Rice's Asian Studies program focuses on transnational, transhistoric, diasporic, and global movements of peoples and cultures of Asia.

The Department of Transnational Asian Studies houses the BA degree with a major in Asian Studies, which offers a comprehensive overview of the geography, history, people, movements, and cultures of Asia at the undergraduate level. The program is structured to train its students as strong researchers. Additionally, the department also offers a minor in Asian Studies.

**Bachelor's Program**

- **Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in Asian Studies**

**Minor**

- **Minor in Asian Studies**

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

**Department Chair**
Lisa A. Balabanlilar

**Director, Chao Center**
Lisa A. Balabanlilar

**Associate Directors and Advisors**
Haejin E. Koh
Steven W. Lewis

**Professors**
Nanxiu Qian
Sonya Ryang
Elora Shehabuddin
Kamala Visweswaran

**Associate Professors**
Lisa A. Balabanlilar
Shih-Shan Susan Huang

---

**Professor in the Practice**
Steven W. Lewis

**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 201 - UNDERSTANDING GANDHIAN NONVIOLENCE: AN EXPLORATION OF HINDUISM, JAINISM, AND CHRISTIANITY**

- **Short Title:** GANDHIAN NONVIOLENCE
- **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:** The doctrine of nonviolence affirms that humanity is more united than conflicted. This is not true for just South Asian traditions. The course examines Mahatma Gandhi's nonviolence in light of three world traditions: Hinduism, Jainism, and Christianity. Along with theory, the course delves into the application of nonviolent principles.

**ASIA 202 - RACE, NATION, AND EMPIRE IN MODERN ASIA**

- **Short Title:** RACE IN MODERN 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 Lower-Level
- **Description:** This course examines histories of racial thinking (since the mid-19th century) in contemporary Asia. It draws on interdisciplinary scholarship, as well as film, television, and literary texts. This course asks how is race produced, perceived, and experienced in relation to imperialism, nationalism, revolution, war, and globalization in the region?
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 213 - TRANSNATIONAL ART AND CULTURE IN ASIA BEFORE THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
Short Title: TRANSNATIONAL ART AND 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 Lower-Level
Description: This introductory course to art and culture in Asia explores transnational connections and exchanges before the twentieth century. Major topics include the Silk Road, Buddhist grottoes, maritime trade routes and shipwrecks, cosmopolis and urban lives, court art, literati culture, ink painting, gardens, the Mongol Empire, Jesuit influence, and East-West connections.

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

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: An 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 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.

ASIA 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: 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.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
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
Short Title: SEX, MONEY, AND POWER
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: 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
Short Title: INTRO TO TRANSNATIONAL 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 Lower-Level
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
Short Title: 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.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course offers comprehensive training to students interested in learning about ethnographic research, analysis, and writing in/of the contemporary Asia in a global context, with a special focus on Houston. Seminar-style discussion on ethnographic research methods and hands-on field research on several Asian-American communities will comprise the major course activities.

ASIA 301 - EXPLORE & EXPERIENCE HISTORY, CULTURE, RITUALS, DEVOTION, AND MEDITATION THROUGH THE JAIN TRADITION
Short Title: THE JAIN WORLDVIEW
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: Beginning with Jainism's roots in India, we will understand the rich and diverse beliefs and practices of Jainism and then reflect upon its transnational form. Students will further inquire into the dichotomy of tradition and modernity, preservation and transformation to argue how religions migrate, as a result of their adherents.

ASIA 304 - HUMAN MOBILITY IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC
Short Title: HUMAN MOBILITY IN ASIA-PACIFIC
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
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 305 - ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH IN/OF HOUSTON ASIA
Short Title: ETHNOGRAPHY IN/OF HOUSTON ASIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
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 308 - INTERNSHIP IN ASIAN STUDIES
Short Title: INTERNSHIP IN ASIAN STUDIES
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course offers comprehensive training to students interested in learning about ethnographic research, analysis, and writing in/of the contemporary Asia in a global context, with a special focus on Houston. Seminar-style discussion on ethnographic research methods and hands-on field research on several Asian-American communities will comprise the major course activities.
ASIA 315 - GENDER AND ISLAM
Short Title: GENDER AND ISLAM
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: 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.

ASIA 322 - INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM: ARTS FOR LIFE
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
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: Buddhist ideas, art, and meditation. Exploration of the Buddhism in India, China, and Japan and their impact in the USA today. Readings include Buddhists classics and contemporary responses from mediators and scientists. Cross-list: RELI 322.

ASIA 323 - BUDDHIST AND DAOIST TRADITIONS IN TRANSNATIONAL ASIA
Short Title: ART AND RELIGION 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: This course examines key themes of art and religion in Daoism and Buddhism. From Southern Asia to China, commonalities and contrasts appear in cosmology, art, ritual, and soteriology. This course combines expertise in Daoist art, Chinese art history, and Buddhist traditions of India, Nepal, and Tibet. Some background knowledge in Buddhism, or Buddhist art, or Asian civilization, or Chinese art, or Daoism is welcome but not required. Cross-list: HART 323, MDEM 323. Recommended Prerequisite(s): HART372/ASIA372, HART371/ASIA371

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 - MODERN CHINESE LITERATURE AND ITS MOVIE ADAPTATIONS
Short Title: FILM & MODERN CHINESE LIT
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: 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. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 537. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for ASIA 337 if student has credit for ASIA 537.

ASIA 339 - 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 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 356 - GENOMIC GOVERNANCE IN ASIA
Short Title: GENOMIC GOVERNANCE IN 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 Upper-Level
Description: What are the genomic sciences and what impact are they having upon society? This course explores the impact of genomics—the study of genes and their functions—on society with a particular emphasis on India, China, and the U.S. where technological advances have outpaced regulatory oversight and social debate. The course develops skills to think critically about how genomics is reshaping the relationship between self and society, and the very nature of the social itself. The equivalent graduate course requires the final research paper to be about twice as long as the final research paper in this undergraduate course (10,000 vs. 5,000 words). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 556.
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. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 557.

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: www.owlnet.rice.edu/~swlewis/asia360/ (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: 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: Chinese Art and Visual Culture is an introductory seminar studying the history of traditional Chinese art and visual culture from ancient times to the nineteenth century. This course draws upon masterpieces and monuments from both archaeological finds and museum collections, including bronze vessels, funeral objects, painting, calligraphy, sculptures, architecture, ceramics, and so on. Designed for students who have no background in Chinese art, Chinese history, or art history, the seminar uses diverse teaching materials in multiple media beyond traditional textbook-based readings to achieve four main goals: 1) Develop visual literacy through a direct encounter with objects. The development of specialized vocabulary to describe, analyze, and communicate function, composition, and meaning in art. 2) Understand major artistic movements of art and architecture within historical, social, political contexts. 3) Develop specialized knowledge in art from specific geographical locations (e.g. China), time periods, artists or artistic movements. 4) Evaluate and use primary and secondary source materials. 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 377 - 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 377. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for ASIA 377 if student has credit for ASIA 489/POLI 489.

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: CHIN 422.

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. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for ASIA 489 if student has credit for ASIA 377/POLI 377.
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
Prerequisite(s): ASIA 295
Description: This course is designed to elevate the knowledge on Asia acquired by Asian Studies majors in their first two years of study to a higher level and to train them in executing their original research an producing a substantial research paper. Department Permission Required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 695. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for ASIA 495 if student has credit for ASIA 695. Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 501 - ASIAN STUDIES 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 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: 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 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). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 337. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for ASIA 537 if student has credit for ASIA 337.
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 556 - GENOMIC GOVERNANCE IN ASIA
Short Title: GENOMIC GOVERNANCE IN 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: What are the genomic sciences and what impact are they having upon society? This course explores the impact of genomics—the study of genes and their functions—on society with a particular emphasis on India, China, and the U.S. where technological advances have outpaced regulatory oversight and social debate. The course develops skills to think critically about how genomics is reshaping the relationship between self and society, and the very nature of the social itself. This graduate course requires the final research paper to be about twice as long as the final research paper in the equivalent undergraduate course (10,000 vs. 5,000 words). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 356.

ASIA 557 - 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 Graduate level students.
Course Level: Graduate
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. The graduate course requires the final research paper to be about twice as long as the final research paper in the undergraduate course (10,000 vs. 5,000 words). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: ASIA 357.

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 567 - 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

Undergraduate Minor Description and Code
• Minor in Asian Studies: ASIM

CIP Code and Description
1
• ASIA Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: 05.0103 - Asian Studies/Civilization
• ASIM Minor: CIP Code/Title: 05.0103 - Asian Studies/Civilization

1 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2020 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/