The Asian Studies Program at Lehigh offers an interdisciplinary home for the study of Asia. Drawing on our faculty strengths across a wide range of humanities and social science fields, the program focuses on the major cultural areas of East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Himalayan region, exploring histories, languages, religions, societies, politics, literature, the arts, and media, past and present. In their research and teaching, our program faculty expand understanding of Asian societies in global context, and deepen awareness of Asian and Asian American histories and experiences within the United States. The Asian Studies Program gives undergraduates in any college within Lehigh an opportunity to study the dynamic and rich cultural heritages of Asian societies, and to understand their impact on the past, present, and future of our world. Students have the option of choosing to minor or major in Asian Studies. The Asian Studies program requirements are designed to make it easy for students to combine a minor or a double major in Asian Studies with other programs at Lehigh. Coursework in Asian Studies enhances student preparation for a range of careers, fields including business and finance, health, journalism, media, international relations, politics, environmental sciences, literature, the arts, and engineering.

**MAJOR IN ASIAN STUDIES**

The Bachelor of Arts major in Asian Studies offers students the choice of a standard or honors track. The standard major requires a minimum of 32 credits. The Honors track requires a minimum of 35 credits.

All students must reach Intermediate II level in an Asian language, participate in an Asian International Experience, and complete courses in categories A to D as listed below. The academic advisor is the director of the Asian Studies Program. Students may also request an advisor from among the Asian Studies faculty.

### A. One Foundational Core Course

Students choose 1 course from the Foundational Core 4 courses. Foundational Core courses introduce students to the study of Asian Societies:

- **ASIA/IR 061** East Asian International Relations
- **REL/ASIA 012** Mountains, Buddhas, Ancestors: Introduction to East Asian Religions
- **ASIA/MLL/HIST 075** Chinese Civilization
- **ASIA/SOC 114** Social Issues in Contemporary China

### B. Depth Concentration

Students choose 3-4 courses (12-16 credits) in Asian Humanities and Social Sciences.

### C. Advanced Asian Studies Course

Students choose one advanced Asian Studies course at the 200 level or above. This may include an advanced Asian language course.

### D. Asian Studies Electives

Students choose 1-2 additional elective courses (3-8 credits).

### E. One Asian International Experience

Asian Studies majors are eligible for Asian Studies travel support if they participate in a Lehigh-approved program. After declaring the major, students will meet with the Study Abroad adviser to design their Asian International Experience. Students may also choose to take part of their Asian Studies course credits through Study Abroad.

### F. Senior Capstone (credit load varies depending on whether student chooses Honors or standard track)

- Pre-Capstone (2-4 credits in Fall); Capstone (2-4 credits in Spring)

Students are encouraged to build on earlier coursework to choose an option under supervision of a faculty member. Options include: a portfolio of revised Asian Studies coursework with a reflective essay (non-Honors); a traditional research thesis (Honors option only); or an internship or other special project (with Program Director permission).

Minimum number of credits | 32

**1 Courses in Chinese, Japanese or other Asian language may apply as program electives with approval of the Program Director.**

**2 In consult with the Asian Studies Director, students may choose from a wide variety of Asian Studies courses each semester. Other suitable courses, including but not limited to courses at LVAIC or other approved institutions in the United States or courses in approved study abroad programs in Asia may be substituted with the Director’s approval.**

**3 If study abroad is difficult academically or financially, other arrangements can be made upon major advisor's approval.**

**4 Students enroll in ASIA 399 twice for a total of 4-8 credits: first, to complete the pre-capstone requirement and again to complete the senior capstone project.**

**MINOR IN ASIAN STUDIES**

The minor in Asian Studies is intended to complement a student's major field of study and it is flexible according to individual needs. Students are free to survey the field broadly or concentrate in a specific area such as Chinese or Japanese studies. The minor comprises a minimum of 4 courses (16 credits) in Asian studies, chosen from an approved list in consultation with the director of the Asian Studies Program.

While students minoring in Asian Studies are encouraged to study languages, only 8 credits of language study count towards the Asian Studies minor. Students interested only in language study are encouraged to minor in Chinese or Japanese language (see MLL (http://catalog.lehigh.edu/courses/programsandcurricula/artsandsciences/modernlanguagesandliteratures/)).

**Core and Elective COURSES**

Each semester, a complete list of ASIA course offerings can be found on the Asian Studies web site or in the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, Williams Hall, Suite 101. Other courses approved by the program director.

**ASIA/PHIL/REL 010** Intro to Buddhism: Love Death and Freedom 4

**ASIA/REL 012** Mountains, Buddhas, Ancestors: Introduction to East Asian Religions 4

**ASIA/MLL/WGSS 050** Dreaming in Pre-modern China 4

**ASIA/THTR 053** Bollywood Dance 2

**ASIA/THTR 055** Indian Classical Dance 2

**ASIA 057** Globalization in Asia through Time and Space 4

**ASIA/REL 060** Religions of South Asia 4

**ASIA/IR 061** East Asian International Relations 4

**ASIA/IR 063** U.S.-China Relations 4

**ASIA/IR 066** Japan in a Changing World 4

**ASIA/MLL 072** Ghosts, Monsters, and J-Horror 4

**ASIA/MLL 074** Chinese Cultural Program 1-8

**ASIA/HIST/MLL 075** Chinese Civilization 4

**ASIA/GS/REL 077** The Islamic Tradition 4

**ASIA/MLL 078** Asian-American Studies 4

**ASIA 091** Special Topics 1-4

**Website:** [http://asia.cas2.lehigh.edu/](http://asia.cas2.lehigh.edu/)
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 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 of ghosts 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 (DE S 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 080 (HIST 080) In Search for Modern China 4 Credits
This course is designed as a survey history of modern China from the late Ming to the present. We will ask some important questions over the course of the semester. When does “modern” China begin? How do we approach modern Chinese history? What are the boundaries of China/Chinese identity? Could these concepts stretch to include the Chinese diaspora? How has Chinese imperial history affected contemporary China’s state and society?
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 091 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 099 (ARAB 099, CHIN 099, FREN 099, GERM 099, HEBR 099, JPN 099, MLL 099, RUSS 099, SPAN 099) Language & Culture Abroad I 0-8 Credits
Elementary language and culture abroad other than Chinese or Japanese.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 110 (MLL 110, REL 110) Drinking and Immortality 4 Credits
This class explores modes of transcendence and their expression in literature and art, but most especially poetry. The primary focus is the role of drinking alcoholic beverages in traditional Chinese society and religion, but also on other modes and what is meant by the search for immortality - and the use of inner versus outer alchemy - will be examined.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 114 (SOC 114) Social Issues in Contemporary China 4 Credits
Dramatic Economic, cultural and social changes are underway in China today and have aroused much debate among social scientists East and West. The following social issues are critical for understanding China’s development trajectory: inequality and poverty; rapid demographic shifts; provision of health care services; provision of education services; and becoming an “information society.” We will explore how these issues intersect with old hierarchies in China, urban-rural differences, and gender differences.
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 115 (MLL 115, WGSS 115) Sex, War, Women, Art 4 Credits
Through the study of selected visual and literary works in their historical and social contexts, students will gain knowledge of Japan. This course examines various cultures from the perspectives of gender and sexuality as constitutive factors of Japanese society. Materials include a film depicting a romantic life of samurai, art works by contemporary women artists, and writings on sex workers, impacted by the Japanese empire. Students will be exposed to feminist theories in this course; taking WGSS001 is recommended prior.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 119 (GS 119, REL 119) The Podcast and the Lotus 4 Credits
Buddhism is increasingly a global phenomenon. Contemporary Buddhist teachers stay in touch with students via podcasts, WeChat, Twitter and Facebook. Buddhists from Singapore, Tibet, Japan, Mexico, Taiwan or Pennsylvania now meet via new technology. This class asks, how is Buddhism now a global religion? what effect has rapid demographic shifts; provision of health care services; provision of education services; and becoming an “information society.” We will explore how these issues intersect with old hierarchies in China, urban-rural differences, and gender differences.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 130 (MLL 130, REL 130) Monkey Business 4 Credits
Read and discuss in English the premodern Chinese enlightenment ofies, The Journey To The West, featuring the famous mischievous and magical martial arts master, the Monkey King. Familiarize yourself with a cultural icon that has entertained and inspired since the 16th century and continues to inspire spin-off dramas, comics, acrobatic and TV shows, movies, and video games.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 135 (MLL 135, WGSS 135) POWER, (W)Omens, SILENCE 4 Credits
What do women say in their writings when their voices are silenced? How does silence speak to you? How do gender, sexuality, class, and power articulate one another? Through the study of selected short stories, novels, films, and anime, this course examines various voices, cultures, histories, and societies in Japan. No prior knowledge of Japanese language is required. An introductory course taught in English.
Attribute/Distribution: HU
ASIA 140 (PHIL 140) Eastern Philosophy 4 Credits
Survey of selected texts and issues in the eastern philosophical traditions. Attention will be given to the development and interrelations of these traditions as well as a comparison of western and eastern treatments of selected issues. Areas of focus may include Confucianism, Taoism, and Zen Buddhism.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 142 (PHIL 142) Zen and Art of the Everyday 4 Credits
The Japanese conception of beauty is strikingly different to our own: it is associated with impermanence, imperfection, and austerity. Moreover, attention to beauty pervades every everyday activities in Japan, such as wrapping purchases at the dollar store or putting out garbage. This course explores principles that guide the Japanese aesthetic sensibility with an eye to its expression in Japanese literature, film, and traditional arts, such as the tea ceremony and gardening.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 145 (GS 145, REL 145) Islam and the Modern World 4 Credits
Examines how numerous Muslim thinkers-religious scholars, modernists, and Islamists-have responded to the changes and challenges of the colonial and post-colonial eras. Special emphasis is placed on the public debates over Islamic authority and authenticity in contemporary South Asia.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 163 (IR 163) 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. This is an advanced course on US-China relations. Students may not receive credit for both IR/ASIA 063 and IR/ASIA 163.
Prerequisites: IR 010 or IR 061
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 164 (IR 164) 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. Students may not receive credit for both IR/ASIA 066 and IR/ASIA 164.
Prerequisites: IR 010 or IR 061 or IR 063
Attribute/Distribution: SS

ASIA 169 (REL 169) Enlightening Lives: Buddhist Auto/Biography in Asia and the US 4 Credits
How do Buddhists imagine a “good life”? Buddhist biographies, autobiographies, poems, paintings, and films from Asia and the US reveal how Buddhists describe an ideal human life, addressing love, art, war, religious awakening.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 172 (REL 172) Tibetan Buddhism and Society 4 Credits
This course examines the history, rituals, practices and art of the Tibetan Buddhist world, and the interaction of Tibetan Buddhism with the Tibetan Bon religion and Tibetan Islam. Students will explore film, autobiography, visual arts, and religious writings, asking, How has Tibetan Buddhism shaped Tibetan societies, as well as neighboring cultures in East Asia and Inner Asia? In what ways is Tibetan Buddhism now a global religion?
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 173 (REL 173, WGS 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 187 (ANTH 187) Peoples and Cultures of Southeast Asia 4 Credits
Peoples and cultures of Burma, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines. World view, religion, economy, politics, and social organization.
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, JPN 199, MLL 199, RUSS 199, SPAN 199) Language & Culture Abroad I 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.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

ASIA 254 (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, 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, IR 364.
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/daughter/honor, 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