East Asian Studies

The East Asian Studies program is interdisciplinary and interdepartmental. It includes both a major and a minor. The primary purpose of the program is to introduce undergraduates to the knowledge, language skills, and research methods they will need to enter various academic and professional paths relating to China, Japan, and Korea. Majors in East Asian Studies engage in intensive Chinese, Japanese and/or Korean language study through the Center for Language Education and work with faculty on such topics as China in the global economy, nationalism in East Asia, Korean politics, modern Japanese history and politics, Chinese urban history, and women in modern China. Students are encouraged to pursue original research projects in East Asia with the support of intersession and summer travel grants, stipends for conference presentations, a senior thesis honors option, and seminars that bring together research scholars, faculty, graduate students and undergraduates in a manner that is distinctly Hopkins. Many students choose to combine the major in East Asian Studies with another major. Alumni of the program are making their mark around the world in business and finance, academia, law, international development, medicine and public health, engineering, media, public service, and the arts.

BA/MA Program with SAIS

For students wishing to both develop their language skills and to pursue a master’s degree after graduation from Hopkins, the university offers an accelerated and competitive International Studies B.A./M.A. Program drawing upon its resources at the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), located in Washington, D.C, and the Hopkins-Nanjing Center in Nanjing, China. Combining a liberal arts curriculum with a strong specialization in international studies, the program allows those enrolled to receive the B.A. and M.A. degrees in five years instead of the usual six. Students spend three years in Baltimore, one year in Nanjing, and their final year in Washington, D.C.

Approximately eight sophomores are selected for the accelerated BA/MA program each year. Admission is limited to those majoring in East Asian Studies (the combined program via the Nanjing, China campus only), International Studies, and Political Science and who are highly motivated toward careers for which a background in international studies is essential: research, teaching, or practice in international affairs. Financial assistance is available to those admitted based on need and on academic achievement. For more information go to http://krieger.jhu.edu/internationalstudies/bama-programs/bama-program-with-sais/.

Hopkins in Tokyo

In fall 2012, we inaugurated a full-year undergraduate exchange program with the University of Tokyo. This study abroad program was designed with Hopkins’ East Asia Studies majors and Japanese language students in mind. As with other departmental study abroad programs at Hopkins, students’ credits and grades will be transferred between the two universities. This is a direct exchange program between our universities, rather than a program run by Hopkins. For each Hopkins student who attends the University of Tokyo, one University of Tokyo student will attend Hopkins. Each Hopkins student has a Japanese student as his/her personal tutor. The tutors assist students in both academic matters and in daily life.

Limited to 1-3 students per year, admission to the University of Tokyo program is competitive. Students must have completed 4 semesters of college-level Japanese or the equivalent, have a term GPA of 3.0 or above, and submit two faculty references, one of which should be from a Japanese language instructor. For more information and application instructions, visit http://krieger.jhu.edu/east-asian/study-abroad/hopkins-in-tokyo/

Programs

- East Asian Studies, Bachelor of Arts
- East Asian Studies, Minor

For current course information and registration go to https://sis.jhu.edu/classes/

Courses

AS.310.106. Introduction to Korean History and Culture. 3 Credits.

This course offers a comprehensive overview of Korean history and culture from ancient times to the modern era. Through primary, secondary, and audio-visual sources, students will become familiar not only with the overall contours of the entirety of Korean history, but also with its cultural and religious legacy. The course combines lectures and class discussions.

Area: Humanities

AS.310.110. Freshman Seminar: Literatures of Korea and the Korean Diaspora. 3 Credits.

Utilizing both peninsular and diasporic writings, this survey course introduces students to major events and themes addressed in Korean literature such as: Japanese colonialism, modernity, capitalism, the Korean War, rapid industrialization, postmodernity, immigration, transnational adoption, and more. Students will examine the role of literature in the development of the nation and the depiction of the Korean and Korean-diasporic subject as a complex set of intersecting social identities that contend with race, class, and gender.

Area: Humanities


This course aims to inspire students to explore the impacts, meanings, and explanations of social transformation in contemporary China, via the lens of documentary photography. The photographic images of selective topics will include the products of photojournalism and documentary photography, and several documentary films, by both Chinese and non-Chinese photographers. While one picture is worth thousand words, one picture may also provoke countless interpretations. Students are strongly encouraged to read broadly about different aspects of social transformations in contemporary China, and to select and curate their own subjects of photo images. The spirit of comparative study of documentary photography of China and other parts of world will be strongly encouraged. Active class participation is imperative. A small exhibition on the campus will be organized by the Spring semester. The course is designed for upper division undergraduates. Cross-listed with Sociology and International Studies (CP).

Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.310.222. The Religions of Korea. 3 Credits.
This course offers an overview of the religions of Korea, both indigenous and foreign, old and new. Attention will be paid to the history of these religions, their impact on society, as well as their teachings and objectives. Students will engage with various forms of secondary as well as primary sources including scriptures, sermons, and religious tracts.
Area: Humanities

AS.310.230. Chinese Politics and Society. 3 Credits.
This introductory course will familiarize students with the major dynamics of political and social change in contemporary China since 1949. The course will be divided chronologically into four main topics: 1. The contested processes of nation-state making in modern China before 1949; 2. The making of the socialist system during the Mao Years and its dismantling since 1978; 3. The Reform Era transformation to a market economy with Chinese characteristics; 4. The dynamic relationships among the state, market and society since the new millennium. Students will explore how scholars have explained major political and social changes with reference to individual and collective rationalities, specific organizational and institutional arrangements, and specific strategic and cultural mechanisms of Chinese political and social habits.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.302. China, Human Rights, and U.S. Policy Responses. 3 Credits.
This seminar explores select human rights issues in China (e.g., human rights impacts of the management of COVID-19, the Hong Kong protests, mass detentions/forced labor in Xinjiang province) and the extraterritorial reach of China's human rights challenges. As a practice and policy-oriented course, we will also investigate different responses and actions taken by the U.S. government and Congress, including hearings, legislation, reports, statements, etc. Class assignments include advocacy for Chinese prisoners of conscience (each student will “adopt” one currently detained PoC), and written work that mirrors real-world writing. We'll also have several human rights advocates and experts visit the class to share their experiences and insights. This seminar explores select human rights issues in China (e.g., human rights impacts of the management of COVID-19, the Hong Kong protests, mass detentions/forced labor in Xinjiang province) and the extraterritorial reach of China's human rights challenges. As a practice and policy-oriented course, we will also investigate different responses and actions taken by the U.S. government and Congress, including hearings, legislation, reports, statements, etc. Class assignments include advocacy for Chinese prisoners of conscience (each student will “adopt” one currently detained PoC), and written work that mirrors real-world writing. We'll also have several human rights advocates and experts visit the class to share their experiences and insights.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.305. Southeast Asia and US Security Strategy. 3 Credits.
This survey course is designed to introduce students to Southeast Asia -- the ten member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) plus Australia and New Zealand. Southeast Asia is an integral part of the broader region of East Asia and a geographic bridge to the Indian subcontinent (South Asia). Southeast Asia has been one of the great success stories in the saga of modernization and development of post-colonial Afro-Asia over the last six decades. Its resulting economic importance is matched by its strategic significance given the presence of imbedded jihadist networks and the emergence of China as a regional great power and aspirant superpower. Nevertheless, the region has been largely overlooked by senior foreign policy and defense officials in Washington. This course will equip students to fill that void by examining the region from the perspective of national security strategy -- broadly understood in its multiple dimensions. Students will be challenged to formulate some element of a viable U.S. national security strategy for the region.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.312. Masterpieces of Chinese Literature: Song through 20th Century, a Literature-in-Translation class. 3 Credits.
In the millennium from the Song Dynasty (960-1280) to the modern era court poets and master storytellers, eccentric misfits and satiric novelists, as well as courtesans and film makers all considered a complex and changing China. We will look at the masterpieces of this millennium, examining both text and cultural context. In examining the texts we will rely on close reading in order to develop sound critical interpretations. We will also place the text in cultural context, considering the multiple forces--political, economic, artistic and religious-- that shaped the lives of these writers and the cultures they observed.
Area: Humanities

AS.310.316. First Year Classical Chinese: Philosophers, Poets and Fantasists: An Introduction to Chinese Literature in the Original Classical Texts. 3 Credits.
We will read arguments, anecdotes and stories, beginning with the philosophers of the ancient period, including the imaginative paradigms of the Daoist writer Zhuangzi, and continue with the strange writings allied with shamanism and goddess-worship. We will continue with the fantastical writers of the medieval world and finish with anecdotes of the strange from the Ming and Qing. Because this is a language as well as a literature class, in addition to literary content and social history as background, we will emphasize grammar and vocabulary. Class preparation will require language exercises, translations, readings in English and there will be a final translation/research paper.
Prerequisite(s): (AS.373.115 AND AS.373.116) OR (AS.378.115 OR AS.378.116) or Instructor permission.
Area: Humanities

AS.310.317. Digital Games in East Asia and Beyond. 3 Credits.
This course explores different ways to engage with digital games as an object of academic inquiry. We will discuss the history and culture of digital games, their place and significance in contemporary society, as well as the experience they provide through novel narrative structures. Geographically, the primary focus is East Asia, but due to the transnational nature of digital games, the course will also at times look at other areas, especially North America. Students will design their own research projects and participate actively in shaping the course.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.310.320. Sociology of Urban China. 3 Credits.
Urban China has gone through two major social transformations since 1949: the embrace of a central planning socialist system between early 1950s and late 70s, and the embrace of neo-liberal market economy in the so-call “socialism with Chinese characteristics” since 1980. While the political regime remains the same over time, many profound changes have occurred in economic life, social life, cultural life, spiritual life and civil life. What really happened in the social transformation of urban China? What would explain those changes? How did people in different walk of life deal with those huge and deep social transformation? To address these concerns, we will examine a list of issues. Topics include changes in population and demographic characteristics, employment structure and job market, workplace and residential communities, income and wealth distributions, segregation impacts of urban household registration systems, urban consumption patterns, courting cultures and dressing codes, spiritual practices, and social mobility and social stratifications. In the realm of public policies, we will pay special attentions to the issues of transportation, housing, medical service, public education, social insurance, and environmental protection. We will also study the characteristics of contentious politics and how social conflicts of power, interest, justice, cultural and belief were processed in urban China.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.322. Korean History Through Film and Literature. 3 Credits.
In this course, students will engage with select topics in Korean history from premodern and modern times and examine how the past has been represented through various forms of film and literature. This will be combined with readings of academic articles to allow students to gauge the distance between scholarship and cultural expressions of history. Through this, students will be introduced to the highly contested and often polarizing nature of Korean history and the competition surrounding historical memory. Prior coursework in East Asian Studies strongly recommended.
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive

AS.310.323. The History and Culture of North Korea. 3 Credits.
This course investigates the history and culture of North Korea. In doing so, the class seeks to address topics not often discussed in the media and eschew a focus on international relations and security issues. Course material include conventional scholarship, political tracts, biographies, movies, as well as works of fiction. For the final project, students will write a research paper on a topic of their choice.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.324. Belonging and Difference in Modern Korea. 3 Credits.
Drawing on critical race theory, and gender and sexuality studies, this course provides the analytical framework necessary to grapple with how belonging and difference are produced, manifested, and challenged within Korea’s citizenry. Students will gain knowledge on modern Korea and its diasporas and examine its construction as one rooted in a history of empire, nationalism, militarism, and neoliberalism.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.310.328. Global Health and Human Rights: COVID-19 Case Studies from Asia. 3 Credits.
Using the lens of international human rights, humanitarian law, and the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this seminar explores a range of Covid-19 response and prevention issues and best practices focusing on case studies, including China, Japan, Taiwan, India, and South Korea, among others. We will examine the human rights-based guidance from the UN for Covid-19 response and prevention as well as the geopolitics of PPE and vaccine distribution (i.e., “mask” and vaccine diplomacy). The course will explore approaches to the balancing of rights and duties, including freedom of movement, freedoms of association and assembly, individuals’ right to health, duties to others, rights to privacy, freedom of expression, disinformation and governments’ emergency powers (and their limits) to protect public health. Inequities and discrimination exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic will also be discussed. Several health and human rights advocates and experts will visit the class to share their experiences and insights.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.340. Development and Social Change in Rural China. 3 Credits.
This course will survey the major issues of development and social change in rural China since 1950s. These issues will be addressed in chronological order. They include land ownership and land grabbing, organization of rural economic, political, and social life, rural elections and village governance, development strategies, urban-rural relationship in resource allocation, rural modernization strategies in regard to irrigation, clean drinking water, electricity supply, hard paved road, education and rural medical service, women’s rights and family life, rural consumption, and etc. This course will prepare students, both empirically and analytically, to understand what happened in rural China from 1949 to the present, and how we can engage in policy and theoretical discussions based on what we learn.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.310.402. Labor Politics in China. 3 Credits.
This course explores the transformation of labor relations in China over the past century. It will cover the origins of the labor movement, the changes brought about by the 1949 Revolution, the industrial battles of the Cultural Revolution, the traumatic restructuring of state-owned enterprises over the past two decades, the rise of private enterprise and export-oriented industry, the conditions faced by migrant workers today, and recent developments in industrial relations and labor conflict. The course is designed for upper division undergraduates and graduate students. Cross-listed with Sociology and International Studies (CP).
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.310.404. Korea in the World. 3 Credits.
This seminar examines Korea's interactions with the outside world including Japan, China, and the Americas, as well as Europe and Southeast Asia. We will touch upon a wide range of topics, including political, economic, and military interactions, as well as cultural, intellectual, and religious engagements. The purpose is to identify larger transnational trends and parallels in understanding Korea's position in the world.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.310.431. Senior Thesis Seminar: East Asian Studies. 3 Credits.
Students may earn honors in the East Asian Studies major by maintaining a 3.7 average in the major and completing a senior thesis by taking the year-long AS.310.431 & AS.310.432 Senior Thesis Seminar: East Asian Studies. Students are required to secure the mentorship of an adviser among the EAS faculty before asking for permission to enroll in the course. Students who decide, after the fall semester, that they are unable to complete the senior thesis and who do not enroll for the spring will be graded S/U for the fall semester. Only students who complete the fall semester course will be permitted to enroll for the spring.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.310.432. Senior Thesis Seminar: East Asian Studies. 3 Credits.
This course is the continuation of Senior Thesis Course AS.360.431 for students completing their thesis in the East Asian Studies program.
Prerequisite(s): AS.310.431
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

Cross Listed Courses
Anthropology
AS.070.332. Reverberations Of The Korean War. 3 Credits.
This course will take the reverberations of the Korean War to examine the ways in which catastrophic violence is absorbed into and corrodes social life. Particular attention is paid to the transnational nature of conflict, how boundaries around peace and war are established, and how recent scholarly and artistic work on the Korean War has critically engaged dominant frameworks of memory and trauma. Readings will draw from fiction, ethnography, historiography and will also include film. This course also draws from the public syllabus on Ending the Korean War.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.070.359. Korean War. 3 Credits.
This course takes the Korean War as a site to both explore: 1) contemporary historical and political transformations in East Asia and globally and 2) the ways in which violence, catastrophic loss, and separation are woven into everyday life. It will explore the Korean War through film, fiction, historiography, and draw on comparative materials in anthropology.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.070.389. Precarity in South Korea through TV and Film: Aesthetics and everyday life. 3 Credits.
This seminar explores how precarity in South Korea gains expression in the medium of TV and film. In particular, this seminar will focus on how the moving image brings the viewer into the texture of everyday life. We will focus on the TV show Misaeng and include films such as Parasite and Burning. TV and film will be paired with readings on the transformations of intimate life in contemporary South Korea and comparative work on precarity.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

Center for Language Education
AS.373.111. First Year Heritage Chinese. 3.5 Credits.
This course is designed for students who were raised in an environment in which Chinese is spoken by parents or guardians at home and for those who are familiar with the language and possess native-like abilities in comprehension and speaking. The course therefore focuses on reading and writing (including the correct use of grammar). Cross-listed with East Asian Studies

AS.373.112. First Year Heritage Chinese II. 3 Credits.
For students who have significant previously-acquired ability to understand and speak Modern Standard Chinese. Course focuses on reading and writing. Teaching materials are the same as used in AS.373.115-116; however, both traditional and simplified versions of written Chinese characters are used. Lab required. Continuation of AS.373.111. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.111 or permission required.
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.111 or or instructor permission

AS.373.115. First Year Chinese. 5 Credits.
This course is designed primarily for students who have no prior exposure to Chinese. The objective of the course is to help students build a solid foundation of the four basic skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing in an interactive and communicative learning environment. The emphasis is on correct pronunciation, accurate tones and mastery of basic grammatical structures. Note: Students with existing demonstrable skills in spoken Chinese should take AS.373.111-112. No Satisfactory/ Unsatisfactory. Students may choose to attend either lecture at 12pm or 3pm on TTh. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies

AS.373.116. First Year Chinese II. 5 Credits.
Introductory course in Modern Standard Chinese. Goals: mastery of elements of pronunciation and control of basic vocabulary of 800-900 words and most basic grammatical patterns. Students work first with Pin-Yin system, then with simplified version of written Chinese characters. Continuation of AS.373.115. Note: Student with existing demonstrable skills in spoken Chinese should take AS.373.111-112. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.115 or permission required.
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.115 or instructor permission

AS.373.211. Second Year Heritage Chinese. 3.5 Credits.
This course is designed for students who finished AS.373.112 with C+ and above (or equivalent). Students in this course possess native-like abilities in comprehension and speaking. The course focuses on reading and writing. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.112 or equivalent.
Area: Humanities

AS.373.212. Second Year Heritage Chinese II. 3 Credits.
For students who have significant previously-acquired ability to understand and speak Modern Standard Chinese. Course focuses on reading and writing. Teaching materials are the same as used in AS.373.115-116; however, both traditional and simplified versions of written Chinese characters are used. Continuation of AS.373.211. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.211 or permission required.
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.211 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities
AS.373.215. Second Year Chinese. 5 Credits.
Consolidation of the foundation that students have laid in their first year of study and continued drill and practice in the spoken language, with continued expansion of reading and writing vocabulary and sentence patterns. Students will work with both simplified and traditional characters. Note: Students who have native-like abilities in comprehension and speaking should take AS.373.211-212. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.116 or equivalent
Area: Humanities

AS.373.216. Second Year Chinese II. 5 Credits.
Consolidation of the foundation that students have laid in their first year of study and continued drill and practice in the spoken language, with continued expansion of reading and writing vocabulary and sentence patterns. Students will work with both simplified and traditional characters. Note: Students who have native-like abilities in comprehension and speaking should take AS.373.211-212. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.215 or Permission Required. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.215 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities

AS.373.313. Third Year Heritage Chinese. 3 Credits.
This course is designed for those who have already taken AS.373.212 or equivalent. Students need to have native-level fluency in speaking and understanding Chinese. The course focuses on reading and writing. In addition to the textbooks, downloaded articles on current affairs may also be introduced on a regular basis. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.211 AND AS.373.212 or instructor's permission
Area: Humanities

AS.373.314. Third Year Heritage Chinese II. 3 Credits.
This course is a continuation of AS.373.313. Students need to have native-level fluency in speaking and understanding Chinese. The course focuses on reading and writing. In addition to the textbooks, downloaded articles on current affairs may also be included on a regular basis. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.313 or Permission Required. Lab required.
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.313 or equivalent
Area: Humanities

AS.373.315. Third Year Chinese. 3 Credits.
This two-semester course consolidates and further expands students’ knowledge of grammar and vocabulary and further develops reading ability through work with textbook material and selected modern essays and short stories. Class discussions will be in Chinese insofar as feasible and written assignments will be given. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.216 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities

AS.373.316. Third Year Chinese II. 3 Credits.
This two-semester course consolidates and further expands students’ knowledge of grammar and vocabulary and further develops reading ability through work with textbook material and selected modern essays and short stories. Class discussions will be in Chinese insofar as feasible, and written assignments will be given. Continuation of AS.373.315. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.315 or permission required.
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.315 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities

AS.373.415. Fourth Year Chinese. 3 Credits.
This course is designed for students who finished AS.373.316 with a C+ or above (or equivalent). Readings in modern Chinese prose, including outstanding examples of literature, newspaper articles, etc. Students are supposed to be able to understand most of the readings with the aid of a dictionary, so that class discussion is not focused primarily on detailed explanation of grammar. Discussion, to be conducted in Chinese, will concentrate on the cultural significance of the readings’ content. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.316 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities

AS.373.416. Fourth Year Chinese II. 3 Credits.
Continuation of AS.373.415. Readings in modern Chinese prose, including outstanding examples of literature, newspaper articles, etc. Students should understand most of the readings with the aid of a dictionary, so that class discussion need not focus primarily on detailed explanations of grammar. Discussion, to be conducted in Chinese, will concentrate on the cultural significance of the readings’ content. Recommended Course Background: AS.373.415 or Permission Required. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.415 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities

AS.373.491. Fifth Year Chinese. 3 Credits.
Fifth Year Chinese is designed for students who finished fourth year regular or third year heritage Chinese course at JHU or its equivalent and wish to achieve a higher advanced proficiency level in Chinese. The goal of the course is to help students further develop their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills cohesively and to enhance students’ understanding of Chinese culture and society through language learning.
Prerequisite(s): AS.373.416 OR AS.373.314 or equivalent
Area: Humanities

AS.378.115. First Year Japanese. 5 Credits.
This course is designed for students who have no background or previous knowledge in Japanese. The course consists of lectures on Tuesday/Thursday and conversation classes on Monday/Wednesdays/Fridays. The goal of the course is the simultaneous progression of four skills (speaking, listening, writing, and reading) as well as familiarity with aspects of Japanese culture. By the end of the year, students will have basic speaking and listening comprehension skills, a solid grasp of basic grammar items, reading and writing skills, and a recognition and production of approximately 150 kanji in context. Knowledge of grammar will be expanded significantly in AS.373.215. No Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. Student may choose to attend either lecture at 10:30 am or 12 pm on TTh. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies

AS.378.116. First Year Japanese II. 5 Credits.
This course is designed for students who have no background or previous knowledge in Japanese. The course consists of lectures on Tuesday/Thursday and conversation classes on Monday/Wednesdays/Fridays. The goal of the course is the simultaneous progression of four skills (speaking, listening, writing, and reading) as well as familiarity with aspects of Japanese culture. By the end of the fall term, students will have basic speaking and listening comprehension skills, a solid grasp of basic grammar items, reading and writing skills, and a recognition and production of approximately 60 kanji in context. Knowledge of grammar will be expanded significantly in 2nd year Japanese. May not be taken Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. Recommended Course Background: AS.378.115
Prerequisite(s): Prereq: AS.378.115 or instructor permission
**AS.378.215. Second Year Japanese. 5 Credits.**
Training in spoken and written language, increasing their knowledge of more complex patterns. At completion, students will have a working knowledge of about 250 Kanji. Recommended Course Background: AS.378.115 and AS.378.116 or equivalent.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.378.116 or equivalent
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.378.216. Second Year Japanese II. 5 Credits.**
Continuation of Beginning Japanese and Intermediate Japanese I. Training in spoken and written language, increasing students' knowledge of more complex patterns. At completion, students will have a working knowledge of about 250 Kanji. Lab required. Recommended Course Background: AS.378.215 or equivalent.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.378.215 or instructor permission
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.378.315. Third Year Japanese. 3 Credits.**
Emphasis shifts toward reading, while development of oral-aural skills also continues apace. The course presents graded readings in expository prose and requires students to expand their knowledge of Kanji, grammar, and both spoken and written vocabulary. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.378.215 AND AS.378.216 or instructor permission
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.378.316. Third Year Japanese II. 3 Credits.**
Emphasis shifts toward reading, while development of oral-aural skills also continues apace. The course presents graded readings in expository prose and requires students to expand their knowledge of Kanji, grammar, and both spoken and written vocabulary. Lab required. Continuation of AS.378.315. Recommended Course Background: AS.378.315 or equivalent.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.378.315 or equivalent
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.378.415. Fourth Year Japanese. 3 Credits.**
By using four skills in participatory activities (reading, writing, presentation, and discussion), students will develop reading skills in modern Japanese and deepen their knowledge on Kanji and Japanese culture. Recommended Course Background: AS.378.315 and AS.378.316 or equivalent.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.378.316 or equivalent
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.378.416. Fourth Year Japanese II. 3 Credits.**
By using four skills in participatory activities (reading, writing, presentation, and discussion), students will develop reading skills in modern Japanese and deepen their knowledge on Kanji and Japanese culture. Lab required. Recommended Course Background: AS.378.415
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.378.415 or equivalent
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.378.493. Grammar and Readings in Japanese Studies. 2 Credits.**
This course is designed for graduate students (in East Asian Studies, Public Health, History of Medicine, History, etc.) and undergraduate students with a strong interest in developing a thorough knowledge of Japanese grammar from both linguistic and cultural perspectives in depth well beyond regular language courses in order to advance reading and comprehension of materials written in Japanese without use of a dictionary. We first review the primary components of Japanese grammar, such as tense, aspect, particles, conditionals, passive and causative, etc., followed by readings of articles demonstrating particular grammatical items. Specific strategies and techniques are also introduced, followed by practice. Class materials include a broad spectrum of native materials, including novels, newspapers, scholarly articles, essays, and historical papers. A diverse range of articles and essays are selected by students to introduce and enforce various ways of reading Japanese effectively. 2 credits. Pass-fail grade option only.
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.380.201. Second Year Korean. 4 Credits.**
Aims for improving oral proficiency and confident control of grammar with vocabulary building and correct spelling intended. Reading materials of Korean people, places, and societies will enhance cultural understanding and awareness. Project due on Korean cities. Existing demonstrable skills in spoken Korean preferred.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.380.101 or instructor permission
**Area:** Humanities

**AS.380.202. Second Year Korean II. 3 Credits.**
Aims for improving writing skills with correct spelling. Reading materials of Korean people, places, and societies will enhance cultural understanding and awareness, including discussion on family tree.
**Prerequisite(s):** AS.380.201 or equivalent
**Area:** Humanities
AS.380.301. Third Year Korean. 3 Credits.
Emphasizes reading literacy in classic and modern Korean prose, from easy essays to difficult short stories. Vocabulary refinement and native-like grasp of grammar explored. Project due on Korean culture. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite(s): AS.380.202 or equivalent
Area: Humanities

AS.380.302. Third Year Korean II. 3 Credits.
Emphasizes reading literacy in classic and modern Korean prose. By reading Korean newspapers and professional articles in one's major, it enables one to be well-versed and truly literate. Continuation of AS.380.301. Cross-listed with East Asian Studies
Prerequisite: AS.380.301 or equivalent.

AS.380.401. Fourth Year Korean. 2 Credits.
This course is designed for those who have finished AS.380.302 or beyond advanced mid level of competency in Korean in four skills. By dealing with various topics on authentic materials including news, articles on websites, short stories, this course aims to help students enhance not only linguistics knowledge and skills, but also current issues in Korea. It is expected that, by the end of the term, students will be able to discuss a variety of topics and express opinions fluently in both spoken and written language.
Prerequisite(s): AS.380.302 or instructor permission
Area: Humanities

Comparative Thought and Literature
AS.300.322. Lu Xun And His Times: China's Long 20th Century And Beyond. 3 Credits.
The "founding father of modern Chinese literature," Lu Xun (1881-1936) saw himself as a contemporary of writers like Gogol, Ibsen, and Nietzsche in creating his seminal short stories and essays, and likewise, he has been seen by numerous Chinese, Sinophone, and East Asian writers as their contemporary since his lifetime until today. In this course, we will survey Lu Xun's canonical works and their legacies through a comparative approach. What echoes do Lu Xun's works have with the European and Russian texts he engaged with? Why did his works manage to mark a "new origin" of Chinese literature? How were his works repeated, adapted, and appropriated by Chinese writers from the Republican period through the Maoist era to the post-socialist present, even during the Covid-19 pandemic? How do we assess his cross-cultural reception? Are his times obsolete now that China is on the rise? Or, have his times come yet? Through our comparative survey, Lu Xun's works and their afterlives will offer us a window onto China's long twentieth century and beyond in a transnational context. All materials are provided in English translation.
Area: Humanities

AS.300.328. Contemporary Sinophone Literature and Film. 3 Credits.
A survey of contemporary literature and film from the peripheries of the Chinese-speaking world, with a special focus on Hong Kong, Taiwan, and overseas Chinese communities in Southeast Asia, the Americas, and Europe. We will not only examine literary and filmic works in the contexts of the layered histories and contested politics of these locations, but will also reexamine, in light of those works, critical concepts in literary and cultural studies including, but not limited to, form, ideology, hegemony, identity, history, agency, translation, and (post)colonialism. All readings are in English; all films subtitled in English.
Area: Humanities

AS.300.330. Modern East Asian Literatures Across Boundaries. 3 Credits.
Modern literature in East Asia is as much defined by creation of national boundaries as by their transgressions, negotiations, and reimaginings. This course examines literature originally written in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean in light of contemporary understandings of political, social, and cultural boundary demarcation and crossings. How do experiences of border-crossing create and/or alter literary forms? How, in turn, does literature inscribe, displace, and/or dismantle boundaries? Our readings will include, but not limited to, writings by intra- and trans-regional travelers, exiles, migrants, and settlers; stories from and on contested borderlands and islands (e.g. Manchuria, Okinawa, Jeju); and works and translations by bilingual authors. All readings are provided in English translation.
Area: Humanities

AS.300.341. Transwar Japanese and Japanophone Literatures. 3 Credits.
A survey of Japanese and Japanese-language literatures produced in Japan and its (former)colonies during the “transwar” period, or the several years before and after the end of WWII. This periodization enables us to take into account the shifting boundaries, sovereignties, and identities amid the intensification of Japanese imperialism and in the aftermath of its eventual demise. We aim to pay particular attention to voices marginalized in this political watersheds, such as those of Japanese-language writers from colonial Korea and Taiwan, intra-imperial migrants, and radical critics of Japan's “postwar” regime. Underlying our investigation is the question of whether literature can be an agent of justice when politics fails to deliver it. We will introduce secondary readings by Adorno, Arendt, Levinas, Derrida, and Scarry, among others, to help us interrogate this question. All readings are in English.
Area: Humanities

AS.300.344. Literature and the World. 3 Credits.
This course interrogates how modern literature not simply reflects the world but functions as world-making power. What is a world? How do we conceive of, live in, and change it? What if there are multiple worlds? How are literature and other aesthetic forms crucial to tackling these questions? We will survey literary and philosophical texts in a comparative setting, engaging examples from both Europe and East Asia.
All readings are in English. Open to graduate students.
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive

AS.300.410. China in Imagination. 3 Credits.
What is China? This question has gained new relevance amid the nation's recent rise as a global power. We survey how China was imagined, represented, and conceptualized in literature, film, and philosophical writings from mainland China, overseas Chinese communities, East Asia, and the West from the late nineteenth century to the present. Through exploring this complex history, we aim to understand China and the contemporary world in a diversified, historically self-reflective way. Topics of discussion include, but not limited to, representation, identity, form, allegory, exile, diaspora, modernism, translation, world history, and universality. All readings are in English; all films subtitled in English.
Area: Humanities
AS.300.425. Modernities and Comparison. 3 Credits.
Comparative survey of literary modernities in Europe and East Asia (China, Japan, and Korea). We will study works of modern literature as well as critical and philosophical texts from these civilizations in each other’s light. We will, as a working hypothesis, begin our examination by bracketing off the conventional center-periphery (Europe-Asia) scheme and considering literary modernities to be singular and contested, yet mutually resonating attempts at reconstruction, restoration, and revolution vis-à-vis the deconstructive forces of capitalist modernity. Ultimately, we will interrogate how we should understand literary modernities in the plural, as they emerged in distant civilizations. Topics of discussion include decadence, repetition, the trope of the human, ideology, the sublime, ritual, and translation. Readings in Hegel, Nietzsche, Mann, Benjamin, Baudelaire, Proust, Breton, Soseki, Kobayashi, Wang Guowei, Lu Xun, and Yi Kwangsue. All readings are in English.
Area: Humanities

Economics
AS.180.210. Migrating to Opportunity? Economic Evidence from East Asia, the U.S. and the EU. 3 Credits.
Increased mobility of people across national borders, whether by choice or by force, has become an integral part of the modern world. Using a comparative perspective and an applied economics approach, the course explores the economic and political determinants, and (likely) consequences of migration flows for East Asia, the US and the EU. Lectures, assignments and in class discussions, will be built around the following topics: i) migrants’ self-selection; ii) human capital investment decision-making; iii) remittance decisions and effects; iv) impacts on labor markets of both receiving and sending countries; and v) the economic benefits from immigration. Overall, the course will give students perspective on the why people choose or feel compelled to leave their countries, how receiving countries respond to migrants’ presence, and the key economic policy concerns that are influencing the shaping of immigration policy in East Asia, the US, and the EU.
Prerequisite(s): AS.180.101 AND AS.180.102
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

First Year Seminars
AS.001.107. FYS: Thinking and Writing Across Cultures - East Asia and the West. 3 Credits.
In this First-Year Seminar, we will explore what it means to think and write across multiple cultures in the contemporary world. What do we gain and/or lose when we think and write crossing cultural boundaries? How do knowledge and experience of two or more cultures help us think and act critically, creatively, and ethically? What does plurality of cultures mean to universal discourses such as science and technology? How can cultural differences help or hamper our efforts to tackle global problems like climate change? These are some of the guiding questions that we will investigate together in this course by examining novels, essays, autobiographies, travelogues, philosophical writings, and films that engage with multiplicity of cultures between East Asia -- especially China, Japan, and Korea -- and the West as well as within East Asia.
Area: Humanities

History
AS.100.170. Chinese Cultural Revolution. 3 Credits.
The Cultural Revolution was Mao Zedong’s last attempt to transform Chinese society spiritually and structurally. The events of this period were marked by social upheaval, personal vendettas, violence, massive youth movements, and extreme ideological pressure. This course will explore the Cultural Revolution from a variety of perspectives, focusing on the relationship between events in China from 1966-1976, and their interpretation in China and the West during the Cultural Revolution decade and since. (Previously offered as AS.100.219 and AS.100.236.)
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.100.235. Power and Pleasure in Asian America: Race and Law in Culture. 3 Credits.
This course examines how Asians and Asian Americans became racialized in U.S. law from the early twentieth century through today. Topics include immigration, U.S. empire in Asia, food, and activism.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.100.243. China: Neolithic to Song. 3 Credits.
This class offers a broad overview of changes in China from Neolithic times through the Song Dynasty (roughly from 5000 BCE through the 13th century CE) and will include discussion of art, material culture, and literature as well as politics and society. Close readings of primary sources in discussion sections and extensive use of visual material in lectures will help students gain firsthand perspective on the materials covered. Not open to students who have previously taken AS.100.208.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.100.246. Iberia in Asia: Early Modern Encounters and Exchanges. 3 Credits.
This course examines Iberian-Asian relations in the early modern period. It enriches and complicates our understandings of important concepts, such as colonialism, religious conversion, and global trade.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Writing Intensive

AS.100.248. Japan in the World. 3 Credits.
An introduction to Japan's history from 1700 to the present, with emphasis on the influences of an increasing global circulation of ideas, goods, and people in early modern and modern times. Topics include samurai, nation-building, gender, imperialism, World War II, the postwar economy, and contemporary popular culture.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.301. America after the Civil Rights Movement. 3 Credits.
This course explores the history of late twentieth-century America by examining the social, economic, and political legacies of 1960s civil rights protest for the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s.
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive
AS.100.311. The Qing Empire and its Global Context. 3 Credits.
This is an upper level undergraduate class. It offers a case-based global history of early modern empires.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.330. National Identity in 20th Century China & Japan. 3 Credits.
Using primary sources, including literature and film, we will explore the changing ways in which ideologues, intellectuals, and ordinary citizens defined national identity in 20th century China and Japan.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.331. Reading through Things: Early Modern Chinese Medicine, Technology, and Art. 3 Credits.
This course introduces the history of late imperial China from the perspective of medicine, technology, and the arts.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.347. Early Modern China. 3 Credits.
The history of China from the 16th to the late 19th centuries.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.348. 20th-Century China. 3 Credits.
Survey of the history of China from ca. 1895 to ca. 1976.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.349. Society & Social Change in 18th Century China. 3 Credits.
What did Chinese local society look like under the Qing Empire, and how did it change over the early modern era?
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.423. Multiethnic Japan. 3 Credits.
An advanced undergraduate seminar on the intertwined histories of race, ethnicity, and empire in Japan and its former colonies from the early twentieth century to the present.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.424. Women & Modern Chinese History. 3 Credits.
This course examines the experience of Chinese women, and also how writers, scholars, and politicians (often male, sometimes foreign) have represented women’s experiences for their own political and social agendas.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.478. Japan from its Peripheries. 3 Credits.
An advanced undergraduate seminar on the history of modern Japan from the perspective of regions and people often considered as belonging to its geographical, cultural, social, and political peripheries.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.482. Historiography of Modern China. 3 Credits.
Study of Western, Chinese, and Japanese understandings of the history of China, emphasizing their implications for cultural understanding and for policy.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive
AS.100.613. Modern Japanese and Korean Histories. 3 Credits.
A reading seminar on the interconnected histories and historiographies of Japan and Korea in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.614. Seminar in Modern Chinese History. 3 Credits.
A seminar covering major milestones in research on late imperial and modern Chinese history, primarily in English.Open to undergraduates with the permission of the instructor.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.623. Telling Japanese Histories. 3 Credits.
A graduate-level seminar on the political, social, and intellectual concerns that have both shaped and undermined dominant ways of telling Japanese history, especially in Japan and the U.S. since 1945.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.100.733. Reading Qing Documents. 3 Credits.
Open to advanced undergraduates with at least one semester of Classical Chinese. This course has several objectives. First and foremost, it is a hands on document reading class designed to familiarize students with the skills, sources, and reference materials necessary to conduct research in Qing history. To that end, we will spend much of our time reading documents. At the same time, we will engage in problem solving exercises designed to develop and enhance basic research skills. Finally, several important archive-based secondary works in the secondary literature are available on reserve for your reference. These works demonstrate the ways in which historians have recently applied archival skills (and materials).
AS.100.756. Reading Seminar in Chinese History. 3 Credits.
A seminar covering recent work on late imperial and modern Chinese history, primarily in English.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
History of Art
AS.010.103. Introduction to the Art of Asia. 3 Credits.
A survey of the art and architecture of Asia, from the ancient world to the present and including the Indian subcontinent, China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia.
Area: Humanities
AS.010.233. Asian Art Since 1945. 3 Credits.
This course examines the art and architecture of East, South, and Southeast Asia produced since the mid-twentieth century. We will engage with theoretical, visual, and political developments in the recent art of this region, reading statements by artists and architects, discussing the rising commercial and international profile of contemporary Asian art, and exploring established and emerging art histories of this period. Cross-list with East Asian Studies.
Area: Humanities
AS.010.327. Asia America: Art and Architecture. 3 Credits.
This course examines a set of case studies spanning the last century that will enable us to explore the shifting landscape of Asian transnational art and architecture. Each week will focus on a different artist, group, exhibition, architect, urban space, or site to unpack artists’ and architects’ engagements with the changing landscape of immigration policies, movements to build solidarity with other artists of color, and campaigns for gender and sexual equality. The course will situate these artists within American art, and explore an expansive idea of “Asia America” to include the discussion of artists whose work directly addresses the fluidity of location and the transnational studio practice.
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive
AS.010.352. Modern and Contemporary Art: Middle East and South Asia. 3 Credits.
This course will explore modern and contemporary art in colonial and postcolonial contexts from Bangladesh to northern Africa. How do artists negotiate demands to support their national and local identities while participating in modernism across borders? What role do secularism and spirituality have in modern art? How do anticolonial, Marxist, and feminist politics shape art in these regions? How do global economic forces and the rise of powerful collectors, private museums, and international art fairs shape art and artists working across this geographic area? We will foreground the role of women as artists, collectors, patrons, and scholars throughout.
Area: Humanities
Writing Intensive

History of Science, Medicine, and Technology
AS.140.198. Technology and Environment in Japanese Films and Anime. 1 Credit.
In the course of the semester we will watch Japanese films and animation that touch upon topics of technology and environment. The list of screenings includes several blockbusters, classics in film studies, and documentaries. The course is a companion course to 140.398 “Godzilla and Fukushima,” but is also open to anyone interested. Students who do not take 140.398 will be required to write a short review paper by the end of the semester.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.140.305. From the Compass to Androids: History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Asia. 3 Credits.
The course explores the history and cultural context of science, medicine, and technology in East Asia, from the ancient Chinese science to the latest scientific and technological developments in Japan.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.140.323. Eating in Early Modern East Asia. 3 Credits.
Can we identify a distinctly East Asian food culture, or can we only speak of East Asian food cultures, plural? How are regional food cultures and culture writ large mutually constitutive? In this discussion-based course, we explore these questions through focused readings on the following aspects of local and regional foodways: agricultural environment, ingredient availability, recipe composition, meal preparation, dining practices, and the relationship between diet, health, and illness in early modern Chinese discourse.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.140.341. Humanoid Robots in Global History. 3 Credits.
Humanoid machines reflect their creators’ ideals of humanity. Comparing examples from societies across the globe we will investigate what factors shaped these ideals, and how they manifested in technological design.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.140.398. Godzilla and Fukushima: Japanese Environment in History and Films. 3 Credits.
Japan is often described as “nature-loving,” and is considered to be one of world leaders in environmental protection policies. Yet current environmental successes come on the heels of numerous environmental disasters that plagued Japan in the past centuries. Juxtaposing Japanese environmental history and its reflection in popular media, the course will explore the intersection between technology, environment, and culture. Students are encouraged to enroll in AS.140.198, “Technology and Environment in Japanese Films and Anime” (1 credit) to attend movie screenings accompanying the course.
Area: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.140.423. Science and Science Fiction in Global Perspective. 3 Credits.
What can we learn from science fiction about the history of science and technology? What ideas about science do Sci-Fi novels manifest? Is the relationship between science and science fiction always the same, across different time periods and geographical areas? This course will explore these questions by taking a comparative perspective. Each meeting we will read a Sci-Fi novel from Europe, America, South and East Asia, and discuss it in conjunction with historical writing about relevant scientific developments. Reading Sci-Fi novels from 17th century Germany, 19th-century England and India, and 20th-century Japan, China, Korea and the US, the students will explore how actual scientific developments were reflected in fiction, and what fictional depictions say about the aspirations and anxieties provoked by new technologies.
Writing Intensive

AS.140.665. History of Science and Technology in Asia.
Graduate level discussion of major historiography of science and technology in East Asia.

International Studies
AS.192.225. Economic Growth and Development in East Asia. 3 Credits.
The course offers an overview of the complexities of East Asia’s development experience from a variety of perspectives, and it is divided into three parts to allow students to develop expertise in one or more countries and/or policy arenas, while also cultivating a broad grasp of the region and the distinct challenges of “East Asia fast-paced, sustained economic growth.” Part I considers the origins of Asian economic development, analyses the common economic variables behind the region’s success, looks at the East Asian financial crisis and its lessons and assesses whether or not East Asian countries have learned them. Part II will focus on the development experiences of individual countries, with an emphasis on the ASEAN economies, NIEs, Japan and China. Part III considers topics of special interest to Asia, including trends toward greater regional economic cooperation, both in the real and financial/monetary sectors, and issues related to poverty, migration, and inclusiveness.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.190.320. Politics Of East Asia. 3 Credits.
Examines some of the central ideas and institutions that have transformed politics in the contemporary world through the lens of East Asia, focusing on Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and China. Topics include state-society relations, late development, nationalism, democratization, political culture, social movements, and globalization.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.330. Japanese Politics. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the major debates and issues of postwar Japanese politics. Topics include nationalism, electoral politics, civil society, and immigration.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.190.341. Korean Politics. 3 Credits.
This course introduces students to the historical and institutional foundations of modern South Korean politics. Topics include nationalism, political economic development, civil society, globalization, and ROK-DPRK relations. Recommended students should take Intro to Comparative Politics or a course related to East Asia first. (CP)
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.190.347. A New Cold War? Sino-American Relations in the 21st Century. 3 Credits.
“Can the United States and China avoid a new Cold War? One might think not given disputes over the South China Sea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, human rights, trade, ideology and so much more. Moreover, competition for influence in the developing world and American concerns as to whether China will replace it as the preeminent world power suggest a new Cold War is in the offing. Nevertheless, their extensive economic ties and need to work together to solve common problems such as climate change, nuclear proliferation, and pandemics argues against a continuing confrontation. This course will examine whether cooperation or conflict will define Sino-American relations, and whether a new Cold War—or even a shooting war—lies in the future.”
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.348. Business, Finance, and Government in E. Asia. 3 Credits.
Business, Finance, and Government in East Asia explores the dynamics of East Asia’s economic growth (and crises) over the last fifty years. We will examine Japan’s post-war development strategy, the Asian tiger economies, and China’s dramatic rise. Centered on case studies of major corporations, this course examines the interplay between politics and economics in East Asia, and considers the following questions: How have businesses navigated East Asia’s complex market environment? In what ways can the state foster economic development? How has the financial system been organized to facilitate investment? What are the long-term prospects for growth in the region?
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.370. Chinese Politics. 3 Credits.
This course is designed to help students better understand the politics of China. Lectures will focus on the tools of governance that China has employed to navigate its transition from plan to market, provide public goods and services to its citizens, and to maintain social control over a rapidly changing society. The course will draw heavily from texts covering a range of subjects including China’s political economy, social and cultural developments, regime dynamics, and historical legacies. Students interested in authoritarian resilience, governance, post-communist transition, and domestic will find this course particularly instructive.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.280. China Under Revolution and Reform. 3 Credits.
China is an emerging world power with a long history, a rich culture, and complex political structures and processes. As a modern state, the People’s Republic of China (PRC) continues to amaze and confound observers both inside and outside its borders. More than three decades after opening its doors to the outside world, China remains as important as it is misunderstood. This course is designed to provide you with a road map to help understand the fascinating world of Chinese politics and the contemporary Chinese state. The course presumes no prior knowledge of China.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.192.404. Democracy, Autocracy and Economic Development: Korea, Indonesia, and Myanmar. 3 Credits.
East Asia’s “miracle growth” has not gone hand in hand with a decisive move toward democracy. The course explores the reasons why democratization proceeds slowly in East Asia, and seems to be essentially decoupled from the region’s fast-paced economic growth. The course is divided into three parts. Part I introduces the specifics of East Asia’s economic development strategies as well as key concepts of democracy, authoritarianism and military rule and the tensions between these theories and the East Asian experience. Part II will focus on the economic and political development experiences of Korea, Indonesia and Myanmar in light of what discussed in Part I. Finally, Part III presents lessons emerging from the comparison of Korea’s, Indonesia’s and Myanmar’s economic and political developmental trajectories.
Area: Humanities

AS.190.109. Politics of East Asia. 3 Credits.
This course examines some of the central ideas and institutions that have transformed politics in the contemporary world through the lens of East Asia, focusing on Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and China. We analyze two enduring themes of classic and contemporary scholarship in comparative politics: development and democracy. The purpose is to introduce students to the various schools of thought within comparative politics as well as to the central debates concerning East Asian politics.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.264. What You Need to Know About Chinese Politics (Part 1). 3 Credits.
What you need to know about Chinese politics covers the major scandals, political events, and policy debates that every China watcher needs to know. This first module of a two-semester experience brings together two professors, Prof. Andrew Mertha (SAIS) and Prof. John Yasuda (KSAS), with very different perspectives on China’s past achievements, its political and economic futures, and the global implications of China’s rise. The course seeks to give ample coverage to every major political question about China that is often missed in a semester-long class. In addition to lively debates between the instructors, students can also expect guest speakers from the policy world, business, and the academy for a fresh take on what’s going on in China today.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.315. Asian American Politics. 3 Credits.
This course examines issues of political identity, political incorporation, and political participation of Asian Americans. Themes include Asian American panethnicity, the struggle for immigration and citizenship, Asian American electoral politics, political activism and resistance since the 1960s, and the impact of Asian Americans on the politics of race and ethnicity in the United States.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.190.389. China's Political Economy. 3 Credits.
This course examines the most important debates about China's political economic development. After exploring Mao Zedong's disastrous economic policies, we will consider the politics of reform and opening under Deng Xiaoping, and finally conclude with China's state capitalist policies across a variety of issue areas. The course will cover literatures on financial reform, public goods provision, foreign trade and investment, agriculture, corruption, business groups, and regulatory development. Where possible we will draw comparisons with the economic experiences of other East Asian nations as well as other post-communist states.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.427. Political Economy of Japan and Korea. 3 Credits.
This upper-level seminar examines some of the major debates and issues of postwar Japanese and South Korean political economy. Topics include nationalism, gender politics, civil society, immigration, and US-Japan-South Korea trilateral relations.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.190.442. Civil Society. 3 Credits.
This course explores classic and contemporary debates on the concept of civil society and critically examines its analytical value in light of recent developments. Topics include the relationship between civil society, the state, and markets, the role of civil society in development democratization, social capital, and global civil society. This course is open to graduate students from any discipline. Advanced undergraduate students must obtain permission from the instructor and are expected to keep up with graduate students during class discussions.
Writing Intensive

AS.190.612. Comparative Citizenship and Immigration Politics.
Graduate students only. Examines the contemporary political dynamics of migration, citizenship, and race concentrating on North America, Europe and East Asia. We will focus on how citizenship and immigration policies shape immigrant political identities, claims, and strategies as well as how immigrants impact public debates and policies in receiving societies.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.191.306. The Citizen and the Foreigner in South Asia. 3 Credits.
This course will take students through the histories of belonging and non-belonging of the peoples that populate South Asia. This will involve examining the administrative as well as emotional consequences of colonial rule, the politics of legal and illegal identity documents, the continuing legacies of the partition of the Indian subcontinent, climate-change related migration, refugee experiences and detention centers, and the dimensions of caste and tribal identities on citizenship. Towards the latter end of the course, we will examine how citizenship is an ongoing process that is intimately connected to national identity and competing ideas of who and what constitutes the nation. The course will end with considering some implications for development on citizenship. Recommended Course Background: Prior courses in Comparative Politics or South Asian Politics.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.191.347. The Political Economy of Climate Change. 3 Credits.
Scientists tell us that continued reliance on fossil fuels to drive our economies causes global warming, which in turn poses an existential threat to humanity as we know it. But the major tools of societies to steer a clean energy transition—climate and energy policies—often fail, lack ambition, and vary widely from country to country. This is puzzling: Why is it so difficult to pass meaningful policies even though the stakes are so high? How to explain the varying responses to the same problem? In this course, students study the struggle over energy and climate policies through case studies of large industrialized countries. Besides other things, we will ask why the US failed to install any kind of meaningful climate policy, if and how the problems of the EU’s carbon market can be solved, why China cancelled over 100 coal-fired power plants in 2017, and why cloudy Germany became a solar energy powerhouse.
Writing Intensive

AS.191.359. North Korea, Identity, and International Politics. 3 Credits.
This course analyzes the role of identity and foreign policy in contemporary North Korea. We begin with an overview of North Korea’s political economic development and the role of national identity in state formation. We will then use those concepts to explore North Korea’s relations with South Korea, China, and the United States through topics such as regime security, nuclear weapons, human rights, and social change. The course ties together academic literature, journalistic sources, and policy research with in-class activities and writing assignments. It is recommended that students have taken a survey course on International Relations (e.g., Global Security Politics, Contemporary International Politics).
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Sociology

AS.230.175. Chinese Revolutions. 3 Credits.
This course introduces the origins, operation and impacts of five major revolutions in modern China between 1850 and 1950. These include the Taiping Rebellion, the republican revolutions, federalist and southern automatic movements, labor strikes as well as peasant rebellions. It draws on the existing historiography that examines China’s transition from an empire to a republic, impacts of western and Japanese influences to China, as well as the continuity and change of Chinese social organizations. Cross list with International Studies and East Asian Studies. Fulfills IS History requirement.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.228. Colonialism in Asia and Its Contested Legacies. 3 Credits.
This course surveys the impacts of colonialism in East and Southeast Asia. Special attention will be paid to the social and economic development in British Singapore and Hong Kong as well as Japanese Korea and Taiwan. Topics include free-trade imperialism, colonial modernity, anticolonial movements, pan-Asianism, and post-war U.S. hegemony.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
AS.230.229. Capitalism, Development, and Resistance in South Korea. 3 Credits.
This course examines the origins, processes, and consequences of economic development in South Korea. Attention will be paid to the rise of big business, strong state, and contentious society in the post-1945 period. The first part of the course focuses on the academic debates on Korea's economic miracle and introduces theories of late development and state formation. The second part of the course explores labor unrest and social conflicts that have emerged in response to capitalist development in twentieth and twenty-first century Korea.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.230.233. Inequality and Social Change in Contemporary China. 3 Credits.
This course examines the trajectory of economic development in China since the beginning of market reforms in the late 1970s, with a special focus on social inequality and forms of resistance that have emerged in response to the expansion of the market economy. The first part of the course focuses on understanding the academic debates around China's economic miracle and introduces students to theories about the relationship between market expansion and social resistance. The second part focuses on key thematic topics including the rural/urban divide, rural protest, urban inequality and labor unrest, gender and sexuality in social movements, environmental protests, and the politics of ethnic relations.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.239. Coffee, Tea and Empires. 3 Credits.
The course introduces the transformation of the coffee and tea industries in the long nineteenth century against the backdrop of European and Japanese colonial expansion. It surveys the social changes in the colonial world under the development of the cash crop economy. It also analyzes how the consumption of such caffeinated beverages became sources of heritage makings both in the metropoles and colonies and the latter's postcolonial reconstructions.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.275. Revolution, Reform and Social Inequality in China. 3 Credits.
This course explores various aspects of social inequality in China during the Mao Zedong and the post-Mao reform eras. We will examine inequality within villages, the rural/urban divide, urban inequality, education and health policies, and gender and ethnic inequality. Each of these issue areas will be tackled analytically, but the aim is also to understand what it was/is like to live in China during and after the Mao era. Formerly offered as AS.230.321.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.230.351. Capitalism, Development and Resistance in South Korea. 3 Credits.
This course examines the trajectory of capitalist development in South Korea (hereafter, Korea) in the twentieth and the early twenty-first centuries. We will examine debates around the political economy of development in Korea as well as class formation and social and labor protest. This course is designed to help students explore the dynamics of capitalist development and workers' movements in Korea as a case of late development in the global South. The course also draws on theoretical perspectives and methodological tools from comparative and world-historical sociology to better understand the Korean case.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

AS.230.352. Chinese Diaspora: Networks and Identity. 3 Credits.
This course combines lecture and class discussion. It examines the history and historiography of Chinese overseas migration. Major issues include overseas Chinese as "merchants without empire," Chinese exclusion acts in the age of mass migration, the "Chinese question" in postcolonial Southeast Asia, as well as the making and unmaking of Chinese identity in the current wave of globalization.
Prerequisite(s): Students may not have completed AS.230.217 previously.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

AS.230.435. The China Boom. 3 Credits.
This course addresses the origins, global impacts, and demise of China's economic ascendancy as a world economic and political powerhouse at the turn of the twenty-first century. The course will cover the historical origins of the China boom and impacts of the boom on global political economic order. It will also address the social-political imbalances within China that contribute to the global financial crisis and recent slowdown of the Chinese economy. Particular topics include late imperial and Maoist legacies' relation to contemporary economic growth, stages of China's capitalist development, China's outward investment in the developing world, formation and limits of US-China economic symbiosis, and China's participation in global governance, among others.
Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences
Writing Intensive

Writing Seminars
AS.220.230. Reading Contemporary Korean Fiction in Translation. 3 Credits.
This course examines a range of contemporary Korean fiction produced since political liberalization of Korea in the 1990s. Students will see the many different ways in which individual selves relate to the world, question the value systems of a globalized society, and celebrate the instinct to survive and thrive. While exploring these things, students will develop their analytical skills and identify the central components of new Korean narratives.
Area: Humanities

For current faculty and contact information go to http://krieger.jhu.edu/east-asian/directory/