

Characteristics and Educational Influences of the Thai Field Study (FS) Program at Keisen University

Yoshie HORI

Associate Professor, Department of
International Social Studies
at Keisen University

1

Today's Presentation

- (1) Keisen's Educational Spirit
- (2) Brief History of Keisen FS Programs
- (3) Introduction of Thai FS (video)
- (4) Questionnaire Results by Participants of Thai FS
- (5) Example of Students Career Paths
- (6) Forthcoming Challenges

2

1 . Keisen's Educational Spirit

(1) Christianity : Respect yourself and respect others as we love ourselves

(2) International Understanding (Peace) : understanding "others" through trans -cultural perspectives and get the power against the prejudices and the discrimination

(3) Horticulture : Love nature and respect the lives of every people and sustainable environment

3

2 . Brief History of Keisen FS Programs

This school incorporated the field study programs in the core of undergraduate curriculum for nurturing of educated 'citizens' for fair globalization.(It is possible to take this program from the spring semester of second year.)

1999 ~ Short Trip Field Study Program

- India, Philippines, Bangladesh, United States, Australia, German ,Indonesia, China, Korea etc.
- One program is carried out above 10 students.

2000 ~ Thai Field Study Program

- This program is implemented under the agreement with Chiang Mai University and a local teacher takes care of students. She is a graduate student of Keisen junior college and a M.A degree holder at Chiang Mai University. For five months from August to December, students learn Thai language and local lectures for first two months and for next two months, they have the field work in a village or NGOs

4

3 . Introduction of Thai Field Program Please watch the video of this program.



5

Credits of Thai FS and Management of this Program

(1) Spring Semester: Introduction to Thai FS (2 credits)

August and Fall Semester: Thai Language Training(4 credits), Local lectures(4 credits), Field Study I(4 credits),Field Study II(4 credits)

Next Spring Semester: Field Study VI(1 credits, changed in 2015)

(2) FS • CSL Committee consists of 7 teachers and staffs who manages the programs and crisis control.

6

4 .Questionnaire results by participants of Thai FS (took place in July in 2015)

78 of 124 answered
(Answer rate 62.9 %)

● Question 7: Do you remember Thai FS?

Strongly remember: 80%

Significantly Remember: 19 %

Not so remember: 0 %

Barely remember: 0%

No answer: 1%

7

Question9: Do you think Thai FS affected your career design (including career change)?

Affected very much: 47%

Significantly affected: 18%

Not so affected: 26%

Not affected at all: 9%

No answer: 0%

8

Question 10: Do you think Thai FS influence your life value and the view of international society ?

Strongly influenced: 77%

Significantly influenced: 21%

Not so influenced: 0%

Not influenced at all: 1%

No answer: 1%

9

5 . Example of Students Career Paths

- (1) Worked at NGO for 3 years in JAPAN M.A degree (Peace Studies) in Australia U.N university, JICA Research Institute Palestine (GAZA) as JVC staff (35 years old in 2015)
- (2) Went to Thai Language School in Bangkok for 6 months Return to NGO where she studied at Thai Field FS working as a staff at this NGO for more than 10 years (34 years old in 2015)
- (3) Went to Thai language school at Chiang Mai for 6 months working at this Hospital as interpreter for Japanese patients (35 years old in 2015)
- (4) After working at the enterprise, went to Indonesia as a Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer for 2years got a M.A degree at Bangkok (28 years old in 2015)
- (5) Working at Co-op(Tohto Co-op, Kanagawa Yume Co-op) (34 and 32 years old in 2015)
- (6) Organic agriculturists (34 and 31 years old in 2015)
- (7) Her theme in Thai FS was Fair Trade. Her dream is to be a owner of fair trade coffee shop. So she worked at Star backs and is now workig at he blue bottle. (28 years old in 2015)

10

6 . Actual Voices of the graduate

- (1) I could understand, respect and accept the “others” who have different culture, different way of life and sense of time. (33 years old, housewife)
- (2) I was impressed with the way of Thai women who became independent. They have their own opinion, express them as needed and think and act positively. They are earnest and have some wisdom. The strong will is more necessary in our life than money. (33 years old, organic-agriculturist)
- (3) I am more interested in International issues. We should think and evaluate one small issue not only from the perspective of one country but cross-national or global level. (24 years old, a human resource dispatch company)

quote: Yoshie HORi, Mayuko HATA and FS・CSL Committee, *The girls undergraduates learned at Thai FS*, commons, 2016(forthcoming).

11



(7) Forthcoming Challenges

- (1) Making more strong bridge between Field Study Program in Overseas and Community Service Learning (CSL) Program. Guide students to realize there are issues which are common and different. Guide them to think and act glocally.
- (2) Crisis control - terrorism occurs many places in the world.



Thank you for your attention.



15

My Experiences at the Thai Field Study Program and Their Importance on Career Design

Shiho OHURA Graduate Student, Tohto CO-OP

16

Today's Presentation

- 1 . The reason I choose Keisen University
- 2 . What I learned and gained from the FS programs
- 3 . The impacts of FS programs on my carrier design

17

The reason why I choose Keisen University

when

the World Support of Front Line at High school

point

A variety of F S programs

point

A quiet green campus surrounded by nature



18

F S Programs I took part in



19

A quiet green campus surrounded by nature



20



Thailand(10 days)
Philippines,Bangladesh F S
and Thai FS



21

Now I am working at Tohto Co-op



22

Why did I choose Co-op ?



Because I want to be a person who connects producers and consumers

23



Horticulture class and the Thai Field Study



My interests went to "food" and "agriculture".

24





My filed work at NGO ISAC

(Institute for Sustainable
Agriculture Community)



Promotion of products

Study tour for students

29

**Provide a place to communicate and
exchange information between producers and
consumers**



Very important activities

30

I am working every day with what I learned from the Thai FS program



31



What did I learn and gained from Thai FS ?

32



The importance of being interested in anything

Keep having a curiosity and a sense of advancement

but

Don't leave questions as they are

Not study, but learn

33

My carrier based on my experiences at the Thai FS



Thank you for your attention

34