Ischools and its Collaborative activities in Thailand

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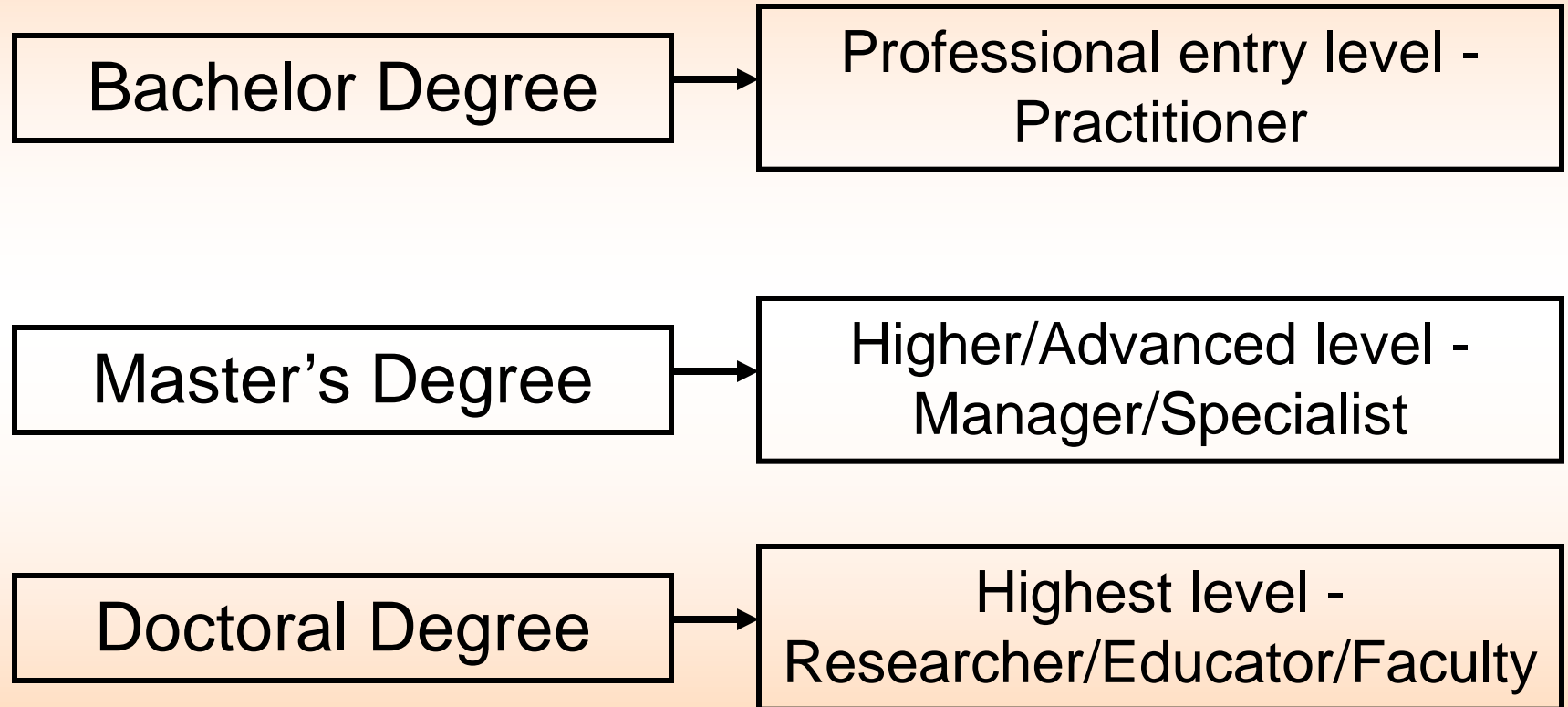
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Brief History of Library and Information Science Education in Thailand

- 1951: The first Library- training program at Chulalongkorn University under the auspice of Fulbright Foundation.
- 1955: Diploma in Library Science, Chulalongkorn University.
- 1959: BA in Library Science, Chulalongkorn University .
- 1962: BA in Library Science, Thamasat University.
- 1967: BA in Library Science, Chiang Mai University, The first program in provincial university.
- 1975:BA in Library Science, KhonKaen University.
- 1964: The first MA in Library Science at Chulalongkorn University.
- 1994: MA in Library and Information Science, Khon Kaen University.
- 2003:The first Ph.D. in Information Studies at Khon Kaen University.

Library & Information Science Education : Formal System

| Bachelor Degree | → | Professional entry level - Practitioner |

| Master's Degree | → | Higher/Advanced level - Manager/Specialist |

| Doctoral Degree | → | Highest level - Researcher/Educator/Faculty |

Bachelor Degree Programs Offered in Thai Universities
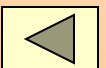
1959-1990
Library Science (14 Universities)

- **15 Public/Autonomous Univ.**
- **24 Rajabhat Univ.**
- **2 Private Univ.**

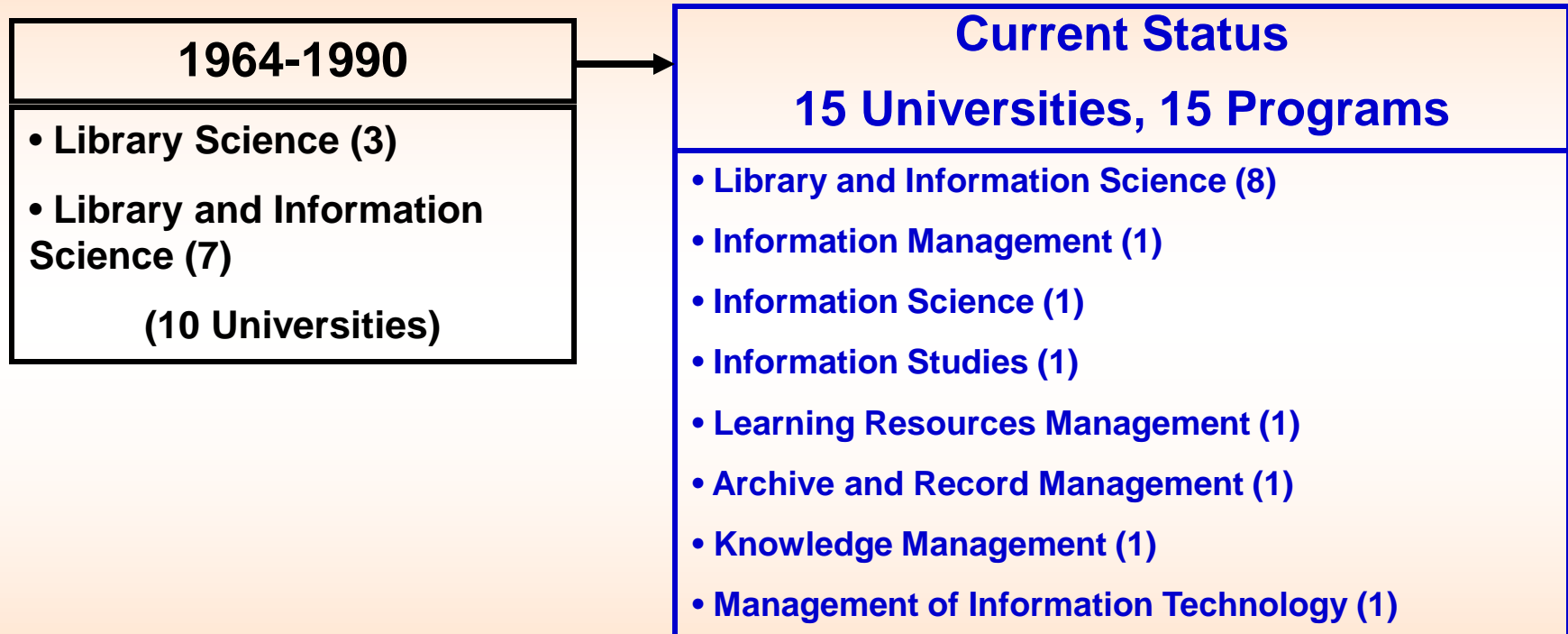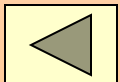## Current Status

41 Universities, 44 Programs

- Library and Information Science(18)
- Information Science (12)
- Information Studies (4)
- Information Management (3)
- Information and Library Science (2)
- Library Science (2)

- Modern Management and Information Technology (1)
- Children Literature (1)
- Information for Communication(1)

Master's Degree Programs Offered in Thai Universities

1964-1990

- Library Science (3)
- Library and Information Science (7)

  (10 Universities)

Current Status

15 Universities, 15 Programs

- Library and Information Science (8)
- Information Management (1)
- Information Science (1)
- Information Studies (1)
- Learning Resources Management (1)
- Archive and Record Management (1)
- Knowledge Management (1)
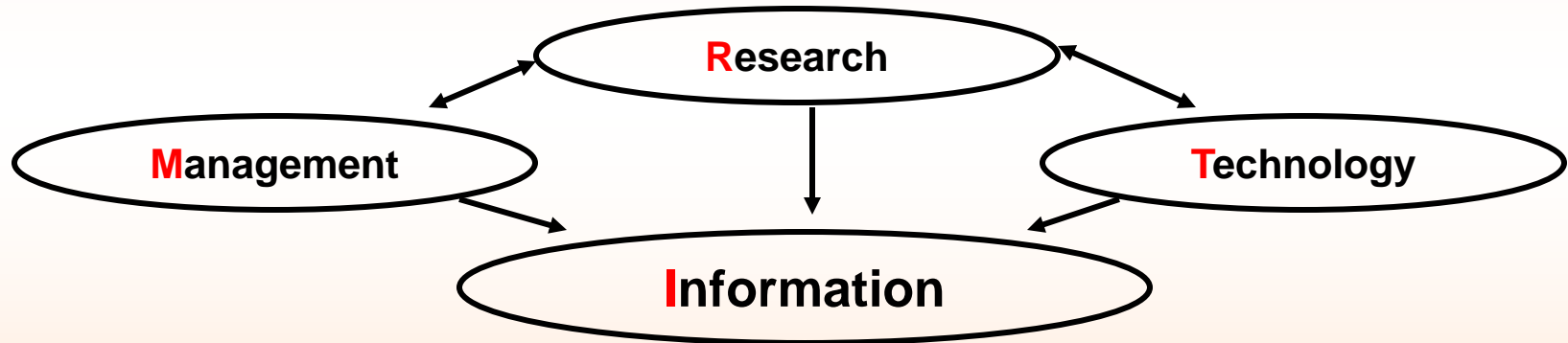- Management of Information Technology (1)

- 13 Public/Autonomous Univ.
- 2 Rajabhat Univ.

Doctoral Program in Information Studies at KKU

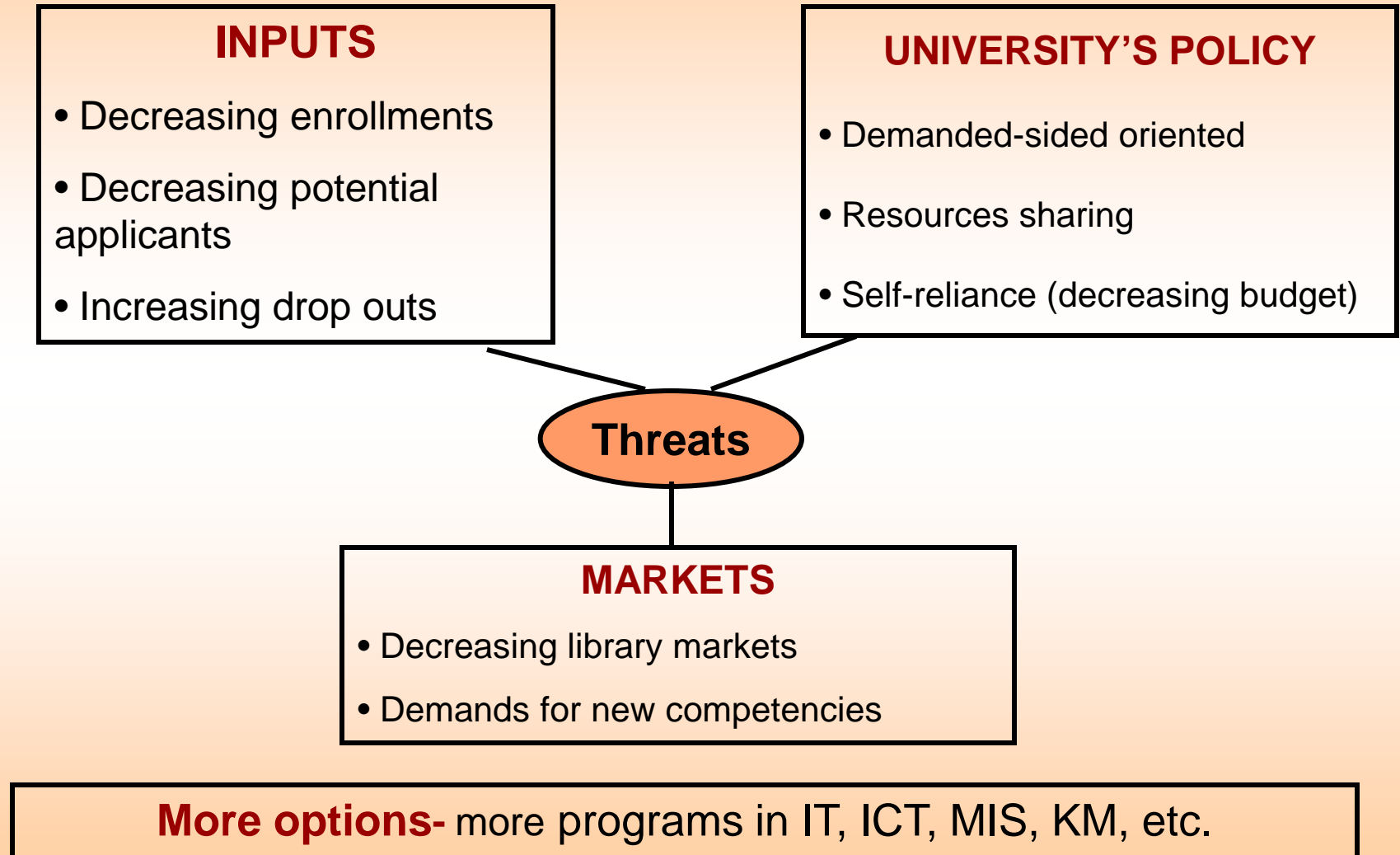Researcher, Educators, University Faculty, etc.

Any environments/organizations

Research

Management

Technology

Information

Library science, Education, Computer science, Management science, Business administration, Public health, etc.

The Challenges in LIS Education

INPUTS

- Decreasing enrollments

- Decreasing potential applicants

- Increasing drop outs

UNIVERSITY'S POLICY

- Demanded-sided oriented

- Resources sharing

- Self-reliance (decreasing budget)

Threats

MARKETS

- Decreasing library markets

- Demands for new competencies

More options- more programs in IT, ICT, MIS, KM, etc.

Why changes

1. **The employment markets for LIS graduates**

- shifted from library settings to business and private settings so the curriculum changed its goals to business or private sectors and entrepreneurs in the new economy

- curriculum became multidisciplinary with more course works in subject fields especially computer and technology, business, management, communication arts

- more library and information science graduates were employed outside libraries

Why changes

2. **The curriculum became multidisciplinary**

- more course works in subject fields especially computer and technology, business, management, communication arts

- changed from graduate individuals with general knowledge and competencies to business-oriented , management-oriented, and technological–oriented approach

Why changes

3. response to the change:

• The schools tend to change in the curricula to match the needed knowledge and competencies of the new information environment and new demands

•the name of the revised curricula moved beyond library boundaries and librarians, from library, library and information science to information science, information studies or information management.

•The word "library" in the name of the program was found to be unattractive to the students, limit the scope of the subject area , the job market and the perception of people in the society.

•The shift in the west resulted into the term "ischools" replacing the term LIS.

What changes?

CHANGES

• Name of the program

• Contents of the courses

• Multi-disciplinary oriented

• Changes in enrollments (increasing numbers, more potential applicants, various backgrounds)

• Changes in job markets (more job opportunities, broader market places)

• Changes in research & education (integrated/multi-disciplinary research, faculty staff from different backgrounds)

• Changes in program administration (cross-departments, organizational merging, cross the schools, universities)

The Collaborative activities among the schools

- information schools can expand the range of courses, training and services all important topics are covered,

- To keep up to date with developments and change in the profession

- To provide opportunities for join research which capitalizes on their perspective areas of special interest and expertise.

The Collaborative activities among the schools

- To develop Doctoral Program in Information Studies at Khon Kaen University

- To join research, co- supervision for thesis and dissertation

- Team teaching across the areas and universities

- Conference and workshop and professional network

- Sharing the knowledge, resources, and expertise through the professional networking

Current situation Research inThailand

- The overall quality of Research in LIS is still needed for development.

  - Research questions

  - Research methodology

  - Research impacts

- There are very few active researchers in LIS.

  - Majority of researches are student's theses

  - Few faculty staff/LIS professionals have good research skills

  - Few researchers link with professionals in other fields

Current situation of LIS Research inThailand

- **The new opportunities for LIS research in Thailand:**

    - **PHD program will enhance the quality of research in the field.**

    - **Research publications in peer reviewed journal or academic conferences are required for graduate students and for faculty staff/researchers.**

    - **Thai Library Association has published the International standard- TLA Research Journal, a bi-lingual journals, published bi-annually, started Vol. 1 in Jan-June 2008.**

Current situation of Research in LIS

- The new research areas in LIS currently conducted in Thailand:

  - Management of ICT

  - Library, Information, learning center management

  - Information literacy

  - Digital libraries, metadata, ontology

  - Information services strategies for specific groups of users

  - Knowledge management and culture heritage management

  - Knowledge and information organization

  - Information society, digital divided

  - Information system and management in various areas, eg elderly, local wisdom, local government management, rural community, etc.

  - Applications of quality management, learning organization, and other modern management theories in libraries/organizational development

  - Development of LIS professionals competencies

Suggestions for Research Collaborations among Professionals in Asia

- **Create lists of experts in LIS, special interests**

- **Exchange of staff and students**

- **Exchange of peer reviews for the development of quality of research**

- **Conduct annual International conference as a academic community for LIS graduate students and researchers.**

The Current Situation of Post Graduate Studies in the field of Library and Information Science in Thailand: Case of PhD Program in Information Studies, Khon Kaen University

About KKU

- **Khon Kaen University (KKU) was one of four regional universities established in 1964 as part of a decentralized development plan for higher education in Thailand. The campus is located in the northwest sector of Khon Kaen, just a few kilometres from the center of the city.**

- **KKU is the largest education and learning center in the Northeast of Thailand, and is recognized as the leader of new innovations in teaching and learning and research in the region.**

The KKU Tree is the Pink Cassia (Cassia bakeriana)

- Khon Kaen University

The KKU Tree is the Pink Cassia (Cassia bakeriana)

Ph.D. in Information Studies, KKU

- The first Ph.D. program in the field of library & Information in Thailand was developed based on unprecedented change in the use of information, and its convention into knowledge and wisdom is reshaping personal activities, community and organizational practices, and national and global institutions.

- In managing these transformations, society too often focuses narrowly either on extending technology or on revising social policies

Ph.D. in Information Studies, KKU

- Principles that illuminate the role of information in both computation and cognition, in both communication and community must be identified and emphasized.

- Information professionals are needed who can apply these principles to synthesize human-centered and technological perspectives. This entails educating researchers, educators, consultants, and others, who share the view that information is a manageable resource, so that the can effectively assume their important role in the transformation of a learning society.

Overview of Information Studies

- **Positions in this field range from those involved in designing, building, and using on-line information bases in a wide variety of disciplines to those involved in academic, public, school, special libraries and information centers.**

- **Information professionals are engaged in the business of helping other people locate and obtain information they need for daily living and decision making in their personal and professional lives in a knowledge based society**

Overview of Information Studies

- **Information Studies offers the opportunity to blend basic concerns for human needs for information with involvement in up-to-date and cutting edge technology and systems for creating, acquiring, storing, organizing, accessing and delivering information that can be of political, economic, social and technological value.**

Vision

- **The vision of this doctoral program is to educate researchers and educators by focusing upon harmonizing <u>people</u>, <u>information systems</u>, and <u>organizations</u> to improve the quality of life of all citizens, particularly those in Thailand.**

- **Graduates should aspire to creating new knowledge; impart knowledge to the next generation of information professionals; and utilize the results in the development of a knowledge-based society.**

Mission

The primary mission of this program is: to educate a new generation of information professionals who will put that vision into practice is. This will be accomplished through:

- focusing upon the principles and concepts that will enable society to realize this vision and
- discovering the technologies, systems, and practices that will substantiate the vision.

- The core field of the study, entails:
  - how information is created, identified, collected, structured, managed, preserved, accessed, processed, and presented;
  - how it is used and ultimately valued in different environments, with different technologies, and over time.

Objectives

The Doctor of Philosophy Program in Information Studies is intended to produce qualified graduates with these competencies.

- Advanced knowledge for integrating each student's background knowledge for information management, problem solving, and information knowledge transfer.

- Advanced research skills for high quality research works leading to innovations or new knowledge, or applicability to solve problems and national and international recognition.

- Awareness of professional ethics, and realizations of roles in creating and promoting information use which will eventually lead to social and national development.

Degree Requirements

Admission Standards:

Acceptance for PhD study requires a Master's degree from a recognized institution in Thailand or an equivalent international institutions. An interview is required of all."

Recommended skills: Additional skills may be necessary, based upon the advice of the student's doctoral supervisor.

English Language Proficiency: Students need to know how to design, conduct and analyze research investigations and are expected to demonstrate a competency in the English language in order to more effectively utilize resources in the completion of their program.

The Program structure

Program type 1.1 (Non -course work, only dissertation)

Students must complete 3 credits for non-credit course and 48 credits for dissertation.

Program type 2.1 (Course work and dissertation)

Students must complete 12 credits for required courses (including 3 credits for non-credit course), 3 credits for electives, and 36 credits for dissertation.

Program type 1.1

Required Course

412 801*   Academic Writing 3(3-0-6)

* Non-credit course

Dissertation

412 997   Dissertation 48 Credit

The Program structure

Program type 2.1

Required Courses   **12 credits**
412 801*   **Academic Writing   3(3-0-6)**
412 804   Research in Information Studies I 3(2-2-5)
412 805   Research in Information Studies II 3(2-2-5)
412 806   Advanced Theories for Information Studies3(3-0-6)
* Non-credit course

Electives   **3 credits**
412 981   Special Topics in Information and Knowledge Management3(3-0-6)
412 982   Special Topics in Information System and Technology   3(3-0-6)
412 983   Special Topics in Information Services and Communication3(3-0-6)

Dissertation
412 999   Dissertation   36 Credit

Research Issues

Management of Information and Knowledge in modern quality and learning organizations.

- **Information literacy, information behaviors**

- **Information society, digital divided**

- **Knowledge organization: Classification, metadata, ontology**

- **Knowledge management and culture heritage management**

- **Information System in organization**

- **Information services strategies for specific groups of users**

- **Information system and management in various areas, eg elderly, local wisdom, local government management, rural community**

- **Applications of quality management, learning organization, and other modern management theories in libraries/organizational development**

- **Development of LIS professionals competencies**

Thank you

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