

Thesis title: The Use of Academic Resource Centers by Undergraduate Students of Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya Rajabhat University, Thepsatri Rajabhat University and Valaya Alongkorn Rajabhat University Under the Royal Patronage.

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of this study were (1) to study the use of academic resource centers, library materials and problems faced by undergraduate students of Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya, Thepsatri and Valaya Alongkorn Rajabhat Universities and (2) to compare the use of academic resource centers and problems faced by students at three Rajabhat universities.

Altogether 1,097 undergraduate students during the second semester of academic year 2003 from four Faculties of Education, Arts, Science and Business Administration: 360 from Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya, 367 from Thepsatri and 370 from Valaya Alongkorn. The research instrument was a questionnaire. Descriptive statistics and an analysis of one-way analysis of variance were used.

The findings were the students from Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya and Thepsatri Rajabhat Universities used academic resource centers 1-4 times a week and students from Valaya Alongkorn Rajabhat University used 5-8 times a week. The average use lasted more than 1 hour each. The main purpose of using academic resource centers was to search information for their studies. Most of the students used the Internet to support their studies. Sanook was the most used search engine. Thai textbooks were most used by the students. There was statistically significant difference in using library resources among students in the regular and special programs and different statuses at Phranakorn Si Ayutthaya and Valaya Alongkorn Rajabhat Universities ($p < .05$). The students reported their problems at the moderate level. The students at Thepsatri Rajabhat University were found to have different problems in library use. The juniors at Thepsatri Rajabhat University had more problems than the sophomores and seniors.

Keywords: Library Use, Academic Resource Center Use, Rajabhat Universities