Asian Studies
IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

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Offered by Asian and Pacific Studies
Master of Arts degree in Asian studies.
Major in Asian studies with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.
Emphasis in Chinese studies and language.
Minor in Asian studies.
Minor in Chinese studies.
Minor in Japan studies.

The Major
The importance of the immense and varied regions of Asia and the Pacific Rim are reflected in the rich culture and history of Asian people, Asian contributions to the world’s literature and art, religion and philosophy, as well as contemporary international relations and economics.

The major in Asian studies is multidisciplinary. Students can enroll in classes from a wide range of departments and programs, such as anthropology, art, Chinese, comparative literature, economics, history, Japanese, philosophy, political science, religious studies, sociology, and women’s studies. Because the program draws its faculty from multiple programs and departments on the SDSU campus, the major is able to provide resources for understanding East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Rim, the relation of these peoples and cultures to North America, and Asian American diaspora communities. Areas of special interest may be pursued in depth.

The major provides students with the background for careers that require an understanding of Asia, whether in academic, business, government, or community and social services. Students in the major develop an understanding of cultural heritage, society, and the Pacific Rim, the relation of these peoples and cultures to North America, and Asian American diaspora communities. Areas of special interest may be pursued in depth.

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Advising
All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

Impacted Program
The Asian studies major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the Asian studies major, students must meet the following criteria:

a. Complete preparation for the major;
b. Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;
c. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)
Visit http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs website was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Asian Studies Major
With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences
(Major Code: 03011) (SIMS Code: 11101)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on “Graduation Requirements.” No more than 48 units in Asian studies courses can apply to the degree.

A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major: Asian Studies 100, 101, 6 (6 units)

Language Requirement: Competency (equivalent to that attained through three semesters or five quarters of college study) in one Asian language, unless specifically waived by the undergraduate adviser. Refer to section of catalog on “Graduation Requirements.”

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major: A minimum of 27 upper division units in Asian Studies. Courses from other departments [or cross-listed courses] acceptable for the Asian Studies major include: Chinese 496, 499; Filipino 460 [or Asian Studies 460]; History 420, 421 [or Asian Studies 421], 422 [or Asian Studies 422], 566, 567, 570, 574, Japanese 421*, 496, 499, Korean 321 [or Asian Studies 321], 430 [or Asian Studies 430]; Philosophy 351 [or Asian Studies 351], 353, 516*, 565, 579*; Political Science 362, 365, 575*; Religious Studies 338, 339, 345, 581*, 583*, 596*; Women’s Studies 331.

Other Asian-content courses may be applied to the major with written approval of the undergraduate adviser.

*Acceptable when of relevant content.
*Indicates course with prerequisites not included in requirements listed above.

Emphasis in Chinese Studies and Language
Close to one quarter of humanity lives in China, as has been the case for most of human history. Two of the world’s major religions originated in China, as did key technologies ranging from paper and porcelain manufacturing to gunpowder and the magnetic compass. China’s literature, art, poetry, and love of history are also world famous. In the 21st century, China’s economic growth and increasing political clout play a crucial role in world affairs. An increasing number of Americans are discovering the importance of learning about and engaging with China and Chinese diaspora communities. The emphasis in Chinese studies and language seeks to provide students with facility in the Chinese language and with a broad understanding of Chinese philosophy, religion, art, history, economics, politics, and geography.

Students selecting this emphasis may choose either Track (a) Chinese Studies or Track (b) Chinese Language.
Asian Studies

Preparation for the Major. Asian Studies 100, 101; Chinese 101, 102, 201, 202; and one course selected from Anthropology 102, Geography 102, History 101, Linguistics 101, Political Science 103, or Religious Studies 101. The Chinese language courses can be satisfied by examination or completion of Chinese 202. See adviser. (29 units)

Language Requirement. The language requirement for graduation is automatically fulfilled by completing coursework for preparation for the major.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10 or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 350W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

Study Abroad Requirement. Capstone Experience (3 units). Students are required to fulfill the capstone requirement for the emphasis by study abroad for one semester on an SDSU pre-approved program in mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, or Macao.

Track (a): Chinese Studies

(SIMS Code: 111103)

Major. A minimum of 24 upper division units in Chinese studies to include Asian Studies 351 [or Philosophy 351], History 566, 567; Political Science 362, 365; and nine units selected from Asian Studies 421 [or History 421], 499, Communication 496*, History 420, 435*. Journalism and Media Studies 450*, Political Science 575, Religious Studies 338, 345.

Track (b): Chinese Language

(SIMS Code: 111104)

Major. A minimum of 24 upper division units to include Chinese 301, 302, 431, 433, 434, 496* (three units); six units selected from Asian Studies 351 [or Philosophy 351], History 567, Political Science 365.

*Acceptable when of relevant content.

Asian Studies Minor

(SIMS Code: 111101)

The minor in Asian studies consists of a minimum of 18 units to include Asian Studies 100, 101; and any combination of 12 units of upper division courses in Asian studies, in Asian-content courses approved for the major, or upper division courses approved by the undergraduate adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Chinese Studies Minor

(SIMS Code: 111110)

The minor in Chinese studies consists of a minimum of 15 units to include Asian Studies 100 or 101, 351 [or Philosophy 351], History 567; Political Science 365; and three units selected from History 566, Religious Studies 499 (Special Study), or another upper division course with appropriate focus on China, with approval of minor adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Japan Studies Minor

(SIMS Code: 111111)

The minor in Japan studies consists of a minimum of 12 units of upper division courses selected from Asian Studies 458 [or Religious Studies 458], History 570, Japanese 499, Political Science 362, Religious Studies 341, 345, or other upper division courses in a department with appropriate content on Japan, with approval of minor adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (ASIAN)

Refer to Courses and Curricula and University Policies sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

ASIAN 100. State and Society in the Asia Pacific (3) [GE]

Survey of contemporary Asia Pacific region and future prospects, politically, socially, and economically, as historically grounded in cultural and philosophical roots.

ASIAN 101. Asian Thought and Cultures (3) [GE]

Intellectual and cultural underpinnings of East, Southeast, South, and Central Asia, from ancient to present, by means of a comparative overview of philosophies, religions, literatures, architectural design, visual and performing arts, highlighting continuing influence of tradition in contemporary Asian societies.

ASIAN 110. Elementary Conversational Chinese (3) [GE]

(Same course as Chinese 100)

Introductory conversational course for students with little or no previous background in Chinese. Focuses on daily tasks that one may encounter when first going to a Chinese-speaking community. Develops elementary listening and speaking skills needed for accomplishing these tasks.

ASIAN 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Intended for Undergraduates)

ASIAN 300. Asia's Global Future (3) [GE]

Survey of contemporary Asia Pacific region and future prospects, politically, socially, and economically, as historically grounded in cultural and philosophical roots.

ASIAN 320. Asian Environmental Issues (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Major Asian environmental issues such as acid rain in China, dams on Mekong Delta, deforestation, and biodiversity conservation in Southeast Asia, population density in Bangladesh, overpopulation in China and India, and impending failure of Green Revolution.

ASIAN 321. Korean Civilization (3) [GE]

(Same course as Korean 321)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Development of art, religion, philosophy, political, social institutions through different periods in Korean history. Humanistic dimensions of the Korean mind, traditions, heritage. Taught in English.

ASIAN 351. Chinese Philosophy (3) [GE]

(Same course as Philosophy 351)

Philosophical traditions which have shaped the intellectual life and culture of China. Emphasis on foundational texts surviving from pre-Han China.
ASIAN 353. Language and Social Interaction in China (3) [GE]  
(Same course as Chinese 353)  
Stereotypes and empirical findings of the relationship between language use and social behavior in China. Confucianism and Cultural Revolution; personal relationships and hierarchical structure; characteristics of Chinese language and interaction; politeness in everyday social encounters in China; cultural miscommunication. Taught in English.  

ASIAN 421. Asian History Since 1600 (3) [GE]  
(Same course as History 421)  
China, Japan, and India, with case studies on Philippines and Vietnam. Comparative Asian responses to Western imperialism, nationalism, revolution, and war. Diverse Cold War paths; contemporary problems and prospects.  

ASIAN 422. Asian American Experiences (3) [GE-ES]  
(Same course as History 422)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing.  
Experiences of Asian/Pacific Islander Americans to include immigration, colonialism, imperialism, exclusion, citizenship, labor, family, community, gender, popular culture, refugees, multi-racial tensions, globalization, and resistance.  

ASIAN 425. The Vietnam War (3) [GE]  
(Same course as History 425)  
The Vietnam War from a global perspective. The war’s evolution in Vietnam and Indochina as well as its implications on socialist nations, the Third World, and the West.  

ASIAN 430. Contemporary Korean Culture Through Media (3) [GE]  
(Same course as Korean 430)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing.  
Contemporary Korean culture and society as reflected in various modes of media (news, drama, film, instructional technology). Korean culture in neighboring countries and beyond. Historical perspective to modern Korean culture. Taught in English.  

ASIAN 458. Asian Traditions (3) [GE]  
(Same course as Religious Studies 458)  
Prerequisites: Six units of Asian-content courses or upper division standing.  
Social, cultural, economic, and political traditions of South, Southeast, and East Asia; how they functioned in theory and practice prior to twentieth century.  

ASIAN 460. Contemporary Issues in Filipino-American Communities (3) [GE-ES]  
(Same course as Filipino 460)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing.  
History of Philippines and Filipino immigration to US. Current issues in Filipino American communities to include labor, health, gender and sexuality, race relations, family culture and parenting, youth and the elderly, ethnic identity and empowerment.  

ASIAN 480. Asian Leadership Models (3)  
Prerequisite: Upper division standing.  
Asian philosophies of leadership to include conflict resolution, decision-making, definitions of a leader, education, and thinking styles. Applications of theoretical structures in business and economics, government and diplomacy, negotiating war and peace, and pedagogy. Primary ancient and contemporary texts from Asian cultures.  

ASIAN 490. Study Abroad in Asian Studies (3) [GE]  
Prerequisites: Upper division standing. See Class Schedule for additional prerequisites.  
Selected topics in Asian studies. Courses taught abroad in Asian countries through a program approved by Center for Asian and Pacific Studies to include SDSU faculty-led courses in these countries. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content and geographic location. Maximum credit six units of which three units may be applicable to General Education.  

ASIAN 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)  
Prerequisite: Six units of Asian-content courses.  
Selected topics in Asian studies. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.  

ASIAN 499. Special Study (1-3)  
Prerequisites: At least six units of upper division work completed toward the major or minor in Asian studies and consent of the instructor.  
Individual study. Maximum credit six units.  

UPPER DIVISION COURSE  
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)  

ASIAN 596. Selected Studies in Asian Cultures (3)  
Topics on various aspects of Asian studies. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.  

GRADUATE COURSES  
Refer to the Graduate Bulletin.