ASIAN STUDIES

Contact Information

Asian Studies
https://chaocenter.rice.edu/
205 Mechanical Laboratory
713-348-5843

Sonia Ryang
Director, Chao Center
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The undergraduate Asian Studies program offers a comprehensive overview of the geography, history, people and their movements, and cultures of Asia. At the same time, the program is structured to train its students as strong researchers.

Bachelor’s Program

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in Asian Studies (https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/Asian-Studies/Asian-Studies-ba/)

Asian Studies does not currently offer an academic program at the graduate level.

Director

Sonia Ryang

Associate Directors and Advisors

Haejin E. Koh
Steven W. Lewis

Professors

Tani E. Barlow
Dominic C. Boyer
Shih-Hui Chen
Krista Comer
David Cook
Elaine Howard Ecklund
Anne C. Klein
Jeffrey J. Kripal
Melissa J. Marschall
William B. Parsons
Nanxiu Qian
Sayuri Guthrie Shimizu
Kamala Visweswaran

Associate Professors

Lisa A. Balabanliar
Songying Fang
Shih-Shan Susan Huang
Betty Joseph
Elora Shehabuddin
Kerry R. Ward

Assistant Professor

Zoë Wool

Teaching Professor

Meng Yeh

Professor in the Practice

Steven W. Lewis

Lecturers

Ali Al-Maqtari
Liang Fu
Larisa Moskvitina
Naoko Ozaki
Jayoung Song
Hiromi Takayama

Adjunct Lecturer

Anne Chao

Postdoctoral Fellows

Ka-Kin Cheuk
Eric Huntington
Alex J.S. Lee

For Rice University degree-granting programs:
To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata/)
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)

Asian Studies (ASIA)

ASIA 212 - PERSPECTIVES ON MODERN ASIA
Short Title: PERSPECTIVES ON MODERN ASIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group II
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: A team-taught interdisciplinary course focusing on the political, social and economic forces that are shaping the lives of the nearly one half of the world’s population that lives in Asia. Provides a selective, in-depth look at certain important areas of East, Southeast and South Asia that reflect larger themes and problems. Cross-list: ANTH 212.
ASIA 218 - HISTORY THROUGH FILM IN EAST AND NORTHEAST ASIA  
**Short Title:** EAST/NORTHEAST ASIA FILM HIST  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** Can we learn history by analyzing movies? Using documentary and feature films from Asian film culture's beginnings, we view 19th-20th century Chinese, Japanese, and Korean history. Collective in-class film viewing, discussion and reading required. Cross-list: FILM 218, HIST 218.

ASIA 221 - THE LIFE OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD  
**Short Title:** LIFE OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** This course will examine the life of the Prophet Muhammad, focusing on its significance for Muslims and for non-Muslims. Readings in The Qur'an, Ibn Hisham, and Haykal. Cross-list: RELI 221.

ASIA 222 - THE WORLD AND SOUTH ASIA  
**Short Title:** WORLD AND SOUTH ASIA  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** Introduction to important 20th and 21st-century writers in English from South Asia - the region that includes India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Readings include award-winning and bestselling works (fiction and non-fiction) by writers who address a wide range of issues including national and cultural identity, colonialism, sexuality, religion, globalization and political violence. Cross-list: ENGL 222.  
**Course URL:** [www.english.rice.edu](http://www.english.rice.edu)  

ASIA 227 - MODERN KOREA: HISTORY, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY  
**Short Title:** MODERN KOREA  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** This course aims to introduce students to modern Korean culture and society from a historical perspective. The course will map the historical and geopolitical elements that have shaped the national identity and mentalities to help students better understand the transformation of Korean society as the world order changed. Counts as HIST credit.

ASIA 230 - ASIAN RELIGIONS IN AMERICA  
**Short Title:** ASIAN RELIGIONS IN AMERICA  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** A survey course on Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Jainism in America, from the colonial period to the present, with a special focus on American metaphysical religion, the counterculture, the New Age, and the history of Western Colonialism, transcultural encounter, translation and immigration. Cross-list: RELI 230.

ASIA 231 - AMERICAN METAPHYSICAL RELIGION  
**Short Title:** AMERICAN METAPHYSICAL RELIGION  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** Beginning with a historical survey of the American metaphysical tradition, this course turns to a close study of the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, California, as a unique window into some of the different ways the tradition has appropriated Asian religions, psychological models of the unconscious, and contemporary scientific paradigms. Cross-list: RELI 231.

ASIA 232 - RELIGIONS FROM INDIA  
**Short Title:** RELIGIONS FROM INDIA  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** This course will survey the religions of India, namely Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, Islam, and Sikhism. Emphasis will be placed on the study of scriptures of these traditions and their continuing global relevance, particularly in American history and culture. Cross-list: RELI 232.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<th>Department</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Internship/Practicum, Lecture, Seminar</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.</td>
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<td>DISCOVER ASIA IN HOUSTON</td>
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<td>Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.</td>
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<td>HUMAN MOBILITY IN ASIA-PACIFIC</td>
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<td>ASIA 314</td>
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<td>RELIGION IN MODERN SOUTH ASIA</td>
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<td>Standard</td>
<td>Lecture</td>
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<td>Seminar</td>
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<td>INTERPERSONAL RELATIONSHIP IN ASIA</td>
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<td>ASIA 325</td>
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<td>Asian Studies</td>
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**Description:**

- **ASIA 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Lecture, Seminar
  - Credit Hours: 1-4
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

- **ASIA 251 - SEX, MONEY, AND POWER AROUND THE WORLD**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Lecture
  - Credit Hours: 3
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: An interdisciplinary course exploring lives and well-being in the context of gendered international and domestic politics and economic processes. Emphasis on the implications of power relations at levels from the household to the global for women and men around the world (with particular attention to Asia). Cross-list: POLI 250, SWGS 250.

- **ASIA 295 - INTRODUCTION TO TRANSNATIONAL ASIAN STUDIES**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Lecture
  - Credit Hours: 3
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: As a gateway course for the Asian Studies major, Introduction to Transnational Asia is designed to give students diverse perspectives of learning about Asia. The course combines lecture, historical and contemporary textual analysis, group study, mini research project, and presentation.

- **ASIA 299 - DISCOVER ASIA IN HOUSTON**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Seminar
  - Credit Hour: 1
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: The goal of this course is to help students learn about others' cultures, leading them to critically reflect on their own culture. Through readings, audio-visual and hands-on materials, guest lectures, and field trips, students are exposed to diverse cultures of Asia in Houston. International students and domestic students are paired to form a team for the final presentation. Department Permission Required.

- **ASIA 303 - ASIA ON THE MOVE: GENDER, SEXUALITY, AND GLOBAL MIGRATION**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Seminar
  - Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
  - Credit Hours: 3
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: An interdisciplinary course exploring the contemporary lived experiences of migrants from Asia. We will analyze how gender and sexuality shape patterns of migration, the regulation of mobilities, and citizenship and belonging. This course focuses on the critical role of colonialism and contemporary globalization in shaping Asian migrations.

- **ASIA 304 - HUMAN MOBILITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Lecture
  - Credit Hours: 3
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: This course introduces students to the cross-disciplinary study of human mobility in the Asia-Pacific. IntrA-Asia flows of people will be examined in order to trace their multifaceted implications. On completing the course, students should be able to present their own thinking on complex issues related to global migration.

- **ASIA 314 - RELIGION, IDENTITY, AND NATION IN MODERN SOUTH ASIA**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Lecture
  - Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
  - Credit Hours: 3
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: This course examines how religion has emerged to define collective identities of modern nation states in South Asia. It will delineate how Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam were conceptualized in colonial period and how they have influenced the shaping of identities of post-colonial nations. Case studies from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka will be discussed in detail.

- **ASIA 315 - GENDER AND ISLAM**
  - Department: Asian Studies
  - Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  - Course Type: Seminar
  - Credit Hours: 3
  - Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  - Description: Explores the lives of Muslim women in Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and North America; analyzes constructions of gender in the Islamic world overtime; the challenges faced from such diverse quarters as colonial administrators, Western feminists, and states; as well as movements and individuals within the Muslim world. Cross-list: RELI 315, SWGS 315.
of environment and capitalism in the Asia-Pacific region. This seminar seeks to answer this question by providing a critical examination of these issues. Environmental issues in China dominate news headlines, and thorough may are unfamiliar with the on-the-ground situation in China. This course will examine the current state of the environment in China from a variety of perspectives including those of the state, local communities, and new campaigns to create an “ecological civilization.”

ASIA 317 - ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY IN CHINA: SEARCHING FOR ECOLOGICAL CIVILIZATION
Short Title: ENVIRONMENT & SOCIETY IN CHINA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Environmental issues in China dominate news headlines, thorough may are unfamiliar with the on-the-ground situation in China. This course will examine the current state of the environment in China from a variety of perspectives including those of the state, local communities, and new campaigns to create an “ecological civilization.”

ASIA 318 - ASIA-PACIFIC: NATURE, CULTURE AND POWER FROM COLONIALISM TO 21ST CENTURY CAPITALISM
Short Title: ASIA: NATURE, CULTURE, & POWER
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: In the Asia-Pacific, colonialism decimated the environment, yet under national independence many countries now experience even worse environmental degradation. What then does the future hold? This seminar seeks to answer this question by providing a critical examination of environment and capitalism in the Asia-Pacific region.
ASIA 327 - CINEMA AND MOBILITY IN 20TH CENTURY EAST ASIA  
**Short Title:** CINEMA & MOBILITY: EAST ASIA  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** This course examines the ensemble of modern transportation systems and cinema as a junction point that allows a comprehensive theoretical model of modernity in East Asia, by applying theories of visuality and mobilities.

ASIA 328 - MODERN GIRL AND ASIA IN THE WORLD  
**Short Title:** MOD GIRL & ASIA IN THE WORLD  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** Using the textbook 'The Modern Girl Around the World,' this course examines the phenomenon of the so-called modern girl in Asia and the world, 1890-1949. Topics include: modernity, consumer culture, sexuality, and liberation. Cross-list: HIST 384, SWGS 384.

ASIA 330 - INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL CHINESE POETRY  
**Short Title:** INTRO TO TRAD CHINESE POETRY  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** This course seeks to decode enchanting features of traditional Chinese poetry through examining the transformation of poetic genres, the interaction between poetic creation and political, social and cultural changes, and the close association of poetry with art. Thus, this course also serves to understand Chinese culture and history through poetic perspectives. All readings in English translation. Cross-list: CHIN 330, MDEM 370.

ASIA 332 - CHINESE LITERATURE AND ITS MOVIE ADAPTATIONS  
**Short Title:** FILM & CHINESE LITERATURE  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** Exploration of modern Chinese literature through the visual imagery of Chinese films to show how and why different time periods and different media affect the theme of a story. One third covers movie adaptations of classical Chinese literature. Films subtitled in English, shown outside of class. All readings in English translation. Cross-list: CHIN 332.

ASIA 334 - TRADITIONAL CHINESE TALES AND SHORT STORIES  
**Short Title:** TRADITIONAL CHINESE TALES  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** Learning Chinese literature and culture through reading vernacular stories, fantastic tales, biographies, and philosophical parables. Discussion topics: literature and Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism; literature and history; self and other; fantastic world and reality; women as domestic aliens and aliens portrayed as women, etc. Readings are in English translation. Cross-list: CHIN 334.

ASIA 335 - INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS  
**Short Title:** CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** Examination of the basic characteristics of classical Chinese novels, primarily through six important works from the 16th to 18th centuries: Water Margin, Monkey, Golden Lotus, Scholars, Romance of the Three Kingdoms, and Dream of the Red Chamber. Cross-list: CHIN 335, MDEM 375.

ASIA 337 - GEOGRAPHIES OF RELIGION IN SOUTH ASIA  
**Short Title:** GEOGRAPHIES OF RELI IN S ASIA  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** This course examines fundamental concepts of South Asian religious geography in a variety of historical periods and from diverse theoretical approaches. Using early texts, contemporary ethnographies, and numerous objects of visual and material culture, we explore diverse religious experiences of landscape in Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism.

ASIA 338 - BIOETHICS AND INDIAN TRADITIONS  
**Short Title:** BIOETHICS & INDIAN TRADITIONS  
**Department:** Asian Studies  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Lecture  
**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level  
**Description:** We will examine western normative ethical theories alongside key concepts in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism regarding definitions of life, death, consciousness, autonomy, disability, pain/pleasure, and how to make decisions in issues such as animal research, disorders of consciousness, abortion, and assisted suicide, among others.
ASIA 339 - CONSCIOUSNESS FROM INDIAN TRADITIONS TO MODERN SCIENCE
Short Title: CONSCIOUSNESS, INDIA, SCIENCE
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course explores consciousness from ancient Indian philosophies (Jain, Buddhist, and Samkhya-Yoga), alongside western concepts of consciousness from Pythagoras to modern neuroscience and animal consciousness, touching briefly upon Judeo-Christian and Taoist concepts. 2-3 guest speakers will aid our investigation.

ASIA 349 - URBAN LAB ISTANBUL
Short Title: URBAN LAB ISTANBUL
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): POLI 355 (may be taken concurrently) or POLI 362 (may be taken concurrently) or POLI 464 (may be taken concurrently) or POLI 562 (may be taken concurrently)
Description: This course examines the dynamics of urban politics and policy in an emerging global city - Istanbul. In addition to social, political and economic issues, we will also focus on history, culture, language, architecture and the arts. Weekly class sessions will include lectures, case studies, guest lecturers, and group work on research projects. The lab also features an 8-day field research trip to Istanbul. Prerequisites may be taken in the same semester as POLI 349/ASIA 349. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: POLI 349.

ASIA 353 - EAST ASIAN DEMOCRACIES
Short Title: EAST ASIAN DEMOCRACIES
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group II
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course examines the functioning of the political system in the three principal East Asian democracies: Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. Particular focus is paid to each country’s democratic institutions, electoral politics, and political party system. Cross-list: POLI 353.

ASIA 355 - CINEMA AND THE CITY
Short Title: CINEMA AND THE CITY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This class explores representations of the city in 20th and 21st century world cinema. Central concerns will include the city as cinematic protagonist, parallels between urban and cinematic space and the intertwined histories of both film and urban design over the last century. Cross-list: FILM 336, HART 336.

ASIA 357 - ALGORITHMIC CULTURES IN ASIA
Short Title: ALGORITHMIC CULTURES IN ASIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Algorithms are a series of step-by-step instructions in a procedure that finishes and which is shown to work in all cases. This course addresses the formation of algorithmic cultures through the domains of digitality and ontology in South Asia and the Middle East. It introduces students to the concepts of algorithmic neutrality, discrimination, management and governance. The course explores how deep-learning algorithms may undergird an intensification of surveillance and securitization technologies with profound effects on human and post-human futures.

ASIA 360 - TRANSNATIONAL CHINA: CHINA AND THE CHINESE DIASPORA
Short Title: CHINA AND THE CHINESE DIASPORA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Exploration of the political, economic, and social forces changing the lives of nearly a quarter of humanity, the 1.4 billion people of Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and the diasporic Chinese communities of East and Southeast Asia. Topics include political and economic liberalization, nationalism and urban identity, privatization and consumerism, environmentalism and public goods, and the globalization of communication technologies and Chinese cultural media.
Course URL: http://www.owlnet.rice.edu/~swlewis/asia360/
ASIA 371 - CHINESE PAINTING
Short Title: CHINESE PAINTING
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course examines Chinese painting from ancient times to the early twentieth century. Issues of examination include themes, styles, and functions of Chinese painting; the interrelationship between paintings and the intended viewers; regionalism; images and words; foreign elements in Chinese painting. Cross-list: HART 371.

ASIA 372 - CHINESE ART AND VISUAL CULTURE
Short Title: CHINESE ART AND VISUAL CULTURE
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: In this course, we will study how various artistic styles developed in historical, social, and cultural contexts from the ancient period to the present day. Through the careful examination of architecture, calligraphy, painting, sculpture, ceramics, bronze, and film, students will gain a deeper understanding of Chinese art and visual culture. Cross-list: HART 372, MDEM 373.

ASIA 376 - EAST & WEST: MEDIEVAL VISUAL CULTURE IN CHINA AND NORTHERN EUROPE
Short Title: EAST AND WEST
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course explores a series of issues that are critically important for the medieval art of both China and northern Europe. Topics include materials and techniques; public and private art: commerce, technology and prints; art and motion; archaeology; paradise and hell; maps and space; the gaze; erotica; patronage; and multiculturalism. Cross-list: HART 376, MDEM 376.

ASIA 378 - CLASSICAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND CROSS-CULTURAL ASIAN MUSIC
Short Title: CROSS-CULTURAL ASIAN MUSIC
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will focus on traditional and contemporary art music from Asia. The classroom lectures are designed to introduce and accompany one or two events which will include live performances, workshops, lectures by invited performers and scholars. This course may be repeated since each year the countries and invited guest performers/scholars will represent different geographical areas. Cross-list: MUSI 378. Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 387 - ASIAN AMERICAN CONTEMPORARY COMMUNITIES
Short Title: ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This interdisciplinary course will investigate the diverse cultural traditions and shared experiences of Asian Americans in the United States. By analyzing historical works, literary texts, and films, we will explore a range of topics including Asian immigration, gender roles, identity formation, and ethnic media. Cross-list: ANTH 387.

ASIA 389 - INDIAN OCEAN WORLD HISTORY
Short Title: INDIAN OCEAN WORLD HISTORY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: The Indian Ocean World presents an enormously varied arena of cultural exchange and interaction spanning coastal regions of Africa, the Middle East, South and Southeast Asia and Australia. Course introduces the region by examining societies and empires shaped by voyages of exploration, religious pilgrimages, trading diasporas and forced migration. Cross-list: HIST 389.
ASIA 390 - THE LANGUAGES OF ASIA
Short Title: THE LANGUAGES OF ASIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): LING 200 or ANTH 200
Description: This course surveys the remarkable linguistic diversity of the Pacific Rim Asia covering important grammatical features, including word origins, tones and sounds, writing systems, characteristic syntactic patterns, language families, cultural keywords and communicative styles of the major, as well as some minority languages of the region. Cross-list: LING 390. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites as listed or 3 courses in Chinese, Japanese or Korean with special permission.

ASIA 399 - WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE
Short Title: WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course examines women's roles in Chinese literature as writers, readers, and characters, focusing particularly on the tension between women's lived bodily experiences and the cultural experiences inscribed on the female body and how, in the process, women have contrarily gendered patriarchal culture into their own. It will also touch on Chinese women's incorporation of the Western Tradition. Cross-list: MDEM 379, SWGS 399.

ASIA 401 - INDEPENDENT STUDY
Short Title: INDEPENDENT STUDY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-15
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Reading or research project to be determined by discussions between student(s) and faculty member(s). Department Permission Required.

ASIA 402 - INDEPENDENT STUDY
Short Title: INDEPENDENT STUDY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-15
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Reading or research project to be determined by discussions between student(s) and faculty member(s). Department Permission Required.

ASIA 422 - THE ORIGINAL BEAUTY OF CHINESE LITERATURE
Short Title: ORIGINAL BEAUTY OF CHINESE LIT
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: The course will expose students to the best literary works created in the Chinese tradition, both classical and modern, and give them a general introduction to different genres, including poetry, fiction, drama, and philosophical essays. It will improve their language proficiency through reading original texts of Chinese literature. Cross-list: CHIN 422.

ASIA 441 - MAGIC AND POPULAR RELIGION
Short Title: MAGIC & POPULAR RELIGION
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will examine the popular religion in the Middle East from Late Antiquity until the 19th century, focusing on healing practices, astrology, protection, amulets, seasoned/life-cycle rituals, and other popular beliefs common to Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. Cross-list: RELI 441.

ASIA 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Lecture, Seminar, Laboratory
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 488 - ASIA AND ENERGY
Short Title: ASIA AND ENERGY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Multi-disciplinary study of Asian countries and cultures as to a way to explain production, exchange, consumption and influence of energy on political, economic and social/cultural institutions, including energy security and energy policy formation and resource use theories. Assumes basic knowledge of history and politics of Asian societies and economies.
ASIA 489 - CHINESE POLITICS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE  
Short Title: CHINESE POLITICS  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course explores the range of theories and empirical research methodologies from comparative political science, political-economy and Asian studies commonly applied to understanding Chinese politics: political participation, political organizations, collective action and popular protest, political culture and political institutional change. This course will be a seminar requiring weekly presentations, extensive readings at the graduate level in social science, and an original research paper. There is no prerequisite for this course but participants are assumed to already possess extensive knowledge of Chinese history, culture and society. Cross-list: POLI 489.  

ASIA 494 - SPECIAL TOPICS IN ASIAN STUDIES  
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS ASIAN STUDIES  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This seminar course explores various cultural topics, not covered in other Asia courses, in Asian studies. The fields may include history, film, linguistics, sociology as well as other fields in the humanities and social sciences. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.  

ASIA 495 - ASIAN STUDIES RESEARCH SEMINAR  
Short Title: ASIAN STUDIES RESEARCH SEM  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: This course will be a seminar requiring weekly presentations, extensive readings at the graduate level in social science, and an original research paper. There is no prerequisite for this course but participants are assumed to already possess extensive knowledge of Chinese history, culture and society. Cross-list: POLI 489.  

ASIA 511 - PRO-SEMINAR ON ADVANCED TRANSNATIONAL ASIAN STUDIES  
Short Title: PROSEMINAR ASIAN STUDIES  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: This course is targeted to be the MA gateway course. This course covers a broad range of topics and debates which have marked the tradition of Asian Studies as well as contemporary scholarship. As the course will cover areas and topics beyond students’ immediate thesis subjects, it will equip students with the breadth of reference points befitting a graduate degree holder in Asian Studies. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.  

ASIA 521 - ADVANCED READING AND WRITING IN ASIAN STUDIES  
Short Title: ADV ASIAN READING & WRITING  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Independent Study  
Credit Hours: 4  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: This course requires students to closely read and thoroughly comprehend a substantial amount of text written in Asian language(s). By so doing, the course will help students to: 1) refine translation and comprehension skills and 2) understand how to select and logically reference Asian-language texts for their research. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.  

ASIA 531 - ASIAN STUDIES METHODOLOGY SEMINAR I  
Short Title: METHODOLOGY SEMINAR I  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: The purpose of this course is to 1) introduce students to a wide range of humanistic and social scientific research methods and their theoretical implications, and 2) offer students practice in a method of their own choice on a mini-research practicum. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.  

ASIA 532 - ASIAN STUDIES METHODOLOGY SEMINAR II  
Short Title: METHODOLOGY SEMINAR II  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: The purpose of this course is to 1) introduce students to a wide range of humanistic and social scientific research methods and their theoretical implications, and 2) offer students practice in a method of their own choice on a mini-research practicum. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.  

ASIA 551 - ADVANCED FIELD RESEARCH  
Short Title: ADVANCED FIELD RESEARCH  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Research  
Credit Hours: 6  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.  
Course Level: Graduate  
Description: In this course, students will learn to gather data first hand either by ethnographic fieldwork or by primary archival source research. Department Permission Required.
ASIA 537 - GEOGRAPHIES OF RELIGION IN SOUTH ASIA
Short Title: GEOGRAPHIES OF RELI IN S ASIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course examines fundamental concepts of South Asian religious geography in a variety of historical periods and from diverse theoretical approaches. Using early texts, contemporary ethnographies, and numerous objects of visual and material culture, we explore diverse religious experiences of landscape in Buddhism, Hinduism, and Jainism. The graduate course requires the final research paper to be about twice as long as the final research paper in the undergraduate course (5,000 vs. 2,100-2,700 words).

ASIA 541 - THESIS RESEARCH IN ASIAN STUDIES
Short Title: THESIS RESEARCH: ASIAN STUDIES
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Research
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: This course is designed to guide students to identify the most optimal topic of research/thesis proportionate to their interest as well as ability, Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 551 - ASIAN STUDIES GRADUATE SEMINAR
Short Title: ASIAN STUDIES GRADUATE SEMINAR
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: In this course, students will learn to present their research in an exciting broadly persuasive manner to a mixed audience. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 561 - THESIS WRITING: INDEPENDENT STUDY IN ASIAN STUDIES
Short Title: THESIS WRITINGS: IND STUDY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 6
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: A continuation of ASIA 541, this course is designed to guide students in writing a complete thesis on their chosen topic proportionate to their interest as well as ability. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 677 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory, Internship/Practicum
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate or Visiting Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 695 - ASIAN STUDIES RESEARCH SEMINAR
Short Title: ASIAN STUDIES RESEARCH SEM
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
Description: To elevate the knowledge on Asia acquired by AS majors in their undergraduate years to a graduate level with more depth and focus, and to train AS majors in designing and executing their original research and offer them an opportunity to produce a substantial research paper based on bibliographic research and other forms of data-gathering. In 695 (vs. 495), students will be assigned one additional reading per week throughout the semester. Department Permission Required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 495. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for ASIA 695 if student has credit for ASIA 495. Repeatable for Credit.

Description and Code Legend
Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

• Course Catalog/Schedule
  • Course offerings/subject: ASIA

• Program Description and Code
  • Asian Studies: ASIA

• Undergraduate Degree Description and Code
  • Bachelor of Arts degree: BA

• Undergraduate Major Description and Code
  • Major in Asian Studies: ASIA

• CIP Code and Description
  • ASIA Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: 05.0103 - Asian Studies/Civilization

Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2010 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/