

GLOBAL SUMMER SUSTAINABILITY SCHOOL 2026

CHIANG MAI UNIVERSITY, THAILAND

LEARN SUSTAINABILITY WHERE IT IS HAPPENING

23 AUGUST - 5 SEPTEMBER 2026

CLIMATE CHANGE FLOODING & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



HOSTED BY LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

LICMUINTERNATIONAL@CMU.AC.TH

GLOBAL SUMMER SUSTAINABILITY SCHOOL 2026



STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

23 AUGUST - 5 SEPTEMBER 2026



WEEK 1

GLOBAL ENGLISH

Students will develop their communicative English language skills as well as confidence when using the language in real situations.

ICE-BREAKING

Students will get to meet their local CMU buddy through this English language facilitated session.

SCAVENGER HUNT

Race against other team and work together in groups students will work to complete the tasks in downtown Chiang Mai.

CLIMATE CHANGE SEMINAR

Students will begin their sustainability program with a session on climate change and the challenges which impact natural disasters with a focus on flooding in southeast Asia.

PING RIVER & CANAL WALKABOUT

Students will take a walk around the canals and rivers of Chiang Mai to understand the extent of seasonal flooding in Chiang Mai including flood protection initiatives, as well learn about community prevention methods.

DINNER CRUISE

Unwind after a day of activities with a river dinner cruise and a delicious Northern Thai dinner with local CMU buddies.

WEEK 2

INDUSTRY VISIT - ELEPHANT CAMP

Meeting the owners and managers of the camp, students will learn about the transition from a 'theme park elephant attraction' to an elephant rehabilitation and sanctuary. This visit will also highlight the lessons learned from flooding which impacted the camp's operations.

THAI WAY OF LIFE

Promotion of local lost knowledge, customs and wisdom is important in sustainability to ensure the knowledge continues to be passed on from generation to generation. During these sessions, students will learn more about local traditions and customs related to **fabric dyeing**.

OVERNIGHT HOMESTAY

This overnight visit introduces students to climate change driven flooding and community based water management in upland watershed, highlighting local adaptation strategies outside of the city. Tea Pillow making workshops with local host family before dinner.

ELEPHANT NATURE PARK

Students will spend the day taking care of their own elephant for the day including feeding and bathing before taking a jungle/river walk.

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**Chiang Mai University Language Institute – Summer School
Sustainability Abroad Program | 24 August – 5 September 2026**



		Morning Session	Lunch	Afternoon Session	Evening Session	
Sun	23 Aug	Arrive at Chiang Mai International Airport – Meet and Greeting at meeting point. Transfer to accommodation				
Mon	24 Aug	<p>09.00-09.30 Orientation and welcome</p> <p>09.30-11.00 Icebreaking with Chiang Mai University buddies</p> <p>11.00-12.00 Scenic 'Ang Kaew' Reservoir Visit</p>	<p>12.00-13.30</p> <p>Welcome Buffet Lunch at Chiang Mai Grandview Hotel</p>	<p>14.00-17.00 Chiang Mai City Scavenger Hunt – participants will buddy up with a local CMU student to complete various cultural challenges and task in the city.</p>		
Tues	25 Aug	<p>09.00-12.00 English for Global Communication – focusing on the development on active communication skills necessary for engaging with others during everyday scenarios. This course will focus on developing confidence using English language whilst also broadening the knowledge of sustainability topics and agendas (<i>Beginner, Pre-intermediate and upper intermediate classes</i>)</p>	<p>Self-Lunch</p>	<p>14.00-17.00 Field Excursion: Downstream River Ping – participants will learn more about the causes and impacts of seasonal flooding in the city, as well as Chiang Mai's flood protection initiatives (River Boat Cruise)</p>	<p>18.00-20.00 Welcome Dinner on the Ping River with participants</p>	
Wed	26 Aug	<p>09.00-17.00 River Basin & Watershed Management Visit to Mae Rim and Mae Sa, Chiang Mai - Students will examine how deforestation in upstream regions contribute to flooding in Chiang Mai related to poor urban planning and unsustainable land use. A key highlight of the visit is a stop at Mae Sa Elephant camp where students will meet local stakeholders to understand impact of flooding on elephant conservation and welfare</p>				
Thurs	27 Aug	<p>09.00-12.00 English for Global Communication – focusing on the development on active communication skills necessary for engaging with others during everyday scenarios. This course will focus on developing confidence using English language whilst also broadening the knowledge of sustainability topics and agendas (<i>Beginner,</i></p>	<p>Self-Lunch</p>	<p>13:00-16:00 Seminar: "Sponge City" Sustainable Urban Water Management - participants will learn how cities can manage rainwater through natural systems like green spaces and permeable surfaces. The session introduces the Sponge City concept and its role in reducing floods and promoting urban sustainability. The seminar includes a site visit to the Faculty of Agriculture, Chiang Mai University.</p>		

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Fri	28 Aug	<i>Pre-intermediate and upper intermediate classes)</i>		13:00-17:00 Mae Kampong overnight homestay: This overnight visit introduces students to climate change driven flooding and community based water management in upland watershed, highlighting local adaptation strategies outside of the city. Tea Pillow making workshops with local host family before dinner	
Sat	29 Aug	07.00 Offering alms to local monks (“Tam Boon”) 08.00 Breakfast with local host families 11.00 Back to accommodation			
Sun	30 Aug	Self-Exploration - Free and easy			
Mon	31 Aug	09.00-12.00 English for Global Communication – focusing on the development on active communication skills necessary for engaging with others during everyday scenarios. This course will focus on developing confidence using English language whilst also broadening the knowledge of sustainability topics and agendas. <i>(Beginner, Pre-intermediate and upper intermediate classes)</i>	Self-Lunch	14.00–16.00 Seminar: The Role of Protected Forest Areas in Chiang Mai City's Flood Management Strategies and the Impact on Tourism – Participants will learn how protected forest areas help reduce flooding in Chiang Mai and examine their impact on tourism. They will explore the balance between environmental conservation and tourism development in flood-prone areas.	
Tues	1 Sep			14.00-16.00 Doi Suthep Temple Visit – students will visit the highest temple in Chiang Mai and most revered and take in the panoramic scenery at the top of the mountain.	
Wed	2 Sep			13.00-16.00 Group Discussion, Reflection and Wrap Up Discussion – pitching ideas for improving the situation	
Thurs	3 Sep			14.00-16.00 Field Excursion: Thai Way of Life – promotion of local lost knowledge, customs and wisdom is important in sustainability to ensure the knowledge continues to be passed on from generation to generation. During these sessions, students will learn more about local traditions and customs related to fabric dying .	17.30 Certificate Presentation ceremony 18.00 Farewell Dinner
Fri	4 Sep			08.30-14.00 Field Excursion: Elephant Nature Park Visit – students will spend the day taking care of their own elephant for the day including feeding and bathing before taking a jungle/river walk.	

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Sat	5 Sep	Checkout of accommodation Transfer to Chiang Mai International Airport End of Program	
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