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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 score of at least 550 (computer based 213), Internet Based 79 - 88 or IELTS score of 6.5. Those who do not have any of the test scores specified above will have to take the English Proficiency Examination of the Faculty of Graduate Studies on the specified examination day.

(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 semester 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 score of at least 550 (computer based 213), Internet Based 79 - 88 or IELTS score of 6.5. Those who do not have any of the test scores specified above will have to take the English Proficiency Examination of the Faculty of Graduate Studies on the specified examination day.

(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 semester 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 score of at least 550 (computer based 213), Internet Based 79 - 88 or IELTS score of 6.5. Those who do not have any of the test scores specified above will have to take the English Proficiency Examination of the Faculty of Graduate Studies on the specified examination day.

(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)
Plan 2		
For students with Master's degree		
SHBS 699	Dissertation	36(0-108-0)
For students with Bachelor's degree		
SHBS 799	Dissertation	48(0-144-0)
* 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

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 Test)

(For Doctoral Program)

- have a TOEFL score of at least 500, TOEFL computer-based score of 173, TOEFL Internet-based score of 61, or IELTS score of 5.5. or pass the English Proficiency Examination organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

(For Master's Program)

- have a TOEFL score of at least 480 TOEFL computer-based score of 157, TOEFL Internet-based score of 54 or IELTS score of 4.5 or pass the English Proficiency Examination organized by the Faculty of Graduate Studies.

(The test date must be within previous 2 years before application date)

- English Competency Standard for Admission :
http://www.grad.mahidol.ac.th/grad/academicinfo/engstandard2553_en.php

Applicant who have qualified English score as mentioned, must attach the **official score certificate** along with your application. Otherwise, without the certificate, your English score will not be considered.

***TOEFL-ITP**

The Faculty of Graduate Studies shall only certify and accept the TOEFL-ITP test score whose tests are administered by the following test centers.

- TOEFL-ITP organized by The Faculty of Graduate Studies, Mahidol University
- TOEFL-ITP organized by The Maneeya Test Center, located at 518/3 Maneeya Center Building (North). Floor 6, Pleanjit Road, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330,

Important: TOEFL-ITP organized by other institutions both domestic and overseas is invalid and shall not be accepted for admission.

Further detail can be found here:

http://www.grad.mahidol.ac.th/grad/academicinfo/testcenter_toefl-itp_en.php

7. Two copies of Curriculum Vitae
8. Two copies of Statement of Purposes and Career Goals (complete via the online admission system)
9. Two copies of Current financial statement (required if apply for Faculty of Pharmacy)
10. Brief research proposal (recommended to be submitted for all applicants)
11. Two copies of other documents, which may be requested by each program (such as letter of work experience / professional license / concept paper)

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. **Asst. Prof. Dr. Pathompong Bodhiprasiddhinand (E-mail : badhinanda@hotmail.com)**

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Program Coordinator

Miss. Orawan Eakeaumanee

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Mahidol University, Salaya.

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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.