

Asian Studies

The School of Humanities and the School of Social Sciences

Director

Richard J. Smith

Professors

Anne C. Klein

Benjamin Lee

Stephen A. Tyler

Professor Emeritus

Fred R. von der Mehden

Associate Professor

Suchan Chae

Assistant Professors

Nanxiu Qian

Elora Shehabuddin

Sarah Thal

Senior Lecturers

Lilly C. H. Chen

Hiroko Sato

Lecturers

David Gray

Marshall McArthur

E. Douglas Mitchell

Steven Lewis

Rina V. Williams

Insun Yang

Meng Yeh

Degree Offered: B.A.

Asian studies is an interdisciplinary major that explores the complex interaction between political, social, religious, and other important spheres of human life in Asia. Emphasis is placed not only on the diversity and achievements of Asian civilizations but also on the ways an understanding of Asia may shed new light on Western cultural traditions. The major is built around courses in the humanities and social science divisions and a team-taught interdisciplinary core course, Introduction to Asian Civilizations. Some “Residential College Courses” may qualify for Asian studies credit.

Requirements: The undergraduate Asian studies major will consist of 30 hours or more of course work. All majors must take the core course, HUMA 211, and 9 additional courses drawn from at least three of the departments offering courses in Asian studies. (See specific guidelines below.)

Degree Requirements for B.A. in Asian Studies

For general university requirements, see Graduation Requirements (pages 16–18). Students majoring in Asian studies must complete 30 semester hours or more of major course work, including:

- HUMA 211 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations*
- 9 additional courses drawn from at least three of the departments offering courses in Asian studies (see below)
- 6 courses at the 300 level or above
- 2 years of Asian language (this may include Asian languages other than those offered by Rice), though students may count no more than four semesters of Asian languages toward the major.

Any changes in the requirements for the major must be approved by the director of Asian studies.

One or more independent reading courses (ASIA 401 for the fall and ASIA 402 for the spring) taught by Asian studies faculty in these departments may be counted toward the major. Students may also use certain residential college courses to fulfill their major requirements, subject to the approval of the director of Asian studies.

The following courses, not all of which are taught every year, may be used to satisfy the major requirements. Note that a number of these courses are cross-listed.

Anthropology

ANTH 220 *Contemporary China* (also offered as HIST 220)

ANTH 310 *Contemporary China* (enriched version of ANTH 220; also offered as HIST 310)

ANTH 353 *Cultures of India*

Asian Studies

ASIA 139 *Introduction to Indian Religions* (also offered as RELI 139)

ASIA 140 *Introduction to Chinese Religions* (also offered as RELI 140)

ASIA 211 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations*

ASIA 250 *Meditation, Mysticism, and Magic* (also offered as RELI 250)

ASIA 280 *The Asian American Experience* (also offered as ENGL 280)

ASIA 299 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as CHIN 299 and WGST 299)

ASIA 330 *Introduction to Traditional Chinese Poetry* (also offered as CHIN 330)

ASIA 332 *Chinese Films and Modern Chinese Literature* (also offered as CHIN 332)

ASIA 333 *Taiwan Literature and Film* (also offered as CHIN 333)

ASIA 334 *Introduction to Traditional Chinese Narrative* (also offered as CHIN 334)

ASIA 335 *Introduction to Classical Chinese Literature* (also offered as CHIN 335)

ASIA 344 *Korean Literature* (also offered as HUMA 344 and KORE 344)

ASIA 345 *Origin and Development of Korean and Related Languages in East Asia* (also offered as HUMA 345 and KORE 345)

ASIA 346 *Korean Culture and History* (also offered as KORE 346)

ASIA 380 *The Asian American Experience* (also offered as ENGL 359)

ASIA 360 *Transnational China: China and the Chinese Diaspora*

ASIA 401 and 402 *Independent Reading*

Chinese

CHIN 101 and 102 *Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture I and II*

CHIN 201 and 202 *Introduction to Chinese Language and Culture III and IV*

CHIN 211 and 212 *Accelerated Chinese Language and Culture I and II*

CHIN 299 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 299 and WGST 299)

CHIN 301 and 302 *Intermediate Chinese Language and Culture I and II*

CHIN 311 and 312 *Intermediate Accelerated Chinese Language and Culture I and II*

CHIN 330 *Introduction to Traditional Chinese Poetry* (also offered as ASIA 330)

CHIN 332 *Chinese Films and Modern Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 332)

CHIN 333 *Taiwan Literature and Film* (also offered as ASIA 333)

CHIN 334 *Introduction to Traditional Chinese Narrative* (also offered as ASIA 334)

CHIN 335 *Introduction to Classical Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 334)

CHIN 346 *History of the Chinese Language* (also offered as LING 346)

CHIN 399 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 299 and WGST 399)

CHIN 411 and 412 *Advanced Chinese Language and Culture I and II*

CHIN 431 and 432 *Readings in Classical Chinese Literature*

English

- ENGL 270 *Aspects of Modern Literature: Contemporary Themes in Asian American Literature*
 ENGL 280 *The Asian American Experience* (also offered as ASIA 280)
 ENGL 359 *The Asian American Experience* (also offered as ASIA 380)

History

- HIST 219 *Patterns of the Chinese Past*
 HIST 220 *Contemporary China* (also offered as ANTH 220)
 HIST 221 *Japanese History I: Early Japan to the Age of the Samurai*
 HIST 222 *Japanese History II: Modern Japan*
 HIST 250 *Traditional Chinese Culture*
 HIST 310 *Contemporary China* (enriched version of HIST 220; also offered as ANTH 310)
 HIST 341 *Pre-modern China*
 HIST 342 *Modern China*
 HIST 352 *The Comparative Modernization of China and Japan*
 HIST 369 *Film, Literature and the Japanese Past*
 HIST 405 *Issues in Comparative History*
 HIST 421 *Japanese History I: Early Japan to the Age of the Samurai* (enriched version of HIST 221)
 HIST 422 *Japanese History II: Modern Japan* (enriched version of HIST 222)
 HIST 448 *Creating Modern Japan: The Meiji Restoration*
 HIST 449 *Nation, Empire, and War: Japan in the 1930s*
 HIST 450 *Traditional Chinese Culture* (enriched version of HIST 250)

Japanese

- JAPA 101 and 102 *Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture I and II*
 JAPA 201 and 202 *Intermediate Japanese Language and Culture I and II*
 JAPA 301 and 302 *Advanced Japanese Reading and Composition I and II*

Korean

- KORE 101 and 102 *Introduction to Korean Language and Culture I and II*
 KORE 201 and 202 *Intermediate Korean Language and Culture I and II*
 KORE 301 and 302 *Advanced Korean I and II*
 KORE 344 *Korean Literature and Culture* (also offered as ASIA 344 and HUMA 344)
 KORE 345 *Origin and Development of Korean and Related Languages in East Asia* (also offered as LING 345 and ASIA 345)
 KORE 346 *Korean Culture and History* (also offered as ASIA 346)

Linguistics

- LING 345 *Linguistic Structure of Korean* (also offered as KORE 345)
 LING 346 *History of the Chinese Language* (also offered as CHIN 346)
 LING 351 and 352 *Introduction to Sanskrit I and II* (also offered as SANS 301 and 302)
 LING 440 *The Chinese Novel*
 LING 443 *Topics in Chinese Linguistics*

Political Science

- POLI 351 *Politics of Southeast Asia*
 POLI 460 *Seminar in Comparative Government*

Religious Studies

- RELI 132 *Classical and Colloquial Tibetan* (also offered as TIBT 132)
 RELI 139 *Introduction to Indian Religions* (also offered as ASIA 139)
 RELI 140 *Introduction to Chinese Religions* (also offered as ASIA 140)
 RELI 250 *Meditation, Mysticism, and Magic* (also offered as ASIA 250)
 RELI 322 *Introduction to Buddhism*
 RELI 325 *Buddhism and the Female*
 RELI 470 *Buddhist Wisdom Texts*
 RELI 471 *Buddhist Meditation Theory: Women and Men*
 RELI 532 *Classical and Colloquial Tibetan* (also offered as TIBT 132)
 RELI 570 *Buddhist Wisdom Texts* (graduate version of RELI 470)

RELI 571 *Buddhist Meditation Theory: Women and Men* (graduate version of RELI 471)

RELI 572 *Introduction to Buddhism* (graduate version of RELI 322)

Sanskrit

SANS 301 and 302 *Elementary Sanskrit I and II* (also offered as LING 351 and 352)

Tibetan

TIBT 132 *Classical and Colloquial Tibetan* (also offered as RELI 132)

TIBT 532 *Classical and Colloquial Tibetan* (also offered as RELI 532)

University and Residential College Courses

JONE 311 *Indian Society and Politics*

UNIV 118 *The Classic of Changes (I Ching) in Asian and World Culture*

Women and Gender Study

WGST 299 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 299 and CHIN 299)

WGST 399 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 399 and CHIN 399)

See ASIA (pages 262–265) in the Courses of Instruction section.