Asian Studies at Lafayette College Fall 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]
ROBIN RINEHART  TTh 13:15-14:30  PARDEE 321

ASIA 390: 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 495: 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

ART 140: ART & ARCHITECTURE: WORLD TRADITIONS
This course is designed to introduce students to works of art in various media developed in isolation from the European tradition. Lectures will focus on the major artistic traditions of South and Southeast Asia, the Islamic World, China, Japan, Oceania, the Americas, and Africa. Using visual arts as a tool, this course will introduce students to the diverse social customs, religions, and beliefs of peoples from these regions. [GM1, GM2, H]
IFAN CHEN  SECTION 01  MWF 9:00AM-9:50AM  WILLIAMS CENTER FOR THE ARTS 108
SECTION 02  MWF 10:00AM-10:50AM  WILLIAMS CENTER FOR THE ARTS 108

ART 240: JAPANESE ART & ARCHITECTURE
This course is an introductory survey of the arts of historical Japan(s). From Buddhist art and literati painting to woodblock prints and scientific images under Rankaku, this course considers the arts of historical Japan(s) as a lens that weaves foreign impacts—particularly arts under Chinese learning and Dutch learning—into its art-making process. Modern Japanese art will be given special attention for its strongholds in Euro-American modern art. [GM2, H]
IFAN CHEN  MWF 1:10-2:00PM  WILLIAMS CENTER FOR THE ARTS 108
CHINESE 101: ELEMENTARY CHINESE I
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.
YINGYING HUANG  MWF 9:00-9:50AM  Hugel 117

CHINESE 111: INTERMEDIATE CHINESE I
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. [H, EPSL]
YINGYING HUANG  MWF 10:00-10:50AM  Hugel 117

CHINESE 211: ADVANCED CHINESE I
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. [H, EPSL, GM2]
HAN LUO  TTH 11:00AM-12:15PM  Pardee 216

CHINESE 311: CONTEMPORARY CHINA I
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. [V]
Prerequisites: Six semesters of Chinese or equivalent.
YINGYING HUANG  MW 2:45-4:00PM  Pardee 216

CHINESE 411: CHINESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY I
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]
HAN LUO  TTH 2:45-4:00PM  Pardee 216

FAMS 370: INDIAN CINEMA
Via screenings, readings, and guided discussion we will develop an understanding of the “national cinema” of India and the related categories of regional, parallel, Bollywood, diaspora, documentary, and prayoga cinemas. Studying films from the silent era to the present, we will look at the histories and theories of Indian cinema and how film has been deployed as a means of artistic expression, ideological context, spectacle, and an instrument for political change. We will focus specifically on how gender and religion are portrayed and weaponized, how they intersect with and reflect on the culture from which they emerge. [GM1, GM2, W]
NANDINI SIKAND  MW 1:10-4:00PM  248 WAC MEDIA2-121
GOVT 270: CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY
This course examines the sources and conduct of Chinese foreign policy from both theoretical and empirical perspectives. The first part of the course explores major factors that influence China’s foreign relations, including historical legacies, the international system, domestic politics, and nationalism. The second half of the course turns to the practice of Chinese foreign policy over a wide-range of issue areas, such as China’s relations with the United States, trade, regionalism, nuclear proliferation, energy and climate change. [SS]
Prerequisites: ASIA 101, GOVT 102, or GOVT 103 (or permission of the instructor).
IL HYUN CHO  MW 2:45-4:00PM  Kirby 106

GOVT 415: NATIONALISM IN WORLD POLITICS
This course explores the concept and practice of nationalism, with a particular emphasis on the role that it plays in world politics. We will survey the main concepts and theories in the study of nationalism, identify the major actors and processes in the politics of nationalism, examine the emergence of nationalism as a major force in international relations, and investigate various links between questions of national identity and interstate cooperation or conflict. [SS, GM2, W]
Prerequisite: Govt 102 plus one from Govt 221-238 (or permission of the instructor).
SEO-HYUN PARK  TTh 8:00-9:15AM  Kirby 206

HIST 249: 20th CENTURY EAST ASIA
This course provides a historical analysis of how East Asia's four major states-China, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan-modernized amidst forces of global integration and regional conflict between 1850 and 1945. Instead of "reacting to the West," this course argues that the economies, polities, and national identities these four nations formed with reference to one another, in the context of Japanese imperialism and Chinese, Korean, and Taiwanese anti-imperialism. [GM2, SS]
PAUL BARCLAY  TTh 11:00AM-12:15PM  Ramer 103

JAPANESE 101: ELEMENTARY JAPANESE I
This course teaches the fundamentals of spoken and written language, including three writing systems (Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji) and basic grammar patterns. It covers real-life situations and contexts, such as: greetings, counting, explaining daily activities, requests, making plans, and shopping, etc. [EPSL, H]
No prerequisite required.
NAOKO IKEGAMI  MWF 9:00-9:50AM  Pardee 112

JAPANESE 111: INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE I
This course reviews and expands grammar patterns and vocabulary learned in 102, including new forms such as potential and volitional forms. More elaborate social and ritual exchanges, such as honorific expressions and informal speech, are introduced. It encourages improvement in all three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) to cultivate overall Japanese language ability.
Prerequisites: JAPN 101, 102, equivalent proficiency or permission of the instructor. [H, EPSL]
NAOKO IKEGAMI  MWF 10:00-10:50AM  Pardee 321

JAPANESE 290: 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 111, 112, equivalent proficiency or permission of the instructor. [EPSL]
NAOKO IKEGAMI  TBA
REL 207: THE QURAN
Over one billion Muslims believe that the Quran contains the literal words of God. This course attempts to orient students to the most sacred scripture of Islam. It will explore the Quran as an oral, visual, and fluid text. The Quran swiftly traverses concepts such as love and justice, estrangement and community, war and peace, heaven and hell, good and evil. Occasionally, comparisons will be drawn to other sacred scriptures as well. [H, V]

ARASH NARAGHI
MW 2:45-4:00PM
PARDEE 321

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Key to Abbreviations for Common Course of Studies:
H=Humanities; SS=Social Sciences; GM2=Global Multicultural 2; EPSL=Elementary Proficiency in a Second Language; V=Values; W=Writing

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

ASIAN STUDIES MINOR: Five courses including ASIA 101 and four elective courses from list of approved courses (maximum two language courses).

See https://asianstudies.lafayette.edu/courses/ for a complete list of approved elective courses that count towards the Asian Studies major or minor.

For more information, contact Professor Seo-Hyun Park at (610) 330-5412 or parksh@lafayette.edu.