

SCHOOL OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

THAI

The objective of the Thai programme is to bring participants to a high level of proficiency in the language and to acquire a sound knowledge of Thai society and culture as well as of the Thai-speaking part of the world.

The Thai programme will also offer a minor in Thai which will provide students with a good command of the four different language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. A language minor will also allow students to gain a deeper insight into the contemporary life and culture of the respective country. Languages combine well with all major programmes offered within the Arts Faculty and they also provide students with additional opportunities to pursue further studies overseas.

In order to qualify for a minor in Thai, students must complete a total of 24 credits in their second (12 credits) and third (12 credits) years of studies in one of the languages listed below. In addition, students will be strongly encouraged to participate in a 3 to 4-week linguistic stay in Thailand during the summer or winter between their second and third year.

Minor (36 credits)

To complete a minor in Thai, students are expected to take a total of 36 credits with following components:

- **Prerequisite courses (12 credits):**

THAI1001. Thai I.1

THAI1002. Thai I.2

These courses will be offered to undergraduates in year 1 or 2.

- **Core courses (24 credits):**

THAI2001. Thai II.1

THAI2002. Thai II.2

THAI3001. Thai III.1

THAI3002. Thai III.2

These courses will be offered to undergraduates in Year 2, 3 and 4

Core Courses

THAI1001. Thai I.1 (6 credits)

This course aims to teach complete beginners the basics of Thai with respect to the four linguistic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will also be introduced to Thai culture and society. Vocabulary and grammar will be presented in a communicative way for a variety of situations, e.g. making introductions, leave-taking, giving directions, shopping, making telephone calls and so on. The emphasis will be on spoken Thai.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI1002. Thai I.2 (6 credits)

This course is a continuation of **Thai I.1**. It combines linguistic and communicative skills in Thai with a balanced emphasis on speaking, listening, reading and writing. Small classes will provide the students with an environment highly conducive to practicing their language skills. The course will also encourage students to exploit resources available on the Internet and in the SMLC's self-practice facilities (the Language Resources Centre and Practice Lab) which provide a wide range of materials for language practice such as audio and video discs.

Prerequisite: **THAI1001. Thai I.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI2001. Thai II.1 (6 credits)

This course continues to build on the First Year's work. The intention is to develop students' proficiency in the areas of speaking and listening, reading and writing. Class lectures are based on communicative methods.

Prerequisite: **THAI1002. Thai I.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI2002. Thai II.2 (6 credits)

This course is a continuation of **Thai II.1**. The intention is to build further on the previous work and widen the scope of exposure to more complex aspects of the language. More elaborate material will be used. Students are expected to consolidate their understanding of Thai and further develop their production and reception skills.

Prerequisite: **THAI2001. Thai II.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI3001. Thai III.1 (6 credits)

This course continues to build on the first and second years' work. The intention is to lead students towards an in-depth understanding of Thai through the study of various materials provided in class.

Prerequisite: **THAI2002. Thai II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI3002. Thai III.2 (6 credits)

The course is designed for students who have completed **Thai III.1**. Students are expected to be able to use the spoken and written language at an advanced level.

Prerequisite: **THAI3001. Thai III.1**

Assessment: 100% coursework

Elective Courses

Students are encouraged to take the following elective courses during their studies of the language.

THAI1021. Introduction to Thai culture and society (6 credits)

This course provides students with a broad-based description of Thai culture and society. It will include a brief historical overview of the country to examine various socio-cultural issues in traditional and modern Thai, and compare them to those of the Southeast Asian countries.

Prerequisite: Nil

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI3003. Thailand today (6 credits)

This course will look at representations of various aspects of contemporary Thai society in the media in current time. Topics will include: Society and cultures in advertisements and films, fashion and music, Western and other Asian influences on youth culture and everyday life, Students will study each topic from materials in Thai such as TV commercials, newspaper texts, Thai songs, film clips and movies.

Co-requisite: **THAI3001. Thai III.1** or **THAI3002. Thai III.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI3004. Thai/English Translation: Practical skills (6 credits)

The objective of this course is to reinforce students' language skills in Thai. Students will practice written translations from Thai to English and from English to Thai conversely using a variety of texts from literature, Thai newspapers, magazines, posters, signs posts, brochures, and leaflets.

Co-requisite: **THAI3001. Thai III.1** or **THAI3002. Thai III.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI3119. Overseas immersion language course - Thai (6 credits)

This course provides an opportunity to study Thai and to experience linguistic and cultural immersion in a partner institution located in Thailand. The course usually takes place in the summer months (e.g., June, July and/or August) (courses may also be offered in the winter) and the duration of the stay may vary from two weeks to one month, but must include at least 60 hours of formal class tuition. Students typically take part in this course after the completion of their second year of language studies at HKU. The course is designed to build on and to reinforce the language competence acquired during the previous years of study as well as to prepare the participants for more advanced work in the final years of the Programme.

Prerequisite: **THAI2002. Thai II.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework. In order to be granted credits for this course, participants have to ensure that the course builds on their previous work done at HKU and is offered at the same level or above the level of their last Thai language course at HKU and, after completing of the course, students have (1) to produce a formal statement of attendance and certified transcript bearing mention of the final grade(s) and the level obtained from the host institution; (2) to provide a portfolio including i. a learning journal written in Thai of approximately 1,000 words relating to daily class activities and, ii. samples of assessments (written assignments, tests, examinations, projects etc.) along with evaluation results.

THAI4001. Thai IV.1 (6 credits)

This course is designed to further develop students' fluency in written and spoken Thai. They will be able to achieve the goal of communicative competence in Thai beyond predictable everyday use. The selection of material used in class will also serve as a basis for discussion on social issues, current situation in Thailand and historic and cultural background.

Prerequisite: **THAI3002. Thai III.2**

Assessment: 100% coursework

THAI4002. Thai IV.2 (6 credits)

This course is intended to be a final stage for the Advanced Thai. It is aimed to deepen and strengthen the four skills of listening, writing, reading and speaking in advanced contexts. The course will make ample use of television footages, excerpts of radio programmes, and articles from newspapers. There will also be opportunities to experience real-life situations, such as job interviews.

Prerequisite: **THAI4001. Thai IV.1**

Assessments: 100% coursework