

Social Innovation Field School

The Social Innovation Field School—which was set up in 2014 under Mae Fah Luang University's School of Social Innovation, Chiang Rai, Thailand—aims at creating transformative study and practical experience through fieldwork learning approach and social sciences research. The field school project explores the human and socio-cultural dimensions of Thailand's modern and fast changing society. It also contributes to making understandings towards diverse human spaces and locational cultures by means of experiential practice.

Vision

The faculty and student body of the School of Social Innovation envision a modern and dynamic society where we live and experience. We understand the complex interrelations between human beings and social world, made it possible through the transformation of theoretical knowledge in social sciences into real life practice as much as collective engagement, and then enabling us to widening perspectives towards communities and the social world.

Action

The field school upholds the School of Social Innovations' core values: critical, creative, communicative and cooperative. As part of the project, it is experimenting to offer short fieldwork training across the disciplines of anthropology-sociology and development and also across the thematic issues such as modernization, cross-border flows, urbanization, and globalization. The international development-majored students will be under the guidance of field school faculty. The students will be learning various techniques in community-based learning by means of cultural and spatial immersion for certain period of time, also relevant to their theoretical backgrounds. The fieldwork practices include participant observation, fieldnotes, survey, village mapping, self-reflection, conceptualization and presentation.

The fieldwork will be first taken place at Mae Kampong Village, Chiang Mai, with an endowment from Mae Fah Luang University. This fieldwork also includes guest speakers and other professionals. The schedule is on March 2015.

Field School Faculty

Yuthpong Chantrawarin is an assistant professor at Mae Fah Luang University. He is now doing his doctorate in social science with an emphasis on anthropology-sociology of space/place. He was a PhD student research fellow at National University of Singapore. He used to be a field-scholar training together with students from University of Sydney's School of Geosciences.

Sawang Meesang is a lecturer at Mae Fah Luang University. He obtained MA in Community Development in which is one of his responsible courses of teaching. He is interested in Development Anthropology. His research expertise also includes highland royal development projects and ethnic-coffee high plantation.

Field School Students/Fieldworkers

International development-majored students from the 2nd Year with an interest in field-based practice, together with communicative and cooperative skill