Mukkarin Huang 2012: Causal Model Affecting Academic Achievement of Mandarin Chinese for Vocational Students. Doctor of Philosophy (Vocational Education), Major Field: Vocational Education, Department of Vocational Education. Thesis Advisor: Mrs. Suwanna Narkwiboonwong, Ed.D. 216 pages.

The objectives of the research were to analyze and examine causal model affecting academic achievement of Mandarin Chinese for vocational students. The study was correlational research used qualitative data and quantitative data. The samples were eight Chinese teachers collected as a qualitative method and 436 students collected as a quantitative method in vocational schools in 2011 academic year. The research instruments were structured questions and schedule questionnaire. The statistics used for data analysis were percentage, means, standard deviations, Pearson's product moment correlation, confirmatory factor analysis, structural equation model and content analysis. The research results showed that the causal structural relationship model was conformed to empirical data. (χ^2=73.63 df=82 p=.73 GFI=0.98 AGFI=0.96 RMR=0.01 RMSEA=0.00) The causal model revealed 40 percent on the variance of Mandarin Chinese academic achievement. The Mandarin Chinese academic achievement related to the factors as followed ; student characteristics, quality of teaching, teacher characteristics, and family status.

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