

SENS

School of English for Engaged Social Service

January 14 - April 6, 2024
Wongsanit Ashram, Thailand



Theme for SENS 2024:

Building Bridges to a Kinder World

Share the Joy of Learning and Working Together

The INEB Institute

The School of English for Engaged Social Service (SENS) is a project of the Institute for Transformative Learning of the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (The INEB Institute) under the umbrella of the Sathirakoses-Nagapradipa Foundation, registered in Thailand.



For more information:
<http://inebinstitute.org/eng>
Contact: info@inebinstitute.org



มูลนิธิ สัตหิระโกส-นาคปรดิปา
Sathirakoses-Nagapradipa Foundation





● Our Mission

To develop an English language program as a model to be shared:

- of socially conscious language learning
- that allows for rapid, enjoyable, and successful mastery of language skills
- in a rich, cooperative learning environment
- that fosters personal growth and social engagement
- as a contribution to peace, justice, understanding, and sustainability worldwide.



● Term Dates

January 14 - April 6, 2024

January 14 – February 21

- Term 1, beginning Jan. 14th. Students should arrive Jan. 12th or 13th.

February 22 – 26

- Students may rest or travel during the five-day midterm break.

February 27 – April 6

- Term 2, culminating in the graduation ceremony on April 6th, 2024

● Tuition Fees & Living Expenses

6,000 USD or 210,000 Baht*

This fee covers tuition, field trips, Internet access, private tutoring, group excursions, insurance, three healthy meals per day, snacks, and simple but comfortable and safe lodging.**

* Partial and full scholarships are available, based on merit and need.

** Travel from home country to Thailand and visa fees, as well as other costs outside the course dates, are not included in the total \$6,000 fee.

● Home Campus

Wongsanit Ashram
Nakhon Nayok, Thailand



Our students are inspired through SENS to change the world. Change theirs by donating to our scholarship fund! They (and all of us) will be forever grateful! Please visit: <http://inebinstitute.org/donation>

● Who Would Benefit as a Student?

We encourage you to apply if

- Your English is already intermediate level or better.
- You want to use your mind and your skills to work for personal growth and for the good of everyone.
- You love learning, especially in the company of others.
- You are committed to doing the work necessary to learn English well.
- You are adaptable and have a lot of energy.



The SENS program seeks students who are committed to working for the larger good, who are able to listen attentively to others, and who can think independently. This year we extend a special invitation to those who are English teachers with an interest in new methods, especially how we combine English skills training with encouragement of personal growth and social and ecological awareness.

We welcome students from any country, regardless of age, occupation, and social or religious status. (But minimum age is 18!) We are happy to accept laypeople as well as those who have chosen a religious vocation. We aim to form a diverse cohort of students who identify with Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Judaism, or an indigenous tradition—or who follow secular or other forms of self-cultivation, ethical orientation, and spiritual practice.

We encourage you to apply even if you do not have the funds to pay for the program. Priority given to applications received by November 8th.

Places open for up to 18 students.

● Volunteer Tutor Program

We encourage you to apply if

- You are a native or near native English speaker.
- You like people and are highly conscientious and responsible.
- You would like to learn about leadership, effective listening, meditation, climate justice, Thailand, Buddhism, and transformative teaching methods.
- You want to practice teaching and leading others.

We are seeking volunteer tutors who will assist the primary teachers in the class room and lead small-group and one-on-one conversations outside of class. Some applicants who are English teachers may qualify as tutors. Volunteer tutors will receive free room and board, and free travel on group excursions.



● How to Apply as a Student or Tutor:

Students & English Teacher Participants

- Students should download and fill out the application form from <http://inebinstitute.org/apply/>
- Save the completed application as a new file that includes your name and the program in the title of the document. For example: Sam-SENS2024Application
- Send an email with your application attached to director@inebinstitute.org

Tutors

- Tutors should send us a cover letter, a sample of your writing, and a CV, including two unrelated references at director@inebinstitute.org.

For those passing the first selection we will make an appointment with you for an interview online.

Building Bridges to a Kinder World – Share the Joy of Learning and Working Together

War broke out in Europe in 2022, and in the Middle East in 2023. Evidence of the climate crisis continues to mount: heat waves, wildfires, floods, and the extinction of species. The world has become more unequal, and those preaching hatred and the dominance of one group over another have entered more governments.

In the midst of this can we still live beautiful and meaningful lives? Yes! Never were the possibilities greater. But how will we do that? One step is to live a life that responds meaningfully, that works to resolve these problems rather than merely seeking a place of personal comfort. Another simple but powerful step is to bridge the gaps that exist between us, whether they be generation or wealth gaps, the gaps created by racism, sexism, Islamophobia or by any exclusion of those who live or believe differently.

The wisest among us—spiritual leaders, writers, artists, historians, activists, and others—have seen the underlying unity of all humans and cherished the web of existence that binds us. In SENS 2024 you can join the work of “Building Bridges to a Kinder World” for all, where we practice caring for each other and sustaining life in all its forms. The challenges are planetary, and this is yet another reason that we need each other. Let us learn together how to accept, and then take on the global situation we face, each in our own way. Let us share the joy of learning and working together. Learning to listen with genuine attention, strengthening our ability to communicate in English, growing in our understanding of the contemporary social and ecological world can be small parts of a bigger solution. This is what we intend in SENS 2024.



What Participants Say about SENS

I came here as a blank paper ready to receive and build my English skills, and it has given me more than that. It introduced me to so many pure souls with whom I could speak my heart and who shared their hearts with me. I acknowledge the beauty and goodness in them. With each of you, I am being loved like a family and I have a sense of deep trust. Moreover, SENS brought me closer to my inner self and helped me to redefine my true purpose in life.

I am going back as the best version of myself, confident, content, and with heaps of hope. SENS proved that each of us matter. We all share the same hope and goals though our approaches may differ. Like Ajan Ted reminds us — we are all different in the most beautiful way, exactly the way our world needs us. We hope for love, compassion and peace for ourselves, our loved ones, our society and our planet Mother Earth. We should never underestimate how our small steps can make a positive impact. Your actions may not bring the impact right away, it may take weeks, months or even years, but surely they will.

Anonymous ~ Tibet

This program has been a safe space for me. The feeling of being in a safe space helps me to heal the hurts. I started studying Co-Counseling as part of this program, and when I did Co-Counseling with the students during the course, I felt that my emotional and physical insecurities gradually relaxed and I felt more secure in my mind.

Ye Win ~ Myanmar

One good thing about this program is that friends listen to each other and they also help. If I didn't speak right, they would help to correct me. Because of this, I saw that I had more confidence to learn. I learned from the teachers and through the experiences shared by my friends. I felt more confident about English than ever before. Also, my friends are from different countries. Their languages are also different. But they help each other. They respect each other. I think that's a good thing about this program.

This program for me is more than English for engaged social service. Because this course gives me the strength to carry on with the work I'm doing.

Moe Myint ~ Myanmar

The changes within me for the last two-and-one-half months are more than the changes within me for the last 25 years of my life.

Mariraj Mariappan ~ Tamil Nadu, India

SENS is the dream community that I wanted to live in. Here people consider humanity as a foundation to build on, and everyone is inspired to live with integrity and honesty. Through Co-Counseling, I learned how to listen with all my attention. I realized that my own thoughts and emotions matter too. During these 3 months, the course gave me lessons on various topics, so I got a wider picture of what is going on in this world: we (every creature on this planet) are all connected. The climate crisis, poverty, and violence, all connect to every single one of us. I know that every action I take today has a certain impact on the entire planet.

Nguyen Hai Au ~ Vietnam