

# Table of Contents

**1**  
STATEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR

**2**  
MAPS Executive

**4**  
Introduction to MAPS

**6**  
MAPS Facilities

**7**  
Student Class of 2019/2020

**9**  
Quick Facts

**9**  
Campus life

**10**  
Lecturers and Guest Lectures in  
2019

**12**  
Selected Thesis Topics

**13**  
TU-CAPS 2019

**15**  
MAPS Highlights 2019



## STATEMENT OF THE DIRECTOR



Since its inception, MAPS's achievements have exceeded my expectations not just the level of students' achievements but also a wide network of our family which contributes to the society across Asia-Pacific region.

We understand that multi-disciplinary program is more than necessary in order to deal with wide ranging issues in the modern world from influencing policy domestically and internationally to adjusting to the global health crisis. MAPS's records prove that we do not just concern about training students to reach their highest potentials in their career but also mold them into responsible and global citizens of the society.

Despite the fact that we have been dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been able to deliver our courses online which result in efficient and fruitful discussions on Asia-Pacific studies. In this regard, MAPS is committed to be a small community that students from different countries and society can learn from and get to know each other so as to prepare themselves for the future integrating world. We will continue to expand our network relations with academic institutions for students in the Asia-Pacific region by providing academic excellence.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suphat Suphachalasai

Director, Master of Art in Asia Pacific Studies

# MAPS Executive

## Advisory Board of Directors

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| • Dr. Parnpree Bahiddha-nukara                                 | Chairman  |
| • Prof. Hal Hill (Australian National University)              | Committee |
| • Prof. Mark Jamison (University of Florida)                   | Committee |
| • Prof. Sisira Jayasuriya (Monash University)                  | Committee |
| • Prof. William T. Tow (Australian National University)        | Committee |
| • Assoc. Prof. Pippop Udorn, Ph.D                              | Committee |
| • Assoc. Prof. Suphat Suphachalasai, Ph.D                      | Committee |
| • Dr. Denis Hew (APEC Policy Support Unit)                     | Committee |
| • Dr. Mia Mikic (United Nations ESCAP)                         | Committee |
| • Mr. Jaseem Ahmed (Former Secretary General, IFSB)            | Committee |
| • Mrs. Kanlayanee Kongsomjit (Vice President, TKK Corporation) | Committee |



**2019** is the year MAPS produce the most graduates in a single year



**11 Nationalities** joined the Program from 2015 - 2019



**90%** of MAPS Graduates from 2017/2018 Batch are employed upon graduation



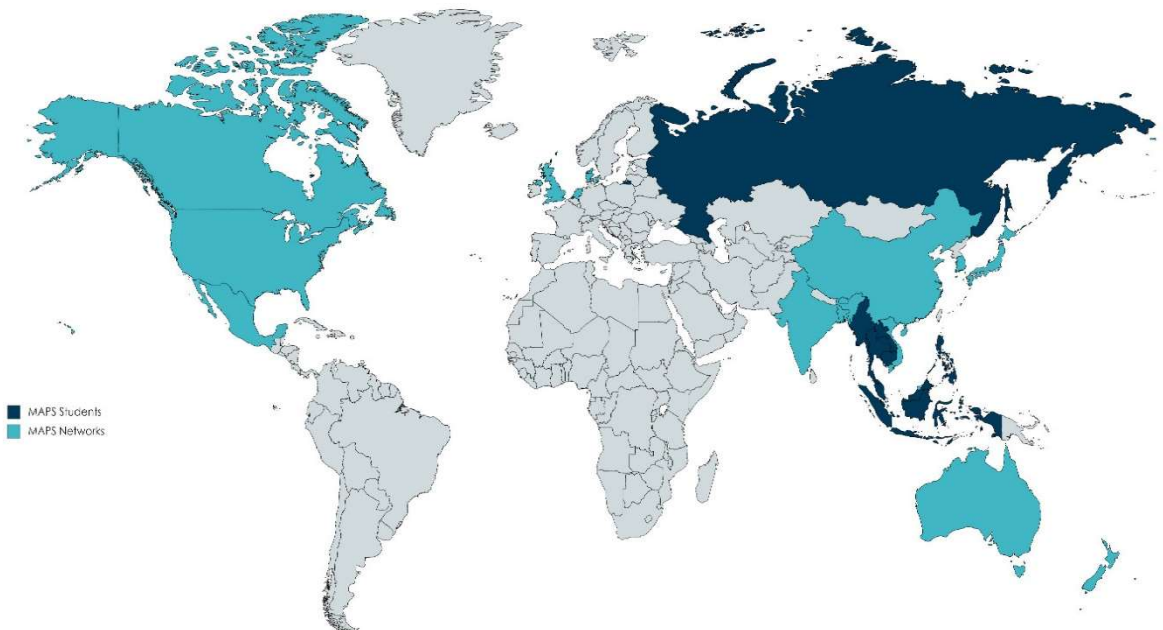
MAPS Graduates' Employers gives **4.9/5.0** in Employer Satisfaction Survey every year (2015-2019)



**38 Theses** produced in 4 Years



**64 Students** joined the Program since 2015



Created with mapchart.net

# Introduction to MAPS

The Asia-Pacific region is one of the mostly dynamic and diverse political and economic power centers in the world.

Thammasat University's Master of Arts in Asia-Pacific Studies (MAPS) is the first graduate program, which examines the entire Asia-Pacific region in all its complexity.

Master of Arts in Asia-Pacific Studies Program or MAPS is an interdisciplinary graduate program that is designed for internationally-focused students who wish to obtain an in-depth understanding of this fascinating and occasionally turbulent part of the world through multi-faceted and interdisciplinary lenses.

The Pacific Rim, indisputably, will be the most exciting area in the world for the next century. This region will have the highest economic growth in the world. Conflicts of interest among countries are certain and will be intensified and all major countries in the world are eyeing and trying to widen their sphere of influence over countries in this region.

Our multidisciplinary program on Asia-Pacific Studies, with specific focus on the Pacific Rim, will provide an excellent opportunity for those who want to be able to understand and analyze the effects of multidimensional dynamism within the vibrant region. Combining three core pillars of subjects for strategists: **international economics, international relations and politics, and international laws** and applying them to a myriad of situations in this region, this program prepares students to be ready for the most exciting region in the world, especially for those who wish to have a career path in an international arena including in the field of diplomatic-related profession, trade and investment, financial strategists, academic, and international agencies.

The mission and vision of MAPS is to provide high quality graduate education, academic resource, training and professional developments as well as foster cultural learning and exchanging opportunities for graduate students and professionals in the intellectually diverse environment.

## Key Features of the MAPS Program

MAPS Program is a multidisciplinary program for specific focus on international economics, international relations, and international law.

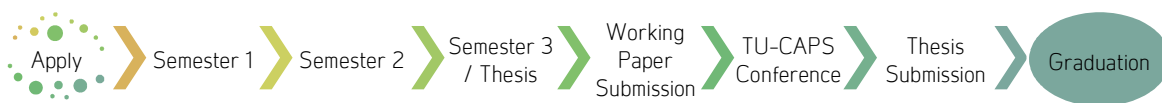
MAPS is the first international program offered in Thailand that provides excellent opportunities for students to explore the Asia-Pacific Region and connect students with other international students and experts in fields related to the Asia-Pacific Region.

## Academic Overview

The MAPS program provides students with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the history, politics, law, and economies of the Asia-Pacific region. The Program adopts multidisciplinary approaches to give students an understanding of contemporary

regional issues; allows participants to integrate study of business, economics, politics and law; and prepares and trains our graduates for careers in the public sector, diplomatic service, academic and research institutions, consultancies, and international organizations.

## Roadmap to One and A Half Year Master's Degree Program

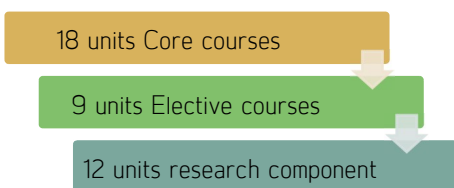


### Program Information

Length	Approx. 16-18 months full-time / 3 full semesters and 1 summer session
Language	English
Class Size	Max. 20 students
Campus	Most courses are taught at Thammasat University, Rangsit Campus, but some may be taught at ThaPrachan Campus

### Program Requirements

The program lasts approximately 16 - 18 months (three semesters and one summer semester session) depending on number of public holiday in Thailand each year, full-time, and requires the completion of 39 units.



### Course Syllabus

Students are required to complete six core courses. These core courses provide a foundational understanding of the Asia-Pacific region. This core group consists of five required courses and one elective. While the required courses are compulsory, the elective course allows students the choice of either one module in contemporary area studies or public policy.

### Core Courses:

-  **APS600** Foundation Asia-Pacific Studies
-  **APS611** Economic Integration in the Asia-Pacific Region
-  **APS612** Dynamism of Thai Economy
-  **APS621** Political, Security, and Defense Strategies in the Asia-Pacific Region
-  **APS631** International Law and Regional Architecture

# MAPS Facilities

## Asia Pacific Resource Center

The Center is an information center which provides accessible collection of Asia-Pacific related resource materials. It is also a space for information, culture exhibition, dissemination manuals and research about countries in Asia-Pacific region. The center provides modern, adequate and comfortable learning environment for our students.



## MAPS Common Room

MAPS Common Room locates at the 1st floor of the Social Science Complex. The room is designed for MAPS student to use as a co-working space with comfortable and welcoming environment. Common Room also provides free Wi-Fi and personal lockers for students to store their belongings.



## MAPS Lecture Room

The Lecture Room is located next to the Common Room. It is equipped with educational technology supports for students to access to online learning materials. Apart from lecture room, this area also has a computer room and a 20-seat meeting table for students to use as a co-working space.



## Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 09.00 - 16.30

# Student Class of 2019

This is a list of MAPS **students in the Class of 2019/2020** who share their postgraduate journeys together, which range from academic struggles, keeping up with deadlines and endless assignments to enjoying student life together, experiencing Thailand with all that it can offer, and creating lifetime connections with renowned scholars and as well as lifetime memories.



## Mr. Vichea Huot (Cambodia)

---

Mr. HUOT Vichea was born in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in 2015 and is currently employed as Deputy Chief of Bureau. Mr HUOT Vichea graduated from the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) in 2016 with a Bachelor of Art in International Studies. He also completed Bachelor of Law in English Language in the same year from the Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE). Mr. HUOT Vichea speaks fluent Khmer and English and moderate Thai. He joined MAPS in late 2019 to pursue his graduated degree. He believes that MAPS is an excellent platform for him to enhance his ability in performing his career as a diplomat. It is highly expected that he would be able to become a good policy maker in the future.



## Ms. Yadanar Moe Myint (Myanmar)

---

Yadanar Moe Myint attended middle-school in B.E.M.S (1), Dagon, (Bishop) home, Myanmar and passed the matriculation examination in 2009 at No. (9) Basic Education High School in Mandalay. She can speak Myanmar very well and write English well. She completed her undergraduate degree B.A (Hons) English from Yadanar Bon University, Mandalay. She continued her master degree at Dagon University and accomplished it in during 2016–2017. She's been working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 7th November 2016. Currently, she extends her further Master's Degree at Thammasat University in Thailand. Her main aim is to achieve success in both education and career pathway throughout her life. She dreamt of becoming a doctor, but now she sometimes dreams to become an ambassador.



## Mr. Anoulack Keomany (Lao PDR)

---

Anoulack KEOMANY graduated with a double degree in Business Administration from the National University of Laos in 2009 and Art of English from The Lao-American College in 2011. After earning his degrees, he worked for a year for a construction company. In September 2010, he started working for the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR. As a senior officer, Anoulack was responsible for the Japan Desk, particularly in promoting bilateral cooperation between Laos and Japan. From 2014 until before joining the MAPS, he was in-charge of the Australia Desk where he worked with the Australian Government in monitoring ODA to Lao PDR. After finishing his study, he will be returning to his country and continue serving the Ministry.





### Mr. Ilham Salaeh (Thailand)

---

Ilham Salaeh had his bachelor's degree in political science from Thammasat University, majoring in Government and Politics and minoring in International Affairs. During his undergraduate, he had served internship at The Secretariat of the Prime Minister Government House of Thailand and participated in many activities hosted by international organization. Ilham decided to join MAPS program because of its distinct courses that allow him to garnered necessities foundation of knowledge for his future. He also sees MAPS as a good place to start expanding his ASEAN network of connection as the program hosted many students from Southeast Asia. More importantly, the program allows student to experience international exchange program aboard, especially Japan.



### Mr. Lau Kai Xian (Malaysia)

---

Lau's field of interest is in public relations and crisis management. He sees communication as art that required details planning, but precise execution. He was majoring in Persuasive Communication during his undergraduate and he was exposed to political economic and international relations through communication perspective. From public relations to international relations, Lau believes persuasion is the key for world leaders to compromise with each other and to manage the crisis through peaceful negotiation. With the four pillars of MAPS, Lau confident that this is the right path for him to widen his understanding of how different backgrounds and believe of international actors communicating with each other. He currently focusing issues on diplomacy relations in Southeast Asia region, South China Sea Dispute and Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).



### Ms. Trisha Ann Gabriel Del Rosario Albay (Philippines)

---

Trisha graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Philippine Studies major in Mass Media at De La Salle University in 2015. During her undergraduate years, she was a brand management intern at a top media conglomerate in the Philippines. Before joining the MAPS, she had a three-year stint at Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) Manila where she specialized in research, export marketing, and project management. Trisha is especially interested in international business, MSME development, and public policy. Because of her diverse areas of interest, she thinks that the MAPS is the most suitable program for her as it can integrate these various disciplines.



### Ms. Chitra Tkhompira (Russia)

---

Chitra has a background in Chinese language. During her undergraduate years she was an exchange student in Heilongjiang University in Harbin, China. Chitra is interested in Asia-Pacific as she is half Thai and would like to study more about Russian-Thai relationships. Chitra joined MAPS, seeing that program is an excellent platform to help her find future prospective of cooperation between Russia and Thailand. Her future plan is to popularize Asia-Pacific studies, especially Thai studies in Russia.



### Mr. Agung Maulana (Indonesia)

---

Agung earned his bachelor's degree in Economics in 2013 from State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah of Jakarta Indonesia. Back in his bachelor years, he joined and won 10 national conceptual paper competitions on economics and social issues especially in Islamic economics. He works as a social project marketer in the biggest Humanitarian aid institution in Indonesia (www.act.id). He was interested in Asia-Pacific studies after he wrote his bachelor thesis about comparative analysis on financial performance and sharia compliance of Islamic Banking in Southeast Asian Nations, thus he decided to deepen economics, business, and social movement atmosphere in ASEAN and other supporting studies as well to accelerate his research capacity in international issues. After finishing his study at MAPS, he aspires to be a good researcher and lecturer in economics and social issues and give meaningful contributions through his research for his nation.



### Mr. Muhammad Maulana Ibrahlim (Indonesia)

---

Graduated from International Program of International Relations, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Maulana Ibrahlim has always been interested in political economy issues since the beginning. During the bachelor years, he has been actively involved in national forum and association of international relations student. He is also an alumni of student exchange program to Universiti Utara Malaysia studying international affairs. Before continuing his master degree in MAPS, he also worked as a teaching assistant and in international cooperation office in his university. In the foreseeable future, he is planning to become a diplomat.

## Quick Facts

about class of 2019/2020

Students come from **EIGHT** countries across the Asia-Pacific region

More than **FORTY** applicants applied during the application period

Students beats some of the **BEST** applicants ever applied to the program

## Campus life

---

Campus life with MAPS is no less interesting. Despite an hour away from Bangkok, the campus itself provides many kinds of recreational and entertainment activities. Our students sometimes joined activities by Student Bodies such as one day visit, Learning Thai language classes, or even tried and train full time the 'Muay Thai'. At the same time, as they come from various backgrounds, they learn new languages, cultures, traditions and practices from their classmates.

In their free time, our students enjoy traveling around Bangkok and other provinces to experience Thai tourist attractions, food, culture, and lifestyle. They also attend cultural events held by Thammasat University such as Thai traditional festival of Song Kran and Loy Krathong. Some students took the opportunity to travel to Thailand's neighboring countries to learn and more about Southeast Asia.

# Lecturers and Guest Lectures in 2019

In 2019, a total of 3 in-house lecturers, 11 guest lecturers, and 5 experts in the Field held lecture series at MAPS. The mixture of in-house lecturers, guest lecturers and field experts from Thailand and abroad allowed our students to learn and to deepen their understanding from lecturers who has a prolong experience in a particular field.

## In-house Lecturers



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suphat Suphachalasai**  
Director of Thammasat Institute of  
Area Studies



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chanin Mephokee**  
Faculty of Economics,  
Thammasat University



**Dr. Supreut Thavornnyutikarn**  
Faculty of Economics,  
Thammasat University

## Guest Lecturers



**1 Prof. William T. Tow**  
Australian National University,  
Australia



**2 Prof. Sisira Jayasuriya**  
Monash University,  
Australia



**3 Asst. Prof. Dr. Stephanie Martel**  
Northern Illinois University,  
United States



**4 Asst. Prof. Dr. Aarie Glas**  
Northern Illinois University,  
United States



**5 Prof. Joo Youn Jung**  
Korea University,  
South Korea



**6 Prof. Jae Hyeok Shin**  
Korea University,  
South Korea



- 1 **Prof. Chumphorn Pachusanond**  
Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University
- 2 **Asst. Prof. Dr. Chotika Wittayawarakul**  
Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University
- 3 **Asst. Prof. Dr. Saratoon Santivasa**  
Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University

- 4 **Dr. Thanes Sucharikul**  
School of Law, Assumption University
- 5 **Asst. Prof. Pitch Pongsawat**  
Faculty of Political Science,  
Chulalongkorn University



- 1 **Prof. Robin Ramcharan**  
Executive Director, Asia Center
- 2 **Dr. Mia Mikic**  
Chief, Trade Policy and Analysis, UNESCAP
- 3 **Dr. Denis Hew**  
Director, APEC Secretariat Policy Support Unit

- 4 **Mr. Jaseem Ahmed**  
Former Secretary General, Bank Negara Malaysia
- 5 **Ms. Glynnis-Anne Buckley**  
Center for Higher Education, Learning & Teaching,  
ANU

# Selected Dissertation Topics

In 2019, Master of Arts in Asia-Pacific Studies program published a total of 8 theses.

## Brunei

- Challenges Faced by Brunei's Micro and Small Entrepreneurs on the Utilisation of Social Media As Online Marketing

## Cambodia

- Cambodia's Foreign Policy and China's Influence During the Khmer Rouge Era (1975-1979)

## Indonesia

- Determinant Factors of Tuna Canning Performance in Indonesia and Thailand: A Comparative Perspective

## Myanmar

- The Effect of The Royal Decree on managing the Work of Aliens BE 2560 (2017) on Myanmar Migrant Workers in Factories: Case Study of Four Selected Companies in Samut Sakhon Province
- Myanmar - China Relations (2003 - 2011)

## Thailand

- The Continuity of Thailand's 'Bamboo Bending with the Wind Foreign Policy': The Perception of National Independence

## Vietnam

- Vietnam's Different Negotiations with China Over Two Islands Dispute: Paracel and Spratly
- Repression of Communist Party of Vietnam Towards Political Opposition: A Case Study of Viet Tan

# TU-CAPS 2019

## Thammasat Annual and Post Graduate International Conference on Asia Pacific Studies



On 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Thammasat Institute of Area Studies (TIARA) together with Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, Australia National University, Graduate School of Asia Pacific Studies (GSAPS), Waseda University Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University, Meiji University and Aichi Gakuin University co-hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Thammasat Annual Academics and Postgraduate International Conference in 2019 at Holiday Inn, Chiang Mai, Thailand. The conference was held under the theme **"Pacific Rim in the Next Decade"**.

Continuing from last year focus on specialized panels, this year TU-CAPS have plenty of specialized panels such as Panel on Australian Studies & Security in the Asia Pacific, Panel on APEC: Bogor Goal 2020 and Beyond and Panel on Myanmar Development and Transition Issues. At the same time, there is a concordance session on Mainland Southeast Asia -

Southern China Integration, which is the first ever conference to look specifically at the cooperation between Southern part of People's Republic of China and the Mainland Southeast Asia.

The 2019 TU-CAPS, attended by over 91 scholars, researchers, graduate students and individuals with their interests lined on the Asia-Pacific. We were joined by 9 universities and 4 institutions from Thailand and overseas. We also proudly announced that we had participants from up to 13 different nationals including Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Myanmar, New Zealand, People's Republic of China, Poland, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam who came together to share ideas, exchange perspectives and experience on the Asia-Pacific at our conference. This diversity makes TU-CAPS to be the true 'international' academics and postgraduate conference to be held.

## Participated University

### Australia

- Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University
- ANU Southeast Asia Institute, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University
- School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, University of Queensland

### Japan

- Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies (GSAPS), Waseda University
- Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University
- School of Political Science and Economics, Meiji University
- School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University
- Graduate School of Policy Studies, Aichi Gakuin University

### South Korea

- Department of Sociology, Korea University

### Bangladesh

- Department of Accounting & Information Systems, University of Dhaka
- Department of Banking Insurance, University of Dhaka

### Thailand

- Faculty of Economics, Chiang Mai University
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Srinakharinwirot University
- Institute of Continuing Education and Human Resources, Thammasat University
- Faculty of Economics, Thammasat University
- Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University
- School of Innovation, Mae Fah Luang University

## Participated Institutions

Policy Support Unit, APEC Secretariat, Singapore

Centre for Higher Education, Learning and Teaching, Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor, ANU

Environmental Care and Community Security Institute (ECCSi)

Karen Institute of Strategic Studies

Kachin Women's Association Thailand, Myanmar

# MAPS Highlights 2019



## Orientation Day

---

The Program organized orientation day on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at MAPS Common Room. The event meant to familiarize the new batch with the academic settings in MAPS, rules & regulations as well as what to expect throughout their study with MAPS. The Program continues with a brief Program introduction by Academic Support Unit and followed by a campus tour. In the afternoon, the students joined orientation activities held by their seniors.



## Learning Outside Classroom Initiative

---

As part of MAPS initiative to give an exposure for our students towards learning outside classroom, MAPS came up with Learning Outside Classroom (LOC) Activities in Pattaya city, about 3 hours ride from our Rangsit Campus. There are three main focus of the LOC i.e. to explore local places of interest and way of life, to explore different neighbourhood settings and lastly, to learn about security issues through a visit to Thai Navy ship.

## #Chat4SDGs: Sharing Session About 2030 Agenda & UNESCAP Visit

---

Master of Arts in Asia Pacific Studies (MAPS) Program held a sharing session entitled "#Chat4SDGs: Sharing Session About 2030 Agenda" on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019. One of our student, Mr. Marvin Renelle Rollo who is also Community Leader For Thailand of Young Sustainable Impact Southeast Asia (YSISEA) gave an introduction about SDG. The Program followed by a sharing session or a chat by panelists from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, The Philippines and Vietnam of which the audience had a good exchange with the panelist and shared common concerns on SDG happening across Asia Pacific. The #Chat4SDGs is a prelude for a study trip to #UNESCAP Building, happen in the afternoon. The one day itinerary was also joined by Kyoto University's students.





## Public Lectures & Seminars



*"ASEAN Position in the New Security Landscape"* by a team of panelists namely Prof. Greg Raymond (ANU), Mr. Songsak Saichuea (Former Director General, Department of American and South Pacific Affairs), Dr. Malcolm Cook (ISEASYusof Ishak) & Dr. Muhammad Rifqi Muna (Indonesia Institute of Science, LIPI).



*"Debunking the 'ASEAN Way': The Contested Meaning and Practice of Diplomatic Norms in Southeast Asia"* by Assist. Prof. Dr Aarie Glas (Northern Illinois University) and Assist. Prof. Dr. Stephanie Martel (Queen's University)



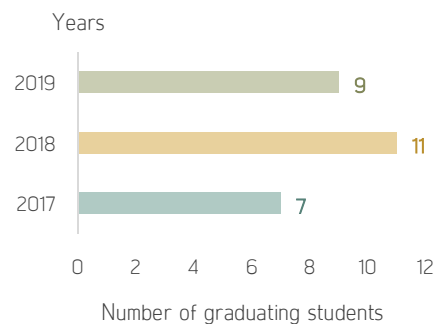
*"Digital Transformation: Building A Sustainable Society"* at the 15<sup>th</sup> International Telecommunication Society Asia Pacific Regional Conference by Office of The National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) and International Telecommunications Society (ITS).



International Seminar entitled *"Australia - Thailand Relations in a Changing Region"* by The Australian National University (ANU), Thammasat Institute of Area Studies, Thammasat University & Australia Embassy in Bangkok

## MAPS Graduates (Batch 2017 - 2018)

More than 70% of MAPS students from the Second Batch (2017 - 2018) has completed all the required requirements to graduate and will have their graduation ceremony this coming April. Since leaving MAPS, most of them land few jobs offers right away. Today, they joined international NGOs, the academics, conglomerates, professional jobs, aspiring entrepreneurs and different other job sections in their native countries.





# CONTACT US


## **Thammasat Institute of Area Studies (TIARA)**


Thammasat University, Rangsit Center Dome  
Administration Building, 1st Fl.


99 Moo. 18, Phaholyothin Road, Khlong Nueng,  
Khlong Luang, Pathumthani, 12121, Thailand


 (66) 2-564-3129, (66) 2-696-6605


 (66) 81-487-3334, (66) 84-756-0303

 (66) 2-564-2849

 [maps@tu.ac.th](mailto:maps@tu.ac.th)  
[maps.thammasat@gmail.com](mailto:maps.thammasat@gmail.com)

 <http://www.maps-tu.org>

 Asia Pacific Studies Thammasat

 Asia Pacific Studies Thammasat

Asia-Pacific  
Resource Center