Asian Studies (ASIA)

Courses

ASIA 010 (PHIL 010, REL 010) Intro to Buddhism: Love Death and Freedom 4 Credits
This course will introduce students to Buddhist practices, philosophical systems, and cultural forms, from Buddhism’s Indian origins to its spread across Asia and globally. Students will explore how Buddhists have approached the problem of death, the possibility of freedom, and the forms of social and individual love and concern. Course materials include poetry, biographies, philosophical writings, art and film.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 012 (REL 012) Mountains, Buddhas, Ancestors: Introduction to East Asian Religions 4 Credits
This course explores the local religions of East Asia, including Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and Shamanic Traditions. What is each tradition’s view of human potential? How is ultimate reality depicted and experienced? What do home altars, boisterous festivals, and silent meditation halls have in common? Several primary texts are read in translation.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 050 (MLL 050, WGSS 050) Dreaming in Pre-modern China 4 Credits
Life is a cosmic allegory experienced by a group of all-too-human incarnated spirits of the 18th century novel Story of the Stone (aka Dream of the Red Chamber). A unique depiction on the inner emotional landscape of young women and the quest for identity by Precious Jade--is he a real boy? Read and discuss in English. Option to combine with CHIN 371 for those who wish to also read and research it in Chinese.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 053 (THTR 053) Bollywood Dance 2 Credits
Bollywood is a term compounded from "Bombay" (now Mumbai) and "Hollywood." Bollywood dance is the movement form used in Indian films - a unique and energetic style inspired by Indian folk dance and Indian classical dance, Middle Eastern, and modern dance. Explore how each of these unique styles combine to create modern Bollywood dance. Learn the fundamental movements, gestures, and expressions that create the Bollywood dance aesthetic, and how they are applied in choreographed sequences.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 055 (THTR 055) Indian Classical Dance 2 Credits
Introduction to the history and practice of Bharatanatyam, a classical dance style of India. Understanding basic footwork, hand gestures, and body movements, and how they are combined to convey emotion, meaning, and imagery. Traditional repertoire, music, terminology, and the spectator's experience of the dance.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 057 Globalization in Asia through Time and Space 4 Credits
Have you ever wondered about Asia? It covers a vast geographic territory; it is divided into East, South, and Southeast Asia and each sub-region contains numerous different ethnic groups, cultures and nations. The time span for these cultures is similarly vast going back to pre-history and continuing through modern times. The topics we investigate range from popular culture to technology, music, gender, languages, and so on. Students will have a chance to participate in hands-on experience sessions on these topics.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 060 (REL 060) Religions of South Asia 4 Credits
A thematic introduction to the foundational religious traditions of South Asia: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Islam. Students explore the social and spiritual dimensions of these religious worlds through scripture, ritual practices, narrative and teaching traditions, music and art.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 061 (IR 061) East Asian International Relations 4 Credits
Introduction to East Asian international relations, with emphasis on post-1945 period: historical background of Asian international system; Cold War conflicts; China's rise and regional responses; Japan’s changing international role; the two Koreas; ASEAN and Asian regionalism; U.S. and Russian policies; current and future issues.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 063 (IR 063) U.S.-China Relations 4 Credits
Introduction and analysis of the historical context and key aspects of contemporary US-China relations: Cold War US containment, rapprochement and diplomatic normalization; American arms sale and the Taiwan controversy; conflict and cooperation in the Korean Peninsula; economic interdependence and frictions; human rights and security relations; Asian regional disputes. Students may not receive credit for both IR/ASIA 063 and IR/ASIA 163.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 066 (IR 066) Japan in a Changing World 4 Credits
This course explores Japanese foreign policy through its historical and international context; domestic determinants; foreign and security policymaking processes; policy toward major regional players; foreign economic policy; current grand strategic debates.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 072 (MLL 072) Ghosts, Monsters, and J-Horror 4 Credits
What's behind our fascination with the ghost stories? What are some of the social issues that the horror stories examine? What makes us afraid? Examining Japan's long tradition of horror stories and monsters, this course introduces students to various Japanese horror stories, ranging from the classical texts to "J-Horror," and explores how contemporary forms of popular culture such as anime, manga, and films draw on, or depart from, the traditional images of supernatural beings. No prerequisites. In English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 074 (MLL 074) Chinese Cultural Program 1-8 Credits
A summer program in China, taught in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 075 (HIST 075, MLL 075) Chinese Civilization 4 Credits
This course reviews the evolution of Chinese culture from the Neolithic up to the end of the imperial age in 1911. While the framework is historical, students are exposed to all facets of what defines civilization, including social traditions, philosophy, religion, material culture, literature, art and architecture, military science, education, law, and institutional history. Students are encouraged to continue their study of China afterwards with the course on Modern Chinese Civilization.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

ASIA 077 (GS 077, REL 077) The Islamic Tradition 4 Credits
A thematic introduction to Islamic history, doctrine and practice. Topics include: Qur'an; prophecy and sacred history; ritual practices; community life; legal interpretation; art and aesthetics; mysticism; politics and polemics.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 078 (MLL 078) Asian-American Studies 4 Credits
A survey of issues concerning Asians living in the United States from the perspectives of history, language, literature, and film.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 079 (DES 079) Digital Bridges 2 Credits
Run as an independent study; research ancient Chinese bridges, gardens, and pavilions. Digitize images and website design. Create photographic documentation of the Bridge Project. Produce documentary from historical materials concerning history of Chinese students at Lehigh. Bridge Project students could continue project work in Shanghai and Beijing.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
ASIA 173 (REL 173, WGSS 173) Sex, Celibacy and Sainthood: Gender and Religion in East Asia 4 Credits
This course explores themes of sexuality, celibacy, gender, and sainthood in East Asian religions. We will pay special attention to the experiences of religious women from many walks of life and time periods, from traditions including Buddhism, Daoism, and shamanism. Through film, poetry, autobiography, philosophical writing, visual art, and descriptions of visionary experience, students will encounter Buddhist and Daoist nuns, lay women, mothers, shamanic healers, oracles, activists, and royalty, from Tibet, Korea, Japan, China, and the U.S.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 186 (SOC 186) Understanding China through Films 4 Credits
We will use documentary and feature films to demonstrate how Chinese people experience and interpret social, political, economic and cultural changes. Through sociological interpretation of film, we will focus on education provision, migration, environmental concerns, gender relations, poverty, and changing cultural norms and values. We will explore how these social issues have been intensified with economic reform and how they intersect with major historical hierarchies in China.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 191 Special Topics 1-4 Credits
A topic, genre, or intensive, research-oriented study of a subject or issue in Asian Studies not covered in other courses.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

ASIA 199 (ARAB 199, CHIN 199, FREN 199, GERM 199, HEBR 199, JPNS 199, MLL 199, RUSS 199, SPAN 199) Language & Culture Abroad II 0-8 Credits
Intermediate language and culture abroad other than Chinese and Japanese.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 201 (GS 201, POLS 201) South Asian Politics 4 Credits
Examines the politics of countries in South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives). Some of the key themes are 1) the lasting legacy of colonialism, 2) ways in which ethnic and religious diversity is managed, 3) distinctiveness of political institutions like parliament and constitutions in South Asia, and 4) how politics, economics, and culture relate to one another. The focus of the course changes each year in order to reflect current developments and student interest.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 213 (MUS 213) Drums and Gongs: Asian Musical Cultures 3 Credits
A study of Asian music history, theory, aesthetics, and cultures through hands-on performance workshops, lectures, and seminars.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 220 (REL 220) Poet, Meditator, King: Classics of East Asian Religion 4 Credits
Classic texts of East Asia and an introduction to the traditions they represent. What do these texts teach about reality, humanity, divinity, virtue and society? How is the path of personal and social transformation presented?
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 221 (REL 221) Topics in Asian Religions 4 Credits
Selected thematic and comparative issues in different Asian religious traditions. May include Buddhism and Christianity, religion and martial arts, Asian religions in America, Taoist meditation, Zen and Japanese business, Buddhist ethics.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

ASIA 240 (PHIL 240) Eastern Philosophy Seminar 4 Credits
Advanced seminar in Eastern Philosophy. Content varies. Check department website for term-specific content. May be repeated for credit if the content differs. Student must have completed at least one Philosophy course at the 100-level.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 247 (GS 247, REL 247) Islamic Mysticism 4 Credits
Sufism, the inner or 'mystical' dimension of Islam, has deep historical roots and diverse expressions throughout the Muslim world. Students examine Sufi doctrine and ritual, the master-disciple relationship, and the tradition's impact on art and music, poetry and prose.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 248 (ETH 254, EVST 254, REL 254) Buddhism and Ecology 4 Credits
Buddhism's intellectual, ethical, and spiritual resources and reexamined in light of contemporary environmental problems. Is Buddhism the most green of the major world religions? What are the moral implications of actions that affect the environment?
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 256 (HIST 256, MLL 256, WGSS 256) Women in Pre-Industrial China 4 Credits
This seminar focuses on the role of women as defined by medical, philosophical, legal, historical, religious, literary and other Chinese texts from ancient through early modern times. Attention is how women contributed to the evolution of traditional Chinese civilization and culture. The course materials are in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 257 (HIST 257, HMS 257, MLL 257) Traditional Chinese Medicine: Historical Perspectives 4 Credits
This seminar focuses on conceptions of the human body and health that evolved from the ancient through early modern times. Special attention is paid to healing strategies, the roles of healers and patients, and the evolution of a medical canon. The course materials are in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 291 Special Topics 1-4 Credits
A topic, genre, or intensive, research-oriented study of a subject or issue in Asian Studies not covered in other courses.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

ASIA 299 (ARAB 299, CHIN 299, FREN 299, GERM 299, HEBR 299, JPNS 299, MLL 299, RUSS 299, SPAN 299) Language & Culture Abroad III 0-8 Credits
Advanced language and culture abroad other than Chinese and Japanese.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 339 (POLS 339) The Rise of the State in Modern East Asia 4 Credits
An examination of the role of Asian nationalism in the construction of the modern state form in Asia.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 343 (AAS 343, GS 343, POLS 343) Global Politics of Race: Asia and Africa 4 Credits
An examination of the concept of "race" and its impact on domestic and international politics.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 361 Internship in Asian Studies 1-4 Credits
Internship in public or private agency involved in some aspect of Asian studies. Individual faculty mentor. Written report required. Program permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS
ASIA 364 (IR 364) Chinese Foreign Policy 4 Credits
Research-oriented seminar focusing on the sources of Chinese foreign policy preferences and goals, foreign policy decision-making processes, international implications of the rise of China, and the pressing regional and global issues that China is facing now and in the future. Students are strongly recommended to take at least one China/East Asia course before, or simultaneously with, IR364. Consent of department required.
Prerequisites: IR 010 or IR 061 or ASIA 061 or IR 062 or ASIA 062 or IR 063 or ASIA 063 or IR 161 or ASIA 161 or IR 163 or ASIA 163
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 369 (GS 369, POLS 369, WGSS 369) Women's Movement in China 4 Credits
We will examine the state-sponsored, state-directed mass movement for the liberation of Chinese women. Beginning with Confucian notions of mother/daughterhood, to imperial system, to the role of women in the founding and establishment of the Communist Party of China, to the participation of women and girls in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Gender equality issues have been a central focus of the Party. The class will look at post-reform era women's status and ask, “did the Party liberate women?”
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 371 Advanced Readings in Asian Studies 1-4 Credits
Directed course of reading and writing in advanced topic not covered in regular Asian Studies course offerings. Program permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

ASIA 381 Senior Seminar in Asian Studies 1-4 Credits
Advanced seminar focusing on discussion and research on specialized subjects in Asian studies. Variable subject matter. Offered by faculty on rotating basis. Program permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

ASIA 386 Chinese Culture in a Multinational Workplace 3 Credits
Students explore the interaction between Chinese and non-Chinese cultures at a variety of work sites in the city of Shanghai, a port city that has involved people of many nationalities since its birth in the 1840s. This project-based course involves a faculty mentored practicum at one or more specific sites related to the student's own field or major, assigned readings, weekly electronic Course Site discussions, and a written summary of the experience.

ASIA 389 Honors Project 1-6 Credits

ASIA 391 Special Topics 1-4 Credits
A topic, genre, or intensive, research-oriented study of a subject or issue in Asian Studies not covered in other courses.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

ASIA 399 Senior Thesis in Asian Studies 1-4 Credits
Advanced, individual research project on topic agreed between faculty and student. Research paper and oral defense required. Open to Asian studies majors only. Program permission required.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS