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## International Buddhist Studies College (IBSC)

### Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University

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International  
Buddhist  
Studies  
College

# Doctor of Philosophy in Buddhist Studies

## Program Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy in Buddhist Studies degree is awarded for mastering a field of scholarship, for learning the methods of investigation appropriate to that field, and for completing original research.

Although the courses and the research leading to the Ph.D. are necessarily specialized, the attainment of this degree should not be an isolated event the enterprise of learning. The aspirant for the Ph.D. is expected to be a well-educated person with a broad sense of general knowledge, not only as preparation for more advanced work, but also truly skillful in the teaching of Buddhism, Tripitaka, deeply aware of Citta Bhavanā (Mind Development), having moral and respectful behaviors, well understanding the current situations of the world and society and well-versed in using modern technology to propagate the teachings of the Buddha.

## Vision

### A College enriched with the beauty of multicultural

International Buddhist Studies College of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University produces intelligent graduates within a collaborative network of Buddhist educational Institutes around the world, with the aim of awakening the society and integrating Buddhist studies with modern sciences to develop Buddhist research, innovation and academic services based on projects to foster and maintain the arts and culture of a multicultural society.

## Mission

The program is aimed to foster the development of student's research skills such as independence, critical thinking, problem solving, initiative, and professional contribution in order to produce religious leaders, qualified academic personnel, and researchers in the field of Buddhist studies. The mission of IBSC is to support Buddhism in its multicultural manifestation and ensure a higher level of religious and academic services by providing Buddhist education for monks, nuns, laymen, and laywomen.

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## Curriculum

The Doctoral aspirant specifies a program area in which classes and research work are to be done and in which he or she expects to become a scholar. At least 18 credit hours should be taken at the International Buddhist Studies College (IBSC), Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, exclusive of dissertation credits and research skills. The doctoral study aspirant, with the assistance of an advisor, constructs a doctoral program plan of coursework and research opportunities.

### 1. Required Subjects (6 Credits)

801 101	Seminar on the Tipitaka
801 102	Buddhism and Hermeneutics

### 2. Special Subjects (Non-Credit subjects)

801 203	Advanced Research Methodology
800 306	Insight Meditation

### 3. Major Subjects (6 Credits)

801 207	Selected Topics in Development of Buddhism
801 208	Seminar on Buddhism and Modern Sciences
801 105	Buddhist Literary Works for Research (Non-credit)

### 4. Elective Subjects (6 Credits)

Students are required to choose 2 subjects:

801 105	Buddhist Literary Works for Research
801 210	Independent Study in Religious Studies
801 211	Seminar on Applied Buddhist Ethics
801 212	Seminar on Buddhism and Sustainable Development
801 315	Buddhist Psychotherapy & Counseling
801 316	Seminar on Buddhism and Peaceful Means
801 317	Seminar on Buddhism and Sufficiency Economy
801 318	Seminar on Socially Engaged Buddhism
801 319	Seminar on Abhidhamma Pitaka

### 5. Dissertation (36 Credits)

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## **Research Skills**

The Ph.D. research skills requirement includes completion of at least 12 graduate hours representing at least two of the following areas relevant to the aspirant's research area: statistics, measurement and assessment, qualitative methods, historical and philosophical methods and may include a reading knowledge in one foreign language (excluding English or one's native language).

## **Comprehensive Examination**

The comprehensive examination consists of both written and oral parts and covers the major area pursued by the student. The student passes the comprehensive examination if a majority of the official examining committee (including the chair) approves the student's performance.

## **Dissertation**

The candidate must present a dissertation showing the planning, conduct, and results of original research and scholarly creativity. The purpose of the dissertation is to encourage and ensure the development of broad intellectual capabilities as well as to demonstrate an intensive focus on a problem or research area.

## **Resident Study**

Two semesters (which may include one summer session), usually consecutive, at any time beginning with the first semester of doctoral study, must be spent in resident study at IBSC. Residence is not merely a period measured in hour. During this period the doctoral aspirant must be involved full time in academic pursuits, which may include up to half-time on-campus teaching or research, or under certain circumstances, a greater percentage of research if it is directed specifically toward the student's degree objectives.

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# Application Requirements

**The application for admission to International Center for Buddhist Studies College of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University for doctoral study has the following requirements:**

1. Master's degree or equivalent with at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.
2. A complete graduate application: apply [online](#) or at the Office of IBSC Student service.
3. An official transcript (not student's copy) of all previous undergraduate and graduate credit sent from the institution directly to the Office of IBSC Student service (printed transcripts or official electronic versions are both acceptable).
4. English requirement please check from the list [here](#).
5. A statement of career goals describing an area of interest in curriculum and instruction and how this degree will help meet professional aspirations.
6. Letters of recommendation from two people who can comment on the applicant's ability to complete a doctoral program of study; the master's advisor is appropriate to include.
7. A writing sample: dissertation proposal, an article, paper, or other composition originally written by the applicant. An appropriate length is ten to sixteen pages.
8. CV or a vitae or resume.

\* International applicants should check the [IBSC](#) website for additional admission requirements.

**Please note:** Meeting minimum admission standards does not guarantee admission to the program.