

SENS

School of English for Engaged Social Service

January 22 - April 8, 2023
Wongsanit Ashram, Thailand



Theme for SENS 2023:

**Building a Bridge to Common Ground
(Re-)Discover the Joy of Learning 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



มูลนิธิส่งเสริมการเรียนรู้ภาคประชาสังคม
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 22 - April 8, 2023

January 22 – March 1

- Term 1 begins Jan. 22nd. Students should arrive Jan 20th or 21st.

March 2 – 6

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

March 7 – April 8

- Term 2, culminating in the graduation ceremony on April 8th.

● 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-SENS2023Application
- 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 a Bridge to Common Ground – (Re-)Discover the Joy of Learning Together

War broke out in Europe in 2022, a war in which neither NATO nor Russia has refused first use of nuclear weapons. 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 become louder and 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. By joining SENS 2023 you can be part of “Building a Bridge to this Common Ground” of humanity, where we practice caring for each other and sustaining life in all its forms. The challenges are at the planetary scale, 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 rediscover the joy of learning and working together. Strengthening our ability to communicate in English, learning to listen with genuine attention, 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 2023.



What Our Graduates Say about SENS

Three months ago, I tried to imagine what kind of people I would meet and what kind of learning journey I would experience. Today I am filled with hope and joy. I'm so happy that when I go back, I will not only take a fully loaded suitcase, but also meaningful memories and hopeful life plans.

In the past three months, we studied together, laughed together, and grew together. The course helped me to jump out of my narrow cage and let me see the world outside of my circle, made me realize how powerful each individual life is, and how important it is to recognize what kind of social system we are living in.

More than that, through co-counseling I learned how to love myself and find the beauty of my inner side. Only when you learn to love yourself will you treasure others and love other beings.

Overall, in this three-month learning journey, teachers and tutors helped me to explore both the inner side of the world and the outside of the world. Inspired by Ted's teaching, I also made my daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, and five-year goals, which made me much clearer about what kind of life I want to live and what I can do in the future.

I'm so happy because I'm lucky and my friends sit in this classroom; we are all lucky, not because we are good, but because we met each other.

Tsotso, Tibetan

Most importantly, the program has been a safe space for every one of us. The feeling of being in a safe place helped me to heal. In the early days of the class, I was deeply distressed by the traumatic events that I experienced since the coup. I was in shock, overwhelmed with fear and despair. Looking back on myself from now to beginning days, the change in me is very obvious and clear. My inner strength has returned, and my thoughts have become clear, and I can smile again. I will nurture these profound personal transformations to continue fighting for the freedom of my country, and people. I will be aware of my privilege and use it to benefit everyone. And I also make a promise to myself to cultivate deeper compassion not only toward the earth and all its living beings, but also (and especially) toward myself.

Khin Zarchi Latt, Myanmar

This course has brought me so much more than just English, and more than knowledge about women's leadership and climate justice. I have learned that learning English can be so relaxing and fun. I have learned to reconnect to myself physically, emotionally, and mentally. I have learned to recognize my core values and my own potential. I have learned about the friendship and love that can exist between human beings. I have learned to realize the possibilities of planning a campaign, designing an ecovillage,... and striving for my dreams.

Vo Hong Hanh, Vietnam