

**CURRICULUM OF MASTER OF ARTS IN BUDDHISM**  
**MAJOR IN BUDDHIST STUDIES**

**1. TITLE OF DEGREE**

1. Full title : Master of Arts (Buddhist Studies)  
2. Abbreviated title : M.A. (Buddhist Studies)

**2. OFFICE RESPONSIBLE**

Graduate School, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University.

**3. STRUCTURE OF CURRICULUM**

The students are required to take the subjects not fewer than 48 credits.

3.1 Required subjects	12	credits
3.2 Major subjects	18	credits
3.3 Optional subjects	6	credits
3.4 Thesis	12	credits
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>credits</b>

**4. SUBJECTS IN CURRICULUM**

**4.1 Required subjects 12 credits**

All the student are required to take the following required subjects :

000 501 Tipitaka Analysis I	2 (2-0-4)
000 502 Buddhist Philosophy	2 (2-0-4)
000 503 Buddhist Psychology	2 (2-0-4)
000 504 Buddhist Sociology	2 (2-0-4)
000 505 Buddhist Meditation	1 (1-2-3)
000 506 English	2 (2-0-4)
000 601 Dhamma Communication	2 (2-0-4)
000 602 Research Methodology	2 (2-0-4)

**Note:** Subject No. 000 505 and 000 506 are compulsory non-credit subjects.

#### 4.2 Major subjects 18 credits

102 501	Theravada Buddhism	3 (3-0-6)
102 502	<b>Mahayana Buddhism</b>	<b>2 (2-0-4)</b>
102 503	Tipitaka Analysis II	2 (2-0-4)
102 504	<b>Selected Buddhist Works</b>	<b>2 (2-0-4)</b>
102 505	Buddhism and Modern Science	2 (2-0-4)
102 506	Buddhism and Current Affairs	2 (2-0-4)
102 507	Thai Intellectuals	2 (2-0-4)
102 610	Seminar on Buddhism	2 (2-0-4)

#### 4.3 Optional subjects not fewer than 6 credits

102 601	Jataka Analysis	2 (2-0-4)
102 602	Buddhist Ethics	2 (2-0-4)
102 603	Buddhist Cosmology	2 (2-0-4)
102 604	Buddhist and Western Philosophy	2 (2-0-4)
102 605	Buddhism and Education	2 (2-0-4)
102 606	<b>Zen Buddhism</b>	<b>2 (2-0-4)</b>
102 607	Meditation Practice in Thailand	2 (2-0-4)
102 608	Comparative Religion	2 (2-0-4)
102 609	Pali Scripts	2 (2-0-4)
102 611	Practical Research	2 (2-0-4)

#### 4.4 Thesis

102 631	Thesis	12 credits
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### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

**000 501 Tipitaka Analysis I** **2 (2-0-4)**

A historical survey of the division of the Buddha's Teachings into Tipitaka, with an attention to system of passing on Tipitaka from time to time, structure and

short essence of the Tipitaka. An analysis of the important doctrines such as the Four Noble Truths, The Three Universal Characteristics, Three Spiritual Trainings, Hell and Heaven, Mind and Consciousness.

**000 502 Buddhist Philosophy** **2 (2-0-4)**

A critical survey of the origin and development of thoughts in Buddhist philosophical schools : Theravada, Saravativada, Sautrantika, Vaibhasika, Madhyamika, Yogacara and Buddhist Tantra, including a comparative study of the main ideas of these schools.

**000 503 Buddhist Psychology** **2 (2-0-4)**

A critical study of the concept of citta and cetasika in Buddhism, comparing to the modern western theory.

**000 504 Buddhist Sociology** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of nature, scope and sociological methodology, with an attention to sociological thought which is useful for analysis of the social factors and structure, comparing to the Buddhist thought.

**000 505 Buddhist Meditation** **1 (1-2-3)**

A study of Tranquillity and Insight Meditation theoretically and practically.

**000 506 English** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of practical English, emphasizing on skills in writing, conversation, lecturing, and discussion on the Buddha's Teachings.

**000 601 Dhamma Communication** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the theory and method of propagation of Buddhism, emphasizing on the art of addressing in public meeting, lecturing, discussion, and delivering sermon on the Buddha's Teachings.

**000 602 Research Methodology** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of characteristics and types of research work, with an attention to the process and steps of research, collection and analysis of data, including the presentation of research work.

**102 501 Theravada Buddhism 3 (3-0-6)**

A study of the history and main principles of Theravada Buddhism, with an attention to its language and scriptures, the influence of Theravada Buddhism on different countries socially, economically, and politically.

**102 502 Mahayana Buddhism 2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the history and Main principles of Mahayana Buddhism, with an attention to its language and scriptures, the differences between Mahayana and Theravada, the influence of Mahayana Buddhism on different countries socially, economically, and Politically.

**102 503 Tipitaka Analysis II 2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the systematization of Tipitaka and its contents, with an attention to idioms which are characteristics of each Pitaka. A comparative study of the Tipitaka to those schools, the analysis of the main concepts of Buddhism such as Paticcasamuppada, Kamma, Sangsaravatta, Atta - Anatta, and Nibbana.

**102 504 Selected Buddhist Works 2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the selected works written by the eminent scholars and thinkers of Buddhism in the present such as Phys Davids, Christmas Humphrey, Malalasekera, Narada Mahathera, Jayatileke, Ladi Sayadaw, Tich Nut Hun, Nanaponikathera Nanatilokathera, L.M. Joshi, D.T. Zuzuki.

**102 505 Buddhism and Modern Sciences 2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the nature of the modern sciences such as sciences, social science, political science, economics, ecology in the Buddhist way.

**102 506 Buddhism and Current Affairs 2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the role of Buddhist organizations towards the present world situations such as the problem of weapon reduction, the complaint for the world peace, education for peace, Buddhism and the changing world, Buddhism and Thai society, Buddhism and development of life values.

**102 507 Thai Intellectuals 2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the intellectuals of the eminent Thai scholars such as King Ramkamhang, the Great King Mahadhammarajalithai, Ven. Phra Sirimangaracaraya, King Boromtrailokanatha, Sunthonphoo, Somdej Phramahasamachao Kromphraparamanujitjinorasa, King Rama IV (Phrachomklao), King Rama V (Phra Chulachomklao), Tienwan, Somdej Phramahasamanachao Kromphrayavajirayanavarorasa, Preedee Panomyong, Major General, The Royal Granson, Krommuennaradhippongpraphanth, Luang Vijitrvadakarn, Buddhathasa Bhikkhu, Phradhammapidok (Prayuth Payutto)

**102 610 Seminar on Buddhism 2 (2-0-4)**

Conducting Seminar about how to apply Buddhist teaching to solve social problems in different aspects.

**102 601 Jataka Analysis 2(2-0-4)**

An analytical study of Jataka in various aspects such as political, life-philosophical, economical, including a study of Jataka's influence over Thai society in various periods.

**102 602 Buddhist Ethics 2(2-0-4)**

A study of the concept of Buddhist Ethics, with an emphasis on the problems of goodness, Summum Bonum, good life's way, justice and freedom; comparing those with the concept of Ethics in Bhagavad Gita and Western Philosophy.

**102 603 Buddhist Cosmology** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of cosmological concept in Buddhism, with an attention to Buddhist Cosmology's influence over life-philosophy and art specially Achitecture and Fine Art.

**102 604 Buddhist and Western Philosophy** **2 (2-0-4)**

A comparative study of Buddhist philosophy and philosophy of the Western thinkers such as Heraclitus, Democritus, Pythagoras, Aristotle, Cynicism, Stoicism, Epicurianism, Schopenhauer, Gorge Berkeley, David Hume, Immanuel Kant, Sigmund Freud, John Dewe, Karl Marx, Bertrund Russel, Albert Einstine, Jean-Paul Sartre.

**102 605 Buddhism and Education** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of Buddhist educational philosophy and system in the Lord Buddha's period and the present in brief, including an attention to Buddhism and education in Thailand.

**102 606 Zen Buddhism** **2 (2-0-4)**

A historical study of Zen Buddhism in China and Japan, with an attention to the main Teachings of Zen, philosophical interpretation of pictures, Zen and Japanese culture, Zen and Western culture.

**102 607 Meditation Practices in Thailand** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of meditation practices of schools in Thailand such as Wat Mahadhatu, Acharn Mun's school. Suan Mokka school, Wat Paknam, Wat Asokaram, Wat Nong-Papong.

**102 608 Comparative Religion** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of the main religions in world's today, with an emphasisthe main ideas such as history, ethics, and Summum Bonum, including an exploration of the context of Tipitaka Scripture, the Bible, the Koran.

**102 609 Pali Scripts** **2 (2-0-4)**

A study of Pali Scripture in the extent that the studnets are sufficient in understanding Pali Scriptures written in Devanagri, Roman, Burmese, Khom, Isarn-dhamma, and Payab-dhamma characters, which is useful for transformation, cheking, and correcting the Pali Scriptures.

**102 611 Practical Research**

**2 (2-0-4)**

The student have to study and carry out research work, to collect the materials of Buddhist role and way of life in community, which is useful for community-planing appropriately.

**102 631 Thesis**

**12 credits**

The thesis is prescribed as a individual project which the students can choose in accordance with the subjects in curriculum.