

EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Overview and Contact Information

One of three 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/asian-studies/>)
- Chinese (<http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/chinese/>)
- Japanese (<http://catalog.mtholyoke.edu/areas-study/japanese/>)

Contact Information

Naoko Nemoto, Chair

Denise Falk, Academic Department Coordinator

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<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, Carol Hoffmann Collins '63 Professor of International Studies and Professor of Politics, Teaching Fall Only

Satyananda Gabriel, Professor of Economics

Sohail Hashmi, Professor of International Relations on the Alumnae Foundation and Professor of Politics

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

Joshua Roth, Professor of Anthropology, Teaching Fall Only

Ajay Sinha, Julie '73 and Helene '49 Herzog 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, Teaching Spring Only

Lan Wu, Associate Professor of History, Teaching Fall Only

Lisha Xu, Senior Lecturer in Asian Studies, Teaching Fall Only

Jinhwa Chang, Lecturer in Japanese

Kyae-Sung Park, Five College Lecturer in Korean

May George, Five College Lecturer in Middle East Studies

Alice Kao, Teaching Associate in Chinese

Requirements for the Major

A minimum of 40 credits:

Code	Title	Credits
Four courses (16 credits) in, equivalent to two years of college-level study of, an East Asian language: Chinese, Japanese, or Korean ¹		16
HIST-137 or POLIT-228	Modern East Asia, 1600-2000 East Asian Politics	4
At least three non-language courses (12 credits) on East Asia, including at least one from each of the following two groups: ²		12
Group One: Humanities (literature, art, history, philosophy, and religion and interdisciplinary courses in these areas) ^{3, 4}		

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 ² 8

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. ⁵

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.

Code	Title	Credits
Anthropology		
ANTHR-204	Anthropology of Modern Japan	4
Art History		
ARTH-262	Arts of Japan	4
Asian Studies		
ASIAN-110	First Year Chinese I	6
ASIAN-111	First Year Chinese II	6
ASIAN-120	First Year Japanese I	6
ASIAN-121	First Year Japanese II	6
ASIAN-160	First Year Korean I	4
ASIAN-161	First Year Korean II	4
ASIAN-212	Second Year Chinese I	6

ASIAN-213	Second Year Chinese II	6
ASIAN-215	Androgyny and Gender Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women's Theater	4
ASIAN-222	Second Year Japanese I	6
ASIAN-223	Second Year Japanese II	6
ASIAN-247	Chinese Women Writers in the 20th and 21st Centuries	4
ASIAN-262	Second Year Korean I	4
ASIAN-263	Second Year Korean II	4
ASIAN-310	Third Year Chinese I	4
ASIAN-311	Third Year Chinese II	4
ASIAN-312	Newspaper Reading and Journalistic Practice in China	4
ASIAN-314	Learning Chinese Through Film	4
ASIAN-315	Business Culture and Communication in China	4
ASIAN-324	Third Year Japanese I	4
ASIAN-326	Third Year Japanese II	4
ASIAN-340	Love, Gender-Crossing, and Women's Supremacy: A Reading of <i>The Story of the Stone</i>	4

Film, Media, Theater

FMT-230CW	Intermediate Courses in History and Theory: 'Androgyny and Gender Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women's Theater'	4
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Gender Studies

GNDST-204CW	Women and Gender in the Study of Culture: 'Androgyny and Gender Negotiation in Contemporary Chinese Women's Theater'	4
GNDST-206CG	Women and Gender in History: 'Women and Gender in China'	4
GNDST-333HH	Advanced Seminar: 'Love, Gender-Crossing, and Women's Supremacy: A Reading of <i>The Story of the Stone</i> '	4

History

HIST-137	Modern East Asia, 1600-2000	4
HIST-239CD	Topics in Asian History: 'Chinese Diasporic Communities in the World: Race, Empire, and Transnationalism'	4
HIST-239GF	Topics in Asian History: 'Global Food and Local Tastes in Modern East Asia'	4
HIST-239HH	Topics in Asian History: 'History of Humans and Other Living Beings'	4
HIST-239MC	Topics in Asian History: 'Borderlands and Ethnicity in Modern China'	4
HIST-239ME	Topics in Asian History: 'Cities in Modern East Asia'	4
HIST-296CG	Women in History: 'Women and Gender in China'	4
HIST-332	Environmental History of China	4

Philosophy

PHIL-212	Philosophical Foundations of Chinese Thought: The Ancient Period	4
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Politics

POLIT-208	Chinese Politics	4
POLIT-228	East Asian Politics	4
POLIT-359	Democratization and Civil Society in East Asia	4

Religion

RELIG-163	Introduction to Buddhism	4
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RELIG-241	Women and Gender in Buddhism	4
Russian & Eurasian Studies		
RES-312	Silk Roads: Ancient and Modern Highways Across the Eurasian Continent	4