

East Asian Languages and Cultures (EA LANG)

Courses

EA LANG R1B Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2025 First 6 Week Session, Spring 2025, Fall 2024

The arts of reading a text, summarizing its argument, questioning its suppositions, generating balanced opinions, and expressing those opinions with clarity and effectiveness lie at the center of university life and educated human endeavor. EA Lang R1B is designed to help inculcate those skills, paying particular attention to East Asian humanistic topics. This four-unit course focuses on how to formulate questions and hone observations into well reasoned, coherent, and convincing essays. Attention will be paid to the basic rules of grammar, logical construction, compelling rhetorical approaches, research techniques, library and database skills, and forms of citation.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Previously passed an R_A course with a letter grade of C- or better. Previously passed an articulated R_A course with a letter grade of C- or better. Score a 4 on the Advanced Placement Exam in English Literature and Composition. Score a 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement Exam in English Language and Composition. Score of 5, 6, or 7 on the International Baccalaureate Higher Level Examination in English

Requirements this course satisfies: Satisfies the second half of the Reading and Composition requirement

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Final exam not required.

EA LANG 24 Freshman Seminar 1 Unit

Terms offered: Spring 2024

The Freshman Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small seminar setting. Freshman seminars are offered in all campus departments and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to fifteen freshmen.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:

5 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

6 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

8 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

10 weeks - 1.5 hours of lecture per week

15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam not required.

EA LANG C50 Introduction to the Study of Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This introduction to the study of Buddhism will consider materials drawn from various Buddhist traditions of Asia, from ancient times down to the present day. However, the course is not intended to be a comprehensive or systematic survey; rather than aiming at breadth, the course is designed around key themes such as ritual, image veneration, mysticism, meditation, and death. The overarching emphasis throughout the course will be on the hermeneutic difficulties attendant upon the study of religion in general, and Buddhism in particular.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C50/S, SEASN C52

EA LANG 84 Sophomore Seminar 1 or 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Fall 2012

Sophomore seminars are small interactive courses offered by faculty members in departments all across the campus. Sophomore seminars offer opportunity for close, regular intellectual contact between faculty members and students in the crucial second year. The topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to 15 sophomores.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: At discretion of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:

5 weeks - 3-6 hours of seminar per week
10 weeks - 1.5-3 hours of seminar per week
15 weeks - 1-2 hours of seminar per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2.5-5 hours of seminar per week
8 weeks - 2-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam required.

EA LANG 101 Catastrophe, Memory, and Narrative: Comparative Responses to Atrocity in the Twentieth Century 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Fall 2020, Summer 2015 First 6 Week Session

This course will examine comparative responses to and representations of violent conflict. We will pay attention to how catastrophic events are productive of new forms of expression--oral, written, and visual--as well as destructive of familiar ones. We will examine the ways in which experience and its representation interact during and in the aftermath of extreme violence. Our empirical cases will be drawn from our research on responses to WWII atrocities, and on the post-Cold War civil wars in Africa.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG 105 Dynamics of Romantic Core Values in East Asian Premodern Literature and Contemporary Film 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 First 6 Week Session, Fall 2019, Summer 2019 Second 6 Week Session

This course explores representation of romantic love in East Asian cultures in premodern and post-modern contexts. Students develop a better understanding of the similarities and differences in traditional values in three East Asian cultures by comparing how canonical texts of premodern China, Japan and Korea represent romantic relationship. This is followed by the study of several contemporary East Asian films, giving the student the opportunity to explore how traditional values persist, change, or become nexus points of resistance.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: Wallace

EA LANG 106 Expressing the Ineffable in China and Beyond: The Making of Meaning in Poetic Writing 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2012, Spring 2010

This course will explore how the Chinese and English-language literary traditions (broadly defined) delineate the realm of the ineffable, and how cultural notions of the inexpressible shape the writing and reading of poems, songs, and a selection of prose pieces, from the uses of figurative language and prosody to genre and canon formation. In addition, in order to deepen our understanding of how writing achieves its aims, some attention will be given to nonverbal modes of expression, including calligraphy and painting--and attempts to render them in writing. Over this course of study, students will not only refine their sensitivity to the power of artistic modes of indirection, but will also hone their skills in close reading, analytical writing, and oral expression. All readings will be in English.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Varsano

EA LANG 107 War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2021, Fall 2013, Fall 2008

This course will examine war, empire, and the writing and memorialization of history through an eclectic group of literary, graphic, and cinematic texts from China, Japan, Europe, and the U.S.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

EA LANG 108 Revising the Classics: Chinese and Greek Poetry in Translation 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Fall 2006, Spring 2006

This course will explore poetic translation, across languages, across cultures, and across historical ages, not merely from the perspective of the "accuracy" with which a classic text is represented in the translation, but as a window into the nature of poetic tradition and poetic writing itself. Works will be primarily drawn from the Chinese tradition, but in the interest of allowing a comparative discussion of the course's central themes, a significant amount of reading from ancient and modern Greek poetry will be included as well. The goal of the class is not simply to gain familiarity with Chinese poetry and poets, but more fundamentally to gain skill and sophistication in reading, responding to, and thinking about poetry.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Ashmore

EA LANG 109 History of the Culture of Tea in China and Japan 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Spring 2020, Spring 2019

In this course we compare the cultural traditions of tea in China and Japan. In addition, using tea as the case study, we analyze the mechanics of the flow of culture across both national boundaries and social practices (such as between poetry and the tea ceremony). Understanding the tea culture of these countries informs students of important and enduring aspects of both cultures, provides an opportunity to discuss the role of religion and art in social practice, provides a forum for cultural comparison, and provides as well an example of the relationship between the two countries and Japanese methods of importing and naturalizing another country's social practice. Korean tea traditions are also briefly considered.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Wallace

EA LANG 110 Bioethics in Asian Thought and Culture 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2020, Spring 2017

This course will explore some of the most difficult bioethical issues confronting the world today from the perspective of traditional values embedded in the cultural history of India, China, and Japan as evidenced in their religions, legal codes, and political history. Possible topics include population control, abortion, sex-selection, euthanasia, suicide, genetic manipulation, brain-death, and organ transplants.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Blum

EA LANG 111 Reading Global Politics in Contemporary East Asian Literature 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016

This class examines the global dynamics and local distinction of literary writings from contemporary East Asia. Beginning with the colonial connections among Tokyo, Shanghai and Seoul during the 1920s-1940s, and moving on to texts composed since 2000 in Manila, Hong Kong, India and elsewhere, the course considers how literary writers have grappled with an increasingly integrated global marketplace in which culture, ideas and people circulate alongside (and as) capital. Discussions will reflect on the confluence of culture and politics in literary writings that treat race tension, ecological crisis, capitalist catastrophe and other themes. Primary readings will be supplemented by iconic essays of cultural criticism and recent films.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

EA LANG 112 The East Asian Sixties 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2022, Spring 2017, Spring 2014

The 1960s were a time of historical transformation and upheaval in East Asia. It saw the overthrow of political regimes, the consolidation of communism, unprecedented capitalist expansion, and the emergence of new technologies that affected aesthetic production and consumption. This course explores the multiple aspects of culture, aesthetics, and politics that defined this moment. It asks how and why we can define the 1960s as a period, while considering the significance of defining East Asia (a term which denotes an imagined space of relations) as a particular region at this time.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG 114 Illness Narratives, Vulnerable Bodies 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2021, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

The course will introduce students to narratives about illness, disease and healing written by patients, physicians, caretakers, and others. These narratives report an experience. They reveal the interactions between the unfolding life of the patient and the shifting social meanings attached to illness. We will study the relationships between illness and society through readings of fiction, memoir, films, essays and graphic novels in order to understand how these varied forms of storytelling organize and give meaning to crucial questions about embodiment, disability and emergent forms of sociality enabled by our bodily vulnerabilities.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG 115 Knowing Others, and Being Known: The Art of Writing People 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2022, Spring 2017

What does it mean to use the medium of writing to “know” a person, and precisely how does one avail oneself of that medium to make oneself—or someone else—“known”? This course will guide students in writing about one of the most challenging of subjects: people. Students will have the opportunity to (a) read deeply in a selection of writings drawn from a range of genres and cultures, to acquaint themselves with a range of rhetorical tools employed in the portrayal of human lives and character, (b) identify the aims of their own writings, and (c) develop competency in applying what they have learned as readers to their own writing.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

EA LANG 116 Modern East Asian Fiction 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2017

Comparative analysis of modern literature from China (including Hong Kong and Taiwan), Korea, and Japan with an emphasis on the short story and the novel. We will think about both the specificities of the literatures of the region as well as shared and interconnected experiences of modernity that broadly connect the cultures of East Asia during the twentieth century. Thematic concerns will include: modernism and modernity; nostalgia and homesickness; empire and its aftermath; and the cultures of globalization.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG 117 Lu Xun and his Worlds 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2018

This course provides a forum for reading and discussing East Asia's greatest and most iconic modern writers, Lu Xun. We will closely read Lu Xun's major works, discuss his role in the reinvention of the Chinese language and literary tradition, explore the global literary and intellectual currents with which he was deeply engaged, as well as situating him within the tumultuous era of colonialism, modernization, and revolution. All readings will be available in English translation.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG 118 Sex and Gender in Premodern Chinese Culture 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2023, Spring 2021

This course explores Chinese cultures of sex and gender from antiquity to the seventeenth century. We concentrate on three interconnected issues: women's status, homoeroticism, and the human body. Our discussion will be informed by cross-cultural comparisons with ancient Greece, Renaissance England, and Contemporary America. In contrast to our modern regime of sexuality, which collapses all the three aforementioned issues into the issues of desire and identity intrinsic to the body, we will see how the early Chinese regime of sexual act evolved into the early modern regime of emotion that concerned less inherent identities than a media culture of life-style performance.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Lam

Formerly known as: Chinese 181

EA LANG 119 The History of Heaven 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

Higher Learning begins with the study of heaven. As the source of orientation in space and time, heaven provides humanity the foundation for its knowledge and political order. To understand what knowledge is or how politics function, we need a basic understanding of the ways of heaven. This course examines the function heaven serves in the founding of order against the void in nature through the formation of conventional systems of time and space and the role heaven has played in the promulgation of governments. From a cross-cultural, interdisciplinary perspective that covers the course of Eurasian history and using primary sources in translation, we will see heaven unfold through the developments that leave us with the world we know today.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

EA LANG C120 Buddhism on the Silk Road 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course will discuss the social, economic, and cultural aspects of Buddhism as it moved along the ancient Eurasian trading network referred to as the "Silk Road". Instead of relying solely on textual sources, the course will focus on material culture as it offers evidence concerning the spread of Buddhism. Through an examination of the Buddhist archaeological remains of the Silk Road, the course will address specific topics, such as the symbiotic relationship between Buddhism and commerce; doctrinal divergence; ideological shifts in the iconography of the Buddha; patronage (royal, religious and lay); Buddhism and political power; and art and conversion. All readings will be in English.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C120

EA LANG 125 The Art of Writing: Writing the Limits of Empathy 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2021

How far can we go into the minds and bodies of others? How strongly can we sense their presence? When, and why, do we hit a wall separating us from the world beyond us? In this course we will experiment, through a number of genres and media, with the art of writing (and thinking and feeling) empathetically. These genres and media include diary, fiction, poetry, editorial, letter writing, reportage, description (of nature, art, emotions, psychic states, etc.), film, video, and photography.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG C126 Buddhism and the Environment 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2011, Fall 2009, Spring 2008

A thematic course on Buddhist perspectives on nature and Buddhist responses to environmental issues. The first half of the course focuses on East Asian Buddhist cosmological and doctrinal perspectives on the place of the human in nature and the relationship between the salvific goals of Buddhism and nature. The second half of the course examines Buddhist ethics, economics, and activism in relation to environmental issues in contemporary Southeast Asia, East Asia, and America.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: One lower-division course in Buddhist Studies or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C126

EA LANG C128 Buddhism in Contemporary Society 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

A study of the Buddhist tradition as it is found today in Asia. The course will focus on specific living traditions of East, South, and/or Southeast Asia. Themes to be addressed may include contemporary Buddhist ritual practices; funerary and mortuary customs; the relationship between Buddhism and other local religious traditions; the relationship between Buddhist institutions and the state; Buddhist monasticism and its relationship to the laity; Buddhist ethics; Buddhist "modernism," and so on.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/
Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: von Rospatt

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C128/S, SEASN C145

EA LANG C130 Zen Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2013, Spring 2010

This course will introduce students to the Zen Buddhist traditions of China and Japan, drawing on a variety of disciplinary perspectives (history, anthropology, philosophy, and so on). The course will also explore a range of hermeneutic problems (problems involved in interpretation) entailed in understanding a sophisticated religious tradition that emerged in a time and culture very different from our own.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: One lower division course in Asian religion recommended

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture and 0-1 hours of discussion per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Sharf

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C130

EA LANG C132 Pure Land Buddhism 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2019, Fall 2017

This course will discuss the historical development of the Pure Land school of East Asian Buddhism, the largest form of Buddhism practiced today in China and Japan. The curriculum is divided into India, China, and Japan sections, with the second half of the course focusing exclusively on Japan where this form of religious culture blossomed most dramatically, covering the ancient, medieval, and modern periods. The curriculum will begin with a reading of the core scriptures that form the basis of the belief system and then move into areas of cultural expression. The course will follow two basic trajectories over the centuries: doctrine/philosophy and culture/society.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required, with common exam group.

Instructor: Blum

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C132

EA LANG C134 Russia and Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2023, Spring 2020

This course offers a cultural history of encounters between Russia and Asia in literature, film and visual art. The lenses of Orientalism, Eurasianism and Internationalism will be used to analyze Russian interactions with three spaces: the Caucasus, Central Asia, and East Asia. We will discuss works by classic Russian writers and artists (including Tolstoy, Blok and Platonov) that address the question of Russia's engagement with Asia and consider Russia's ambiguous spatial identity between Europe and Asia. We will also examine responses to Russian culture and the Russian/Soviet state in the literature and culture of China (Lu Xun, Xiao Hong), Japan (Kurosawa), Central Asia (Aitmatov) and the Caucasus (Sadulaev). All readings in English.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Also listed as: SLAVIC C134N

EA LANG C135 Tantric Traditions of Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2013, Spring 2010

The emergence of the tantras in seventh and eighth-century India marked a watershed for religious practice throughout Asia. These esoteric scriptures introduced complex new ritual technologies that transformed the religious traditions of India, from Brahmanism to Jainism and Buddhism, as well as those of Southeast Asia, Tibet, Mongolia, China, Korea, and Japan. This course provides an overview of tantric religion across these regions.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Dalton

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C135/S, SEASN C135

EA LANG C142 Psychoanalytic Theory, Asian Texts 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2023, Fall 2021

Through the prism of psychoanalytical theories, early and contemporary, this course explores a variety of pre-modern and modern East Asian texts—literary, artistic, religious, and theoretical. We will be asking both how these theories enrich our reading of the texts, and how the texts enrich our understanding of the theories. Through close readings of all the material we will begin to discern how theory and text reshape one another, where they mesh productively, and where they insistently stay apart. Topics include: the unconscious, selfhood, repression, attachment, beauty, dreams, ritual, ghosts and haunting, madness, meditative states, mystical experience, mourning, healing, therapeutic method and cure. No prerequisites.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Also listed as: S,SEASN C142

EA LANG 144 Form and Formlessness: Practices and Theories of Meaning 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025

We commonly understand things-- both things available to our senses and "mental objects"--by imposing a system of meaning on them.

Aesthetic thinking demands we grapple with what an object means based on our engagement or confrontation with the object, rather than through a theory or pre-conceived idea.

This class offers an exploration of (and a training in) our aesthetic relationship to things (written, visual and musical) in the world—things made by people worthy of close attention (works of art and human thought, including literature, visual arts, music, dance, and philosophy), and things in the world not wholly made by us but inspire human attention (including nature).

The objects will come from East Asia and elsewhere around the globe.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG C152 Buddhist Astral Science 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course studies the purview of astral science under Buddhist dominion. Here it is at once promoted for promulgating Buddhist world order and repudiated for begetting the suffering-inducing physical universe, a warped vessel of ceaselessly turning stars that the Buddhist dharma must transcend. The course begins with the part astral science plays in genesis, the creation of Buddhist world order. It then covers the science's central aspects, celestial systems, spatial orientation, time reckoning, the making of a calendar, and publication of an almanac. Thereafter, it treats the science's outgrowth into interrelated forms of Buddhist propaganda manifest as divination, magic, medicine, ritual, scripture, and iconography.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C152

EA LANG 160 Neurodiversity in Literature 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2024 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2023 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2022 Second 6 Week Session

This course investigates how neurotypical and neurodivergent authors (those with neurological conditions) depict and discuss "neurodiversity". We pay particular attention to how the autistic community embraces this idea. The course emphasizes two Japanese authors, Oe Kenzaburô and autistic author Higashida Naoki (both read in English). We also read other fiction and poetry dealing with themes of autism. To better contextualize the Japanese authors, we read nonfiction work on neurodiversity as well. Taking a comparative, cross-cultural approach brings into relief the ways in which neurodiversity is understood, depicted, and expressed; and the unique difficulties with representation. Satisfies Arts & Letters (AL) breadth requirements.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG 162 Science Fiction in East Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course comprises an immersive survey of science fiction - historically the only literary genre fully devoted to imagining the alterity of the future - as it takes on a unique and pressing relevance in contemporary East Asian culture and society. Providing students with both comprehensive training in literary analysis and critical thinking as well as a substantive sociohistorical introduction to contemporary East Asian societies and politics, the course will constitute a solid foundation for the East Asian humanities major. All readings will be in English; no prior knowledge of Asian languages and/or cultures expected.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Smith

EA LANG C175 Archaeology of East Asia 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2022, Fall 2020

Prehistoric and protohistoric archaeology in China, Japan, and Korea.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: ANTHRO C125A

EA LANG 180 East Asian Film: Directors and their Contexts 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2011, Spring 2008

A close analysis of the oeuvre of an East Asian director in its aesthetic, cultural, and political contexts.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Upper division or graduate standing

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

EA LANG 181 East Asian Film: Special Topics in Genre 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Fall 2021

The study of East Asian films as categorized either by industry-identified genres (westerns, horror films, musicals, film noir, etc.) or broader interpretive modes (melodrama, realism, fantasy, etc).

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

EA LANG 191 Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

This course is a capstone experience that centers on the philosophies and religions of East Asia examined from multiple theoretical perspectives. It comprises several thematic units within which a short set of readings about theory are followed by chronologically arranged readings about East Asia. Themes will alternate from year to year but may include: ritual and performance studies; religion and evolution; definitions of religion and theories of its origins; and the role of sacrifice.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Preference will be given to majors, especially those with junior or senior standing

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

EA LANG H195A Honors Course 2 - 5 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023

Directed independent study and preparation of senior honors thesis.

Limited to senior honors candidates in the East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture major (for description of Honors Program, see Index).

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Senior honors standing in the East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture major, 3.5 GPA in major, 3.3 overall

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-5 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 3-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. This is part one of a year long series course. A provisional grade of IP (in progress) will be applied and later replaced with the final grade after completing part two of the series. Final exam not required.

EA LANG H195B Honors Course 2 - 5 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2023

Directed independent study and preparation of senior honors thesis.

Limited to senior honors candidates in the East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture major (for description of Honors Program, see Index).

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Senior honors standing in the East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture major, 3.5 major GPA, 3.3 overall

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-5 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 3-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. This is part two of a year long series course. Upon completion, the final grade will be applied to both parts of the series. Final exam not required.

EA LANG 200 Proseminar: Approaches to East Asian Studies 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2022, Fall 2021

This course is a pro-seminar required for all entering graduate students in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures no matter their particular areas of interest. Its purpose is to introduce graduate students in the program to the major theoretical concerns, academic issues, and interpretive methodologies relevant to humanistic studies more generally and to the study of East Asian literature, thought, religion, and culture in particular. Supervising faculty change from year to year, as does the focus of the seminar.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

EA LANG 202 Close Reading Area Studies: China and Japan in the World 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2009

This course will consider alternative strategies and modes of close reading that can be relevant to the study of East Asia with a focus on China and Japan. As we concentrate on the historical role of philological research, translation studies, interdisciplinary scholarship and ask how "knowledge" about East Asia is produced in our fields, our readings on "close reading" will help us question the common sense of "civilization," culture," and "tradition," and explore new ways of asking questions about text and context, aesthetics and politics, cultural memory, historical narratives, and regimes of knowledge.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Instructor: O'Neill

EA LANG 204 Topics in East Asian Studies 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023

This course provides a place for graduate-level seminars in East Asian Studies that rely primarily on secondary scholarship and texts in translation. Content will vary between semesters but will typically focus on a particular theme. Themes will be chosen according to faculty and student interests, with an eye toward introducing students to the breadth of available western scholarship on that subject, from classics in the field to the latest publications.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

EA LANG C220 Seminar in Buddhism and Buddhist Texts 2 or 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022

Content varies with student interests. The course will normally focus on classical Buddhist texts that exist in multiple recensions and languages, including Chinese, Sanskrit, and Tibetan.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Graduate

Grading: Letter grade.

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C220/S, SEASN C220

EA LANG 375 Methods of Teaching East Asian Languages 2 Units

Terms offered: Prior to 2007

This course aims to provide basic pedagogical training for teaching East Asian languages as second/foreign language. It involves critical reading and discussion of major pedagogical principles and issues in teaching Asian languages as second languages, with emphasis on the following topics:

Practical topics such as lesson planning, classroom observation, peer teaching, classroom activities, self- and peer evaluations, best practices in teaching. The focus of this course is on teaching theory, methodology, curriculum and lesson plan design, focusing on the teaching of Chinese, Japanese and Korean as foreign/second languages. Classes include lecture, discussion of readings, activities and feedback on observed language classes.

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Professional course for teachers or prospective teachers

Grading: Letter grade.