Asian Studies

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David Leiwei Li, English (Chinese film and Asian American literature)

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Eric Priest, law (China)

Ari Ernesto Purnama, cinema studies (Southeast Asia)

Biswarup "Bish" Sen, journalism and communications (South Asia)

Jeff Schroeder, religious studies (Japan)

Xiaobo Su, geography (China)

Yeling Tan, political science (China)

Ying Tan, art (China)

Tze-Yin Teo, comparative literature (East and Southeast Asia)

Mark T. Unno, religious studies (East Asian religions)

Arafaat Valiani, history (South Asia)

Tuong Vu, political science (East and Southeast Asia)

Akiko Walley, history of art and architecture (Japan)

Glynne Walley, East Asian languages and literatures (Japan)

Yugen Wang, East Asian languages and literatures (China)

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- **Bachelor of Arts**
- **Minor in East Asian Studies**
- **Minor in South Asian Studies**
- **Minor in Southeast Asian Studies**

Undergraduate Studies

The Asian Studies Program's interdisciplinary program leads to a bachelor of arts (BA) degree in Asian studies.

Students may focus their studies on Japan, China, Korea, or, with outside language study, a special interdisciplinary major in Southeast Asian or South Asian studies. Students may enhance majors in other departments with a minor in East Asian studies, South Asian studies, or Southeast Asian studies.

Students who major in Asian studies often complement their course work with a year or more of residence in Asia or a double major to combine a profession with their area of expertise. Job possibilities are increasing in such fields as business, journalism, government, and education. Many students go on to graduate studies.

The curriculum includes courses in anthropology, art history, dance, ethnic studies, film, geography, history, global studies, linguistics, political science, religious studies, and Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language and literature. The program is administered by the Asian studies committee, which is composed of faculty members with Asian specializations.

Declaring a Major

To be accepted into the Asian studies major, a student must request acceptance as a major in the Asian studies office before attaining senior status. Depending on interests and career objectives, students are encouraged to discuss with their advisors or the program director the advisability of pursuing a second major in a supporting discipline or preprofessional program.

Major Requirements

The major in Asian studies offers

- strong training in at least one Asian language (Chinese, Japanese, or Korean)
- knowledge of the histories and cultures of the societies in which that language is used
- a sense of how academic disciplines contribute to interdisciplinary study
- a knowledge of transnational Asia beyond the primary language and civilization focus listed above

Students who have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.70 or higher and want to graduate with honors in Asian Studies write a 30- to 50-page thesis. A faculty advisor must be selected and a proposal must be approved by the advisor and the Asian Studies Program Director at least two terms before graduation. Students may apply as many as 4 credits in Research (401) or Thesis (403) to the appropriate block of the 48 credits required for the Asian Studies major. The thesis must address an international or cross-cultural topic relevant to Asian Studies, and it must make meaningful use of at least two sources in an Asian language.

Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements

Students must complete 48 credits as specified below. As many as 8 of these credits may be taken pass/no pass; at least 40 of the 48 credits must be chosen at the 300 level or above. All other courses used to satisfy major requirements must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better. Students should consult their advisors in planning programs of study.

Code	Title	Credits
Seminar		
ASIA 350	What Is Asia: Theoretical Debates	4
Subregional Interdisciplinary Focus [1]		
Six courses in the chosen subregion, if available; two courses must be in history, two in the social sciences, and two in the humanities; may include as many as 15 credits of upper-division Asian language courses related to the chosen subregion		24
Discipline or Thematic Focus		
Three courses in one discipline or theme [2]		12
Regional Breadth		
Course in Asian studies outside chosen subregion; may include lower-division language courses of a second Asian language		4
Language Requirement		
Two years of Asian language related to the chosen subregion [3]		

1 Subregions: China, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, South Asia

2 Disciplines or themes include but are not limited to film, food, literature, religion, pop culture, linguistics, or art. Discipline and thematic courses may be double-dipped from Interdisciplinary courses, but the major must include a minimum of 48 credits. Courses selected for the thematic area do not need to be taken within the declared subregional focus area. Courses selected for the thematic area cannot be language-based; linguistic and literature courses are acceptable.

3 Chinese and Japanese are taught through the fifth year in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures. Languages must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better. Under special circumstances, students may demonstrate an equivalent competence by examination or by work in advanced language courses.

Students who have an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.70 or higher and want to graduate with honors in Asian Studies write a 30- to 50-page thesis. A faculty mentor must be selected and a proposal must be approved by the Asian Studies Program Director at least two terms before graduation. Students may apply as many as 4 credits in Research (401) or Thesis (403) to the appropriate block of the 48 credits required for the Asian Studies major. The thesis must address an international or cross-cultural topic relevant to Asian Studies, it must make meaningful use of at least two Asian language sources.

Minor Requirements

Students should consult with the program director to determine whether a course has a full or partial focus on East Asia, South Asia, or Southeast Asia. A list of preapproved courses for each minor is outlined in this UO Catalog and available on the Asian Studies program website. Students should acquaint themselves with the selection of experimental courses offered each term and may pursue directed readings with East Asian, South Asian, or Southeast Asian specialists. First- and second-year language courses cannot be used to satisfy requirements for the minor. All courses used to satisfy minor requirements must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better.

Minor in East Asian Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Courses from at least two departments focused on East Asia		20
ASIA 350	What Is Asia: Theoretical Debates	4
Two years of study in relevant Asian language or equivalent level of proficiency		
Total Credits		**24**

At least 12 of the 24 credits must be upper division.

Minor in South Asian Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Courses in South Asia history		4
Course in South Asian history, religion, or philosophy		4
Course in contemporary South Asian issues		4
Course on South Asian media or culture		4
Courses with full or partial South Asia focus		8
Total Credits		**24**

At least 12 of the 24 credits must be upper division. Students must consult with one of the South Asia faculty members when determining courses to take.

In addition, students must either demonstrate first-year proficiency in any South Asian vernacular language or complete a ten-week term of study or internship in South Asia, under the supervision of a member of the UO South Asia faculty.

Minor in Southeast Asian Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Courses focused on Southeast Asia [1]		20
Course with partial focus on Southeast Asia		4
Total Credits		**24**

[1] At least 12 credits must be upper division.

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. This degree plan would grant a BA in Asian studies with a focus on Japan.

This degree plan is for general planning purposes only and, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the major, it is imperative that students speak with advisors to determine which courses would best match their personal, professional, and academic goals.

Bachelor of Arts in Asian Studies

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
JPN 101	First-Year Japanese	5	
WR 121	College Composition I	4	
Group-satisfying course in science		4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Winter			
JPN 102	First-Year Japanese	5	
WR 122	College Composition II	4	
Group-satisfying course in social science		4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Spring			
JPN 103	First-Year Japanese	5	
HIST 192	Japan, Past and Present	4	
Group-satisfying course in arts and letters unrelated to Asian studies		4	
Multicultural course in American cultures or identity, pluralism, and tolerance		4	
	Credits	**17**	
	Total Credits	**51**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
JPN 201	Second-Year Japanese	5	
JPN 305	Introduction to Japanese Literature	4	
General-education course in social science		4	
General-education course in science		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Winter			
JPN 202	Second-Year Japanese	5	
JPN 306	Introduction to Japanese Literature	4	
General-education course in social science		4	
General-education course in science		4	
	Credits	**17**	
Spring			
JPN 203	Second-Year Japanese	5	
JPN 307	Introduction to Japanese Literature	4	
Meets the multicultural international cultures requirement			
ASIA 350	What Is Asia: Theoretical Debates	4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**17**	
	Total Credits	**51**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
JPN 301	Third-Year Japanese	5	
ARH 209	History of Japanese Art	4	
General-education course in social science		4	
	Credits	**13**	
Winter			
JPN 302	Third-Year Japanese	5	

JPN 399	Special Studies: [Topic] (Ghosts and Monsters)	4
Group-satisfying course in arts and letters unrelated to Asian studies		4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**17**
Spring		
JPN 303	Third-Year Japanese	5
General-education course in science		4
	Credits	**9**
	Total Credits	**39**

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
HIST 396	Samurai in Film	4	
Group-satisfying course in arts and letters unrelated to Asian studies		4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**12**	
Winter			
JPN 434	Advanced Readings in Japanese Literature	4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**12**	
Spring			
Group-satisfying course in arts and letters unrelated to Asian studies		4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**8**	
	Total Credits	**32**	

- **Master of Arts: Area Studies Track**
- **Master of Arts: Disciplinary Track**
- **Second Master's Degree**
- **Graduate Specialization**

Graduate Studies

The university offers an interdisciplinary program in Asian studies with an emphasis on East Asia, Southeast Asia, or South Asia leading to the master of arts (MA) degree. The MS degree program is inactive.

The curriculum includes courses in anthropology, art history, Chinese language and literature, geography, history, global studies, Japanese language and literature, linguistics, political science, and religious studies. The program is administered by the Asian studies committee, which is composed of faculty members with Asian specializations.

Application for Admission

An applicant for admission to the master's program must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year university. It is expected that applicants have a minimum of two years of language study and some undergraduate preparation in courses relating to Asia. Students lacking adequate Asian language or disciplinary training must take appropriate preparatory courses, for which no graduate credit is earned.

Required materials for admission and financial aid are as follows:

1. University of Oregon application form and application fee
2. Transcripts of all college or university course work, including the final transcripts for any degree received
3. Three letters of recommendation
4. Statement of objectives
5. Writing sample
6. Test score for Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) is preferred but optional.
7. For international applicants, either Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) scores. International applicants must submit a TOEFL score of at least 575 (paper-based test) or 88 (Internet-based test) or an IELTS score of at least 7, unless they have received a bachelor's degree from a college or university in an English-speaking country, such as Australia, Canada (excluding Quebec), Ireland, New Zealand, or the United Kingdom
8. Supplementary Application and Financial Statement for International Students must be submitted to the UO Office of Admissions by international applicants
9. Application for Graduate Award, if applying for graduate employment (e.g., a graduate teaching fellowship)

The application deadline is January 5 for admission the following fall term. Application information and materials are available online and from the Asian studies office.

Master's Degree Requirements

Students pursuing an MA in Asian studies must complete 48 credits of graduate study, including at least 44 in Asia-related courses, and a final project. Graduate credit for language study may only be earned for work beyond the second-year level.

600-Level Courses. The Division of Graduate Studies requires that at least 9 credits in courses numbered 600–699 must be taken in residence.

Graded Courses. 24 of the total credits required must be earned at the University of Oregon for a letter grade. A minimum of 36 credits of course work and a minimum of 9 credits of Thesis (ASIA 503) is required. Credit for the thesis is given pass/no pass. In the final term, master's students must register for at least 3 credits, at least 1 of which must be in Thesis (ASIA 503).

Final Project Options.

Two Seminar Papers Option. Students choosing this option submit two Asia-related papers written for graduate seminars or colloquiums and pass an examination based on the submitted papers in their final term. The examination committee will include two members of the Asian studies faculty proposed by the student and approved by the director.

Thesis Option. Students choosing this option are required to take a minimum of 9 credits of Thesis (ASIA 503) as part of the 48 credits required for the degree. Credit for the thesis is given a grade of pass/no pass at the completion of the thesis. Students form a two-member thesis committee in their second or third term. Thesis writers are expected to defend their theses in the second year. In the final term, master's students must register for at least 3 credits, at least 1 of which must be in Thesis (ASIA 503).

In some circumstances, and in consultation with advisors, students may petition the director to extend the defense date of their thesis or seminar paper for up to but no more than two academic terms.

Continuous Enrollment and On-Leave Status. Master's students are expected to maintain continuous enrollment for a minimum of 3 credits each term until all degree requirements have been completed, unless on-leave status has been approved.

Minimum GPA. Graduate students must maintain at least a 3.00 grade point average (GPA) in all graduate courses taken with a graded option.

Time Limit. All requirements for the master's degree must be completed within a seven-year time period.

Master of Arts: Area Studies Track (Using the Two Seminar Papers Option as an Example)

Code	Title	Credits
ASIA 611	Perspectives on Asian Studies: [Topic]	1
ASIA 612	Theory and Methodology in Asian Studies: [Topic]	3
Seminars or colloquia		8
Two courses in architecture, art history, literature, music, religious studies		8
Two courses in anthropology, economics, geography, international studies, political science		8
Two history courses		8
Two courses in a region other than the primary language and civilization focus [1]		8
ASIA 605	Reading and Conference: [Topic] (only if needed to complete credit requirement)	4
Total Credits		**48**

[1] Perspectives on Asian Studies: [Topic] (ASIA 611), Theory and Methodology in Asian Studies: [Topic] (ASIA 612), and interdisciplinary courses may be used to satisfy this cross-regional awareness requirement.

Master of Arts: Disciplinary Track (Using the Thesis Option as an Example)

Code	Title	Credits
Courses within the primary region of focus, drawn from two or more departments		16
Courses in primary discipline with at least one theory or methods course chosen in consultation with an advisor or the program director		12
Courses in region other than primary focus [1]		8
ASIA 503	Thesis	9
Additional course work		3
Total Credits		**48**

[1] Perspectives on Asian Studies: [Topic] (ASIA 611) and Theory and Methodology in Asian Studies: [Topic] (ASIA 612) may be counted toward this cross-regional focus.

Academic courses are to be mutually agreed upon by an academic advisor and the program director. A list of Asia-related courses approved for inclusion in the Asian studies graduate curriculum is available from the program coordinator.

Students should also review the Division of Graduate Studies' regulations for information on the university's general master of arts degree requirements.

Second Master's Degree

Students enrolled in graduate programs offered by other departments may earn a second master's degree in Asian studies. Besides satisfying the degree requirements set by the other departments, such students must complete the following:

Code	Title	Credits
Approved Asia-related graduate courses		32
ASIA 611	Perspectives on Asian Studies: [Topic]	1
ASIA 612	Theory and Methodology in Asian Studies: [Topic]	3
Demonstrate the language competence required for the MA degree in Asian studies		
Final project (two Asia-related seminar papers or a thesis) [1]		
Total Credits		**36**

[1] Applies the methodology of the student's discipline to an Asian subject.

The requirements for both the Asian studies and the departmental degree programs must be completed at the same time. A student completing this option is granted two master's degrees, one in Asian studies and another in the departmental discipline.

Graduate Specialization in Asian Studies

The 16-credit graduate specialization in Asian studies is open to all UO graduate students except for MA students in the Asian Studies Program. This specialization enhances student education and future marketability in careers with nongovernmental or international organizations, the media, government service, education, or the academe.

Overview

In collaboration with faculty members, students achieve mastery in Asian studies by

- analyzing and critiquing primary and secondary sources related to Asia
- developing multiple disciplinary perspectives, sources, methods, and modes of analyses used in the study of Asia
- identifying major themes in Asian history, particularly historical continuities and critical junctures
- developing an advanced understanding of Asia's physical and political geography
- studying major topical issues relevant to modern Asia, which may include economic development, tropical diseases, environmental change, and globalization
- honing skills to critically analyze modern debates about Asia

Specialization Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Core Seminars		
ASIA 611	Perspectives on Asian Studies: [Topic]	1

ASIA 612	Theory and Methodology in Asian Studies: [Topic]	3
Breadth Requirement		
Three 4-credit courses [1]		12
Total Credits		**16**

[1] Must include more than one academic discipline and more than one Asian country. One course must be outside the student's focal academic division (e.g., humanities, social science). No more than two of the three courses may be substantially focused on the same Asian country.

To apply for the graduate specialization, fill out the Division of G (https://gradschool.uoregon.edu/sites/gradschool2.uoregon.edu/files/Specialization%20Declaration.pdf)raduate Studies form (https://gradschool.uoregon.edu/sites/gradschool2.uoregon.edu/files/Specialization%20Declaration.pdf).

The Division of Graduate Studies has general information (http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/academic-programs/#specializations) about graduate specializations campus-wide.

Courses

ASIA 111. Great Books on Modern Asia. 4 Credits.
Students learn about Asia and how knowledge about Asia is produced by reading and discussing four great books written by different authors in various writing genres and perspectives.

ASIA 199. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable when topic changes.
Prereq: freshman or new student.

ASIA 350. What Is Asia: Theoretical Debates. 4 Credits.
An interdisciplinary seminar designed to introduce students to current theoretical debates about Asia, modernization, and area studies.

ASIA 399. Special Studies: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 401. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 403. Thesis. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable.
Prereq: major honor's student.

ASIA 405. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 406. Practicum: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Closely supervised participation in the activities of public or private organizations, institutes, and community service agencies. Repeatable.

ASIA 407. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 409. Terminal Project. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 410. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 425. Asian Foodways. 4 Credits.
Explores socio-cultural, political-economic and historical dimensions of food in China, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia and India, including modernization, transnationalism, globalization. Offered alternate years.

ASIA 480. Chinese Economy: Transition, Development, Globalization. 4 Credits.
Comprehensive introduction to the Chinese economy: market transition; macroeconomic conditions and policies; key sectors such as industry, banking, finance, energy, export, technology, agriculture; globalization. Offered alternate years.

ASIA 503. Thesis. 1-9 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 507. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 510. Experimental Course: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 525. Asian Foodways. 4 Credits.
Explores socio-cultural, political-economic and historical dimensions of food in China, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia and India, including modernization, transnationalism, globalization. Offered alternate years.

ASIA 580. Chinese Economy: Transition, Development, Globalization. 4 Credits.
Comprehensive introduction to the Chinese economy: market transition; macroeconomic conditions and policies; key sectors such as industry, banking, finance, energy, export, technology, agriculture; globalization. Offered alternate years.

ASIA 601. Research: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 605. Reading and Conference: [Topic]. 1-16 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 607. Seminar: [Topic]. 1-5 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 609. Terminal Project. 1-12 Credits.
Repeatable.

ASIA 611. Perspectives on Asian Studies: [Topic]. 1 Credit.
Explores the diverse perspectives that define Asian studies. Samples conflicts, controversies, and areas of consensus that characterize the field.

ASIA 612. Theory and Methodology in Asian Studies: [Topic]. 3 Credits.
Selected Asian studies issues. Repeatable once when topic changes for maximum of 6 credits.