EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Overview and Contact Information

One of four interdisciplinary majors within the Asian Studies program, East Asian studies allows students to specialize in the history, languages, cultures, and politics of East Asia. Complementing course work at Mount Holyoke are extracurricular activities and study abroad programs that broaden and deepen students’ understanding of Asia.

Language study is the core component of the major. We offer four levels of instruction in Chinese, three in Japanese, and two in Korean. Our students are expected to incorporate the humanities and the social sciences fully into their studies with classes at Mount Holyoke and the other colleges in the Five College Consortium.

On campus, our students experience regional culture at many levels, including language tables and clubs, guest lectures, performing and visual arts, film, festivals, and regional cuisine. These activities are often initiated by and benefit greatly from the diverse student population of Mount Holyoke and particularly the large numbers of students from Asian countries or with an Asian background.

Most of our students spend a semester or a summer in study abroad programs. Mount Holyoke College has affiliated programs or exchanges in China at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Peking University (summer), and University of Hong Kong; in Japan at the Associated Kyoto Program (year) and the Japan Women’s University; and in South Korea at the Ewha Womans University and the Sookmyung Women’s University.

East Asian Studies majors and minors graduate to pursue graduate studies and careers in fields as varied as law, education, business, NGOs, journalism, the arts, and government service.

Minors in Chinese and Japanese are available; see their own sections of the catalog.

See Also

- Asian Studies (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/asiastudies/)
- Chinese (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/chinese/)
- Japanese (http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/japanese/)

Contact Information

Calvin Chen, Chair
Denise Falk, Academic Department Coordinator
112 Ciruti Center
413-538-2885
https://www.mtholyoke.edu/academics/find-your-program/east-asian-studies (https://www.mtholyoke.edu/academics/find-your-program/east-asian-studies/)

Learning Goals

By majoring in East Asian Studies, students should:

- Develop proficiency in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean. By “proficiency” we mean the ability to:
  - Read newspapers, magazines, and popular literature.
  - Converse with a native speaker on non-technical subjects.
  - Write coherent paragraphs on non-technical subjects.
- Develop knowledge of the history of premodern and modern East Asia.
- Develop knowledge of the arts, literature, religions, and philosophies of East Asia.
- Develop knowledge of the geography, politics, economics, and societies of East Asia.

Faculty

This area of study is administered by the Asian Studies Committee:
Calvin Chen, Professor of Politics
Satyananda Gabriel, Professor of Economics
Sohail Hashmi, Professor of International Relations on the Alumnae Foundation and Professor of Politics, Teaching Fall Only
Kavita Khory, Ruth Lawson Professor of Politics; Carol Hoffmann Collins Director of the McCulloch Center for Global Initiatives
Susanne Mrozik, Professor of Religion
Naoko Nemoto, Professor of Asian Studies, On Leave 2022-2023
Joshua Roth, Professor of Anthropology
Ajay Sinha, Julie ’73 and Helene ’49 Herzig Professor of Art History
Ying Wang, Felicia Gressitt Bock Professor of Asian Studies
Elif Babul, Associate Professor of Anthropology
Amina Steinfels, Associate Professor of Religion
Lan Wu, Assistant Professor of History
Lisha Xu, Senior Lecturer in Asian Studies
Jinhwa Chang, Lecturer in Japanese
Kyae-Sung Park, Five College Lecturer in Korean
Ahmad Alswaid, Visiting Lecturer in Arabic
Qianxue Jin, Visiting Instructor in Asian Studies
Alice Kao, Teaching Associate in Chinese

Requirements for the Major

A minimum of 40 credits:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST-137</td>
<td>Modern East Asia, 1600-2000</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>or POLIT-228</td>
<td>East Asian Politics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>At least three non-language courses (12 credits) on East Asia, including at least one from each of the following two groups:</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group One: Humanities (literature, art, history, philosophy, and religion and interdisciplinary courses in these areas)</td>
<td>3, 4</td>
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Group Two: Social Sciences (anthropology, economics, geography, international relations, linguistics, politics, and sociology interdisciplinary courses in these areas)

Two additional courses (8 credits) to complete the major

At least three courses (12 credits) must be at the 300 level. One of the three 300-level courses must be a non-language and non-independent study course.

Total Credits 40

1 Japanese, Chinese, and Korean are taught at Mount Holyoke and elsewhere in the Five Colleges. A maximum of 16 lower-level language credits and a total of 24 language credits can be counted toward the major.

2 A full list of the approved courses (p. 2) for the major appears at the end of the East Asian Studies Courses section.

3 Language courses are not included in this group

4 In order to count toward the major, Studio Art or performance courses must be supplemented with analytical written work

5 A course that is taught outside of Mount Holyoke College must be approved by the chair of the Asian Studies program to count as a 300-level course.

Additional Specifications

* Any course that devotes 50 percent or more of its substance to East Asian countries, peoples, or issues may be included in the major.
* One course on East Asian diasporas (e.g., Asian American studies) may count toward the major.
* Students who declare an East Asian studies major automatically fulfill the College’s "outside the major" requirement.

Related Courses Counting toward the East Asian Studies Major

Most East Asian studies courses at Mount Holyoke are listed below, but students should also consult the catalog entries or websites of other departments, including art history, history, international relations, politics, and religion. East Asian Studies majors should also plan to use the rich resources of the Five College Consortium in selecting their courses (listings are available through the Five College Class Schedule (https://www.fivecolleges.edu/academics/courses/) or individual college websites).

Please consult the chair of Asian Studies for guidelines regarding Asian languages not taught in the Five Colleges.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTHR-204</td>
<td>Anthropology of Modern Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH-262</td>
<td>Arts of Japan</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-110</td>
<td>First Year Chinese I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-111</td>
<td>First Year Chinese II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-120</td>
<td>First Year Japanese I</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-121</td>
<td>First Year Japanese II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-160</td>
<td>First Year Korean I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-161</td>
<td>First Year Korean II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN-212</td>
<td>Second Year Chinese I</td>
<td>6</td>
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Topics in Asian History: ‘Cities in Modern East Asia’

- HIST-239ME
- HIST-296CG

Environmental History of China

- HIST-332

Politics

- POLIT-208 Chinese Politics
- POLIT-228 East Asian Politics
- POLIT-359 Democratization and Civil Society in East Asia

Religion

- RELIG-163 Introduction to Buddhism
- RELIG-241 Women and Gender in Buddhism

Film, Media, Theater

- FMT-230CW Intermediate Courses in History and Theory: 'Androgyny and Gender Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women's Theater'

Gender Studies

- GNDST-204CW Women and Gender in the Study of Culture: 'Androgyny and Gender Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women's Theater'
- GNDST-206CG Women and Gender in History: 'Women and Gender in China'
- GNDST-333HH Advanced Seminar: 'Love, Gender-Crossing, and Women's Supremacy: A Reading of The Story of the Stone'

Philosophy

- PHIL-212 Philosophical Foundations of Chinese Thought: The Ancient Period

History

- HIST-137 Modern East Asia, 1600-2000
- HIST-239GF Topics in Asian History: 'Global Food and Local Tastes in Modern East Asia'
- HIST-239HH Topics in Asian History: 'History of Humans and Other Living Beings'
- HIST-239MC Topics in Asian History: 'Borderlands and Ethnicity in Modern China'
- HIST-239ME Topics in Asian History: 'Cities in Modern East Asia'
- HIST-296CG Women in History: 'Women and Gender in China'
- HIST-332 Environmental History of China
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Russian &amp; Eurasian Studies</th>
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<tr>
<td>RES-312</td>
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