Asian Studies

The School of Humanities and the School of Social Sciences

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Degree Offered: B.A.

This major encourages students to explore a variety of Asian cultures, past and present, from a number of different disciplinary perspectives. Our goal is not only to convey a sense of the richness, diversity, and complex interaction of Asian civilizations but also to show how an understanding of Asia may shed valuable light on Western cultural traditions. The major consists of courses from the schools of the Humanities and Social Sciences, including language classes in Chinese, Japanese, Sanskrit, Korean, and Tibetan. A team-taught interdisciplinary course, HUMA 111/211 Introduction to Asian Civilizations, serves as the core of the major.

Requirements: The undergraduate Asian Studies major will consist of 30 hours or more of course work. All majors must take the core course, HUMA 111/211 (also offered as ASIA 211, HIST 206 and RELI 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 17–19). Students majoring in Asian studies must complete 30 semester hours or more of major course work, including:

• HUMA 111/211 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
• Two 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.

Students may count toward the major one or more independent reading courses (ASIA 401 for the fall and ASIA 402 for the spring) taught by Asian studies faculty in the departments below. 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 Chinese Culture (also offered as HIST 220)
ANTH 310 Contemporary Chinese Culture (enriched version of ANTH 220; also offered as HIST 310)
ANTH 353 Cultures of India

**Asian Studies**
ASIA 211 Introduction to Asian Civilizations (also offered as HIST 206, HUMA 111/211, and RELI 212)
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 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 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 203 and 204 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 334 Introduction to Traditional Chinese Narrative (also offered as ASIA 334)
CHIN 335 Introduction to Classical Chinese Literature (also offered as ASIA 334)
CHIN 403 Reading Chinese Newspapers
CHIN 404 Reading Chinese Magazines
CHIN 411 and 412 Advanced Chinese Language and Culture I and II
CHIN 431 and 432 Readings in Classical Chinese Literature

**History**
HIST 206 Introduction to Asian Civilizations (also offered as ASIA 211, HUMA 111/211, and RELI 212)
HIST 219 Patterns of the Chinese Past
HIST 220 Contemporary Chinese Culture (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 Chinese Culture (enriched version of HIST 220; also offered as ANTH 310)
HIST 341 Early Chinese History
HIST 342 Modern Chinese History
HIST 352 The Comparative Modernization of China and Japan
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 450 Traditional Chinese Culture (enriched version of HIST 250)

**History of Art and Architecture**
HART 209 Introduction to Asian Art
HART 361 Arts of China
HART 365 Arts of Japan
HART 482 Buddhism: Art and Faith
**Humanities**

HUMA 111/211 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations* (also offered as HIST 206 and RELI 211)

**Japanese**

JAPA 101 and 102 *Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture I and II*
JAPA 201 and 202 *Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture III and IV*
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 *Introduction to Korean Language and Culture III and IV*
KORE 301 and 302 *Advanced Korean I and II*
KORE 344 *Korean Literature* (also offered as ASIA 344 and HUMA 344)
KORE 345 *Linguistic Structure of Korean* (also offered as LING 345)

**Linguistics**

LING 345 *Linguistic Structure of Korean* (also offered as KORE 345)
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 353 *Reforms in Post-Mao China*
POLI 460 *Seminar in Comparative Government*

**Religious Studies**

RELI 211 *Introduction to Asian Civilizations* (also offered as ASIA 211, HIST 206, and HUMA 111/211)
RELI 322 *Introduction to Buddhism*
RELI 325 *Buddhism and the Female*
RELI 330 *Introduction to the Tibetan Language* (also offered as TIBT 330)
RELI 470 *Buddhist Wisdom Texts*
RELI 471 *Buddhist Meditation Theory*
RELI 532 *Introduction to the Tibetan Language* (also offered as TIBT 532)
RELI 570 *Buddhist Wisdom Texts* (enriched version of RELI 470)
RELI 571 *Buddhist Meditation Theory* (enriched version of RELI 471)
RELI 572 *Introduction to Buddhism* (enriched version of RELI 322)

**Sanskrit**

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

**Tibetan**

TIBT 330 *Introduction to the Tibetan Language* (also offered as RELI 330)
TIBT 532 *Introduction to the Tibetan Language* (also offered as RELI 532)

See ASIA (page 263–264) in the Courses of Instruction section.