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**

- **EAST 309 – Chinese Popular Cinema & Public Intellectualism**
- **EAST 322 – Avant Garde in Japanese Literature, Art and Film**
- **EAST 362 – The Korean War**
- **EAST 364 – The Japanese Seizure of Korea 1876-1905**
- **HIST 352 – War and Memory in Postwar Japan**
- **POLT 313 – The Transition to Capitalism in China**
Chinese Language Courses

**CHIN 102 – Elementary Chinese II**
4HU, CD
First-year Chinese. Continuation of Chinese 101. 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. Prerequisite: CHIN 101 or consent of instructor. Enrollment limit: 20.

7152 – CHIN-102-01 MTWRF 10:00-10:50 F. Liu, J. Zhang Peters 101
7153 – CHIN-102-02 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 F. Liu, J. Zhang Peters 101

**CHIN 202 – Intermediate Chinese II**
4 HU, CD
Second-year Chinese. Continuation of Chinese 201. 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 201 or consent of instructor. Enrollment limit: 20.

7150 – CHIN-202-01 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 H. Deppman, J. Zhang Peters 129

**CHIN 302 – Advanced Chinese II**
4 HU, CD
Third-year Chinese. Continuation of Chinese 301. 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 movies and screenplays, newspapers, and readings in expository prose. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 301 or consent of instructor.

7154 – CHIN-302-01 MWF 1:30-2:20 F. Liu Peters 101

**CHIN 402 – Readings in Society, History and Contemporary Events**
4 HU, CD
Fourth-year Chinese. Advanced skills in reading, writing, speaking, and aural comprehension will be developed in this course through readings in expository prose, discussions, and writing assignments. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 401.

7156 – CHIN-402-01 TR 1:30-2:45 K. Li Peters 305

**CHIN 454 – Advanced Topics in Chinese II**
4 HU, CD
Fifth-year Chinese. Continuation of CHIN 453. 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: Any 450-level Chinese language course. Consent of instructor required.

17160 – CHIN-454-01 TR 3:00-4:15 K. Li Peters 305

**CHIN 500 – Capstone Project**
0 HU
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. Note: P/NP or CR/NE grading only. Consent of instructor required.

10522 – CHIN-500-01 H. Deppman
11706 – CHIN-500-02 K. Li
12850 – CHIN-500-03 F. Liu
13184 – CHIN-500-04 Q. Ma
CHIN 995 – Private Reading
2 or 4 HU
Independent study of a Chinese subject beyond the range of catalog course offerings. Consent of instructor required.

Full – 17003 ~ Half – 16999 – CHIN-995-01  H. Deppman
Full – 17004 ~ Half – 17000 – CHIN-995-02  K. Li
Full – 17005 ~ Half – 17001 – CHIN-995-03  F. Liu
Full – 17006 ~ Half – 17002 – CHIN-995-04  Q. Ma

Japanese Language Courses

JAPN 102 – Elementary Japanese II
4 HU, CD
First-year Japanese. Continuation of JAPN 101. 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. No auditors. See instructor for correct placement. Prerequisite: JAPN 101 or consent of instructor. Enrollment limit: 20.

7157 – JAPN-102-01  MTWRF 10:00-10:50  S. Gay, A. Izumi  Peters 104
7158 – JAPN-102-02  MTWRF 11:00-11:50  S. Gay, A. Izumi  Peters 104

JAPN 202 – Intermediate Japanese II
4 HU, CD
Second-year Japanese. Continuation of JAPN 201. Emphasis on the development of oral skills and 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. Prerequisite: JAPN 201 or consent of instructor. Enrollment limit: 20.

7159 – JAPN-202-01  MTWRF 10:00-10:50  S. Kondo, A. Izumi  AJLC 102B
14273 – JAPN-202-02  MTWRF 11:00-11:50  S. Kondo, A. Izumi  AJLC 102B

JAPN 302 – Japanese Reading and Conversation II
4 HU, CD
Third-year Japanese. Continuation of JAPN 301. 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. Prerequisite: JAPN 301 or consent of instructor.

7160 – JAPN-302-01  MWF 1:30-2:20  A. Sukegawa  Peters 327

JAPN 402 – Advanced Japanese II
4 HU, CD
Fourth-year Japanese. This course is intended primarily for students who have completed a period of study in Japan. It seeks to further improve speaking, reading, and writing skills through the use of authentic reading materials, group discussion, and writing exercises. Materials are taken from modern literary works. Conducted in Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 401 or consent of instructor.

7161 – JAPN-402-01  MWF 9:00-9:50  S. Kondo  AJLC 104

JAPN 454 – Japanese Language Pedagogy
2 HU, CD
First Module. This course introduces students to approaches to teaching Japanese as a foreign language and various methods in language pedagogy and applied linguistics. Topics include language structure, writing systems, learning environments, teaching materials, curricular design, etc. For students interested in teaching, and in peer and small group language tutoring. Conducted in Japanese. Prerequisites: JAPN 400-level or equivalent. Students enrolled in JAPN 402 may be consented to take this course concurrently, but not in place of JAPN 402. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 15.

17993 – JAPN-454-01  TR 3:00-4:15  A. Sukegawa  TBA
JAPN 456 – Advanced Reading and Writing in Japanese II
2 HU, CD
Second Module. This course uses authentic materials about issues in contemporary Japanese society such as food culture, working in Japan, and youth culture. Advanced skills in reading and writing are emphasized. Conducted in Japanese. Consent of instructor required. Prerequisites: JAPN 402. Enrollment limit: 15.
17994 – JAPN-456-01 TR  3:00-4:15  A. Sukegawa  TBA

JAPN 500 – Capstone Project
0 HU
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. Note: P/NP or CR/NE grading only. Consent of instructor required.
10527 – JAPN-500-01 S. Gay
10528 – JAPN-500-02 S. Kondo
11025 – JAPN-500-03 A. Sherif
15632 – JAPN-500-04 A. Sukegawa

JAPN 995 – Private Reading
2 or 4 HU
Independent study of a Japanese subject beyond the range of catalog course offerings. Consent of instructor required.
Full – 16995 ~ Half – 16991 – JAPN-995-01 S. Gay
Full – 16996 ~ Half – 16992 – JAPN-995-02 S. Kondo
Full – 16997 ~ Half – 16993 – JAPN-995-03 A. Sherif
Full – 16998 ~ Half – 16994 – JAPN-995-04 A. Sukegawa

East Asian Studies Courses

EAST 120 – Chinese Calligraphy
4 HU, CD
This course is an introduction to Chinese calligraphy, focusing on the mastery of the standard script kaishu. It will also cover the historical development and aesthetics of Chinese calligraphy. Prerequisites: Some knowledge of Chinese characters. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 15.
14751 – EAST-120-01 TR  7:00-8:15  K. Li  King 325

EAST 122 – Modern China
4 SS, CD
This history of China from the founding of the Manchu Qing (Ch’ing) dynasty in 1644 takes a China-centered perspective. Along with political and institutional developments, long-term changes in the society and economy of China are stressed, and the indigenous bases for those changes are explored so that China’s 20th-century revolutionary upheaval will be seen to be more than a “response to the Western impact” or an “emergence into modernity.” Identical to HIST 106. Enrollment limit: 50.
7854 – EAST-122-01 MWF  11:00-11:50  D. Kelley  King 337

EAST 132 – Modern Japan
4 SS, CD
This course surveys Japan’s modern transformation from the Meiji Restoration of 1868 to the present. It examines how political, social, and economic modernization were simultaneous projects while considering their impact on the lives of citizens at home and imperial subjects abroad. We focus on how economic volatility, popular struggles for representative democracy, war, and colonization represent aspects of Japan’s twentieth century experience as well as widely shared dilemmas of modernity. Identical to HIST 160. Enrollment limit: 35.
7855 – EAST-132-01 MWF  9:00-9:50  A. Parks  King 243
EAST 152 – Japanese Thought and Religion
4 HU, CD
A historical survey of the development of Shinto and Buddhism in Japan and the roles they play in Japanese culture and society. Among the topics to be discussed are the ancient myths of Shinto, the transmission of Buddhism to Japan, the emergence of native forms of Buddhism (i.e., Zen, Pure Land, and Nichiren), and the use of Shinto as a nationalistic ideology. Identical to RELG 236. Enrollment limit: 40.
11138 – EAST-152-01 MWF 9:00-9:50 J. Dobbins King 101

EAST 272 – Book History in East Asia
4 HU, CD, Win
This course introduces students to the ways East Asian societies shape and were shaped by books. Using pre- and early modern literary works as case studies, we will examine the materiality and the social and cultural uses of books in China, Japan, and Korea. Some class meetings will be labs in Mudd Special Collections and the Art Museum, where we will study artifacts to learn about the production of books, authorship, reading, and circulation.
18130 – EAST-272-01 TR 11:00-12:15 A. Sherif Peters 130

EAST 276 – Modern Korean History
4 SS, CD
This survey course will examine the major events, issues and personalities in Korea's modern history from the late nineteenth century to the present. Combining the methods and approaches associated with the discipline of history and historical anthropology, the aim of this course is to provide students with a broad knowledge of Korea's modern history in the context of East Asian development and modernization. Enrollment limit: 25.
18147 – EAST-276-01 TR 9:30-10:50 S. Jager King 335

EAST 309 – Seminar: Chinese Popular Cinema and Public Intellectualism
4 HU, CD, Win
Does Chinese popular cinema function as public intellectualism? This course examines the history, genre, aesthetic, and politics of the post-reform Chinese fiction films and documentaries from 1982 to 2014. Studying the works of Zhang Yimou, Jia Zhangke, Wu Wenguang, Wong Kar-wai, Ann Hui, He Zhaoti, Wei Desheng and others, we examine the extent to which influential directors have become a new class or organic intellectuals who raise political questions to propel social change. Counts toward the major in Comparative Literature and Cinema Studies. Enrollment limit: 15.
17799 – EAST-309-01 M 2:30-4:20 H. Deppman Peters 302
Film Viewing R 7:00-10:00 Mudd 050

EAST 322 – Seminar: Avant Garde in Japanese Literature, Art and Film
4 HU, CD, WAdv
This course explores avant-garde currents in Japan's literary and visual cultures (1910s-present). Avant garde artists propose new modes of imagination, engagements with technological & social change, gender & class. We will assess the motives and promises of the avant garde as local & transnational movements, and analyze literary & visual arts and theory in relation to elite, mid-brow, and mass culture, and in historical context. Taught in English. Prerequisite: Previous coursework in literature, cinema, art, history or East Asian Studies is strongly encouraged. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 15.
18145 – EAST-322-01 M 2:30-4:20 A. Sherif Peters 233

EAST 362 – Seminar: The Korean War
4 SS, CD, WAdv
This seminar is designed to explore the cultural, social and political history of the Korean War in the context of the recent debate about the “origins” of the Cold War, Cold War ideology, American-Korean relationship in the context of the war, memory of the Korea War in South Korea and the U.S., as well as specific battles, key players and contested memories about the war, among other issues. Prerequisite: At least two courses in East Asian history. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 12.
18131 – EAST-362-01 T 1:00-2:50 S. Jager Peters 232
**EAST 364 – Seminar: The Japanese Seizure of Korea, 1876-1905**

4 SS, CD, WInt

This course will examine Japan's colonization of Korea. The course will also explore Korean responses to rising Japan and how its leaders responded to Japanese encroachment. By focusing particularly on Korean's own responses to Japan, the course will explore the inner workings of Korean power politics, how Korea's political elite tried to navigate the tumultuous waters of Japanese encroachment and why their efforts ultimately failed.

Prerequisite: One course in East Asian history/culture. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 20.

18146 – EAST-364-01  R  1:00-2:50  S. Jager  Peters 232

**EAST 500 – Capstone Project**

0 HU

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. Note: P/NP grading only. Consent of instructor required.

- 10531 – EAST-500-01  M. Blecher
- 10532 – EAST-500-02  B. Cheng
- 13860 – EAST-500-03  H. Deppman
- 10534 – EAST-500-04  J. Dobbins
- 12648 – EAST-500-05  S. Gay
- 12649 – EAST-500-06  S. Jager
- 12656 – EAST-500-07  D. Kelley
- 18216 – EAST-500-08  Q. Ma
- 18218 – EAST-500-10  A. Sherif

**EAST 995 – Private Reading**

2 or 4 HU

Independent study of an East Asian Studies subject beyond the range of catalog course offerings. Consent of instructor required.

- Full – 17014  M. Blecher
- Full – 17015  B. Cheng
- Full – 17016  H. Deppman
- Full – 17017  J. Dobbins
- Full – 17018  S. Gay
- Full – 17019  S. Jager
- Full – 18219  Q. Ma
- Full – 18221  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.

**Art**

**ARTS 328 - Modern Chinese Art**

4 HU, CD

An examination of artistic trends from the fall of dynastic China in 1911 to the 1990s, this course will highlight artists' attempts to 'modernize' against the backdrop of Civil War, the rise of the Communist Party, and following the death of Mao. Topics will include: early art societies, academies and curriculum, woodcuts, Socialist Realist painting, propaganda posters, and such post-Mao movements as Scar art, the Stars, and '90s experimental art. Prerequisites: ARTS 100-level course or consent of instructor. Enrollment limit: 30.

17698 – ARTS-328  TR  1:30-2:45  B. Cheng  ART2 CI
ARTS 355 – The Art of Japanese Prints
4 HU, CD
This course will explore one of Japan’s most prominent mediums, the woodblock print. Using the vast collection in the Allen Memorial Art Museum to highlight major iconographic trends, topics will include: actors and courtesans, representations of traditional narratives, views of Edo and the Stations of the Tokai-do, architectural representations and perspective scenes, and meisho, among others. The end of each topic section will conclude a longer class session in the AMAM, from which students will conduct in-depth research. Enrollment Limit: 30.

17026 – ARTS-355-01 TR 9:30-10:45 B. Cheng ART2 CII

History

HIST 281 – Ethnicity and Nation in Modern China
4 SS, CD
While often seen as a long-unified state and culture, this course explores China as a diverse and multiethnic society shaped by tensions between the hegemonic drive of the state's nation building and the multiplicity of human experiences, histories and ideological and social realities. Topics include Turkic and Muslim populations; Tibet's historic relation to China; the spread of Han population and cultural practices into 'minority areas'; and transnational connections with Southeast and Central Asia. Enrollment limit: 40.

18284 – HIST-281-01 MWF 9:00-9:50 D. Kelley King 123

HIST 352 – War and Memory in Postwar Japan
4 SS, CD, WAdv
Almost overnight, it seemed, Japan went from an aggressive empire bent on regional hegemony to a pacifist nation united behind economic development. The Asia-Pacific War (1937-1945) continues to play an important role in Japanese society, culture, and politics. This seminar engages the historiography of memory studies, Japan's domestic “memory wars,” and the role of historical memory in contemporary Japanese international relations and in popular and mass culture. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 14.

18334 – HIST-352-01 W 2:30-4:20 A. Parks Peters 305

Politics

POLT 110 – Revolution, Socialism and Reform in China
4 SS, 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 (industry and agriculture); gender; population; environment; public health; and cultural politics. Written work consists of two take-home, open-book essays, and weekly blogs. Enrollment limit: 35.

18256 – POLT 110-01 TR 3:00-4:15 Mr. Blecher King 327

POLT 313 – Seminar: The Transition to Capitalism in China
4 SS, CD
We analyze the achievements and problems of China's ongoing efforts at structural reform from state socialism to capitalistic authoritarianism, sampling the latest studies of political economy (the role of the state in production, trade and finance), political sociology (inequality, stratification, social problems) and politics (resistance, civil society and democracy). Students will write research papers on a topic of their choice; they and the instructor will present and critique drafts. Prerequisite: Enrollment limit: 15.

15932 – POLT-313-01 W 2:30-4:20 M. Blecher Rice 100B