1. What training have you had in Sanskrit?

2. What training have you had in Pali?

3. Please write a summary of the research interests that you wish to pursue in the PhD Programme (maximum of 250 words).

***TOEFL EXAM EXEMPTION**

Candidates who are native English speakers, or who have taken a full BA or MA degree in an English-speaking country, or who on the basis of an interview with the PhD Programme Committee can clearly demonstrate that their English is excellent, may be exempt from submitting a TOEFL exam result.