

# ASIAN STUDIES, BA

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**More Information:** <https://asianstudies.case.edu/>

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts (BA)

**Major:** Asian Studies

## Program Overview

Asian studies has become an increasingly important area of study in North American colleges and universities. This is due in part to a growing acknowledgment that Asian cultures are of significance both regionally and globally. The Asian Studies Program offers students the opportunity to explore these cultures from a multidisciplinary perspective so that they are able to understand the social, cultural, political, and other forces that shape and have shaped Asian nations.

The Asian Studies Program draws on faculty and courses from such departments as anthropology, art history and art, economics, modern languages and literatures, history, philosophy, political science, and religious studies. A current list of approved courses is available from the program advisor.

Students are encouraged to take courses in different disciplines in order to obtain broad exposure to the languages, literature, art, culture, religious traditions, and political, economic, and social institutions of Asian countries. The Asian Studies Program also offers an honors program to qualified majors.

In addition to course offerings, the Asian Studies Program sponsors extracurricular activities that enhance the formal study of Asia and give students additional opportunities to explore and understand Asia's importance in the global community. The program sponsors lectures and films and administers a website devoted to Asia. It also encourages students to participate in study abroad programs in Asian countries and to utilize Asian resources at the Cleveland Museum of Art and other local institutions.

## Undergraduate Policies

For undergraduate policies and procedures, please review the Undergraduate Academics section of the General Bulletin.

## Accelerated Master's Programs

Undergraduate students may participate in accelerated programs toward graduate or professional degrees. For more information and details of the policies and procedures related to accelerated studies, please visit the Undergraduate Academics section of the General Bulletin.

## Department Faculty

Lihong Shi  
*Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology; Program Advisor, Asian Studies*

Beth Carter  
*Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures*

Ananya Dasgupta  
*Associate Professor, Department of History*

Jue Liang  
*Severance Professor in the History of Religion; Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies*

Kelly McMann  
*Lucy Adams Leffingwell Professor, Department of Political Science*

Deepak Sarma  
*Professor, Department of Religious Studies*

Yasuhiro Shirai  
*Professor, Department of Cognitive Science*

Jonathan Tan  
*Archbishop Paul J. Hallinan Professor in Catholic Studies; Associate Professor, Department of Religious Studies*

Peter Yang  
*Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures*

## Program Requirements

Students seeking to complete this major and degree program must meet the general requirements for bachelor's degrees and the Unified General Education Requirements. Students completing this program as a secondary major while completing another undergraduate degree program do not need to satisfy the school-specific requirements associated with this major.

The Asian Studies major, which leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree, consists of 31 credit hours, including:

- At least 16 credit hours (two years) of Chinese or Japanese language
- 15 credit hours of Asia-related courses, selected in consultation with the program advisor

The 15 credit hours in Asia-related courses must be at the 200- or 300-level and come from at least three different departments.

## Language Courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Chinese Language Courses:</b>		
CHIN 101	Elementary Chinese I	4
CHIN 102	Elementary Chinese II	4
CHIN 201	Intermediate Chinese I	4
CHIN 202	Intermediate Chinese II	4
CHIN 301	Advanced Chinese I	4
CHIN 302	Advanced Chinese II	4
CHIN 320	Chinese Popular Culture	3
CHIN 330	Chinese Cinema	3
CHIN 350	China and Green Cultural Transformation	3
CHIN 350D	China and Green Cultural Transformation	3
CHIN 381	Contemporary Chinese Texts II	3

CHIN 399	Independent Study	1 - 3
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Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**Japanese Language Courses:**

JAPN 101	Elementary Japanese I	4
JAPN 102	Elementary Japanese II	4
JAPN 201	Intermediate Japanese I	4
JAPN 202	Intermediate Japanese II	4
JAPN 215	The World of Manga	3
JAPN 225	Japanese Popular Culture and Society	3
JAPN 235	The Japan Experience: Kyoto - Language, Culture & Exchanges	3
JAPN 245	Classical Japanese Literature: Enduring Aesthetics in Poetry, Prose, Musings, and Plays	3
JAPN 255	Modern Japanese Literature in Translation	3
JAPN 265	Constructing the Samurai: Images of Japanese Warriors from 1100's to the Present	3
JAPN 301	Advanced Japanese I	4
JAPN 302	Advanced Japanese II	4
JAPN 315	Origins of Anime: Classical Texts, Modern Manga, Anime, and Tales	3
JAPN 335	Japanese Linguistics	3
JAPN 337	Love and Loss: Reading The Tale of Genji	3
JAPN 350	Contemporary Japanese Texts I	3
JAPN 351	Contemporary Japanese Texts II	3
JAPN 355	Modern Japanese Novels and the West	3
JAPN 397	Senior Thesis I	3
JAPN 398	Senior Thesis II	3
JAPN 399	Independent Study	1 - 3

**Asia-related Courses:**

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**Anthropology Courses:**

ANTH 312	Ethnography of Southeast Asia	3
ANTH 331	The Most Ancient Near East	3
ANTH 333	Roots of Ancient India: Archaeology of South Asia	3
ANTH 353	Chinese Culture and Society	3
ANTH 354	Health and Healing in East Asia	3

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**Asian Studies Courses:**

ASIA 132	Introduction to Modern East Asia	3
ASIA 288	Imperial China: The Great Qing	3
ASIA 289	Reform, Revolution, Republics: China 1895 to Present	3
ASIA 320	Chinese Popular Culture	3
ASIA 330	Chinese Cinema	3
ASIA 398	Honors Thesis	1 - 4

ASIA 399	Independent Study	1 - 3
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Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**Art History Courses:**

ARTH 203	The Arts of Asia	3
ARTH 302		3
ARTH 341	Issues in the Art of Japan	3
ARTH 398	Independent Study in Art History	1 - 3

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**History Courses:**

HSTY 132	Introduction to Modern East Asia	3
HSTY 137	Introduction to Modern South Asia	3
HSTY 157	Women's Histories in South Asia	3
HSTY 288	Imperial China: The Great Qing	3
HSTY 289	Reform, Revolution, Republics: China 1895 to Present	3

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**Political Science Courses:**

POSC 353	Political Thought and Political Change in China	3
POSC 370D	The Politics of China	3

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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**Religious Studies Courses:**

PHIL 253	Religion and Philosophy in China	3
RLGN 108	The History of Yoga: The Yoga of Transformation and the Transformation of Yoga	3
RLGN 153	Introducing Chinese Religions	3
RLGN 154	Introducing Hinduism	3
RLGN 216	Hinduism	3
RLGN 217	Buddhism	3
RLGN 221	Indian Philosophy	3
RLGN 228	Asian Americans: Histories, Cultures, Religions	3
RLGN 243	Bollywood, Social Justice, Gender and Sexuality: Contemporary Bollywood Movies with a Social Message	3
RLGN 253	Religion and Philosophy in China	3
RLGN 348	Buddhism and Cognitive Science	3
RLGN 353	Hindu and Jain Bioethics: Special Focus on Women's and Gender Studies	3

**Honors Program**

Asian Studies Honors is a semester-long program for Asian studies majors, normally taken during the senior year, which involves researching and writing an honors thesis. Honors program requirements include the completion of 12 credit hours of approved Asia-related courses, at least two semesters of study of an Asian language, and maintenance of a GPA of at least 3.0 overall and 3.2 in Asian studies courses.

A participating student enrolls in ASIA 398 and writes a thesis under the direction of an Asian Studies faculty member. The student also receives guidance from a second reader, who must be a member of the Asian Studies Program. A third reader, who need not be a member of the Asian Studies Program, is optional. Each student must maintain regular contact with the supervising faculty member in the various stages of researching and writing the thesis. Detailed guidelines and deadlines for the course are available from the program advisor.