

Asian Studies

The School of Humanities and the School of Social Sciences

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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, ASIA 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 20–23). Students majoring in Asian studies must complete 30 semester hours or more of major course work, including:

- ASIA 211 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations*
- 9 additional courses drawn from at least three of the department or programs that offer courses with predominantly Asian content. In the case of cross-listed courses, any one of the departments or programs appearing in the cross-listing can be used to satisfy this particular requirement. See courses listed below.

- 6 courses at the 300 level or above
- 2 years of a single Asian language (this may include an Asian language other than those offered by Rice), though students may count no more than four semesters of Asian languages toward the major. Students who have placed into the third year (300-level) or higher of an Asian language at Rice will have satisfied our proficiency requirement for the Asian Studies major. Such students may continue with the same Asian language or another and receive up to four semesters of credit toward the major for this additional language coursework.

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*

Art and Art History

HART 170 *The Arts of China*

HART 470 *Visual Culture in Revolutionary & Post-revolutionary China (ca. 1949-present)* (also offered as ASIA 470)

HART 472 *Japanese Animation* (also offered as ASIA 472 and HIST 472)

HART 371 *The Brush & the Stroke in Traditional Chinese Painting* (also offered as ASIA 371)

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 179 *The Arts of China*

ASIA 211 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations* (Also listed as HIST 206)

ASIA 221 *The Life of the Prophet Muhammad* (also offered as RELI 221)

ASIA 231 *The Enlightenment of the Body* (also offered as RELI 231)

ASIA 240 *Gender and Politicized Religion* (also offered as WGST 240)

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

ASIA 280 *The Asian American Experience*

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

ASIA 323 *The Knowing Body: Buddhism, Gender, and the Social World* (also offered as WGST 323 and SOCI 323)

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 Novels* (also offered as CHIN 334)

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

ASIA 340 *Gender and Politicized Religion* (also offered as WGST 340)

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 354 *Asian Apocalyptic Movements* (also offered as RELI 354)
 ASIA 355 *Religion and Social Change in South Asia* (also offered as RELI 355)
 ASIA 360 *China and the Chinese Diaspora*
 ASIA 361 *The Oriental Renaissance* (also offered as RELI 361)
 ASIA 363 *Marriage of Heaven and Hell* (also offered as RELI 363)
 ASIA 365 *Mysticism and Meditation in China* (also offered as RELI 365)
 ASIA 366 *Topics in American Literature: The Asian American Novel* (also offered as ENGL 366, only when the topic is *The Asian American Novel*)
 ASIA 369 *Film, Literature, and the Japanese Past* (also offered as HIST 369)
 ASIA 372 *Survey of Asian American Literature* (also offered as ENGL 372)
 ASIA 380 *The Asian American Experience*
 ASIA 399 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as WGST 399)
 ASIA 401/402 *Independent Reading*
 ASIA 432 *Islam in South Asia* (also offered as HIST 432 and WGST 432)
 ASIA 441 *Popular Religion in the Middle East* (also offered as RELI 441/525)
 ASIA 470 *Visual Culture in Revolutionary & Post-revolutionary China (ca. 1949-present)* (also offered as HART 470)
 ASIA 472 *Japanese Animation* (also offered as HART 472, HIST 472)
 ASIA 473 *Topics in Asian American Literature* (also offered as ENGL 473)
 ASIA 489 *Migrations and Diasporas*

Chinese

- CHIN 101/102 *Introductory Chinese I and II*
 CHIN 201/202 *Elementary Chinese I and II*
 CHIN 211/212 *Accelerated Elementary Chinese I and II*

- CHIN 203/204 *Accelerated Chinese I and II*
 CHIN 301/302 *Intermediate Chinese I and II*
 CHIN 311/312 *Accelerated Intermediate Chinese I and II*
 CHIN 313 *Advanced Intermediate Chinese: Media Chinese*
 CHIN 321 *Structure of Chinese Syntax & Semantics* (also offered as LING 321)
 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 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 *Chinese Teaching Practicum*
 CHIN 411/412 *Advanced Chinese Language and Culture I and II*

English

- ENGL 270 *Aspects of Modern Literature: Contemporary Themes in Asian American Literature*
 ENGL 366 *Topics in American Literature: The Asian American Novel* (cross-listed with ASIA 366 only when the topic is "*The Asian American Novel*")
 ENGL 372 *Survey of Asian American Literature* (also offered as ASIA 372)
 ENGL 473 *Topics in Asian American Literature* (also offered as ASIA 473)

Hindi

- HIND 101/102 *Elementary Hindi I and II*
 HIND 201/202 *Intermediate Hindi I and II*
 HIND 335 *South Asian Literature*
 HIND 398/399 *Hindi Teaching Practicum*

History

- HIST 206 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations*
 HIST 219 *Patterns of the Chinese Past*
 HIST 220 *Contemporary China* (also offered as ANTH 220)
 HIST 221 *Japan in the World Until 1800*
 HIST 222 *Japan in the World Since 1800*
 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* (also offered as ASIA 369)
 HIST 405 *Issues in Comparative History*
 HIST 421 *Japan in the World Until 1800* (enriched version of HIST 221)
 HIST 422 *Japan in the World Since 1800* (enriched version of HIST 222)
 HIST 432 *Islam in South Asia* (also offered as ASIA 432 and WGST 432)
 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)
 HIST 472 *Japanese Animation* (also offered as ASIA 472 and HART 472)
 HIST 485 *Comparing Histories: Modernization, War, and Society in Germany and Japan*

Japanese

- JAPA 101/102 *Introduction to Japanese I and II*
 JAPA 201/202 *Intermediate Japanese I and II*
 JAPA 301/302 *Advanced Japanese Reading and Composition I and II*
 JAPA 398/399 *Japanese Teaching Practicum*
 JAPA 498/499 *Independent Study*

Korean

- KORE 101/102 *Introduction to Korean Language and Culture I and II*
 KORE 201/202 *Intermediate Korean Language and Culture I and II*
 KORE 301/302 *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)

Vietnamese

- JONE 131 *Elementary Vietnamese Language and Culture*
 JONE 279 *Intermediate Vietnamese Language and Culture*

Linguistics

- LING 321 *Structure of Chinese Syntax & Semantics* (also offered as CHIN 321)
 LING 345 *Linguistic Structure of Korean* (also offered as KORE 345)
 LING 346 *History of the Chinese Language* (also offered as CHIN 346)
 LING 351/352 *Introduction to Sanskrit I and II* (also offered as SANS 301 and 302)
 LING 451/452 *Advanced Sanskrit I and II* (also offered as SANS 401 and 402)

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 221 *The Life of the Prophet Muhammad* (also offered as ASIA 221)
- RELI 231 *The Enlightenment of the Body* (also offered as ASIA 231)
- RELI 250 *Meditation, Mysticism, and Magic* (also offered as ASIA 250)
- RELI 322 *Introduction to Buddhism*
- RELI 325 *Buddhism and the Female*
- RELI 354 *Asian Apocalyptic Movements* (also offered as ASIA 354)
- RELI 355 *Religion and Social Change in South Asia* (also offered as ASIA 355)
- RELI 361 *The Oriental Renaissance* (also offered as ASIA 361)
- RELI 363 *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* (also offered as ASIA 363)
- RELI 365 *Mysticism and Meditation in China* (also offered as ASIA 365)
- RELI 441/525 *Popular Religion in the Middle East* (also offered as ASIA 441)
- RELI 470 *Buddhist Wisdom Texts*
- RELI 471 *Buddhist Meditation Theory: Women and Men*

Sanskrit

- SANS 301/302 *Elementary Sanskrit I and II* (also offered as LING 351 and 352)
- SANS 401/402 *Advanced Sanskrit I and II* (also offered as LING 451 and 452)

Sociology

- SOCI 323 *The Knowing Body: Buddhism, Gender, and the Social World* (also offered as ASIA 323 and WGST 323)

Tibetan

- TIBT 132 *Tibetan Language and Culture I* (also offered as RELI 132)
- TIBT 133 *Tibetan Language and Culture II* (also offered as RELI 133)
- TIBT 331 *Advanced Tibetan Language and Culture*

University and Residential College Courses

- JONE 135 *Vietnamese Language & Culture*
- JONE 279 *Intermediate Vietnamese Language and Culture*
- JONE 311 *Indian Society and Politics*
- UNIV 118 *The Classic of Changes (I Ching) in Asian and World Culture*

Women and Gender Study

- WGST 240 *Gender and Politicized Religion* (also offered as ASIA 240)
- WGST 299 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 299 and CHIN 299)
- WGST 323 *The Knowing Body: Buddhism, Gender, and the Social World* (also offered as ASIA 323 and SOCI 323)
- WGST 340 *Gender and Politicized Religion* (also offered as ASIA 240)
- WGST 399 *Women in Chinese Literature* (also offered as ASIA 399 and CHIN 399)
- WGST 432 *Islam in South Asia* (also offered as ASIA 432 and HIST 432)

See ASIA in the Courses of Instruction section.