

2010 SUMMER STUDY ABROAD

QUEER *Thailand*

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR LGBTQ STUDENTS



Payap University

The program is based at Payap University in Chiang Mai in Northern Thailand. Chiang Mai is a 700-year-old city where both modern and traditional Thailand co-exist. Payap is a private university known for its high quality graduates. The Education Abroad Network and Payap have partnered to develop this unique and exciting summer program.



✕ *The Land of Smiles* ✕

Gays, Girls, Gender Bending, Ganja and Gambling. Thailand is a country of many paradoxes. As a Buddhist Kingdom with the World's longest reigning monarch, Thailand somehow harmoniously blends contemporary sexual freedoms with traditional values.

Known around the world as a "Gay Paradise," Thailand provides an excellent location to study and explore variant gender identities and expressions.

As anyone who comes to Thailand soon discovers, gender and sexuality are in a constant state of change as fluid, contingent and adaptable performances. Androgyny permeates and possibilities abound. Globalization, tourism, technology, and the information society have all impacted Thailand in recent decades to create a fascinating space within which to explore reformed, emergent and traditional expressions of gender and

sexuality. It is within this gendered space of "Queer Thailand," with its many myths and mystiques, that this course journeys.

This course will include an introduction to gender/queer theory and proceed to use case studies of gender performance in Thailand to provide a fascinating comparative study for Gender/Sexuality/Women's Studies



students and/or others with open minds that wish to explore this topic.

Field excursions and interaction with Thai LGBTQ students and the

activist NGO community will enhance classroom learning.

Program Dates

This program can be taken as a three week (3 credits) or six week (6 credits) experience. Students can extend their time in Thailand by selecting the "Foundations of Thai Society" course for an

additional 3 credits. This 3-week course gives students an excellent insight into Thai history and culture allowing them to put "Queer Thailand" in much greater context. The Foundations course runs for three weeks immediately prior to the Queer Thailand course.

Module 1

Cultural Foundations of Thai Society

13th June – 2nd July 2010

Module 2

Queer Thailand: Culture, Society and Sexual Identity

4th – 23rd July 2010

The Southeast Asian Summer School

AN ADVENTURE IN MIND

Spend a summer at Payap University in Chiang Mai, a region famous for its temples, elephants and jungle-covered mountains. Chiang Mai combines the best of Thailand as a modern city with great shopping and nightlife but also a place that has kept alive the traditions and customs of this diverse and fascinating culture.

This intensive multi-disciplinary summer program will not only be of interest to students in Asian studies but also those interested in globalization, democratization, gender and sexual identity, fine arts, human rights, migration and economic development. It will allow students to gain a deeper

understanding of Thai and Southeast Asian culture and how their own academic interests play out in the region. Students will have the unique opportunity to "tailor" their summer experience in the region by selecting an elective in their academic discipline or personal area of interest. This information sheet focuses on the Queer Thailand elective, which is one of 7 different courses offered. For more information see www.educationabroadnetwork.org

Each course involves a number of field trips, excursions and off-campus experiences. Students live on-campus and all classes are taught by faculty of Payap University.



Program Fees

Cultural Foundations of Thai Society Fee \$ 1950.00
Queer Thailand: Culture, Society & Sexual Identity Fee: \$ 2200.00

The program fee includes all accommodation, airport transfers, arrival orientation, all program required ground transportation, academic credit, various excursions and tours, entrance fees to National Parks, cultural centers, etc. and many meals (breakfast and dinners) in the on-campus dorm. Students will incur additional costs for personal spending, additional meals and extra travel. A full itinerary is provided upon acceptance to the program. Students should also budget for an estimated \$1,200 to \$1,800 for international and domestic airfare.

PROGRAM BONUS: Students receive a \$300 discount from the total program fee if they take both courses making the 6 week program (6 credits) only \$ 3850.00.

Credit

Participants in the program are able to obtain credits through universities and colleges in the United States. Grades will be posted on a Payap University transcript. Credit transfer (generally 3 - 4 U.S. credits per course/module, 6 - 8 credits total) is subject to home institution regulations so please consult your academic advisor.

Eligibility

In order to participate in the program students must be currently enrolled in a degree-granting institution, have completed one year of coursework on a college or university campus by the program start date, and achieved a minimum GPA of 2.75/4.0.

Submitting an Application

Interested students can apply online or download the program application from our website. *Courses are limited in class size. Numbers are restricted to provide a better learning environment - Apply early to avoid disappointment.*

Application Deadline

Applications are assessed on a rolling basis. We suggest interested students apply by **April 15, 2010**. A pre-departure package for the program will be sent to the applicant once accepted into the program.

The **EDUCATION ABROAD** Network
An Adventure In **MIND**

Tel: 1-800-585-9658
www.educationabroadnetwork.org

