

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Bachelor of Arts Programme in Thai

CREDIT UNIT STATEMENT

The Thai language and culture programme offered as a minor by the School of Modern Languages and Cultures comprises four different types of courses which are taught using distinctive learning modes. All Thai courses are 6-credit courses. A range of 120-180 hours of student learning activity (including both contact hours and all other forms of student learning activity) is the norm for a 6-credit course. Contact hours are in a range of 24-72 hours for a 6-credit course. All courses are assessed by 100% continuous assessment. As a general guide, regardless of the teaching method used, the total output should be not more than 4,000 words in Thai for a 6-credit course. The categories of Thai courses are as follows:

1. Introductory language courses (6 credits)

These first-year courses emphasize the learning of the Thai language. Students acquire a basic knowledge in the four areas of competence (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) with a particular emphasis on communicative skills. Classes are conducted in small groups in order to ensure a high degree of interactivity between students and teachers. Conversation groups and laboratory groups are usually also arranged separately on a regular basis. Students will be able to acquire a vocabulary of 1,000 to 1,500 words and are expected to demonstrate that they are able to use this vocabulary within the four areas of competence mentioned above. Assessment is based upon 100% coursework, which includes in-class tests, regular assignments, and online reading and listening, with a total written output of not more than 2,000 words in Thai. It must be emphasized that assessable output is not only in written form, but also includes a student's performance in terms of spoken, listening, and reading proficiency in the Thai language.

2. Advanced language courses (6 credits)

These advanced language courses build on the first-year, introductory language courses, thus they emphasize the learning of the Thai language at an intermediate and advanced level, grammatically as well as in culture-specific issues which are gradually introduced into the curriculum. Students develop further their proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in the Thai language. As in the first-year language courses, classes are conducted in small groups in order to ensure a high degree of interactivity between students and teachers. Conversation groups and laboratory groups are also arranged separately on a regular basis. Assessment is based upon 100% coursework, including regular assignments, essays, small research projects, portfolios, and/or short oral presentations, with a total written output of not more than 4,000 words in Thai. It must be emphasized that assessable output is not only in written form, but also includes a student's performance in terms of spoken, listening, and reading proficiency in the Thai language.

3. Survey courses (6 credits)

These courses focus on particular cultures and languages through the exploration of specific topics, such as society, literature, media, films, history, politics, linguistics, history of the language, etc. They are taught predominantly by lectures and tutorials/seminars, or by lectures only. Guest speakers are occasionally invited to give presentations on particular topics. Assessment methods are left up to individual teachers who are encouraged to introduce assessment tasks which are appropriate to the stated learning outcomes of the courses. Assessment tasks will normally include in-class tests, oral presentations, as well as the writing

of essays, reports, and projects totalling not more than 4,000 words in Thai. In the case of history of the language courses, assessment will also include linguistic analyses and portfolios.

4. Study Abroad courses (6 credits)

Usually offered during the summer and/or winter between the second and third years or the third and fourth years, and organized by several universities and teaching institutions from one of the countries where the Thai language is spoken. These courses are designed to build on and to reinforce the language competence acquired during the first two or three years of studying Thai. These courses have a minimum duration of 3 weeks in duration and comprise a minimum of 60 contact hours in a linguistic immersion context. They prepare students for more advanced work upon their return to Hong Kong. Assessments will be based on student portfolios, students' performances and transcripts provided by the host institution.

Amended March 2020, July 2020