Asian Studies (ASIA)

Courses

ASIA 1516 Contemporary China in Literature and Films (4 Credits)
This course investigates, through critically examining the representative literary and filmic texts produced by Chinese as well as foreign writers and filmmakers, the many complicated aspects of some much-talked about issues. This includes the diminishing rural life and landscape, urbanization, migration/dislocation, the changing roles of women, social equality, as well as the balancing act of preserving tradition, the environment, and economic development. The in-depth examination and diverse approaches this course applies enables students to gain greater understanding of not only the challenges that contemporary China has raised, but also the complexities of the increasingly globalized world in which we are living. Cross listed with CHIN 1516. This course counts toward the Analytical Inquiry: Society and Culture requirement.

ASIA 2102 Topics in Chinese Art (4 Credits)
Selected topics in Chinese Art. Content changes. Course may be taken more than once. Cross listed with ARTH 3841.

ASIA 2105 Topics in Japanese Art (4 Credits)
Selected topics in Japanese Art. Content changes. Course may be taken more than once. Cross listed with ARTH 3842.

ASIA 2106 Chinese Painting: Masters and Masterpieces (4 Credits)
Exploration of pictorial art in China from the third century BCE to the present. Cross listed with ARTH 3846.

ASIA 2395 Contemporary India, 1947-2000 (4 Credits)
This course examines the history of India after independence from Britain in 1947. It traces the historical roots of the economy, society and polity of contemporary India. Understanding the hot button issues of the Kashmir conflict, nuclear weaponization, globalization and terrorism cannot be separated from and requires a historical grasp of the underlying processes of state formation, national identity, economic development and gender and social empowerment that have characterized India. While India will be the main focus, South Asia’s shared colonial history and its legacies mean that the issues of regional tensions, ethnic and gender conflict, communal violence, secularism, the unevenness of electoral democracy and the fragility of civil society have wider application in the subcontinent as a whole. Therefore, the course constantly and continuously draws useful comparisons with events and processes in other South Asian nations such as Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan. This course counts toward the Analytical Inquiry: Society and Culture requirement. Cross listed with HIST 2395.

ASIA 2403 Modern Japan (4 Credits)
Themes in early and late modern Japan - ideology and politics, culture and society, class and gender, empire and nation, Japan from Tokugawa peace through modern wars to post-war world. Cross listed with HIST 2810.

ASIA 2404 Contemporary Japan (4 Credits)
This course uses contemporary Japanese culture to examine political and social trends. Cross listed with HIST 2820.

ASIA 2414 American Occupation of Japan (4 Credits)
Studies the important issues in a vital period of both U.S. and Japanese history. Cross listed with HIST 3861.

ASIA 2601 Japanese Politics (4 Credits)
How did Japan rapidly catch up with more advanced industrial powers? Can other developing countries copy the Japanese model? What was the "darker side" behind Japan’s economic miracle? How do we come to terms with the sudden burst of Japan’s "Bubble Economy?" Will Japan’s current economic recovery process, which started in 2002, be sustainable? Is a genuine international reconciliation between Japan and its neighbors possible? These are just some of the questions we will examine in this class. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Cross listed with PLSC 2260.

ASIA 2701 Topics in Asian Studies (1-4 Credits)

ASIA 2702 Religions of China & Japan (4 Credits)
This is an introduction of some of the major East Asian religious and ethical traditions, focusing on Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, and Shinto. By examining both translations of sacred texts as well as scholarly analyses, we explore the basic ideas, practices, and historical development of these varied and interconnected traditions. Special attention is paid to how people incorporate East Asian religious and ethical ideas and beliefs into contemporary life and how gender shapes the experience of religion. This course counts toward the Analytical Inquiry: Society and Culture requirement. Cross listed with RLGS 2103.

ASIA 2703 Modern Hinduism (4 Credits)
Doctrines, practices and history of South Asian Hinduism; conceptions of the sacred, paths to liberation and modern religious attitudes. Cross listed with RLGS 3814.

ASIA 2704 Buddhism (4 Credits)
Buddhist life and thought from origins to present in India, Tibet, Japan and China. Cross listed with RLGS 3820.

ASIA 2706 Hinduism through Sacred Texts (4 Credits)
Historical development of Hinduism from its Vedic and indigenous antecedents to its medieval and modern manifestations in literature, doctrine, ritual, and art. Cross listed with RLGS 3816.
ASIA 2870 Modern China (4 Credits)
In this class we focus on China from the nineteenth century to the present. We examine historical change and continuity, including the revolutions that created the Republic of China and the People's Republic of China, the transformation of traditional values, changes in the status of women, economic liberalization in the post-Mao Zedong era, and the political, social, and environmental challenges that China has faced in recent years. Cross listed with HIST 2870.

ASIA 3701 Topics in Asian Studies (1-4 Credits)
Specialized topics in Asian Studies. Topic varies per offering. Check with the Asian Studies program director for more information. Open to majors and non-majors. May be repeated for credit.

ASIA 3830 Buddhist Lives (4 Credits)
This course explores the literary canon of Buddhist life stories across time, traditions and cultures. Cross-listed with RLGS 3830.

ASIA 3901 Asian Studies Directed Readings (4 Credits)
Students will read deeply in a specific field of scholarship directed by a core faculty member in the Asian Studies program and will write a methodological essay that discusses the scholarship in their chosen field of research. This is the first part of a required, two-quarter sequence that will culminate in the senior thesis. Enrollment is restricted to Asian Studies majors.

ASIA 3902 Asian Studies Senior Thesis (4 Credits)
Students will pursue a primary document research project under the supervision of their core faculty member in Asian Studies. The goal of this course is the writing and completion of the senior thesis in Asian Studies. Prerequisite: ASIA 3901.

ASIA 3980 Asian Studies Internship (1-4 Credits)
Provides academic credit for off-campus internships in areas related to the Asian Studies major. The purpose of the internship is the gain valuable work experience, explore various career options, develop job competencies and/or apply theoretical knowledge to practical concerns of the world. Must be an Asian Studies major and have cumulative GPA of 3.0 and have taken at least two Asian Studies content courses, not counting language training. Requires approval of Asian Studies director.

ASIA 3991 Independent Study (1-4 Credits)