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 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 in which a student earned a NP or letter grade below a C cannot be used to fulfill the requirements of 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 2015**
- EAST-367 – The Opening of Korea, 1876-1905
- ARTS-466 – Cultural Property? Art, Heritage, Ownership
- HIST 300 – Photography, Representation, and History in the Study of Modern Japan
- RELG 325 – The Karma of Words

**Spring 2015**
- EAST 309 – Chinese Popular Cinema & Public Intellectualism
- EAST-322 – Avant Garde in Japanese Literature & Film
- EAST-362 – The Korean War
- EAST-364 – The Japanese Seizure of Korea

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

FYSP 046 - Japanese Religion and Pop Culture: Manga and Anime  
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. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 14.  
12187 – FYSP 046-01  TR  11:00-12:15  C. Callahan  

FYSP 117 - Nature and the Environment in East Asian Culture  
4HU, CD, 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. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 14.  
12069 – FYSP 117-01  MWF  1:30-2:20  A. Sherif  

FYSP 141 – Manga Genji  
4HU, CD, WINT  
This course will explore the cultural applications of the great literary classic, The Tale of Genji. Throughout Japanese history, the tale has been embraced by new audiences in new ways, ever reinterpreting it through a contemporary lens. The graphic novel versions of the work are our era's contribution to this cultural history. The course will also introduce earlier literary and dramatic variations of the tale as well as print and illustrated scroll versions. By exploring how various media in many periods have molded an understanding of this ancient classic, we will come to appreciate its malleability and inspirational durability. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 14.  
12343 – FYSP 141-01  MW  2:30-3:45  S. Gay  Peters 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, J. Zhang  Peters 101  
1041 – CHIN 101-02  MTWRF  11:00-11:50  Q. Ma, J. Zhang  Peters 101  

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
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 Peters 104

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 Peters 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 3:00-4:15 K. Li Peters 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 H. Deppman
6882 – CHIN 500-02 K. Li
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. 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, Staff Peters 233
1046 – JAPN 101-02 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 A. Sukegawa, Staff Peters 233
8325 – JAPN 101-03 MTWRF 1:30-2:20 A. Sukegawa, Staff Peters 305

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, Staff Peters 104
7727 – JAPN 201-02 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 A. Sherif, Staff Peters 104

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 Peters 101

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 S. Gay Peters 305

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 Peters 102

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 Peters 102
JAPN 500 – Capstone Project

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 500-01 S. Gay
4202 – JAPN 500-02 S. Kondo
7283 – JAPN 500-03 A. Sherif
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 – 11072 ~ Half – 11068 – JAPN 995-01 S. Gay
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 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 9:00-9:50 Austin Parks

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 11:00-11:50 B. Cheng

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 evolved under their influence. Enrollment Limit: 40. Identical to RELG 235.

6526 – EAST 151-01 MWF 1:30-2:20 C. Callahan
EAST 163 – Korea: Past, Present and Future
4SS, CD
This course is designed to introduce students to a broad survey of Korea's history, both ancient and modern. It will examine various interpretive approaches to the political, social, cultural, and diplomatic history of Korea. We will also investigate contemporary nationalist theories of Korean development, including Japanese imperial legacies of colonial conquest, and how they have informed Koreans’ view of their ancient past as well as influenced current debates about the two Koreas' reunified future. Enrollment Limit: 50.
12356 – EAST-163-01  TR  9:30-10:50  S. Jager

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  2:30-3:45  H. Deppman  Peters 233

EAST 367 – Seminar: The Opening of Korea, 1876-1905
4SS, CD, WADV
The Korean peninsula was at the center of the most dramatic upheavals of late nineteenth and early twentieth century East Asia. This seminar focuses on the diplomatic history of these years, including the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-5, as well as the repercussions of these international developments on Korean society, politics and culture. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 25.
12326 – EAST 367-01  T  1:00-2:50  S. Jager  Peters 232

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  B. Cheng
4197 – EAST 500-03  H. Deppman
7285 – EAST 500-05  S. Gay
7523 – EAST 500-06  S. Jager
12406 – EAST 500-08  Q. Ma
12564 – EAST 500-10  A. Sherif

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.
Full – 11092 ~ Half – 11085  – EAST 995-02  B. Cheng
Full – 11903 ~ Half – 11086  – EAST 995-03  H. Deppman
Full – 11905 ~ Half – 11088  – EAST 995-05  S. Gay
Full – 11096 ~ Half – 11089  – EAST 995-06  S. Jager
Full – 12409 ~ Half – 12412  – EAST 995-08  Q. Ma
Full – 12411 ~ Half – 12565  – EAST 995-10  A. Sherif
East Asian Courses In Various Disciplines

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

Anthropology

ANTH 208 – Nomadic Pastoralism in the Past and Present
4 SSCI
Nomadic pastoralism is a ‘third way’ of human subsistence separate from farming or foraging. A sustainable human adaptation to grassland environments practiced through particular technologies and multi-species relationships. We will focus on the anthropology of mobility and the diets, human ecology and social organizations that emerges from pastorialist ways of life. Modern, ethnohistorical and archaeological case studies will be approached through ethnographic texts and films and will include examples from Mongolia, Northern Africa, the Middle East, and North America. Enrollment limit: 25.
12548 – ANTH 208-01  TR  1:30-2:50  J. Wright

Art

ARTS 466 – The History of Empire in East Asia
4HU, CD, WINT
This course considers the issues and stakes that underlie antiquities and their export to disparate contexts to explore the larger question: who owns the past? We will examine positions on “cultural property” from the perspective of archaeologists, art historians, collectors and museums, and explore issues of nationalism and nation heritage, (illicit) trade and forgery, the preservation of world monuments, and recent legal cases. Students will research case studies and argue positions in the debate. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 15.
12289 – ARTS 466-01  T  1:00-2:50  B. Cheng

History

HIST 218 – The History of Empire in East Asia
4SS, CD
This course examines the history of Western and Japanese imperialism in East Asia beginning with the Opium Wars in the mid nineteenth century and ending with decolonization in the wake of WWII. We will consider how empire shaped intellectual, political, economic, and cultural developments from a transnational perspective, paying special attention to the formation of ideologies of control and resistance. First semester.
12567 – HIST 218-01  TR  11:00-12:15  A. Parks

HIST 300 – Photography, Representation, and History in the Study of Modern Japan
4SS, CD, WADV
From photography’s introduction to Japan in the mid-nineteenth century, taking and making photographs has played an important role in the construction of Japanese national and imperial identities. This seminar takes photographs as historical evidence to explore how photographic representations reimagined “Japan” and “the Japanese” during periods of revolution, imperial expansion, catastrophic war, defeat, occupation, and spectacular economic growth. Development of visual literacy in historical analysis will be emphasized. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment Limit: 14.
12568 – HIST 300-01  W  2:30-4:20  A. Parks
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. Enrollment Limit: 15.