

**Completed Q/A Chart
NSCS Academy Abroad – Thailand**

Questions	Answers	+/-
Program Name:	NSCS Academy Abroad - Thailand	
Application Deadline:	April 15, 2012	
Where is the program?	Payap University in Chiang Mai in northern Thailand	
How long is it? When does it star/end?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 weeks • June 9 - July 8, 2012 	
What are the requirements?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be currently enrolled in a degree-granting institution • Must have completed one year of coursework on a college or university campus by the program start date • Must have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0. • However, applications will be reviewed by examining the student’s overall application materials including: Course of Study, Letters of Recommendation, and Personal Statement. If you fall below the GPA requirement, please contact The Education Abroad Network to discuss your eligibility to participate in the program. There are no pre-requisites required. 	
What is the local language?	Thai	
What does the program consist of?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three weeks of study as part of Payap University's "Southeast Asian Studies Summer School" program • One week of service learning in Chiang Mai, Thailand. <p>The course includes field trips and a short-term village homestay, which provides an enriching insight into many different walks of life in Thailand. The program schedules some weekend activities but provides plenty of free time to meet Thai students at Payap and make new friends in Chiang Mai.</p>	

	<p>Additionally, a unique feature of this is the community service component, as participants will spend the fourth week of the program participating in service learning projects within a variety of community organizations.</p>	
How many credits can I earn?	<p>Credit transfer (generally 3 - 4 U.S. credits per course/module, 6 – 8 credits total) is subject to home institution regulations so please consult your academic advisor for guidance.</p>	+
What classes/activities can I take? What are they like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three week "Cultural Foundations of Thai Society" course introduces students to Thailand through a general survey of topics on Thai culture and society. The course combines classroom lecture and discussion with a variety of field experiences in Chiang Mai and Northern Thailand. It will focus on the changes and continuity of cultural practices and the major institutions of the country. Themes to be analyzed include history, religion, gender, customs, and identity. The course explores both empirical and normative questions about Thailand and emphasizes issues of cultural relativism and cross-cultural evaluation. • Students should be prepared for challenging individual and group activities outside the classroom. • Students will attend lectures on campus most mornings and participate in field excursions and cultural activities most afternoons. All courses follow their own programs and incorporate different field locations based on the academic content of the course. 	+
How much does it cost before financial aid	<p>The 2012 cost is \$3,440 (NSCS members pay \$3,190 after a \$250 discount)</p>	
What's included in tuition?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All accommodation, orientation, ground transportation, academic credit from Payap 	+

	<p>University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various excursions and tours • A partial meal plan (Monday - Friday; breakfast and dinner) 	
What's not included in tuition? What other costs will I have?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal spending • Additional meals (lunches, weekend meals) • Extra travel • An estimated \$1,600 for international flights to Chiang Mai from the USA 	
What financial aid/scholarships are available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSCS's Academy Abroad Scholarships. • There will be one \$2000 scholarship awarded. 	+
What are the housing options? How far would I live from campus?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students will live on campus at Payap University in a modern student dormitory in a shared room. • Small comfortable hotels or village-style accommodations will be used throughout the remainder of the program dependent on program locations. • A short-term village homestay, which provides an enriching insight into many different walks of life in Thailand is also included in program. • All accommodations are in located in areas that allow students to safely enjoy the program destinations. 	
Which Amenities are included?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dorm rooms have house beds, desks, and wardrobes. • Among the on-campus dormitories, you will find a dining room, lounge, and laundry. 	+
What are the city and surrounding area like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chiang Mai is a 700-year-old city caught between two worlds. • Thai tradition and customs are still very much alive in this city and they happily co-exist with modern Thailand. 	+
What tourist/shopping/travel opportunities would I have around the city?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The city is most famous for having more than 300 Buddhist temples, and one of the most holy, Wat Doi Suthep, sits atop the mountain that overlooks the city. • Chiang Mai is rife with festivals • It is also the handicraft capital of Thailand, with beautiful woodwork, jewelry and ceramics. • The city also has a vibrant nightlife 	+

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many excellent restaurants • A lively music scene. • The program provides plenty of free time to meet Thai students at Payap and make new friends in Chiang Mai. 	
What can be gained from this program?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resume building community service experiences • Cultural enlightenment through coursework, out of class lessons, and the homestay experience • A chance to see Buddhist temples, Thai festivals, and explore a 700-year old city • A unique summer experience, unlike any other 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Notes/Overall Thoughts:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This program offers many credit hours in a short amount of time. • There is a scholarship available through NSCS • Most meals are included in the tuition • There is a good mix of old and new culture in the city • There are many things to do and see while in Thailand • The program seems like a well rounded mix of work and play 		