

This study group examines foreigners who served in the court of Siam during 1850 – 1920: a period of rapid modernisation before the country became known as the Kingdom of Thailand. We'll explore how diplomats, legal advisers, engineers, physicians, teachers, and other specialists worked alongside the monarchs to modernise the nation, strengthen institutions, and preserve Siam's independence during an age of colonisation. Their work in education, law, medicine, science, cartography, military training, printing, and diplomacy left a legacy that continues to shape Thailand today. The goal of this group is to recognise the contributions made by foreigners who served in Siam and to understand how their collaboration helped the nation stand on its own while engaging with the broader world. In many ways, their dedication mirrors that of our foreign volunteers today, those who continue to serve and enrich our institutions with respect and sincerity.

Note: By signing up for this study group, you agree that you will be present for all four presentation sessions, including the orientation.



Group Leaders: Ilse, Mook, and Tetiana

Important Information:

Orientation: 4th of November 2025

Presentation Sessions: 25th November, 2^{nd,} and 9th December 2025

Deadline for Signups: 2nd of November 2025

Meeting Venue: TBD

Please note that there will be a nominal charge for venue hire.

