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
  (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  
Shih-hui Chen  
Krista Comer  
Anne C. Klein  
Jeffrey Kripal  
William Parsons  
Nanxiu Qian  
Sayuri Guthrie Shimizu

**Associate Professors**

Lisa Balabanlilar  
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Shih-Shan Susan Huang  
Betty Joseph  
Elora Shehabuddin  
Kerry Ward

**Professors Emeriti**

Richard J. Smith  
Stephen A. Tyler  
Fred R. von der Mehden

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**Professor in the Practice**

Steven W. Lewis

**Postdoctoral Fellows**

D. Mitra Barua  
Brianne Donaldson  
Han Sang Kim  
Sandeep Ray

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/ISWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata)  
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/ISWKSCAT.cat)

**Asian Studies (ASIA)**

**ASIA 211 - INTRODUCTION TO ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS**

*Short Title:* INTRO TO ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS  
*Department:* Asian Studies  
*Grade Mode:* Standard Letter  
*Course Type:* Seminar  
*Course Level:* Undergraduate Lower-Level  
*Description:* A team-taught interdisciplinary course focusing on certain major philosophical, religious and artistic traditions of pre-modern Asia, with an emphasis on the historical processes by which ideas, people, products, technologies and skills circulated within and beyond state boundaries. Cross-list: HART 211, HIST 206.

**ASIA 212 - PERSPECTIVES ON MODERN ASIA**

*Short Title:* PERSPECTIVES ON MODERN ASIA  
*Department:* Asian Studies  
*Grade Mode:* Standard Letter  
*Course Type:* Lecture  
*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  
*Course Level:* Undergraduate Lower-Level  
ASIA 219 - MODERN JAPAN
Short Title: MODERN JAPAN
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will examine the modern history of Japan, roughly 1600 to the present. Through readings, discussion, exams and a research paper, students will engage with modern Japanese history, including warrior culture, engagement with the west, modernization and industrialization, empire, the role of women, democracy and popular protest, war, occupation, and economic growth.

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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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

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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 232 - RELIGIONS FROM INDIA
Short Title: RELIGIONS FROM INDIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 240 - GENDER AND POLITICIZED RELIGION
Short Title: GENDER & POLITICIZED RELIGION
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines the emergence of religion-based politics in various Asian countries—particularly Hindu and Muslim—focusing on the women participants in these movements as well as the movements’ concern with gender roles in society. We will investigate, for instance, the extent to which women participants have been willing or able to reshape the central ideas of such movements. Cross-list: RELI 285, SWGS 240. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for ASIA 240 and ASIA 340.

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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
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 315 - GENDER AND ISLAM
Short Title: GENDER AND ISLAM
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 today; 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 319 - WAR AND MODERN EAST ASIA
Short Title: WAR AND MODERN EAST ASIA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: How does war affect humanity’s view of culture, history, and national identity? We will turn these questions toward the disastrous Imjin War (1592-98) which embroiled China, Japan and Korea. Investigating East Asia before, during, and after this conflict, will explore how the Imjin War created modern East Asia.

ASIA 320 - THE WORLD OF THE SAMURAI
Short Title: THE WORLD OF THE SAMURAI
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Who were the samurai? Through readings, writing, and discussions, we will undertake an in-depth examination of the world in which the samurai lived, questioning common myths about samurai culture. Students will investigate the samurai through thematic units on political history, military strategy, literature, art, and sense of values.

ASIA 322 - INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM: ARTS FOR LIFE
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Distribution Group: Distribution Group I
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 Buddha classics and contemporary responses from meditators and scientists. Cross-list: RELI 322.
India has been in the news lately for many reasons – its growth rate, outsourcing, poverty, violence against women, Hindu nationalism, nuclear program, or Bollywood. In this class we will explore some of these topics by focusing on India’s transition from colonialism to the emergence of the modern nation-state, to understand the major changes that give shape to life in contemporary South Asia.
This course explores consciousness from ancient Indian traditions to modern science. 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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 345 - URBAN LAB MIDDLE EAST
Short Title: URBAN LAB MIDDLE EAST
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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) or POLI 361 (may be taken concurrently)
Description: The course examines the dynamics of urban politics and policy in the Middle East. We will focus on social, political, and economic issues, as well as history, culture, architecture and the arts. Weekly classes will include case studies, guest lectures, and work on research projects. The lab also features a field research trip to one or more cities (Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Muscat, Doha, etc.) during Spring Break. Prerequisites may be taken the same semester with POLI 345/ASIA 345. Department Permission Required. Cross-list: POLI 345.

ASIA 347 - URBAN LAB SHANGHAI
Short Title: URBAN LAB SHANGHAI
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Prerequisite(s): POLI 362 (may be taken concurrently) or POLI 562 (may be taken concurrently) or POLI 464
Description: This course examines the dynamics of urban politics and policy in an emerging global city - Shanghai. In addition to social, political, and economic issues, we will focus on history, culture, language, architecture and the arts. Weekly class sessions will include lectures, case studies, guest lectures, and group work on research projects. The lab also features an 8-day field research trip to Shanghai. Prerequisite(s) POLI 362 or POLI 562 may be taken concurrently. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: POLI 347.

ASIA 349 - URBAN LAB ISTANBUL
Short Title: URBAN LAB ISTANBUL
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 lectures, 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
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course will focus on traditional and contemporary art from China 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/

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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 378 - CLASSICAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND CROSS-CULTURAL ASIAN MUSIC
Short Title: CROSS-CULTURAL ASIAN MUSIC
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: This course focuses on the function 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.

ASIA 380 - ASIAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCES
Short Title: ASIAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCES
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: HIST 380.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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 388 - PHOTOGRAPHY IN CHINA
Short Title: PHOTOGRAPHY IN CHINA
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 3,4
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: Open to all students within the university who are interested in deepening their understanding of China and improving their photography skills. This course will study China through the history of photography, looking at ways in which China has been viewed by both Chinese and visiting photographers. Students will learn documentary skills and travel to China during spring break to gather materials for their own projects. Instructor Permission Required. Cross-list: FOTO 388.

ASIA 389 - MIGRATIONS AND DIASPORAS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN WORLD
Short Title: THE INDIAN OCEAN WORLD
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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. Asian Studies Director's signature required to register.

ASIA 402 - INDEPENDENT STUDY
Short Title: INDEPENDENT STUDY
Department: Asian Studies
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-15
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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. Asian Studies Director's permission required to register.

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: Graduate level students may not enroll.
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
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 488 - ASIA AND ENERGY  
Short Title: ASIA AND ENERGY  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
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 490 - COLONIAL MODERNITY IN EAST ASIA  
Short Title: COLONIAL MODERNITY: EAST ASIA  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: History of ideas, treaties, market and corporate strategies in imperialist and anti-imperialist movements in East Asia in 19th, 20th centuries. Uses theories of colonialism and specific case studies of fashion, architecture, mass media, urban planning, etc., to define colonial modernity transnationally. Three analytic essays and one research paper. Cross-list: HIST 490.

ASIA 492 - GENDER HISTORIES OF MODERN CHINA  
Short Title: GENDER HISTORIES: MODERN CHINA  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
Description: Seminar with some lectures considers late imperial through 21st century China using conceptual tools (masculinity, femininity, gynotechnics, globalization, representation). Examines late Qing gender order, revolutionary era, party-state formation, and the Great Transformations of late 20th and early 21st centuries using visual culture, film, primary texts, and secondary histories. Cross-list: HIST 492, SWGS 492.

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: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
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: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
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. Repeatable for Credit.

ASIA 499 - ASIAN STUDIES INDEPENDENT STUDIES  
Short Title: ASIAN STUDIES INDEPENDENT  
Department: Asian Studies  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Independent Study  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Graduate level students may not enroll.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level  
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. 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