

## **Asian Studies at Lafayette College Spring 2023**

### **CORE COURSES**

#### **ASIA 101: INTRODUCTION TO ASIAN STUDIES**

This course introduces the traditions and modern development of Asia with special attention to theoretical and methodological issues. The approach is interdisciplinary, covering subject areas such as history, culture, art, literature, music, religion, economics, politics, and law. The course offers an introduction to the region and provides an important foundation for students interested in taking more specialized courses. [GM1, GM2]

**IL HYUN CHO      MW 11:00AM-12:15PM**

#### **ASIA 391: INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Open to Asian Studies majors or minors. Students select a specific area of interest for research in consultation with a faculty member from the Asian Studies program. Students confer regularly with the faculty member on their work and prepare an essay on an approved subject. Open to other qualified students with permission of the Program Coordinator.

**STAFF**

#### **ASIA 490: CAPSTONE**

Students who major in Asian Studies develop a capstone project during the senior year under the direction of a faculty member in the program. [W]

**STAFF      TBD**

#### **ASIA 496: THESIS**

Asian studies majors who wish to pursue honors should inform their faculty advisers by the end of the second semester of the junior year. Honors work involves a guided program of independent research culminating in a thesis on a topic to be selected by the student in consultation with his or her adviser. Honors candidates enroll in 496 only upon successfully completing ASIA 495. [W]

**STAFF**

### **ELECTIVE COURSES**

#### **CHINESE 102: ELEMENTARY CHINESE II**

There is no prerequisite requirement for this course. Fundamentals of spoken and written language of the world's most populous country! Mastery of Pinyin system with tones is stressed. Familiarity with Pinyin-based character input method is developed. Chinese cultural topics are also introduced. [EP SL, H]

**TBA      MWF 9:00-9:50AM**

#### **CHINESE 112: INTERMEDIATE CHINESE II**

Prerequisites: CHN 102 or equivalent. Training skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing Mandarin Chinese at a higher level. More complex grammar items are introduced. Review and expansion of vocabulary. Attention to developing more elaborate communicative skills and a deeper understanding of Chinese culture. [EP SL, GM2, H]

**YINGYING HUANG      MWF 10:00-10:50AM**

**CHINESE 212: ADVANCED CHINESE II**

This course is a continuation of 112, or taken with the instructor's permission. Review of important grammar items. Expansion of vocabulary. More advanced reading and speaking skills are emphasized. [EPSL, GM2, H]

**HAN LUO TTh 11:00AM-12:15PM**

**CHINESE 312: CONTEMPORARY CHINA II**

Through a diversity of authentic materials in various media such as newspapers and periodicals, this course greatly expands students' Mandarin proficiency in all four skills while deepening their understanding of the social and cultural issues facing China today. Students' language skills will be enhanced through intensive reading, discussion, presentation, debate, and essay writing. Prerequisites: Six semesters of Chinese or equivalent. [GM1]

**YINGYING HUANG MW 1:15-2:30PM**

**CHINESE 412: CHINESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY II**

Through a variety of carefully selected readings as well as media resources such as films, TV shows, and news, this course helps students gain an in-depth, multi-faceted and critical understanding of Chinese people, culture and society. Meanwhile, students continue developing Mandarin proficiency in all four skills with special attention given to the acquisition of formal or written language and the development of analytical and critical thinking skills. The course is instructed in Mandarin Chinese. [GM1, GM2, W]

**TBA TTh 2:45-4:00PM**

**CL 210: CHINESE SCIENCE FICTION**

This course explores the development of Chinese science fiction since the early twentieth century against a history of wars, reform and revolutions, and China's rise as a great economy and technological innovator in the world. With stories, novel excerpts, comic books, and films, we will examine the intersection of literature, science, empire and nation, modernity and modernization. This course will be conducted in English in the form of lectures and discussions. [GM1, GM2]

**YINGYING HUANG MW 11:00AM-12:15PM**

**HIST 121: PARTITION OF THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT**

One of the most violent and disruptive events of the 20th century, the Partition of the Indian subcontinent into the nation-states of India and Pakistan in 1947 continues to play a staggering role in the post-colonial histories of both countries. This course will go into the high politics of the Partition, its human costs, and its continued impact on everyday life through oral history. The course will also examine the impact of Partition in literature and cinema. [GM2, SS, W]

**HAFSA KANJWAL Section 01 TTh 1:15-2:30PM**

**Section 02 TTh 2:45-4:00PM**

**HIST 320: ISLAM IN MODERN WORLD**

The topic of Islam in the Modern World has garnered much scrutiny and debate. This course sheds a historical light on a number of important issues including the role of colonialism in reshaping and restructuring Muslim societies, the responses of Muslim thinkers to the challenges of colonial modernity, and nationalism and decolonization. We will discuss the rise of political Islam as an intellectual, social, and political phenomenon, using particular case studies from a number of regions. Through the work of Muslim thinkers and scholars of Islam, we will engage with contemporary debates on feminism, sexuality, Islamic economics, the Islam state, jihad, Muslims in the West, and the War on Terror. [GM2, W]

**HAFSA KANJWAL TTh 11:00AM-12:15PM**

**JAPANESE 102: ELEMENTARY JAPANESE II**

This course reviews the basic grammatical patterns and vocabulary from 101 and fosters improvement in the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational), to cultivate overall Japanese language ability. It covers real-life situations, such as: informal speech, comparison, expressing wishes, etc.

**Prerequisites:** JAPN 101, equivalent proficiency or permission of the instructor. [EPSL, H]

**NAOKO IKEGAMI MWF 9:00-9:50AM**

**JAPANESE 112: INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE II**

This course reviews and expands upon the basic structures, patterns, and vocabulary of 111, with increasing emphasis on reading. It develops more elaborate social and ritual exchanges such as honorific/humble speech and passive/causative speech. It includes short literary and cultural readings, with attention to developing a deeper understanding of Japanese culture. **Prerequisites:** JAPN 111, equivalent proficiency or permission of the instructor. [EPSL, GM2, H]

**NAOKO IKEGAMI MWF 10:00-10:50AM**

**JAPANESE 291: INDEPENDENT STUDY**

This course is focused on increased understanding of Japanese language and culture through the use of authentic materials such as newspapers, magazines, novels, dramas, movies, and songs, etc. **Prerequisites:** JAPN 112, equivalent proficiency or permission of the instructor. [EPSL]

**NAOKO IKEGAMI TBA**

**PHIL 257: ASIAN PHILOSOPHY**

An examination of the development and interrelations between eastern philosophical traditions including Confucianism, Taoism, Legalism, and Chan Buddhism. Rather than attempting to read and analyze classical eastern philosophical writings independent of a western perspective, this course will make that bias explicit in the hopes of moving beyond it by comparing examples of methodologies and conclusions of eastern and western philosophers. Comparisons will be analyzed in areas of Ontology, Epistemology, and Axiology, including, but not limited to, issues of gender and class. [GM2, H, V]

**NATHAN SCHMIDT Th 7:00-9:50PM**

**REL 209: STRANGE TALES & POPULAR RELIGIONS IN EAST ASIA**

Exploring the rich tradition of ghost stories and fantasy tales of the oddities (*zhiguai*) in East Asia, this course provides a comprehensive overview of folk religions and cultic practices in China, Taiwan, and Japan. Intensively reading *zhiguai* stories and relevant modern scholarship, students consider and compare Eastern and Western conceptions of self and other, body and soul(s), death and afterlife, and better understand the popular culture, folklore, and religious secularism and syncretism in East Asia. [GM1, H]

**XU MA MWF 10:00-10:50AM**

**REL 211: HINDUISM: UNITIES AND DIVERSITY**

This course is an introduction to the variety of practices and beliefs known as "Hinduism." We will study Hindu mythology and philosophy as expressed in sacred texts and oral traditions, and the many ways in which Hindus express and practice their traditions, with special attention to Hindu ideas about individual, social, and political life and the role of Hinduism in contemporary South Asia. We will also study the history of the idea of

“Hinduism,” religion as a Western category, and the role of colonialism in defining and studying Hinduism.  
[GM2, H, V]

**ROBIN RINEHART MW 1:15-2:30PM**

**REL 218: CONFUCIANISM: SELF AND SOCIETY**

Who was Confucius, and what is Confucianism? How did people in a Confucian society perceive and define selves, families, society, and state? How have these notions sustained a millennia-long civilization and religious tradition in East Asia? Revolving around the themes of self and society, this course explores the philosophical and cultural history of the Confucian tradition from its inception to the present day. Probing the cultural, religious, gender, and sociological aspects of Confucianism, students will develop a systematic understanding of the intersections and interactions of individual, community, and society in countries under a Confucian tutelage. Course materials consist primarily of canonical texts and modern scholarship, supplemented by literary narratives and movies. [GM1, GM2, H, V]

**XU MA MW 2:45-4:00PM**

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**\* Key to Abbreviations for Common Course of Studies:**

EPSL=Elementary Proficiency in a Second Language; GM1=Global Multicultural 1; GM2=Global Multicultural 2;  
H=Humanities; SS=Social Sciences; V=Values; W=Writing

**ASIAN STUDIES MAJOR:** Nine courses including ASIA 101; 490 or 495/496; seven electives from list of approved courses (maximum two language courses: see <https://asianstudies.lafayette.edu/courses/>); a Foreign Language requirement (Intermediate language proficiency, e.g., Chinese or JAPN 112 or another approved Asian language); and the AB Common Course of Study.

**ASIAN STUDIES MINOR:** Five courses including ASIA 101 and four courses from the approved list. See <https://asianstudies.lafayette.edu/courses/>. A maximum of two language courses can be counted towards the minor. For more information, contact Professor Seo-Hyun Park at (610) 330-5412 or [parksh@lafayette.edu](mailto:parksh@lafayette.edu).