

# Student Handbook

International Relations Division

[Mahidol University]

Pre-Arrival Handbook for International Students

MU

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# Welcome Message

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**D**ear International Students,

Welcome to Mahidol University. As you are accepted to join Mahidol University Exchange/Visiting Program, you probably are looking forward to your arrival in Thailand. This handbook is meant to be your guide for the formalities and procedures before and after your arrival. What you will find in this book ranging from important information about your student life at MU to necessary issues that will make your stay comfortably and enjoyably. We wish you a great and successful stay.

If you have any further question after you read this guidebook, please contact us at:



Mahidol University Global Education Office  
International Relations Division  
Office of the President, Salaya Campus

Tel: +662-849-6231-35 and +662-849-6236  
Email: [opmugo@gmail.com](mailto:opmugo@gmail.com)

# Useful Contact Numbers

Contact Numbers	
International Relations Division	+66 2 849 6231-3, 6235-6
	+66 8 8227 9567 (Cell phone)
Mahidol University Condominium	+66 2 441 9881/ +662 441 9205
Tourist Police	+66 2 134 0521
	1155 (Hotline)



## Transportation

<b>Suvarnabhumi Airport</b> <a href="http://www.airportthai.co.th">www.airportthai.co.th</a>	<b>0 2132 1888</b>
<b>BTS Skytrain</b> <a href="http://www.bts.co.th">www.bts.co.th</a>	<b>0 2617 6000</b>
<b>MRT Subway</b> <a href="http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th">www.bangkokmetro.co.th</a>	<b>0 2624 5200</b>
<b>Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA)</b> <a href="http://www.bmta.co.th">www.bmta.co.th</a>	<b>0 2246 0973, 0 246 0741-4</b>
<b>Chao Phraya Express Boat</b> <a href="http://www.chaophrayaboat.co.th">www.chaophrayaboat.co.th</a>	<b>0 2623 6001-3</b>
<b>Taxi Center</b>	
<b>Howa Taxi</b>	<b>0 2424 2222</b>
<b>Grab Taxi</b>	<b>0 2021 2500</b>



## Emergency

<b>Emergency Police Line</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>Tourist Police Center</b>	<b>1155</b>
<b>Tourism Authority of Thailand</b>	<b>1672, 0 2250 5500</b>

# About Thailand

## Introduction to Thailand

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy, headed by King Rama IX, **His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej**, the 9<sup>th</sup> king of the House of Chakri, who, has reigned since 1946. His Majesty is the world's longest-serving head of state and the longest-reigning monarch in Thai history. In Thailand, the King is also the Head of State, Head of the Armed Forces, the Upholder of the Buddhist religion, and the Defender of all Faiths.



Flag

The **red** band symbolizes **the Nation**.

The **white** band symbolizes **Religion**.

The **blue** band symbolizes **the Monarchy**.



# About Thailand

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## *Introduction to Thailand*



### **People**

Total 65,113,688 (as of July 2015), about 31 million males and 33 million females.



### **Language**

Thai is the national language. English is widely understood in Bangkok and other large cities but please speak slowly especially when you are off campus.



### **Religion**

Buddhists 94.6%, Muslims 4.6%, Christians 0.7%, others 0.1%



### **Government**

Although currently, our government is a military junta government, the politics of Thailand is normally conducted within the framework of a constitutional monarchy, whereby the Prime Minister is the head of government and a hereditary monarch is the head of state. The judiciary is independent of the executive and the legislative branches.



### **Local time**

The time in Thailand is about 11-12 hours earlier than America's time zone.



### **Climate**

Thailand can best be described as tropical and humid for the majority of the country during most of the year. The area of Thailand north of Bangkok has a climate determined by three seasons whilst the southern peninsular region of Thailand has only two.

## *Preparation before Coming to Thailand*

### **Must - Have items to carry:**



◇ Open mindedness - to explore new things



◇ Passport - to identify yourself



◇ Sunglasses - to protect your eyes from the sun's harmful rays



◇ Sunscreen - to protect your skin during the day



◇ Mosquito Repellent - to prevent and control the outbreak of insect-borne diseases



◇ Extra bags -- if you are hoping to do a lot of shopping.



◇ First Aids Kits - be sure to pack the first-aid kit in your luggage, many of the items won't be permitted in your carry-on bags

## *Preparation before Coming to Thailand*



### **Local calls**

All telephone numbers for local calls and long distance calls within the country have 8 digits but all mobile phones have 9 digits. All numbers start with 0 (zero).

- For Bangkok calls, it is 0 + 2 + numbers, e.g. 0 2250 5500.
- For provincial calls, it is 0 + area code + numbers, e.g. 0 34585 060.
- For mobile phone calls, it is 0 + 8 + numbers, e.g. 08 8332 4455.

### **International calls**

- Mobile phones are available at Mobile shops in a department store.
- The international dialing code for Thailand is **66**.
- SIM Cards (mobile network operators: AIS, DTAC, and TRUE MOVE H) are available at 7-Eleven and mobile shops.
- **To call U.S., dial 009 or 001 + 1 + area code + destination number.**



# About Thailand

## *Eating & Ordering Thai Food*



Thai food is eaten with a **fork** and **spoon**. The spoon is used to convey food to the mouth. Ideally, eating Thai food is a communal affair involving two or more people, principally because the greater the number of diners the greater the number of dishes ordered.

The ideal Thai meal is a harmonious blend of the **spicy**, the **subtle**, the **sweet** and **sour**. A typical meal might include a clear soup, a steamed dish, a fried dish, a hot salad and a variety of sauces into which food is dipped. This would be followed by sweet desserts or fresh fruits.

### ... Popular Dishes ...

Gaengmus-sa-man	Rich spicy curry with beef or chicken.
Gaeng kari gai	Mild yellow curry with chicken.
Gaeng khiaw waan	Spicy green curry with coconut milk and shrimp, chicken, or beef.
Tom yam kung	Spicy soup with lime juice, lemon grass, mushroom and shrimp.
Tom khaa gai	Soup with galangal root, chicken and coconut milk.
Gaeng jeud	Chilly free soup with vegetables and minced pork.
Khao phat	Fried rice with shrimp, beef, pork or chicken.
Khao man gai	Sliced boiled chicken over marinated rice.
Khao na phet	Roast duck over rice.
Kuay-tiaw nam	Soup with rice noodles, meat and vegetables.
Laat naa	Rice noodles, meat and vegetables in a thick gravy.
Phad siyu	Fried rice noodles with meat and vegetables
Sang kha-yaa maphraow	Coconut custard.
Kluay khaek	Fried banana.
Mamuang khao niaw	Ripe mango with sticky rice in coconut cream.



### **Eat and drink safely**

- \* Eat clean and cooked food.
- \* Wash your hands frequently.
- \* Fresh fruits and vegetables should always be washed in clean water.



### **Prevent bug bites**

- \*Wear an appropriate protective clothing.
- \*Sleep in air-conditioned or screened rooms.
- \*Avoid scratching bug bites, and apply hydrocortisone cream or calamine lotion to reduce the itching.



### **Easy tips**

- \*Carry a list of local doctors and hospitals at your destination.
- \*Review your health insurance plan
- \*Carry a card that identifies your blood type, chronic conditions or serious allergies, and the generic names of any medications you take.
- \*Bring all the medicines you think you might need but keep in mind that some prescription drugs may be illegal in other countries.

Source: Electronic Resources://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Health\_in\_Thailand



## *Thailand Do's*

- ✓ **Do respect all Buddha images.** Buddha images are held sacred and sacrilegious acts are punishable by imprisonment even if committed by foreign visitors.
- ✓ **Do dress properly** when visiting a temple/palace.
- ✓ **Do remove your shoes** before entering a temple, somebody's house and even some shops.
- ✓ **Do treat monks** with the highest respect.
- ✓ **Do try and keep calm** no matter what the problem or provocation may be.
- ✓ **Do eat with a spoon.** Use the fork to load food on to the spoon.
- ✓ **Do try and learn** a few basic phrases in Thai, like 'hello' and 'thank you'.
- ✓ **Do smile a lot.**
- ✓ **Do enjoy yourself.** Thais like life to be *fun*.
- ✓ **Do ensure that you have a visa** if you need one.
- ✓ **Do make sure you have adequate travel insurance.**

Source: Electronic Resources: <http://www.thaizer.com/thailand-dos-and-donts/>

## Thailand Don'ts



- ✘ **Don't show disrespect** towards the **Thai Royal Family**.
- ✘ **Don't cross your legs** when you are in the presence of a monk. This applies whether you are sitting on the floor or in a chair.
- ✘ **Don't touch a Thai woman** without consent. Despite the image portrayed in some bars and clubs, the majority of Thai women are conservative.
- ✘ **Don't be overly affectionate in public**. This has changed in recent years and younger Thai couples can be seen holding hands, but snogging your boyfriend or girlfriend in the middle of the shopping mall won't win you too many friends.
- ✘ **Don't sunbathe nude**. This is offensive to most Thai people although nobody is likely to say anything to you if you do so.
- ✘ **Don't worry too much** about whether you should *wai* or not.
- ✘ **Don't touch a Thai person's head or ruffle their hair**. Apologize if you accidentally touch somebody's head. There are exceptions to this standard of behavior; for example, it doesn't apply to lovers in the privacy of their room.
- ✘ **Don't place your feet on the table** while sitting, don't point to anything with your feet and don't touch anybody with your feet.
- ✘ **Don't raise your voice** or lose your temper; try and be chill.
- ✘ **Don't be offended by questions about age, marital status or what you do for a living**. These are subjects that will often come up in small-talk. Of course, you don't have to answer (especially the question about age), you can just smile and just say it's a secret or '*mai bok*' ('not telling').
- ✘ **Don't take Buddha images out of the country**. Strictly speaking it is against the law to take or send Buddha images out of the country unless special permission has been granted.
- ✘ **Don't touch a monk**. Women should never touch a Buddhist monk.
- ✘ **Don't overstay your visa**. Basically, you'll be fined 500 THB for each day you overstay, but you might also be detained in prison before you could be sending back to your home country.

Source: Electronic Resources: <http://www.thaizer.com/thailand-dos-and-donts/>

## Common Thai Words and Phrases

Thai is a tonal language that has 5 tones: low, falling, high, rising and monotone. Before you learn any Thai words, you should know how to use “**Ka**” (for female) and “**Krub**” (for male). These words are added to the end of sentences to make them sound polite.

Good morning, Good evening, Good afternoon,	
Good night	sa-wat-dee
Hello (male speaker)	sawatdee krup
Hello (female speaker)	sawatdee kaa
Yes	chai
No	mai
Mr./Miss/Mrs.	khun
How are you?	sabai dee reu
Fine thanks	sabai dee
Thank you	kop koon
Never mind	mai pen rai
I can't speak Thai	phoot Thai mai dai
I don't understand	mai kao chai
Do you understand?	kao chai mai
May I take a photograph?	tai ruup dai mai
Where is the rest room?	hong nam yoo tee nai
I am going to..	chan-cha-pai..
No, I won't go	chan-mai-pai
Please drive slowly	prot-khap-cha-cha
Be careful	ra-wang
Turn to the right	liao-khwa
Turn to the left	liao-sai
Drive straight on	khap-trong-pai
Slow down	cha-cha
Stop	yut
How much does this cost?	nee tao-rai
What is this?	nee arai
Very expensive	paeng maag
Any discount?	lot-ra-kha-dai-mai



Source: Electronic Resources: [www.tourismthailand.org](http://www.tourismthailand.org)

Education in Thailand is provided mainly by the Thai government through the Ministry of Education from pre-school to senior high school. A free basic education of twelve years is guaranteed by the constitution, and a minimum of nine years' school attendance is mandatory.

Thailand: Education Facts	
Population	65 million (as of April, 2015)
Language of Instruction	Thai, with English as a second language
Compulsory Education	9 years
Academic Year	Jan-May / Aug-Dec
Number of Universities and Colleges	170 (79 public universities; 71 private universities, Colleges and Institutes; 20 community colleges)
Number of students	Primary (6-12): 5,371,000 (2010,UIS) Secondary (12-17): 4,893,000 (2010,UIS) Tertiary: 2,497,000; 18% private (2010,UIS) University: 1,706,516; 11% private (2009, Ministry Education)
Gross Enrollment Ratios (2010. UIS)	Primary: 91 percent Secondary: 79 percent Tertiary: 48 percent (gross graduation rate: 29 percent)
Education administered by	Ministry of Education Office of the National Education Office of the Higher Education

Source: Electronic Resources: <http://wenr.wes.org/2014/03/education-in-thailand/>

Formal education consists of at least twelve years of basic education, and higher education. Basic education is divided into six years of elementary education and six years of secondary education, the latter being further divided into three years of lower- and upper-secondary levels. Kindergarten levels of pre-elementary education, also part of the basic education level, span 2–3 years depending on the locale, and are variably provided. Non-formal education is also supported by the state. Independent schools contribute significantly to the general education infrastructure.

Aprox. age	Aprox. grade	Education Level		Degree	
24	19+	Doctoral degree study		Ph.D. or advanced professional degree	
23	18	Master's degree study		Master's degree	
22	17				
21	16	Undergraduate program	Higher vocational education	Bachelor's degree	
20	15			Diploma	
19	14				
18	13				
17	12	Upper secondary education	Vocational secondary school	Basic Education	
16	11				
15	10				
14	9	Lower secondary education			Compulsory education
13	8				
12	7				
11	6	Primary education			
10	5				
9	4				
8	3				
7	2				
6	1				
5		Pre-primary education			
4					
3					

Source: Electronic Resources::

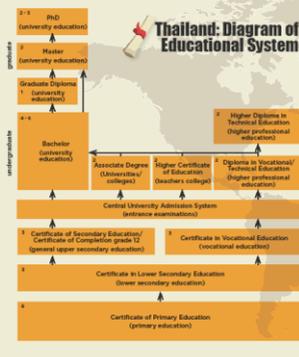
[http://studyinthailand.org/study\\_abroad\\_thailand\\_university/thai\\_higher\\_education\\_structure.html](http://studyinthailand.org/study_abroad_thailand_university/thai_higher_education_structure.html)

# EDUCATION IN THAILAND



## QUICK FACTS

- Population: 67.5 million
- Language of Instruction: Thai
- Compulsory Education: 9 Years
- Academic Year: May to March (school); June to March (higher)
- Number of Universities & Colleges: 170 (79 public universities; 71 private universities, colleges and institutes; 20 community colleges: MOE 2012)
- Number of Students (2010): 4,895,000 (secondary, 12-17); 2,497,000 (tertiary)
- Youth (15-24) Literacy Rate: 98.1%



### Grading Scale & U.S. Equivalent

Thailand	Grade Point	WES
A	4.0	A
B	3.0	B
C	2.0	C
D	1.0	D
F	0	F

### Number of Thai Students in the United States



### Document Requirements for Credential Evaluation

#### HIGHER EDUCATION:

WES requires that clear, legible photocopies of all degree certificates or diplomas issued in English be sent by the applicant. In addition, academic transcripts issued in English by the institutions attended must be sent directly to WES for all postsecondary programs. For completed doctoral programs a letter confirming the awarding of the degree must be sent directly from the awarding institution.

Photocopies of precise, word-for-word, English translators are required for all foreign language documents.

#### SECONDARY EDUCATION:

WES requires that academic transcripts, issued in English, be sent directly by the institution attended.



## Higher Education Grading Scale & Suggested WES (U.S.) Equivalency

Thailand	Grade Point	WES
A	4.0	A
B	3.0	B
C	2.0	C
D	1.0	D
F	0	F

# About Mahidol University

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**17 Faculties**

**7 Research Institutes**

**6 Colleges**

**4 Centers**

# About Mahidol University

## Introduction to Mahidol University



Mahidol University's origins date back over 120 years to the creation of a medical school at Thailand's first hospital – Siriraj Hospital. Following many years of expansion, including the opening of a second Bangkok campus, it became the University of Medical Sciences in 1943. Later, in 1969, it was renamed Mahidol University by H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej in memory of his father, H.R.H Prince Mahidol of Songkla, who is widely regarded as the “Father of Modern Medicine and Public Health in Thailand”. He is also recognized as Thailand's “Father of Higher Education”.

Mahidol University has continued to grow and diversify in to the *multi-disciplinary* institution it is today. Mahidol University is currently home to encompassing a variety of fields including Science, Medicine, Engineering, Management, Nutrition, Religious Studies, Social Sciences, and Music. It is also home to Ratchasuda College – which provides opportunities for the education and training of persons with disabilities. In Addition, the University is the lead institution in 3 out of 9 National Centers of Excellence based at its Faculty of Science. In 2009, the University became one of Thailand's nine National Research Universities.



Mahidol University has always adopted an environmentally-friendly philosophy to its development with the vision “*A promised place to live and learn with nature*”. In recognition of its green policies, the university was recently declared No. 1 in Thailand, No. 11 in Asia and 36<sup>th</sup> worldwide in the Green Metric Ranking of World Universities 2012 by The Universitas Indonesia.

# About Mahidol University

## *Life at Mahidol University*



A single international student should expect to pay approximately 10,000 – 15,000 THB per month (around US\$ 330-500) to cover their living expenses. The amount spent on entertainment and social pursuits can vary with a student's interests and budget. Students should also expect to pay a minimum of 15,000 THB (around US\$ 500) to cover general establishment costs (security deposits, advance rents, basic furniture items, telephone, etc.).

Items	Approximate Costs	
	In THB	In US\$
Housing	3,500 – 12,000	116 – 400
Electricity and water supply	600 – 1,200	20 – 40
Meals (per month)	4,500 - 6000	150 - 200
Transportation	750 - 900	25 - 30
Books & Supplies	900 – 1,500	30 - 50
Photocopies	300	10
Communication	600	20
Personal Daily Needs (per month)	600	20
Hair cut	150 - 300	5 – 10
Cinema ticket	140 - 200	4.5 – 6.5

# About Mahidol University

## Major Infrastructure

The Central Library is the hub of the Mahidol University Library and Knowledge network. It contains an extensive collection of 257,803 books, 1,051 printed journals, 32,351 electronic journals and 77,253 electronic books and 100s of computer terminals, multimedia viewing equipment, a recording studio and state-of-the-art computer access to a wide range of domestic and international indexes and databases.



### Central Library

 0 2800 2680 ext. 4225, 4264

 Mon - Fri 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Sat 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The College of Sports Science and Technology provides sports facilities and services for all Mahidol staff/faculties, students and club members. All facilities include the following:

- Sports Medicine Clinic
- Tennis courts
- Fitness and weight training
- Exercise classes i.e. aero boxing, yoga, and Pilates exercise
- Fitness room
- Swimming pools
- Sauna



### Sport & Recreation

 0 2441 4296 ext. 101  
08 9916 7793

The service charge rate for non-members is  
350 baht/time

# About Mahidol University

## Major Infrastructure



### Sports Science Fitness Center



0 2441 4296 ext. 101

08 9916 7793



Mon - Fri 7 am - 8 pm

Sat - Sun 8.30 am - 8 pm

The office hours of other sport facilities are detailed in the following table:

Sports	
Swimming pool	8.30 am – 8 pm
Tennis court	7 am – 9 pm
Badminton courts	7 am – 9 pm
Basketball courts	8.30 am – 8.30 pm
Futsal pitch	8.30 am – 8.30 pm
Soccer fields	8.30 am – 8.30 pm
Volleyball court	8.30 am – 8.30 pm
Petanque court	7.00 am – 9.00 pm
Sepak Takraw court	8.30 am – 8.30 pm
Running track	8.30 am – 8.30 pm

### Condominium Dusitha (D), Mahidol University



0 2441 9881



-- Coin-operated washing machines are available at the *Salaya Condominium C*, which is less than five minute walk from Condo D. Noted that hand-washing is common for many Thais, and clothes dry very fast in the Bangkok sun.



# About Mahidol University

## *Major Infrastructure*



Prince Mahidol Hall or Mahidol Sitakan in Thai was bestowed the name with great honor by H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn which means “the Building that Reflects Successes of Mahidol University”. This new cultural landmark marks the realization of plans for a multi-purpose hall, serving as graduation ceremony hall, opera house, orchestra hall, and conference center.



# About Mahidol University

## *Major Infrastructure*

### Mahidol Learning Center (MLC)



***“The Harmony”*** is located at the Mahidol Learning Center (MLC). In addition to university souvenirs, this store also sells textbooks, school supplies, newspapers and sports equipment.



The ***main cafeteria at Mahidol Learning Center (MLC)*** offers a large selection of Thai rice and noodle dishes for 30 - 40 baht and drinks for 7 - 25 baht (\*card coupons required to buy food).



***Family Mart***, where you can find many of the food and snacks and other essentials you may need, are also located in the same building.



***Mahidol University Global Education Office (MUGO)*** is a one-stop service unit for exchange students (both inbound and outbound students).

# About Mahidol University

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## MU Health Care Units



### **1. Health Care Unit at Salaya**

Located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, Mahidol Learning Center (MLC)



Tel: 02-8494529-30



Doctors: 12.00-13.00 hrs. / 15.00-16.00 hrs.

Nurses: 08.30-16.30 hrs.

### **2. Student Health Care Unit at the Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital**

Located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, room 436, at the Outpatient Department (OPD)



Tel: 02-4197389, 02-4197000 to 7389



Doctors: 12.00-13.00 hrs.

Nurses: 08.30-16.00 hrs.

*In the case of emergency, you can have a treatment at room 104, OPD Building on the 1st floor, by showing your student identification card to the doctor on duty.*

### **3. Student Health Care Unit at the Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital**

Located on the 1st Floor, Emergency Building



Tel: 02-2011696, 02-2912981



Office hours: 07.00 - 16.00 hrs.

### **4. Student Health Care Unit at the Faculty of Tropical Medicine**

Located at the Outpatient Department (OPD), Tropical Medicine Building



Tel: 02-3069100 to 1414



Office hours: 08.00 - 16.00 hrs.



## 5. Student Health Care Unit at the Faculty of Science

Located on the 1st floor, New Biological Building



Tel: 02-2015000 to 5203



Doctors: 08.00-09.00 hrs. / 12.00-13.30 hrs.

Office hours: 08.00-16.00 hrs.

## 6. Student Health Care Unit at the Faculty of Pharmacy

Located on the 1st floor, the Thepparat Building,



Tel: 02-6448677-91 to 1103,  
02-2474696



Doctors: 12.00-13.00 hrs.

## 7. Golden Jubilee Medical Center

Student will be transferred (in case of serious illness) from Student Health Care Unit, Salaya to Golden Jubilee Medical Center.



**Remark:** Please show student ID card, health insurance card, and your health record when you contact Siriraj or Ramathibodi Hospital, the Hospital for Tropical Diseases and the Golden Jubilee Medical Center.



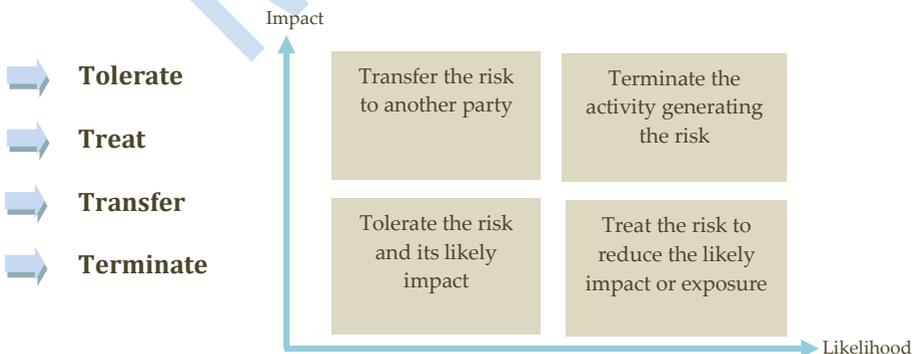
## MU Risk Management

Political situation in Thailand is currently stable under the appointed interim government. It is expected that a new general election will commence in late 2015 or early 2016. There is still be a remaining risk that conflicts among political parties running for the new general election may erupt again. However, close monitoring of the situation will be performed. Necessary actions will be taken accordingly which may include but not limited to cessation of operation, evacuation and repatriation.

If the unrest occurs, Mahidol University has a risk management policy and university-wide system to communicate and provide appropriate advices to all international students. Mahidol University's International Student Services provide key services, including relocation away from unsafe zones, medical services through the university-affiliated hospitals, and emergency transportation services.

In case of emergency, please contact international relations staff: 662 849 6230-6

### 4Ts of Risk Response & Risk Matrix





## MU Risk-aware Culture

- ➔ **Leadership** Strong *Leadership* within the organization in relation to strategy, projects and operations
- ➔ **Involvement** *Involvement* of all stakeholders in all stages of the risk management process
- ➔ **Learning** Emphasis on training in risk management procedures and *Learning* from events
- ➔ **Accountability** Absence of an autonomic blame culture, but appropriate *Accountability* for actions
- ➔ **Communication** *Communication* and openness on all risk management issues and the lessons learnt

### Mahidol University Risk Management Center



+66 (0) 2849 6150

+66 (0) 2849 6152 4

<http://www.op.mahidol.ac.th/orau/>

# About Mahidol University

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## *Activities*



***Mahidol University International Night:*** is an annual celebration of Mahidol University's international community. It includes a wide-range of activities designed to allow Thai and international students and faculties the chance to meet in a fun and social atmosphere and share their experiences.



***Sawasdee Buddy Program:*** As a new international student, you will be matched with a current Mahidol University student who can serve as a cultural bridge and provide guidance during your transition.

***One-Day Trip:*** Each year, Mahidol University's International Relations organizes a one-day trip to destination within central Thailand. The excursion is open to both Thai and international students and aim to highlight some of Thailand's cultural and historical attractions to members of Mahidol University's international community. They also serve as an ideal opportunity for students to meet up, share experiences, and forge new friendships.

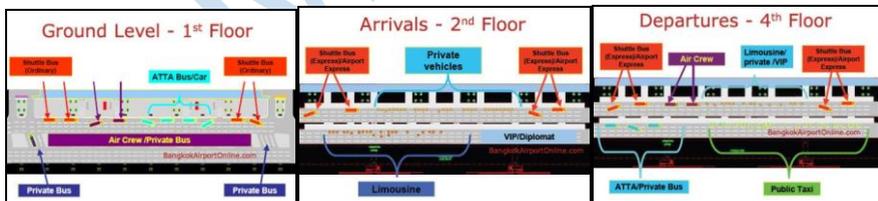
# Transportation

## Public Transportation

Transportation options in Bangkok include buses, taxis, trains, tuk-tuks, river ferries, the BTS Sky train monorail system, motorcycle taxis, vans and subway. Although road traffic is often heavy, transportation is easy to find and inexpensive.



Airport Code: Suvarnabhumi Airport inherited its IATA airport code BKK from Bangkok



# Transportation

## *Public Transportation*



### **Airport Rail Link** –

**SA Express (Red line)**: Makkasan Station to Suvarnabhumi Station. (6.00 am to midnight daily.)

**SA City Line (Blue line)**: Phyathai Station to Suvarnabhumi Station which stops at 6 stations along the way. (6.00 am to midnight daily.)

<http://airportrailink.railway.co.th/th/>

### **(MRT) Subway**

The Bangkok subway runs from the city's main railway station, Hua Lamphong, under two major thoroughfares, Rama 4 Road and Ratchadaphisek Road. The route is 20 kilometers long with 18 stations and three interchange stations that connect to the Sky train. (6.00 am to midnight daily.)

[www.bangkokmetro.co.th](http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th)



# Transportation

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## *Public Transportation*



### **Public Van**

Service is providing at public transportation center and pick up and send passengers at platform of arrival terminal **1st floor, gates 1 and 8.**

**Van No. 551** Suvarnabhumi Airport – Victory Monument (05.00 - 10.00 hrs.)  
(THB 40.-Throughout the route) Departure every 20 minutes



**Tuk-Tuks** -- Thailand's famous tuk-tuks are a unique form of 3-wheeled transportation with a metal cage seating 2-3 persons built around a motorcycle-like front end. Be sure to agree on a (negotiable) fare with the driver before setting off.



**Motorcycle Taxis** -- Motorcycle taxis cost approximately the same as tuk-tuks and are generally used for short distances in areas without heavy traffic, such as a long “**Soi**” (in Thai: ซอย) or lane, off a larger avenue. Drivers wear distinctive colored vests and congregate at key intersections.

# Transportation

## Public Transportation

**River Ferries** -- The Express River Ferry travels the Chao Phraya River from Wat Ratsingkhon in the south to Pakkred, Nonthaburi in the north. Tickets cost 15-30 baht depending on distance (for local line boats. The boats, colored white with an orange stripe along the side, run regularly from 6.00 am – 8.00 pm.

During rush hours, express boats, which only stop at main piers, are also available for a slight higher fare. Three-baht ferries also regularly cross the Chao Phraya River from many piers. Free maps of routes and pier locations are available at most main piers. The "Sathorn (Taksin) Pier" conveniently connects to BTS Sky Train Station at "Saphan Taksin". [www.chaophrayaexpressboat.com](http://www.chaophrayaexpressboat.com)



**LOCAL LINE (NO FLAG)**  
Route : Nonthaburi (N30) -  
Wat Rajsingkhorn (S3)  
Operation : Monday - Friday  
Morning Service 06.20 - 08.05 hrs.  
Afternoon Service 15.00 - 17.30 hrs.  
Fares : 10 / 12 / 14 Baht  
(Depends on distance)



**ORANGE FLAG BOAT**  
Route : Nonthaburi (N30) -  
Wat Rajsingkhorn (S3)  
Operation : Everyday  
06.00 - 19.00 hrs.  
Fares : 15 Baht



**GREEN FLAG BOAT**  
Route : Pakkred (N33) -  
Nonthaburi (N30) - Sathorn (Centre)  
Operation : Monday - Friday  
Morning Service 06.15 - 08.10 hrs.  
Afternoon Service 15.30 - 18.05 hrs.  
Fares : 13 / 20 / 32 Baht  
(Depends on distance)

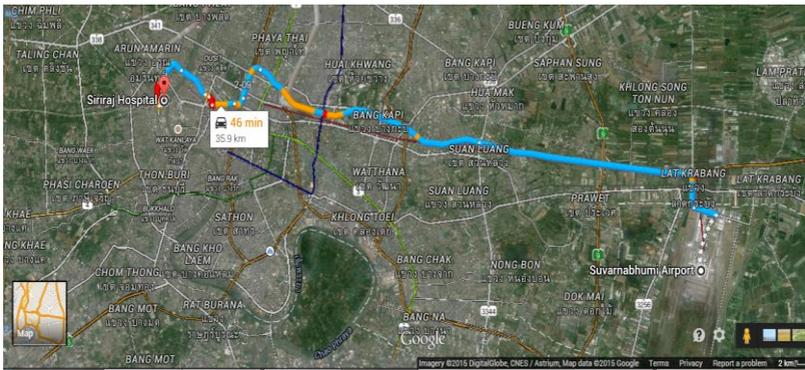


**YELLOW FLAG BOAT**  
Route : Nonthaburi (N30) -  
Sathorn (Centre) - Ratburana (S4)  
Operation : Monday - Friday  
Morning Service 06.15 - 08.30 hrs.  
Afternoon Service 15.30 - 20.00 hrs.  
Fares : 20 / 29 Baht  
(Depends on distance)

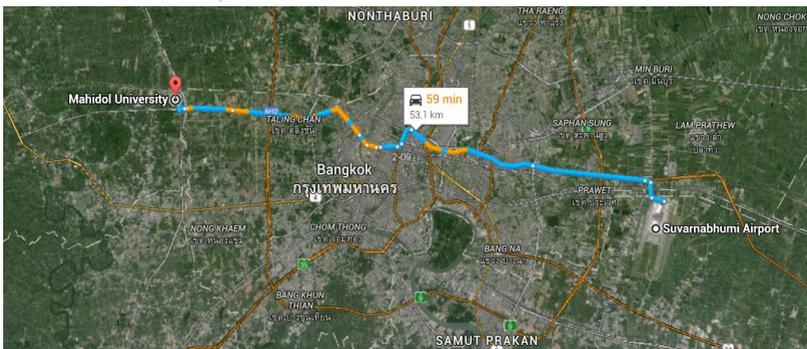
# Transportation

## *How to get to MU from Suvarnabhumi International Airport*

**To get to Phayathai Campus,** take the Airport Rail link to Phayathai Station, then take the Sky train to Victory Monument Station and take the bus no.44/508/92 to reach Faculty of Science.



**To get to Salaya Campus,** take the Airport Rail link to Phayathai Station, then take the Sky train to Victory Monument Station and take the bus no. 515.

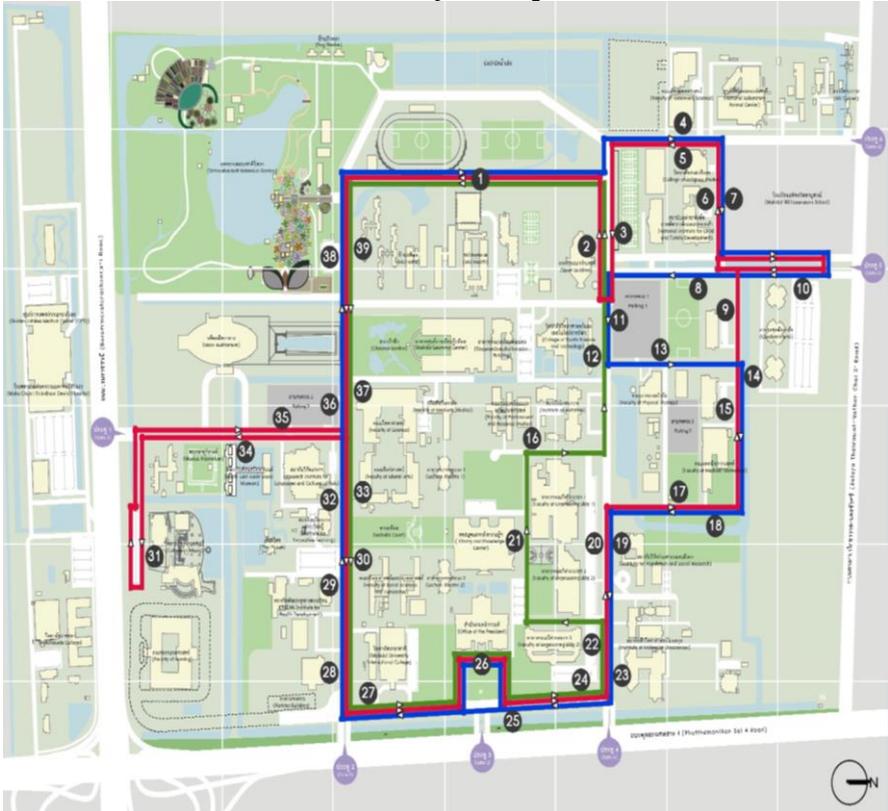


# Transportation

## MU Transportation



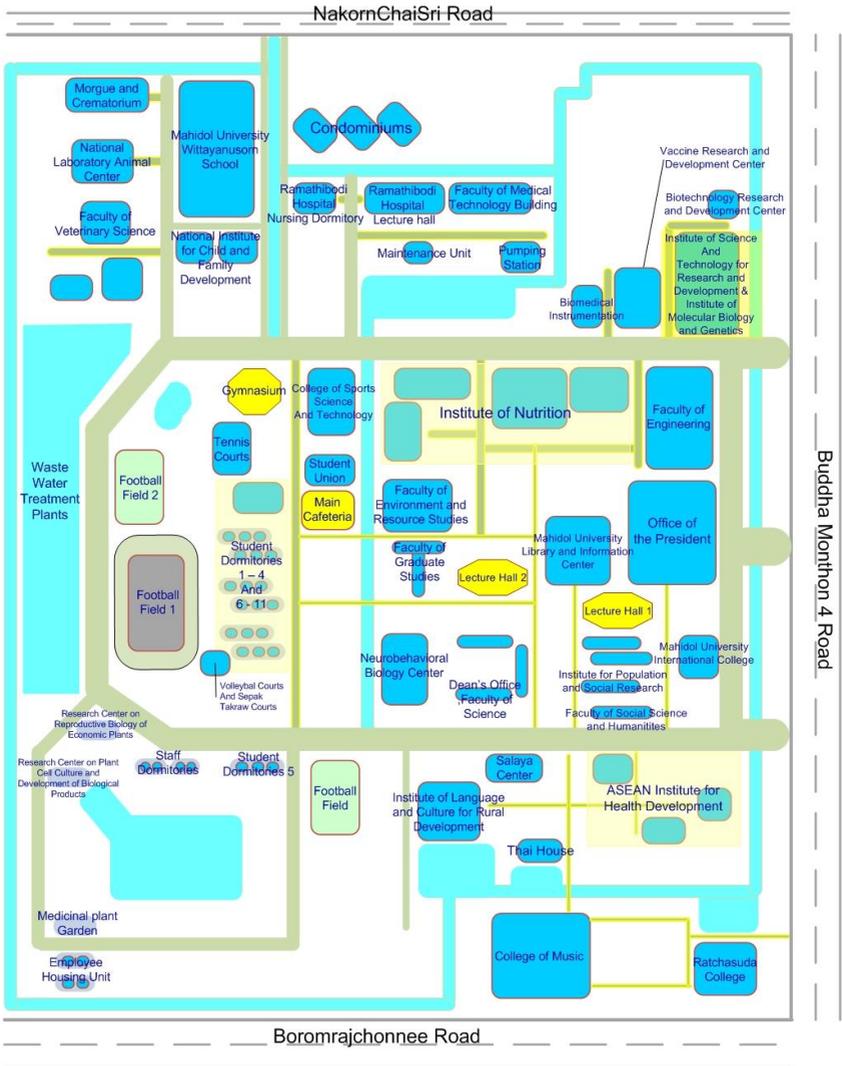
### Tram Services at Salaya Campus



#### OPERATING HOURS



# Mahidol University, Salaya Campus Map



## Symbol

 Main Road

# Transportation

## MU Transportation

### Salaya Link

Salaya Link is a bus service from Salaya campus to "Bang Wa" BTS station. The fare for one way round is 30 baht per person. To catch Salaya link, you have to go to the College of Music.

## SALAYA LINK

Monday-Friday Timetable

Bang Wa - Salaya	Salaya - Bang Wa
06:45	06:00
07:10	06:30
07:30	07:00
08:35	08:00
09:35	09:00
11:35	11:00
12:30	12:00
13:30	13:00
14:30	14:00
16:10	15:30
17:10	16:30
18:10	17:30
18:40	18:00

Depart from Bang-Wa BTS Station at Exit No. 1-2 and walk about 20M to the Bus Stop.

**Special Salaya Link Schedule for TPO's Concert**  
Friday: The Shuttle Bus (Salaya Link) will leave from Salaya to Bang Wa BTS Station at 15 minutes after concert is finished.  
Saturday: The Shuttle Bus (Salaya Link) will leave from Bang Wa BTS Station to Salaya at 03:00 p.m. and 03:20 p.m. and will leave from Salaya to Bang Wa BTS Station at 15 minutes after concert is finished.



Fare: **30 baht** one way per person

Tel. 02-8002525 ext 501  
www.musc.mahidol.ac.th/salaya-link



### Shuttle Bus Service

Mahidol Shuttle Bus service is available for staff and students free of charge. It departs from Salaya Campus in front of the Office of the President.



## Money and Banking



### Currency

The basic monetary unit in Thailand is the Thai Baht. A baht is divided into 100 satang. The following coins and notes are currently in use:

**Coins: 25 and 50 satang and 1, 2, 5, 10 baht**

**Banknotes: baht**

**20 (green),**

**50 (blue),**

**100 (red),**

**500 (purple) and**

**1,000 [grey and brown (beige)]**



**Banking hours:** 8.30 – 15.30 hrs. , Monday to Friday.

Banks located in a department store are open daily from 11.00 – 19.30 hrs. Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) can be found on or near the three campuses. The effective limit of a single ATM withdrawal is 20,000 THB (around US\$ 670).



### Location of Banks and ATMs on Campus

**Salaya Campus:** Siam Commercial Bank, Krungthai Bank and Bangkok Bank

**Phayathai Campus:** Siam Commercial Bank (at Ramathibodi Hospital, Rama VI Road; Rajavithi Hospital on Rajavithi Road; and Victory Monument), Krung Thai Bank (the Government Pharmaceutical Organization Building, Rama VI Road); Thai Military Bank (Rajavithi road, Victory Monument); Bangkok Bank (Phayathai road);



### Opening a Bank Account

It is recommended that you open a bank account in order to facilitate the processing of everyday transactions/payments and keep your money safe. (Passport is required.) Be sure to get a bank book for keeping a record of your transactions, and a bank card so that you can use ATMs.

## Shopping



### **Tesco Lotus Salaya**

Open: 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Tel: (034) 100-230-50



### **Central Plaza Salaya Department Store**

Mon-Thu: 11:00 a.m. – 09:30 p.m.

Fri: 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sat: 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sun: 10:00 a.m. - 09:30 p.m.

Tel: (02) 473-8999



### **The Mall Bang Kae Department Store**

Mon-Fri: 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.

Sat-Sun: 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Tel: (02) 803-8313



### **Salaya Fresh Market**

Open: 11:00 a.m. – 09:00 p.m.

Mon-Sun

# Miscellaneous

## *Eating*



The **main cafeteria at Mahidol Learning Center (MLC)** offers a large selection of Thai rice and noodle dishes for 30 - 40 baht and drinks for 7 - 25 baht (\*card coupons required to buy food).



**Herb Garden Restaurant** at MUIC is known to be the perfect destination for the finest organic salads and healthy a la carte dishes.



At **Music Square Restaurant**, The College of Music, you will find different fantastic dishes with good music and wonderful environment.



**Brew & Bev** at MUIC is a medium-size cozy coffee shop and restaurant operated by the MUIC student.

## Postal Service



The Thailand postal service is efficient and reliable with branches in most major towns throughout the Kingdom. Thailand post offices are open Monday - Friday 08.00-16.30 hrs. and Saturday and Sunday 09.00-13.00 hrs. However, The Central GPO in Bangkok, located on New Road, is open until 18.00 hrs. on Monday - Friday and Saturday and Sunday 09.00-13.00 hrs. All Thai post offices are closed on public holidays, though most major hotels can arrange to mail letters and parcels on your behalf. In addition to domestic and international mail services, both land and air, standard and registered.

**Salaya Campus:** Post office is located at the ground floor of the Faculty of Engineering. The services include mail letters, postcards, and packages locally and internationally, boxes and envelopes for mailing items and Western Union Money transfers.

**Phayathai Campus:** Two post offices are located near Phayathai Campus: one is close to the Faculty of Public Health, and another one is near Rajvithi Hospital on Rajvithi Road.

# Useful References

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[www.airportrailink.railway.co.th](http://www.airportrailink.railway.co.th)

[www.bangkoktourist.com](http://www.bangkoktourist.com)

[www.bts.go.th](http://www.bts.go.th)

[www.chaophrayaexpressboat.com](http://www.chaophrayaexpressboat.com)

[www.inter.mua.go.th/main2/index.php](http://www.inter.mua.go.th/main2/index.php)

[www.mrt.co.th](http://www.mrt.co.th)

[www.muphoto.org](http://www.muphoto.org)

[www.museumsiam.com](http://www.museumsiam.com)

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[http://studyinthailand.org/study\\_abroad\\_thailand\\_university/thai\\_higher\\_education\\_structure.html](http://studyinthailand.org/study_abroad_thailand_university/thai_higher_education_structure.html)



THANK YOU