Asian Studies

In the College of Arts and Letters

OFFICE: Arts and Letters 473
TELEPHONE: 619-594-0931 / FAX: 619-594-0257
E-MAIL: mcastane@mail.sdsu.edu
http://asiapacific.sdsu.edu

Faculty


Emeritus: Cai, Madhavan, Weiner

Director: Guang

Undergraduate Adviser: Guang

Committee: Abalahin (History), Chin (English and Comparative Literature), Choi (Linguistics), Edgerton-Tarpley (History), Ghosh (Women's Studies), Guang (Political Science), Gupta (Political Science), Hansen (Religious Studies), Hayakawa (Art, Design, and Art History), Higurashi (Japanese), Hua (Women's Studies), Johnson (Art, Design, and Art History), Kitajima (Japanese), Liu (Sociology), Maruyama (Art, Design, and Art History), McCullom (Public Affairs), Nakamura (Art, Design, and Art History), Pang (Teacher Education), Samraj (Linguistics), Tsalalina (Religious Studies), Tsai (Religious Studies), Tsou (Geography), Varadarajan (Political Science), Wawrytko (Philosophy), Wong (Sociology and Dean, College of Arts and Letters), Wu (Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages), Yu (Public Health), Zhang (Chinese), Zhong (Journalism and Media Studies).

Offered by Asian and Pacific Studies

Master of Arts degree in Asian studies.

Major in Asian studies with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

Emphasis in Chinese studies and language.

Minor in Asian studies.

The Major

The importance of the immense and varied regions of Asia and the Pacific Rim are reflected in the rich culture and history of Asian people, Asian contributions to the world's literature and art, religion and philosophy, as well as contemporary international relations and economics.

The major in Asian studies is multidisciplinary. Students can enroll in courses from a wide range of departments and programs, such as anthropology, art, Chinese, comparative literature, economics, history, Japanese, philosophy, political science, religious studies, sociology, and women's studies. Because the program draws its faculty from multiple programs and departments on the SDSU campus, the major is able to provide resources for understanding East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Rim, the relation of these peoples and cultures to North America, and Asian American diaspora communities. Areas of special interest may be pursued in depth.

The major provides students with the background for careers that require an understanding of Asia, whether in academic, business, government, or community and social services. Students in the major develop an understanding of cultural heritage, societies, and languages, as well as the social, political, and environmental issues of the Asian and Pacific regions. Non-majors who wish to increase their understanding about Asian and Pacific peoples and cultures will find courses available in Asian Studies.

Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Asian Studies Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

(Major Code: 03011)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on “Graduation Requirements.”

A minor is not required with this major.

Preparation for the Major. Asian Studies 100, 101. (6 units)

Language Requirement. Competency (equivalent to that attained through three semesters or five quarters of college study) in one Asian language, unless specifically waived by the undergraduate adviser. Refer to section of catalog on “Graduation Requirements.”

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 27 upper division units in Asian Studies. Courses from other departments acceptable for the Asian Studies major include: Anthropology 450^, Art 564^, 565^, 566^, Chinese 450^, 451^, 496, 499; Comparative Literature 455^,460^, 530^; Economics 465^; History 420, 421, 422, 543, 563, 564, 566, 567, 570; Japanese 421^, 496, 499; Philosophy 351; Political Science 362, 575^; Religious Studies 338, 339, 345, 580^, 581^, 582^, 583^, 596^; Sociology 555^; Women's Studies 331.

Other Asian-content courses may be applied to the major with written approval of the undergraduate adviser.

Master Plan. A master plan of the courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the Asian Studies undergraduate adviser and filed with the Office of Advising and Evaluations.

*Indicates course with prerequisites not included in requirements listed above.

Emphasis in Chinese Studies and Language

Close to one quarter of humanity lives in China, as has been the case for most of human history. Two of the world’s major religions originated in China, as did key technologies ranging from paper and porcelain manufacturing to gunpowder and the magnetic compass. China’s literature, art, poetry, and love of history are also world famous. In the 21st century, China’s economic growth and increasing political clout play a crucial role in world affairs. An increasing number of Americans are discovering the importance of learning about and engaging with China and Chinese diaspora communities. The Emphasis in Chinese Studies and Language seeks to provide students with facility in the Chinese language and with a broad understanding of Chinese philosophy, religion, art, history, economics, politics, and geography.

Preparation for the Major. Asian Studies 100, 101, 150; one course selected from Anthropology 102, Geography 102, History 101, Linguistics 101, Political Science 103, or Religious Studies 101;
Chinese 101, 102, 201, and 202. The Chinese language courses can be satisfied by examination or completion of Chinese 202. See adviser. (32 units)

Language Requirement. The language requirement for graduation is automatically fulfilled by completing requirements for preparation for the major.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See “Graduation Requirements” section for a complete listing of requirements.

Study Abroad Requirement. Capstone Experience (3 units). Students are required to fulfill the capstone requirement for the emphasis by studying abroad for one semester on an SDSU-approved exchange program in a Chinese-speaking country.

Track (a): Chinese Studies

Major. A minimum of 24 upper division units in Chinese studies to include History 567, Philosophy 351; three units selected from Art 564, Chinese 352, 353, Religious Studies 340; three units selected from Asian Studies 472, History 566, Political Science 362; and 12 units selected from Asian Studies 499, 531, Communication 496, History 420, 421, 435*, 580, Journalism and Media Studies 450*, Political Science 575, Religious Studies 338, 345.

Track (b): Chinese Language

Major. A minimum of 24 upper division units to include Chinese 301, 302, History 567, Philosophy 351; nine units selected from Chinese 431, 433, 434, 450, 451; and three units selected from Chinese 352, 353, 496*.

*Acceptable when of relevant content.

Asian Studies Minor

The minor in Asian Studies consists of a minimum of 18 units to include Asian Studies 100, 101; and any combination of 12 units of upper division courses in Asian Studies, in Asian-content courses approved for the major, or upper division courses approved by the undergraduate adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

Courses (ASIAN)

Refer to Curricula and Courses and University Policies sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

ASIAN 100. State and Society in the Asia Pacific (3) [GE]

Social, political, and economic foundations of Asia Pacific societies. Emphasis on diversity of Asian cultures, their relationship with each other and within the global community.

ASIAN 101. Asian Thought and Cultures (3) [GE]

Intellectual and cultural underpinnings of East, Southeast, South, and Central Asia, from ancient to present, by means of a comparative overview of philosophies, religions, literatures, architectural design, visual and performing arts, highlighting continuing influence of tradition in contemporary Asian societies.

ASIAN 150. Understanding the Chinese World (3) [GE]

Traditions of Chinese civilization and their contemporary transformations. Chinese civilization through introductory modules on geography, language, religions, philosophies, arts, history, and politics of Chinese world.

ASIAN 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

ASIAN 300. Asia’s Global Future (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Survey of contemporary Asia Pacific region and future prospects, politically, socially, and economically, as historically grounded in cultural and philosophical roots.

ASIAN 303. Imperialism and Nationalism in the Asia Pacific (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Relationships between imperialism and nationalism; how nationalism has shaped China, Japan, Taiwan, and states of Southeast Asia. Mid-nineteenth century to present, with emphasis on first half of twentieth century.

ASIAN 310. Contemporary Issues in Asian-American Communities (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Diverse processes, economic, political, and cultural, that have shaped formation and continued growth of diasporan communities in Asia Pacific region. Historical origins and contemporary status of diasporan communities.

ASIAN 320. Asian Environmental Issues (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Upper division standing and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B. Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Major Asian environmental issues such as acid rain in China, dams on Mekong Delta, deforestation, and biodiversity conservation in Southeast Asia, population density in Bangladesh, overpopulation in China and India, and impending failure of Green Revolution.

ASIAN 450. Socio-Cultural and Health Issues Among Asia Pacific Americans (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.

Asia Pacific American communities and social/cultural factors that influence individual and current community health, programs, legislation, and movements aimed at closing health gaps. Emphasis on Filipinos, Indo-Chinese, Chinese, Japanese, and Hawaiians.

ASIAN 451. Modern Asian Literature (3) [GE]

(Same course as Comparative Literature 451)

Prerequisites: Asian Studies 100 or 101 or Comparative Literature 270A or 270B or English 220; and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C. Humanities required for nonmajors.

Asian literatures from modern period of China, Japan, India, Korea, Philippines, Vietnam, and others.

ASIAN 456. Contemporary Asian Film (3) [GE]

Two lectures and two hours of laboratory.

Prerequisites: Upper division standing and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C. Humanities required for nonmajors.

Contemporary Asian cinema focused on aesthetic and cinematic aspects of film. Methodologies of cultural criticism that elaborate relationships between media, representation, ethnicity, and national identity.
ASIAN 458. Asian Traditions (3) [GE]
Prerequisites: Six units of Asian-content courses or upper division standing, and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.
Social, cultural, economic, and political traditions of South, Southeast, and East Asia; how they functioned in theory and practice prior to twentieth century.

ASIAN 459. Modern Asian Cultures (3) [GE]
Prerequisites: Six units of Asian-content courses or upper division standing, and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities required for nonmajors.
Interdisciplinary investigation of East and Southeast Asian countries and regions. Western colonialism to rise of Asia as an economic and political power; ethnicity in Asian politics and society; terrorism, leadership struggles, and secessionist movements in Indonesia, Burma, and the Philippines.

ASIAN 460. Contemporary Issues in Filipino-American Communities (3) [GE]
Prerequisites: Upper division standing and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.B., Social and Behavioral Sciences required for nonmajors.
History of Philippines and Filipino immigration to US. Current issues in Filipino American communities to include labor, health, gender and sexuality, race relations, family culture and parenting, youth and the elderly, ethnic identity and empowerment.

ASIAN 471. Business Environment in the Asia Pacific (3)
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor for nonmajors.
Business environment in the Asia Pacific in terms of economic, political, legal, and cultural environment. Emphasis on major economies of the region, Japan, South Korea, and China. (Formerly numbered Asian Studies 330.)

ASIAN 472. Economic Reforms in China (3)
China’s economic reforms and their impact on civil society and political development in contemporary China.

ASIAN 496. Experimental Topics (1-4)
Prerequisite: Six units of Asian-content courses.
Selected topics in Asian studies. May be repeated with new content. Maximum credit six units with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree.

ASIAN 499. Special Study (1-3)
Prerequisites: At least six units of upper division work completed toward the major or minor in Asian studies and consent of the instructor. Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES
(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

ASIAN 506. War and Memory in the Asia Pacific (3)
Historiography of the Pacific War and problems associated with historical evidence, memory, authentication, and political uses of history.

ASIAN 530. Media and Popular Culture in the Asia Pacific (3)
Media and popular culture in Asia as instruments of social control, agencies of emancipation, expressions of global western power, and a means through which local identities are revitalized.

ASIAN 531. Spiritual and Intellectual Traditions in the Contemporary Asia Pacific (3)
Major thinkers or schools of Asian thought in modern times, reflecting East/West encounters and influences of global importance. Spiritual and intellectual aspects, cultural context, social/political/economic dimensions of the thinker or school and impact beyond the original culture.

ASIAN 533. Minorities and Human Rights in the Asia Pacific (3)
Human rights regimes and status of minorities in parts of Asia Pacific. Examines notion of “universal rights” within and between countries of the region.

ASIAN 570. Economic Dynamics of the Asia Pacific (3)

ASIAN 596. Selected Studies in Asian Cultures (3)
Topics on various aspects of Asian studies. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Maximum credit of six units of 596 applicable to a bachelor’s degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master’s degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

GRADUATE COURSES
Refer to the Graduate Bulletin.