East Asian Studies - Fall 2014

The East Asian Studies Program is an interdisciplinary program focusing on the region that includes China, Japan, and Korea. The main goals of the program are to provide training in East Asian languages and to introduce students to the societies, cultures, and histories of the region through courses in anthropology, art history, cinema, economics, history, literature, politics and religion. Since language study is an integral part of the East Asian Studies major, interested students are strongly advised to begin language study in their first or second year at Oberlin. This is especially true of students who hope to spend time studying abroad.

Major
This interdisciplinary major program combines language study with coursework in various disciplines. Students may choose a program which focuses on one of the following:

1. East Asian regional studies,
2. China or Japan (Chinese or Japanese Studies),
3. a discipline (e.g. History, Religion), or
4. Chinese or Japanese language, literature, and film. Students who choose this option must complete two semesters of 400-level language courses and must take a minimum of four non-language courses, including at least two literature-in-translation and/or film courses.
5. Korean Studies: This concentration may be completed through coursework at Oberlin and study abroad at an approved institution.

All majors must complete:

1. **Language Requirement:** The minimum language requirement is completion of CHIN302/JAPN302 or proficiency equivalent to CHIN302 or JAPN 302, based on assessment by EAS.
   - All majors must complete at least two semesters of language at Oberlin College.
   - In the case of Korean language, the equivalent of four semesters taken at an approved institution will also meet this requirement.
2. **EAS Elective Courses:** A minimum of six full courses offered through EAS and other departments that offer East Asian courses (such as ART, HIST, POLT, RELG), including:
   - Courses in the student’s area of concentration
   - At least two non-language courses that do not focus exclusively on their country of interest. Courses that examine East Asia from a regional perspective also count toward this requirement
   - At least one upper-level seminar.

A maximum of two language courses beyond the language requirement can count toward this elective requirement. FYSP seminars count toward the major if they are primarily East Asia content. Please consult the catalog for prerequisites to upper-level seminars and plan accordingly.

3. **A Capstone Project:** The Capstone Project is an opportunity to bring to bear on a focused intellectual project the various elements of one’s East Asian Studies training. Normally completed in the senior year, the Capstone Project may be done in one of three ways: 1) as a research project in addition to or more substantial than the regular assignments in a scheduled upper-level colloquium or seminar taught by an EAS faculty member, 2) as a project in a 400-level Chinese or Japanese language course, or 3) as a Winter Term project overseen by an EAS faculty member. In all cases, students need to consult individually and early in the term with the EAS faculty member. There is a separate form of registration for the Capstone Project. Students who study abroad should complete the capstone in residence at Oberlin. Successful completion of Honors fulfills the Capstone Project requirement.

Students who enter the program with previous language training or exposure are still required to take a minimum of two full language courses to complete the major. Students with native or near-native proficiency in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language must study another East Asian language to fulfill the requirements of the major.

Courses for which a grade lower than a C- is earned may not be counted toward the major.

Minor
The minor consists of a minimum of five courses. No more than two of the five can be language courses. Three of the five courses must be taken at Oberlin. At least one course must be beyond the introductory level. Students interested in a minor should consult with an EAS faculty member and/or the director in order to assure that the minor program is coherent.

Upper-Level Seminars

**Fall 2014**
- ARTS 452 - Image/Object: Material and Mediation in East Asian Art
- EAST 308 - Korea in Northeast Asia
- RELG 325 - The Karma of Words

**Spring 2015**
- EAST 309 - Chinese Popular Cinema and Public Intellectualism
- EAST 321 - The Tale of Gengi
- HIST 345 - Social Movements in China, Late Imperial Times to the Present
- HIST 482 - Discrimination in Modern Japan
- POLT 313 - The Transition to Capitalism in China

East Asian Studies Program * Peters Hall 316 * 775-8313
First-Year Seminars

FYSP 046 - Japanese Religion and Pop Culture
4HU, WINT
This course examines the representation of religion in manga and anime and explores the role these new media have played in re-creating the religious and cultural landscape of modern Japan. In addition to analyzing the form and content of these new media, we will be looking at the production of manga and anime by religious organizations and analyzing the reception of these popular media by devout fans and religious practitioners.
12187 – FYSP 046-01 TR 1:30-2:45 C. Callahan AJLC 201

FYSP 070 - Uncle Sam(urai): Japan-U.S. Encounters since 1853
4SS, WINT
Over the past 160 years, the United States and Japan have been trading partners, political allies, and, for a brief period, wartime enemies. This course explores how the culture, politics, and economies of both societies were shaped and conditioned by sustained mutual interaction. Texts under discussion will include film, diaries, travelogues, manga (and cartoons), literature, and musical performances. There will be one required field trip to view the manga collection at the Ohio State University. Enrollment Limit: 14.
11542 – FYSP 070-01 MW 2:30-3:45 E. O’Dwyer KING 325

FYSP 086 - Contemporary East Asian Cinema
4HU, WINT
This course compares the emergence of ‘New Cinema’ in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea since the 1980s. We will examine the major cultural and socio-political contexts in which each cinematic movement is produced, and pay attention to the specific issues raised in individual films. Enrollment Limit: 14.
12064 – FYSP 086-01 MW 8:35-9:50 H. Deppman PETE 233
Film Viewing Thursday 7:00-10:00 p.m. MUDD 050

FYSP 117 - Nature and the Environment in East Asian Culture
4HU, WINT
This course focuses on concepts of nature, and the interaction of society and the environment in Japan, China, and Korea. How are East Asian concepts of nature influenced by Confucianism, Buddhism, Taoism, and traditional aesthetics? Are these notions relevant to society's relation to nature in the modern, industrialized nation state, and to environmentalism and sustainability? We will work with film, literature, architecture, and the visual arts to explore these issues. Enrollment Limit: 14.
12069 – FYSP 117-01 MWF 1:30-2:20 A. Sherif PETE 305

Chinese Language Courses

CHIN 101 – Elementary Chinese I
4HU, CD
First-year Chinese. Pronunciation and grammar of modern standard Chinese and an introduction to the writing system. Within the first year of study, students will be introduced to approximately 500 characters and the reading of simple texts in the vernacular style. No auditors. No P/NP grading option for this course. Enrollment Limit: 20.
1040 – CHIN 101-01 MTWRF 10:00-10:50 Q. Ma, Staff PETE 104
1041 – CHIN 101-02 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 Q. Ma, Staff PETE 104
CHIN 201 – Intermediate Chinese I
4HU, CD
Second-year Chinese. Development of skills in the vernacular language through oral recitation and reading of texts, with drills on special features of grammar and emphasis on vocabulary in the vernacular idiom. Students will be introduced to approximately 600 additional characters. Prerequisite: CHIN 102 or consent of instructor.
1042 – CHIN 201-01 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 F. Liu, K. Li PETE 327

CHIN 301 – Advanced Chinese I
4HU, CD
Third-year Chinese. This course aims to develop skills in reading, aural comprehension, speech, and writing. Vocabulary expansion and control of grammatical patterns are emphasized. Materials to be used include articles on various topics related to contemporary China. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 202 or consent of instructor.
1043 – CHIN 301-01 MWF 1:30-2:20 F. Liu PETE 212

CHIN 401 – Readings in Chinese Literature
4HU, CD
Fourth-year Chinese. Readings from contemporary Chinese literature, discussions, and writing assignments will further develop advanced skills in Chinese. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 302. Consent of instructor required.
1044 – CHIN 401-01 TR 1:30-2:45 Q. Ma PETE 102

CHIN 453 – Advanced Topics in Chinese I
4HU, CD
Fifth-year Chinese. This advanced language course is designed for students who have completed 4th-year Chinese or the equivalent. It focuses particularly on reading and writing proficiency. Course materials are selected from classical and contemporary literature or historical/political essays with emphasis on deepening students’ comprehension of Chinese language, culture and society. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 402. Consent of instructor required.
8829 – CHIN 453-01 TR 2:30-3:45 K. Li PETE 305

CHIN 500 – Capstone Project
0HU
Normally completed in the senior year, the capstone project may be done in one of three ways: 1) as a research project in an upper-level seminar taught by an EAS faculty member, 2) as a project in a 400-level Chinese or Japanese language course, or 3) as a Winter Term project overseen by an EAS faculty member. Students must consult with their mentor before the start of the term. P/NP grading only. Consent of Instructor required.
4190 – CHIN 500-01 K. Li
6882 – CHIN 500-02 HC. Deppman
7279 – CHIN 500-03 Q. Ma

CHIN 995 – Private Reading
2 or 4HU
Independent study of a Chinese subject beyond the range of catalog course offerings. Enrollment Limit: 5
Full – 11080 ~ Half – 11076 – CHIN 995-01 H.C. Deppman
Full – 11081 ~ Half – 11077 – CHIN 995-02 K. Li
Full – 11082 ~ Half – 11078 – CHIN 995-03 F. Liu
Full – 11083 ~ Half – 11079 – CHIN 995-04 Q. Ma
Japanese Language Courses

JAPN 101 – Elementary Japanese I
4HU, CD
First-year Japanese. An introduction to basic grammar, sentence patterns and vocabulary of the modern language. Attention to the written component of modern Japanese will include the hiragana and katakana syllabaries, as well as kanji. This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of Japanese. No auditors. No P/NP grading option for this course. See instructor for correct placement. Enrollment Limit: 15.

1045 – JAPN 101-01  MTWRF 10:00-10:50 A. Sukegawa, K. Mikuni PETE 233
1046 – JAPN 101-02  MTWRF 11:00-11:50 A. Sukegawa, K. Mikuni PETE 233
8325 – JAPN 101-03  MTWRF 1:30-2:20 A. Sukegawa, K. Mikuni PETE 129

JAPN 201 – Intermediate Japanese I
4HU, CD
Second-year Japanese. Primary emphasis on the development of oral skills and secondary emphasis on reading skills. Students will continue to learn basic grammatical patterns, expand vocabulary and improve communicative skills in modern Japanese through oral-aural drills and exercises. Enrollment Limit: 20. Prerequisite: JAPN 102 or consent of instructor.

1047 – JAPN 201-01  MTWRF 10:00-10:50 A. Sherif, K. Mikuni AJLC 102
7727 – JAPN 201-02  MTWRF 11:00-11:50 A. Sherif, K. Mikuni AJLC 102

JAPN 301 – Japanese Reading and Conversation I
4HU, CD
Third-year Japanese. This course seeks to reinforce the vocabulary and grammatical patterns learned in the first two years and to improve speaking and reading skills through task-oriented conversational practices, reading practices and group discussion. Conducted in Japanese. Fourth hour of lab required. Time TBA. Prerequisite: JAPN 202 or consent of instructor.

1048 – JAPN 301-01  MWF 1:30-2:20 S. Kondo KING 227

JAPN 401 – Advanced Japanese I
4HU, CD
Fourth-year Japanese. This media course focuses on contemporary affairs, utilizing material from various media: newspapers, magazines, Internet sources, etc. It is intended primarily for students who have studied in Japan and seek to further improve speaking, reading, and writing skills through the use of authentic reading materials, group discussion, and writing exercises. Conducted in Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 302 or consent of instructor.

1049 – JAPN 401-01  MWF 9:00-9:50 C. Kern PETE 305

* NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE *
JAPN 453 - Japanese Language Proficiency Test Prep
2HU, CD
First Module. This course prepares students for the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) in the areas of reading, listening, grammar, and vocabulary (including kanji). Depending on the proficiency level, students may choose to study for levels from N1 through N3. Prerequisites: JAPN400-level or equivalent. Students enrolled in JAPN401 may be consented to take this course concurrently, but not in place of, JAPN401. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 15.

12142 – JAPN 453-01  TR 3:00-4:15 S. Kondo PETE 212

* NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE *
JAPN 455 – Advanced Reading and Writing in Japanese
2 SS, CD
Second Module: This course uses authentic materials about issues in contemporary Japanese society as education, women’s issues, and pop culture. Advanced skills in reading and writing are emphasized. Conducted in Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 402 or equivalent. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 15.
12143 – JAPN 453-01 TR 3:00-4:15 S. Kondo PETE 212

JAPN 500 – Capstone Project
0HU
Normally completed in the senior year, the capstone project may be done in one of three ways: 1) as a research project in an upper-level seminar taught by an EAS faculty member, 2) as a project in a 400-level Chinese or Japanese language course, or 3) as a Winter Term project overseen by an EAS faculty member. Students must consult with their mentor before the start of the term. Consent of Instructor Required. Note: P/NP grading only.
4201 – JAPN 500-03 A. Sherif
7283 – JAPN 500-03 S. Kondo
9498 – JAPN 500-04 A. Sukegawa

JAPN 995 – Private Reading
2 or 4HU
Independent study of a Japanese subject beyond the range of catalog course offerings. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 5.
Full – 11073 ~ Half – 11069 – JAPN 995-02 S. Kondo
Full – 11074 ~ Half – 11070 – JAPN 995-04 A. Sherif
Full – 11075 ~ Half – 11071 – JAPN 995-04 A. Sukegawa

East Asian Studies Courses

EAST 108 – Korean History to 1600
4HU, CD
This course traces the emergence of a distinctive civilization on the Korean peninsula in Northeast Asia from prehistory to AD 1600. It looks at the emergence of both a distinct Korean culture and a state (which are not synonymous). Having identified these emergences, we will then examine how Korea managed to maintain its cultural and political autonomy over the centuries despite the presence of powerful, and at times aggressive, neighbors. Enrollment Limit: 40.
12130 – EAST-108-01 MWF 9:00-9:50 C. Lovins PETE 234

EAST 111 – Introduction of Environmental Issues and NGOs in China
2HU
Second Module. This course is to prepare students who will be traveling to China during Winter Term to study environmental conditions and environmental NGOs in China. Students going on the trip are required to take this course. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 10.
xxxxx – EAST-111-01 TBA Q. Ma TBA
EAST 116 - Traditional Japanese Literature in Translation
4HU, CD
This course explores literary texts, theatrical styles, and visual cultures from Japan’s rich premodern cultural history. We consider the literary arts that arose out of the aristocratic, samurai, townspeople cultures, and the contemplative poetry and prose of monks and nuns from the 7th-19th century. Themes include creativity, gender, aesthetic and poetics, as we read texts and view Kabuki and Noh plays emerging from the vibrant cultures of Kyoto, Kamakura, and Edo, and the archipelago’s landscapes. Field trip(s) required. Enrollment Limit: 25.

12092 – EAST-116-01 MWF 11:00-11:50 J. Kern SEVE 301

EAST 121 – Chinese Civilization
4SS, CD
An introduction to the history of China from the archaeological origins of Chinese civilization to the period of the mature imperial state in the 17th century. The diverse origins of China’s civilization are stressed as topics in political, social, and economic history are explored, as well as developments in religion and thought, language and literature, and art. The course is the normal introduction to further study of Chinese history and culture and, in particular, provides a valuable context for themes treated in Modern China. Enrollment Limit: 50. Identical to HIST 105.

1768 – EAST 121-01 MWF 10:00-10:50 D. Kelley KING 337

EAST 131 – Japan from Earliest Times to 1868
4SS, CD
This course examines the origins of Japanese civilization and surveys the classical, medieval, and early modern periods. From the emergence of a court-centered state through the rise and fall of a warrior-dominated society, Japan’s pre-modern history is explored by focusing on political, social, cultural, and intellectual developments. Early interactions with Asia and the West will be considered as a means of questioning the ‘opening’ of Japan in the mid-nineteenth century. Enrollment Limit: 35. Identical to HIST 159.

4194 – EAST 131-01 MWF 11:00-11:50 E. O’Dwyer King 337

EAST 143 – Approaches to Chinese and Japanese Art
4HU, CD
This combined introduction to the Arts of China and Japan will follow a rough chronology from ancient to modern. We will focus on smaller contexts, including temples, tombs, and artistic circles and examine a range of media (e.g. painting, sculpture, prints). Primary themes will include how socio-political circumstances inform artistic production, the spatial or social networks of art, cultural exchange, and tensions between court-sponsored traditions and other artistic practices. Enrollment Limit: 30. Identical to ARTS 152.

9973 – EAST-143-01 MWF 10:00-10:50 B. Cheng ART2 C1

EAST 151 – Chinese Thought and Religion
4HU, CD
A historical survey of the three major religious and philosophical traditions of China: Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism. Attention is given to how each comprehends the universe and translates its ideal into philosophical thought, religious practice, and social and moral imperative. Interaction and mutual borrowing among the three will be examined to show how each was changed or inspired by the others and matured under their influence. Enrollment Limit: 40. Identical to RELG 235.

6526 – EAST 151-01 MWF 9:00-9:50 C. Callahan KING 101
EAST 206 - Topics in Modern Chinese Literature “Chinese Literature and Film: the Art of Adaptation”

4HU, CD, WINT
This course studies Chinese film-fiction adaptation from 1984-2012 both as an aesthetic interaction between the literary and the cinematic and as a political negotiation between artists and the state. Authors and directors to include are Eileen Chang, Su Tong, Mo Yan, Stanley Kwan, Zhang Yimou, Hou Xiaoxian. Enrollment Limit: 25.

12093 – EAST 206-01 MW 1:30-2:45 HC. Deppman PETE 233
Film Viewing Time TBA

EAST 208 – Korean Historiography

4HU, CD
This course looks at the history of Korean history. Topics include: how to evaluate sources, the contrast between the Confucian view of history and the modern discipline of history, unspoken Marxist views in modern Korean historiography, and the differing views of history in North and South Korea. Special attention will be given to Japanese colonial historiography, Korean responses to it, and the continuing significance of both for how we do Korean history today. Enrollment Limit: 25.

12131 – EAST 208-01 MWF 11:00-11:50 C. Lovins PETE 232

EAST 308 – Korea in Northeast Asia

4HU, CD
This course examines the Korean peninsula in its broader East Asian context. It looks both at how the peoples on the peninsula viewed themselves vis-à-vis other peoples and at how other peoples viewed them. Topics include: the formation of a single Korean ethnic identity; Korea as a “Sinified” society; how Korea and Western Europe encountered each other; Koreans and Japanese as “one people”; differing North and South Korean identities. Prerequisite: One course in East Asian history/culture or consent of instructor. Enrollment Limit: 15.

12132 – EAST 308-01 R 9:00-10:50 C. Lovins PETE 305

EAST 500 – Capstone Project

0HU
Normally completed in the senior year, the capstone project may be done in one of three ways: 1) as a research project in an upper-level seminar taught by an EAS faculty member, 2) as a project in a 400-level Chinese or Japanese language course, or 3) as a Winter Term project overseen by an EAS faculty member. Students must consult with their mentor before the start of the term. Consent of Instructor Required. Note: P/NP grading only.

7194 – EAST 500-02 D. Kelley
6724 – EAST 500-04 B. Cheng
7285 – EAST 500-05 E. O’Dwyer
7523 – EAST 500-06 M. Blecher

EAST 995 – Private Reading

2 or 4HU
Independent study of an East Asian Studies subject beyond the range of catalog course offerings. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 5. Consent of Instructor Required.

Full – 11091 ~ Half – 11084 – EAST 995-01 M. Blecher
Full – 11092 ~ Half – 11085 – EAST 995-02 B. Cheng
Full – 11096 ~ Half – 11089 – EAST 995-06 D. Kelley
Full – 11097 ~ Half – 11090 – EAST 995-07 E. O’Dwyer
East Asian Courses In Various Disciplines

In addition to EAS courses, the following courses may be taken to fulfill the EAS major requirements.

**Art**

* NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE *

ARTS 452 - Image/Object: Material and Mediation in East Asian Art
4HU, CD, WADV
This seminar explores images and objects that fall outside of conventional categories of painting and objects by nature of their proposed function or later usage, including pictorial objects, pictures of objects, and works given meaning through relative positions in space. Focusing on tomb sculptures, murals, and decorative objects, we will examine how they mediate our understanding of subjectivity, surface, and space. Readings include treatises on period terms contemporary to the art in question. Prerequisite: A 300 level Art History class or consent of instructor. Enrollment Limit: 15.
11813 – ARTS 452-01 T 1:00-2:50 B. Cheng ART2 172

* NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE *

**Politics**

POLT 110 – Revolution, Socialism and Reform in China
4SS, CD
We begin with a chronological overview, from ancient times to the present. Then we proceed topically, focusing on: politics and the state; political economy (including industry and agriculture); gender relations; population; and cultural politics. Written work consists of take-home, open-book essays, and weekly comments on the readings. We will also screen and discuss several films. Enrollment Limit: 35.
9850 – POLT 110-01 TR 1:30-2:50 M. Blecher KING 227

**Religion**

* NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE *

RELG 325 - The Karma of Words
4HU, WINT, CD
This course explores the relation between Buddhism and the Literary Arts of Japan. After introducing the ideas, motifs, paradigms and images of the Buddhist tradition and reading Buddhist scriptural texts from a literary perspective, we will then analyze how Buddhism was re-expressed and reshaped in Japanese literature through a close reading of court poetry, karma stores, tales of romance and war, literary essays, noh drama, haiku and a modern novel.
12191 – RELG 325-01 T 6:30-8:30 C. Callahan KING 343

* NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE * NEW COURSE *