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.

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**Upper-Level Seminars**

- **ARTS 410** - Unpacking North Korean Art
- **HIST 444** - Colloquium: Gender, Marriage, and Kinship in China
- **HIST 482** - Discrimination in Modern Japan
- **POLT 313** - State, Society and Economy in China

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East Asian Studies Program * Oberlin College * Peters Hall 316 * 775-8313
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  MTWR  10:00-10:50  X. Yu, H. Zhang  Peters 101
7153 – CHIN-102-02  MTWR  11:00-11:50  X. Yu, H. Zhang  Peters 101

**CHIN 202 – Intermediate Chinese II**

4HU, 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  MTWR  11:00-11:50  H. Deppman, X. Yu  Peters 129

**CHIN 302 – Advanced Chinese II**

4HU, 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  MTWR  11:00-11:50  H. Deppman, X. Yu  Peters 129

**CHIN 402 – Readings in Society, History and Contemporary Events**

4HU, 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  1:30-2:20  X. Zhang  Peters 305

**CHIN 456 – Development of the Chinese Language**

2HU, CD

First Module. This course is intended primarily for students who have completed 400-level Chinese or equivalent. It seeks to further improve reading and writing skills by introducing the history of Chinese language and the evolution of Chinese characters. In addition, it will introduce basic Chinese language and teaching pedagogy and applied linguistics. Prerequisite: 400-level Chinese language course or equivalent. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 20.

18694 – CHIN-456  TR  3:00-4:15  K. Li  Peters 305

**CHIN 458 – Traditional Chinese Culture**

2HU, CD

Second Module. This advanced language course is designed primarily for students who have completed 400-level Chinese or equivalent. The course focuses on Chinese traditional culture, history, language and current social issues. Through reading original Chinese materials, this course will strengthen students understanding of China and their reading and writing skills. Prerequisite: 400-level Chinese language course or equivalent. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 20.

18695 – CHIN-458  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

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

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, M. Hirose Peters 104
7158 – JAPN-102-02 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 S. Gay, M. Hirose 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, M. Hirose Mudd 202
14273 – JAPN-202-02 MTWRF 11:00-11:50 S. Kondo, M. Hirose Mudd 202

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 MWF 1:30-2:20 M. Suzuki Peters 101

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 MWF 9:00-9:50 S. Kondo Mudd 202
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 TR 3:00-4:15 M. Suzuki Peters 232

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 TR 3:00-4:15 M. Suzuki Peters 232

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 M. Suzuki

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
**East Asian Studies Courses**

**EAST 109 – Topics in Chinese Film: Introduction to Modern Chinese Cinema**
4 HU, CD
A study of the booming cinema scene in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Topics include the history of popular Chinese cinema and the relationship between style and politics. Directors include Zhang Yimou, Chen Kaige, Wong Kar-wai, Stanley Kwan, Ang Lee, and Tsai Ming-liang. Taught in English. Cross-listed with CMPL 109. Enrollment limit: 25.
18797 – EAST-109   MW  2:30-3:45   H. Deppman   Peters 234
Film Viewing    R    7:00-9:00   Mudd 050

**EAST 116 – Traditional Japanese Literature in Translation**
4 HU, 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. Enrollment limit: 25.
18698 – EAST-116   MWF  2:30-3:20   A. Sherif   Peters 129

**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." Cross-listed with HIST 106. Enrollment limit: 50.
7854 – EAST-122   MWF  9:00-9:50   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. Cross-listed with HIST 160. Enrollment limit: 35.
7855 – EAST-132-01   MWF  1:30-2:20   E. O'Dwyer   King 341

**EAST 143 – Approaches to Chinese and Japanese Art**
4 HU, 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. Cross-listed with ARTS 152. Enrollment limit: 30.
18674 – EAST-143   MWF  11:00-11:50   YJ. Lee   ART2 CI

**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. Cross-listed with RELG 236. Enrollment limit: 40.
11138 – EAST-152   MWF  9:00-9:50   J. Dobbins   King 321
EAST 215 – Literary and Visual Cultures of Protest in Japan
4 HU, CD
An introduction to art and protest in Japan from mid-19th century to now, this course historicizes the engagements of literary and visual artists with civil society and social movements. What role did writers and filmmakers play in environmental movements centering on Minamata and Fukushima, antinuclear protest grounded in Hiroshima, and nationwide anti-Vietnam War, labor, and US military base protest? Theories of art and social change, feminism, and eco-criticism are lenses that inform our studies. Cross-listed with CMPL 215.
Enrollment limit: 25.
18697 – EAST-215 MWF 11:00-11:50 A. Sherif King 127

EAST 239 – Tibetan Buddhism
4 HU, CD
A survey of the history of Buddhism in Tibet from its origins to the modern day. Attention is given to its interactions with Bon, another major religious tradition of Tibet. Readings include works of classical and contemporary Tibetan thinkers who see doctrine as interwoven with practice. Emphasis is on the central ideas of reincarnation, compassion, wisdom, and liberation, as well as on the Indian origins of Buddhist cosmology, ritual, philosophy, and ethics. Cross-listed with RELG-239. Enrollment limit: 35.
18791 – EAST-239 TR 300-4:15 M. Dibeltulo King 123

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. Cross-listed with HIST 273.
Enrollment limit: 25.
18147 – EAST-276 TR 9:30-10:50 S. Jager Asia 220

EAST 280 – Brothers at War: Conflict in Korea
4 SS, CD
This course is designed to explore the cultural, social and political history of the Korean War in the context of Cold War ideology and US-Soviet-Chinese-Korean relationship as well as specific battles and key players. Cross-listed with HIST-280. Enrollment limit: 25.
18775 – EAST-280 TR 1:00-2:15 S. Jager SCTR A155

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
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
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 ~ Half – 17007 – EAST-995-01 M. Blecher
Full – 17016 ~ Half – 17009 – EAST-995-03 H. Deppman
Full – 17017 ~ Half – 17010 – EAST-995-04 J. Dobbins
Full – 17018 ~ Half – 17011 – EAST-995-05 S. Gay
Full – 17019 ~ Half – 17012 – EAST-995-06 S. Jager
Full – 18221 ~ Half – 18224 – 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.

Art

ARTS-312 – Art and Visual Culture in Modern and Contemporary China
4 HU, CD
This course explores Chinese art and visual culture from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. We will focus on how the fall of the Qing dynasty (1644-1912) and the rise of China as a modern nation-state transformed the Chinese art world. We will examine various visual materials including calendar images, public posters, woodblock prints, photographs, and films in relation to the central issues of modernism, modernization, and modernity. We will investigate how those three driving forces have shaped our visual experience and perception through the production, circulation, and consumption of Chinese modern and contemporary art in domestic and international venues. Prerequisite: A 100-level course in art history or consent of instructor. Enrollment limit: 30.
18975 – ARTS-312 MWF 9:00-9:50 YJ. Lee ART2 CII

ARTS-410 – Unpacking North Korean Art
4 HU, CD
This seminar course aims to rethink North Korean art by placing it in the larger picture of international socialist art movements in the twentieth-century. We will take a comparative, interdisciplinary approach to North Korean art by juxtaposing it with nineteenth-century Russian realism, inter-war leftist art movements, American regionalism, socialist realism, “totalitarian” art, and post-socialist art initiated in the diverse locales of the world including Soviet Russia, China, Vietnam, East Germany, America, France, Japan, and Central Asia. The topics of our class discussion will include the history of capitalism/socialism, post-colonial discourse, the Cold War, the ideologies of self-reliance, and anti-communism. Prerequisite: A 100-course in art history. Enrollment limit: 15.
18978 – ARTS-410 F 2:20-4:20 YJ. Lee ART2 172

History

HIST 444 – Colloquium: Gender, Marriage, and Kinship in China
4 SS, CD, WADV, COLQ
A colloquium exploring the construction of gender, varieties of marriage, and conceptions of family in China from imperial times to the present. Special attention will be paid to the state’s attempts to shape ideals and enforce norms in these areas, along with the response of various groups in the society to those efforts. Suggested preparation: HIST-105, 106, or equivalent. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 15.
18708 – HIST-444 W 2:30-4:20 D. Kelley Peters 305
HIST 482 – Discrimination in Modern Japan
4 SS, CD
This seminar examines the exploitation, discrimination, and marginalization of Japan’s main minority groups the Ainu, Okinawans, Koreans and burakumin from the 1870s to the present. Construction of discriminatory views and processes of ostracism are major themes. Other topics include: community formation, anti-establishmentarian minority movements, state policies of assimilation and control, inter-minority relations, and the politics of minority identity. Discrimination against non-ethnic and non-racial minorities such as victims of atomic bombings and environmental pollution will also be discussed. Consent of instructor required. Enrollment limit: 12.
18707 – HIST-482 W 2:30-4:20 E. O’Dwyer King 339

Politics

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 T 8:00-10:00 pm M. Blecher King 321