

**Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University  
Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI)**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop  
“An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore  
Contract Law”**

The Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (“CATPLI”), is pleased to announce its third workshop titled “An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Contract Law”.

This workshop seeks to introduce students of Thammasat University (“TU”) as well as other Thai law students to the basic principles of contract law in Singapore, while providing NUS law students with a platform to consolidate their knowledge in this regard and learn about differences found in Thai contract law. For the first time ever, the workshop will be conducted in a hybrid format. The first two sessions will be held in-person at Thammasat University's Tha Prachan Campus. The remaining five sessions will be held virtually, similar to the format of CATPLI's past two workshops.

This course is open to all Thai law students.

View the Flyer [HERE](#).

# CALS-TU Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI) PROJECT TEAM - 2024

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# Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop “An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Company Law” 9 March 2024

7 NUS Law students. 30 Thai law students. 2 in-person sessions. A common objective to learn more about the contract laws existing in the other’s jurisdiction.

On Saturday, 9 March 2024, the NUS Law Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALs) and Thammasat University Faculty of Law (TU) broke new ground in their longstanding joint venture CATPLI by successfully conducting two in-person sessions at TU Law’s beautiful Tha Prachan campus. These two in-person sessions form a part of CATPLI’s third workshop series, consisting of seven sessions, titled “*An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Contract Law*”. Over the course of two two-hour long sessions, a total of 30 Thai law students from Thammasat University and Chulalongkorn University were introduced to the basic features of Singapore’s legal system and were exposed to the basic rules of contract formation under Singapore law. As both sessions were designed interactively, the NUS Law students also had an exchange of views with their Thai counterparts over the functional similarities and differences found in Singapore and Thai contract laws and explored how the contract laws in both jurisdictions responded to the same factual issues.



*Iain Lin (far left), a third-year NUS Law student and CATPLI's Deputy Project Director, engaging his group of Thai participants in a spirited discussion on whether "less for the same" variations of contract should require consideration.*

The success of the in-person sessions underscores the deep institutional relationship between both NUS Law and TU Law. Indeed, as Dr Keerakiat Pratai (NUS PhD '23), a lecturer and the Deputy Director of the International Program at TU Law, noted in his opening remarks, CATPLI forms a part of a quadrumvirate of initiatives for TU Law students to interact with NUS Law students and learn more about the legal system and laws of Singapore. Observing that the current "high-level" relationship between NUS Law and TU Law commenced more than a decade ago, with NUS Law Pro Bono Group's "Thai-ed with Love", he added that it was his privilege to be in a position as an alumni of both institutions to expand the range and scope of collaborations between both, with CATPLI's Project Advisor Toh Ding Jun (NUS LLB '22) slated to convene a formal summer module at TU Law titled "An Introduction to Singapore Law" in June 2024 and a formal student exchange programme between both institutions to commence in August 2024. The former will allow TU Law students to formally learn about Singapore law; the latter will enable students of each institution to spend one semester at the other. At TU Law, he concluded, "we truly believe in collaboration between Singapore and Thailand ... given that Singapore is one of our closest economic partners".



*CATPLI's Project Directors, Kimmie Tan and Cham Jay Yin (both on the left), presenting a token of appreciation to Dr Keerakiat Pratai (NUS PhD '23) (right), the Deputy Director of International Programs at TU Law.*

The shift from the fully virtual format that characterised CATPLI's previous workshops in 2022 and 2023, to a hybrid format this year, where the first two sessions are held in-person, also emphasises the importance of physical interaction to augment international relationships in an increasingly volatile, post-pandemic socio-politico-economic environment. As Kimmie Tan, a fourth-year NUS Law student and CATPLI's Project Director, observed in her introductory remarks, the physical sessions allowed both



the Thai and Singapore students to form professional networks and forge close bonds – something that could not have previously been effectively done, when CATPLI was run virtually.



*NUS Law and TU Law students at the Museum Siam.*

As part of their cultural exchange, members of the Thammasat University Comparative Legal Studies (TUCLS) brought the NUS Law students to Wat Arun, a temple that has existed since at least the 17<sup>th</sup> century, as well as the Siam Museum, where they learnt about Thai national identity and history, as well as how Thailand's relationship with its immediate neighbours, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar. As fourth-year law student, Hu Yutong, puts it: *"The opportunity to experience a slice of Thai culture and history with the members of TUCLS made the whole experience even more meaningful. The members of TUCLS were very enthusiastic about sharing a part of their identity with us, and we had a lovely time learning from them."* Echoing her sentiments was third-year law student and CATPLI's Deputy Director, Iain Lin, who reflected that *"for all our cultural differences, Singapore and Thailand do share a lot in common"*. For example, he continued, *"the phrase "mai pen rai", which we learnt translates roughly to "it's okay" ... rarely means that things are alright – much like in Singapore, context and tone are key!"*



*A fun and educational day out at Wat Arun!*





*NUS Law students exploring the beautiful Tha Prachan campus.*

Since its launch during the pandemic in 2022, CATPLI has organised two virtual workshops introducing Singapore contract and company laws to Thai law students. It has also partnered with TUCLS to organise an inaugural workshop earlier this year, in January, titled “An Introduction to the Basics of Thai Contract Law”, for Singapore law students. A new initiative, the CATPLI Writing Project, where

students of NUS Law and TU Law collaborate to write various academic articles on specific aspects of Asian laws and legal systems, is due to be delivered later this year.

This is indeed an exciting time for CATPLI. Do watch this space!

For more information on CALS, please visit: <https://law.nus.edu.sg/cals/>.

For more information on CATPLI, please visit: <https://law.nus.edu.sg/cals/cals-tu-peer-learning-initiative/>.

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