East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture

The Major
The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures offers an undergraduate major in East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture. This major is designed to give students a deep understanding of the philosophical and religious traditions central to East Asia's diverse cultures. The curriculum emphasizes a comprehensive approach that includes rigorous training in the texts, languages, and cultural contexts of East Asian societies. Students will explore how these age-old traditions influence modern societies and how they can be integrated into various humanistic disciplines. This major aims to cultivate a nuanced appreciation of East Asia's rich intellectual heritage and contemporary relevance.

Honors Program:
Students who demonstrate exceptional academic ability can undertake an honors thesis. Details on requirements and application procedures are under the Major Requirements tab.

Minor Program
There is no minor program in East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture. Students interested in Buddhism should consider the Buddhist Studies (https://buddhiststudies.berkeley.edu/buddhist-studies/undergraduate-studies-cbs/) minor offered by the Group in Buddhist Studies.

Other Majors and Minors Offered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures
Chinese Language (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/chinese-language/) (Major and Minor)
East Asian Humanities (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/east-asian-humanities/) (Major only)
Japanese Language (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/japanese-language/) (Major and Minor)
Korean Language (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/korean-language/) (Major only)
Tibetan (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/tibetan/) (Minor only)

In addition to the University, campus, and college requirements listed on the College Requirements tab, students must fulfill the requirements specific to their major program.

General Guidelines
1. All courses that fulfill the major requirements below must be taken for graded credit, other than courses listed on a Pass/No Pass basis only.
2. No more than one upper division course may simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student’s major and minor programs, except for minors offered outside the College of Letters & Science.
3. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 must be maintained in both upper- and lower-division courses used to fulfill the major requirements.

4. Students with previous language experience must take a placement exam (https://ealc.berkeley.edu/programs/undergraduate/placement-exams/) for the required language sequence (four courses in one of the required languages). Students placed out of lower-level language courses must make up those units with replacement courses in higher-level language courses.
5. No more than two upper-division courses can be taken outside the EALC department, and the undergraduate advisor must approve them. A course syllabus may be required to approve courses outside the department.

Please see the College Requirements tab for information regarding residence and unit requirements.

Declaring the Major
Students are advised to begin preparation for the major as soon as possible while completing university, college, and department requirements. Students are admitted to the major after completing the prerequisites (with a grade of C or higher). Please see the Major Requirements tab on this page for information regarding the prerequisites. Students can view the department's East Asian Religion Thought & Culture major page (https://ealc.berkeley.edu/programs/undergraduate/undergraduate-requirements/east-asian-religion-major-requirements/) for the most up-to-date information.

Students interested in majoring in the program should schedule an appointment with the undergraduate adviser (https://calendly.com/cassandra-dunn-ug-advisor/) regarding major requirements, transfer credits, and other academic concerns.

Prerequisites
Select one language course:

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<td>CHINESE 1A</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAPAN 1A</td>
<td>Elementary Japanese (or higher level)</td>
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<td>TIBETAN 1A</td>
<td>Elementary Tibetan (or higher level)</td>
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<td>BUDDSTD 190</td>
<td>Topics in the Study of Buddhism</td>
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<td>Chinese Thought in the Han Dynasty</td>
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<td>Introduction to Literary Chinese</td>
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<td>Introduction to Literary Chinese</td>
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<td>CHINESE C116</td>
<td>Buddhism in China</td>
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<td>CHINESE 130</td>
<td>Topics in Daoism</td>
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<td>CHINESE C140</td>
<td>Readings in Chinese Buddhist Texts</td>
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<td>CHINESE 186</td>
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<td>Zen Buddhism</td>
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## Major Requirements (including prerequisites)

### Language Requirement

Select Chinese, Japanese, or Tibetan and complete a four-course sequence

#### Chinese

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### East Asian Tools & Methods - Philosophy & Religion

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<td>EA LANG 191</td>
<td>Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian</td>
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<td>Philosophy and Religion</td>
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### Six courses from the List A (Core Course) Requirements

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<td>CHINESE 110B</td>
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<td>Buddhism in China</td>
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<td>Topics in Daoism</td>
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<td>CHINESE 186</td>
<td>Confucius and His Interpreters</td>
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### Two Supplementary Disciplinary Breadth courses (List B)

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<td>Pure Land Buddhism</td>
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<td>Tantric Traditions of Asia</td>
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<td>EA LANG C152</td>
<td>Buddhist Astral Science</td>
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<td>JAPAN C115</td>
<td>Buddhism and its Culture in Japan</td>
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<td>JAPAN 116</td>
<td>Introduction to the Religions of Japan</td>
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<td>JAPAN 120</td>
<td>Introduction to Classical Japanese</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAPAN C141</td>
<td>Introductory Readings in Kanbun</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAPAN 144</td>
<td>Edo Literature</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAPAN 146</td>
<td>Japanese Historical Documents</td>
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<td>MONGOLN C117</td>
<td>Mongolian Buddhism</td>
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<td>TIBETAN 110A</td>
<td>Intensive Readings in Tibetan</td>
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<td>Intensive Readings in Tibetan</td>
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<td>Tibetan Buddhism</td>
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<td>TIBETAN 116</td>
<td>Traditional Tibetan</td>
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<td>TIBETAN C154</td>
<td>Death, Dreams, and Visions in Tibetan Buddhism</td>
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### Art History

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<td>Early Chinese Art, Part I</td>
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<td>HISTART 131A</td>
<td>Sacred Arts in China</td>
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<td>HISTART 134A</td>
<td>Topics in Buddhist Art and Architecture: Buddhist Temple Art &amp; Architecture in Japan</td>
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<td>HISTART 134B</td>
<td>Topics in Buddhist Art and Architecture: Buddhist Icons in Japan</td>
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<td>HISTART 134C</td>
<td>Topics in Buddhist Art and Architecture: Buddhist Art in the Modern/Contemporary World</td>
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<td>HISTART 190A</td>
<td>Special Topics in Fields of Art History: Asian (When topic is relevant, see advisor for approval)</td>
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### Film

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<td>CHINESE 172</td>
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<td>EA LANG 180</td>
<td>East Asian Film: Directors and their Contexts</td>
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<td>EA LANG 181</td>
<td>East Asian Film: Special Topics in Genre</td>
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<td>JAPAN 185</td>
<td>Introduction to Japanese Cinema</td>
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<td>JAPAN 188</td>
<td>Japanese Visual Culture: Introduction to Anime</td>
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<td>JAPAN 189</td>
<td>Topics in Japanese Film</td>
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<td>KOREAN 186</td>
<td>Introduction to Korean Cinema</td>
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<td>KOREAN 187</td>
<td>History and Memory in Korean Cinema</td>
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<td>KOREAN 188</td>
<td>Cold War Culture in Korea: Literature and Film</td>
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<td>Korean Film Authors</td>
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### History

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<td>HISTORY 100F</td>
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<td>HISTORY 103F</td>
<td>Proseminar: Problems in Interpretation in the Several Fields of History: Asia (When topic is relevant, see advisor for approval)</td>
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<td>HISTORY 113B</td>
<td>Modern Korean History</td>
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<tr>
<td>HISTORY 116A</td>
<td>China: Early China</td>
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<td>HISTORY 116B</td>
<td>China: Two Golden Ages: China During the Tang and Song Dynasties</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>HISTORY 116C</td>
<td>China: Modern China</td>
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<td>HISTORY 116D</td>
<td>China: Twentieth-Century China</td>
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<td>HISTORY 116G</td>
<td>Imperial China and the World</td>
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<td>HISTORY 117A</td>
<td>Topics in Chinese History: Chinese Popular Culture</td>
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### East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture

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<td>Topics in Chinese History: The Chinese Body: Gender and Sex, Health, and Medicine</td>
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<td>Japan: Japan, Archaeological Period to 1800</td>
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<td>HISTORY 118B</td>
<td>Japan: Japan 1800-1900</td>
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<td>HISTORY 118C</td>
<td>The Twentieth Century in Japan</td>
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<td>HISTORY 119A</td>
<td>Topics in Japanese History: Postwar Japan</td>
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<td>The Mongol Empire</td>
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<td>MONGOLN 118</td>
<td>Modern Mongolia</td>
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<td>The Politics of Modern Tibet</td>
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<td>TIBETAN 119</td>
<td>Tibetan Medicine in History and Society</td>
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<td>PHILO 153</td>
<td>Chinese Philosophy</td>
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<td>Popular Media in Modern China</td>
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<td>Catastrophe, Memory, and Narrative: Comparative Responses to Atrocity in the Twentieth Century</td>
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<td>Dynamics of Romantic Core Values in East Asian Premodern Literature and Contemporary Film</td>
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<td>Expressing the Ineffable in China and Beyond: The Making of Meaning in Poetic Writing</td>
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<td>War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia</td>
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<td>Revising the Classics: Chinese and Greek Poetry in Translation</td>
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<td>Illness Narratives, Vulnerable Bodies</td>
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<td>Knowing Others, and Being Known: The Art of Writing People</td>
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### Honors Program

Criteria:

- Completion of 12 units of upper-division language courses within the department.
- A minimum GPA of 3.5 in these courses.
- An overall GPA of 3.0 at the university.

Program Structure and Requirements:

- Qualified seniors may apply for admission to the honors program.
- Accepted students will enroll in EA LANG H195A and EA LANG H195B honors courses over two consecutive semesters.
- Participants must complete an honors thesis submitted by the 13th week of the semester in which they expect to graduate.

Guidance and Assessment:

- During the program, students will undertake independent advanced study under the guidance of an assigned honors thesis adviser.
- A faculty committee will evaluate the completed thesis and the student's overall performance within the department to determine the level of honors awarded: honors, high honors, or highest honors.

Graduation Criteria:

- To be eligible for honors, students must also achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3 in all undergraduate coursework at the university by graduation. Failure to meet this criterion will result in the non-issuance of honors recognition.
Organizing an Honors Thesis Project

To initiate an Honors Thesis Project in the Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures (EALC), a student should follow these steps:

1. Choosing a Supervisor:
   - The student must approach and secure a faculty member from the EALC department to serve as the thesis supervisor. The faculty member should have expertise in the area of study the student wishes to explore.

2. Project Development:
   - Together, the student and the faculty supervisor will determine the topic, scope, and a detailed plan for research and writing of the thesis. This collaborative planning ensures the project is feasible and aligns with academic standards and goals.

3. Forming the Thesis Committee:
   - In consultation with the faculty supervisor, the student will identify and invite two additional faculty members to join the thesis committee. This should be completed by the beginning of the student’s final semester before graduation.
   - The committee members provide additional perspectives and expertise, contributing to a robust review and guidance process.

4. Registration and Support:
   - The student should consult with the Undergraduate Advisor to discuss the process for enrolling in the necessary thesis courses and to receive advice on getting started with the thesis project.

These steps are designed to ensure that the student is well-prepared and supported throughout the process of completing the honors thesis, leading to a meaningful and academically rigorous culmination of their studies in the EALC department.

Undergraduate students must fulfill the following requirements in addition to those required by their major program.

For a detailed list of L&S requirements, please see the Overview tab to the right in this guide or visit the L&S Degree Requirements (https://lsadvising.berkeley.edu/degree-requirements/) webpage. For College advising appointments, please visit the L&S Advising (https://lsadvising.berkeley.edu/home/) pages.

University of California Requirements

Entry Level Writing (https://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/entry-level-writing-requirement/)

All students who will enter the University of California as freshmen must demonstrate their command of the English language by fulfilling the Entry Level Writing requirement. Fulfillment of this requirement is also a prerequisite to enrollment in all reading and composition courses at UC Berkeley and must be taken for a letter grade.

American History and American Institutions (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/american-history-institutions-requirement/)

The American History and American Institutions requirements are based on the principle that all U.S. residents who have graduated from an American university should have an understanding of the history and governmental institutions of the United States.

Berkeley Campus Requirement

American Cultures (http://americancultures.berkeley.edu/students/courses/)

All undergraduate students at Cal need to take and pass this campus requirement course in order to graduate. The requirement offers an exciting intellectual environment centered on the study of race, ethnicity and culture of the United States. AC courses are plentiful and offer students opportunities to be part of research-led, highly accomplished teaching environments, grappling with the complexity of American Culture.

College of Letters & Science Essential Skills Requirements

Quantitative Reasoning (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/quantitative-reasoning-requirement/)

The Quantitative Reasoning requirement is designed to ensure that students graduate with basic understanding and competency in math, statistics, or computer/data science. The requirement may be satisfied by exam or by taking an approved course taken for a letter grade.

Foreign Language (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/foreign-language-requirement/)

The Foreign Language requirement may be satisfied by demonstrating proficiency in reading comprehension, writing, and conversation in a foreign language equivalent to the second semester college level, either by passing an exam or by completing approved course work taken for a letter grade.

Reading and Composition (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/reading-composition-requirement/)

In order to provide a solid foundation in reading, writing, and critical thinking the College of Letters and Science requires two semesters of lower division work in composition in sequence. Students must complete parts A & B reading and composition courses in sequential order by the end of their fourth semester for a letter grade.

College of Letters & Science 7 Course Breadth Requirements

Breadth Requirements (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/#breadthrequirementstext)

The undergraduate breadth requirements provide Berkeley students with a rich and varied educational experience outside of their major program. As the foundation of a liberal arts education, breadth courses give students a view into the intellectual life of the University while introducing them to a multitude of perspectives and approaches to research and scholarship. Engaging students in new disciplines and with peers from other majors, the breadth experience strengthens interdisciplinary connections and context that prepares Berkeley graduates to understand and solve the complex issues of their day.
Unit Requirements

• 120 total units
  • Of the 120 units, 36 must be upper division units
  • Of the 36 upper division units, 6 must be taken in courses offered outside your major department

Residence Requirements

For units to be considered in “residence,” you must be registered in courses on the Berkeley campus as a student in the College of Letters & Science. Most students automatically fulfill the residence requirement by attending classes at Cal for four years, or two years for transfer students. In general, there is no need to be concerned about this requirement, unless you graduate early, go abroad for a semester or year, or want to take courses at another institution or through UC Extension during your senior year. In these cases, you should make an appointment to meet an L&S College adviser to determine how you can meet the Senior Residence Requirement.

Note: Courses taken through UC Extension do not count toward residence.

Senior Residence Requirement

After you become a senior (with 90 semester units earned toward your B.A. degree), you must complete at least 24 of the remaining 30 units in residence in at least two semesters. To count as residence, a semester must consist of at least 6 passed units. Intercampus Visitor, EAP, and UC Berkeley-Washington Program (UCDC) units are excluded.

You may use a Berkeley Summer Session to satisfy one semester of the Senior Residence requirement, provided that you successfully complete 6 units of course work in the Summer Session and that you have been enrolled previously in the college.

Modified Senior Residence Requirement

Participants in the UC Education Abroad Program (EAP), Berkeley Summer Abroad, or the UC Berkeley Washington Program (UCDC) may meet a Modified Senior Residence requirement by completing 24 (excluding EAP) of their final 60 semester units in residence. At least 12 of these 24 units must be completed after you have completed 90 units.

Upper Division Residence Requirement

You must complete in residence a minimum of 18 units of upper division courses (excluding UCEAP units), 12 of which must satisfy the requirements for your major.

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

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

Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities: Read More [+]

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.

Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities: Read Less [-]
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.
Freshman Seminar: Read More [+]

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.

Freshman Seminar: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 39 Freshman/Sophomore Seminar
1.5 - 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021
Freshman and sophomore seminars offer lower division students the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member and a group of peers in a small-seminar setting. These seminars are offered in all campus departments; topics vary from department to department and from semester to semester.
Freshman/Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Priority given to freshmen and sophomores

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring:
5 weeks - 4-6 hours of seminar per week
6 weeks - 3.5-5 hours of seminar per week
8 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week
10 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week
15 weeks - 1.5-2 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 To be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Introduction to the Study of Buddhism: Read More [+]

Also listed as: BUDDSTD C50/S, SEASN C52

Introduction to the Study of Buddhism: Read Less [-]

EA LANG C50 Introduction to the Study of Buddhism 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.
Introduction to the Study of Buddhism: Read More [+]

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

Introduction to the Study of Buddhism: Read Less [-]
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.
Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

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.

Sophomore Seminar: Read Less [-]

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.
Catastrophe, Memory, and Narrative: Comparative Responses to Atrocity in the Twentieth Century: Read More [+]

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.
Catastrophe, Memory, and Narrative: Comparative Responses to Atrocity in the Twentieth Century: Read Less [-]

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.
Dynamics of Romantic Core Values in East Asian Premodern Literature and Contemporary Film: Read More [+]

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
Dynamics of Romantic Core Values in East Asian Premodern Literature and Contemporary Film: Read Less [-]
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.

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. War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia: Read More [+]

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.

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.

EA LANG 106 Expressing the Ineffable in China and Beyond: The Making of Meaning in Poetic Writing: Read More [+]

EA LANG 107 War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia: Read More [+]

EA LANG 108 Revising the Classics: Chinese and Greek Poetry in Translation: Read More [+]

EA LANG 109 History of the Culture of Tea in China and Japan: Read More [+]

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

Expressing the Ineffable in China and Beyond: The Making of Meaning in Poetic Writing: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 107 War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 108 Revising the Classics: Chinese and Greek Poetry in Translation: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 109 History of the Culture of Tea in China and Japan: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 110 Bio-Ethical Issues in East Asian Thought 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.

Bio-Ethical Issues in East Asian Thought: Read More [+]

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

Bio-Ethical Issues in East Asian Thought: Read Less [-]

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.

Reading Global Politics in Contemporary East Asian Literature: Read More [+]

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: Blum

Reading Global Politics in Contemporary East Asian Literature: Read Less [-]

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.

The East Asian Sixties: Read More [+]

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.

The East Asian Sixties: Read Less [-]

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.

Illness Narratives, Vulnerable Bodies: Read More [+]

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.

Illness Narratives, Vulnerable Bodies: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 115 Knowing Others, and Being Known: The Art of Writing People 4 Units
Terms offered: 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.

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.

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.

EA LANG 118 Sex and Gender in Premodern Chinese Culture 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2023, Spring 2021, Fall 2019
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 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 lifestyle performance.
EA LANG 119 The History of Heaven 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.
The History of Heaven: Read More [+]

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.
The History of Heaven: Read Less [-]

EA LANG C120 Buddhism on the Silk Road 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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.
Buddhism on the Silk Road: Read More [+]

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
Buddhism on the Silk Road: Read Less [-]

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.
The Art of Writing: Writing the Limits of Empathy: Read More [+]

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.
The Art of Writing: Writing the Limits of Empathy: Read Less [-]

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.
Buddhism and the Environment: Read More [+]

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
Buddhism and the Environment: Read Less [-]
East Asian Religion, Thought, and Culture

EA LANG C128 Buddhism in Contemporary Society 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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 "modernism," and so on.

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.

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.

EA LANG C134 Russia and Asia 4 Units
Terms offered: 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.

EA LANG C128 Buddhism in Contemporary Society: Read More [+]

EA LANG C132 Pure Land Buddhism: Read More [+]

EA LANG C130 Zen Buddhism: Read Less [-]

EA LANG C134 Russia and Asia: Read Less [-]
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.

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.

EA LANG C152 Buddhist Astral Science 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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.

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. 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.
EA LANG 162 Science Fiction in East Asia 4 Units
Terms offered: 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.

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.

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.

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).
EA LANG 191 Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion
4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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. Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion:

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.

Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion: Read More [+]

EA LANG H195A 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). Honors Course: Read More [+]

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

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.

Honors Course: Read Less [-]

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). Honors Course: Read More [+]

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.

Honors Course: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 198 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Spring 2009
Small group instruction in topics not covered by regularly scheduled courses.

Directed Group Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing

Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Summer:
3 weeks - 3-20 hours of directed group study per week
6 weeks - 2.5-10 hours of directed group study per week
8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

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

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Directed Group Study: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 199 Independent Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2007, Spring 2007
Independent study in topics not covered by regularly scheduled courses.
Independent Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing

Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.

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

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Summer:
3 weeks - 5-20 hours of independent study per week
6 weeks - 2.5-10 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

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

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Independent Study: Read Less [-]

Courses

Expand all course descriptions [+]Collapse all course descriptions [-]

EA LANG R1B Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Summer 2024 First 6 Week Session, Spring 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.

Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities: Read More [+]

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.

Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities: Read Less [-]
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.
Freshman Seminar: Read More [+]

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.

Freshman Seminar: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 39 Freshman/Sophomore Seminar
1.5 - 2 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2021
Freshman and sophomore seminars offer lower division students the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member and a group of peers in a small-seminar setting. These seminars are offered in all campus departments; topics vary from department to department and from semester to semester.
Freshman/Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Priority given to freshmen and sophomores

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring:
5 weeks - 4-6 hours of seminar per week
6 weeks - 3.5-5 hours of seminar per week
8 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week
10 weeks - 2-3 hours of seminar per week
15 weeks - 1.5-2 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 To be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Freshman/Sophomore Seminar: Read Less [-]

EA LANG C50 Introduction to the Study of Buddhism 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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.
Introduction to the Study of Buddhism: Read More [+]

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

Introduction to the Study of Buddhism: Read Less [-]
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.

Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

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: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Sophomore Seminar: Read Less [-]

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.

Catastrophe, Memory, and Narrative: Comparative Responses to Atrocity in the Twentieth Century: Read More [+]

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.

Catastrophe, Memory, and Narrative: Comparative Responses to Atrocity in the Twentieth Century: Read Less [-]

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.

Dynamics of Romantic Core Values in East Asian Premodern Literature and Contemporary Film: Read More [+]

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

Dynamics of Romantic Core Values in East Asian Premodern Literature and Contemporary Film: Read Less [-]
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.  
Expressing the Ineffable in China and Beyond: The Making of Meaning in Poetic Writing: Read More [+]

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  
Expressing the Ineffable in China and Beyond: The Making of Meaning in Poetic Writing: Read Less [-]

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. War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia: Read More [+]

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  
War, Empire, and Literature in East Asia: Read Less [-]

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 poetic and poets, but more fundamentally to gain skill and sophistication in reading, responding to, and thinking about poetry.  
Revising the Classics: Chinese and Greek Poetry in Translation: Read More [+]

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  
Revising the Classics: Chinese and Greek Poetry in Translation: Read Less [-]

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.  
History of the Culture of Tea in China and Japan: Read More [+]

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  
History of the Culture of Tea in China and Japan: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 110 Bio-Ethical Issues in East Asian Thought 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.
Bio-Ethical Issues in East Asian Thought: Read More [+]

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

Bio-Ethical Issues in East Asian Thought: Read Less [-]

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.
Reading Global Politics in Contemporary East Asian Literature: Read More [+]

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: Blum

Reading Global Politics in Contemporary East Asian Literature: Read Less [-]

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.
The East Asian Sixties: Read More [+]

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.
Instructor: Blum

The East Asian Sixties: Read Less [-]

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.
Illness Narratives, Vulnerable Bodies: Read More [+]

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.
Instructor: Blum

Illness Narratives, Vulnerable Bodies: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 115 Knowing Others, and Being Known: The Art of Writing People 4 Units

Terms offered: 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.

Knowing Others, and Being Known: The Art of Writing People: Read More [+]

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.

Modern East Asian Fiction: Read More [+]

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.

Lu Xun and his Worlds: Read More [+]

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 2023, Spring 2021, Fall 2019

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.

Sex and Gender in Premodern Chinese Culture: Read More [+]

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

Sex and Gender in Premodern Chinese Culture: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 119 The History of Heaven 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022
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. The History of Heaven: Read More [+]

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.

The History of Heaven: Read Less [-]

EA LANG C120 Buddhism on the Silk Road 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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.

Buddhism on the Silk Road: Read More [+]

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

Buddhism on the Silk Road: Read Less [-]

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.

The Art of Writing: Writing the Limits of Empathy: Read More [+]

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.

The Art of Writing: Writing the Limits of Empathy: Read Less [-]

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.

Buddhism and the Environment: Read More [+]

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

Buddhism and the Environment: Read Less [-]
EA LANG C128 Buddhism in Contemporary Society 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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 "modernism," and so on.
Buddhism in Contemporary Society: Read More [+]

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, 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.
Zen Buddhism: Read More [+]

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, with common exam group.
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.
Pure Land Buddhism: Read More [+]

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
Also listed as: BUDDSTD C132

EA LANG C134 Russia and Asia 4 Units
Terms offered: 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.
Russia and Asia: Read More [+]

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
Russia and Asia: Read Less [-]
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.
Tantric Traditions of Asia: Read More [+]

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, SEASN C135
Tantric Traditions of Asia: Read Less [-]

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.
Psychoanalytic Theory, Asian Texts: Read More [+]

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
Psychoanalytic Theory, Asian Texts: Read Less [-]

EA LANG C152 Buddhist Astral Science 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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.
Buddhist Astral Science: Read More [+]

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
Buddhist Astral Science: Read Less [-]

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 Kenzaburō and autistic author Higashida Naoki (both read in English). We also read other fiction and poetry dealing with themes of autism. 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.
Neurodiversity in Literature: Read More [+]

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.
Neurodiversity in Literature: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 162 Science Fiction in East Asia 4 Units
Terms offered: 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.
Science Fiction in East Asia: Read More [+]

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

Science Fiction in East Asia: Read Less [-]

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.
Archaeology of East Asia: Read More [+]

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

Archaeology of East Asia: Read Less [-]

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.
East Asian Film: Directors and their Contexts: Read More [+]

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.

East Asian Film: Directors and their Contexts: Read Less [-]

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).
East Asian Film: Special Topics in Genre: Read More [+]

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.

East Asian Film: Special Topics in Genre: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 191 Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion
4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
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. Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion: Read More [+]

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.
Tools and Methods in the Study of East Asian Philosophy and Religion: Read Less [-]

EA LANG H195A Honors Course 2 - 5 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Spring 2023, Fall 2018
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). Honors Course: Read More [+]

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 one of a year long series course. Upon completion, the final grade will be applied to both parts of the series. Final exam not required.
Honors Course: Read Less [-]

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). Honors Course: Read More [+]

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.
Honors Course: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 198 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Spring 2009
Small group instruction in topics not covered by regularly scheduled courses. Directed Group Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing
Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week
Summer:
3 weeks - 3-20 hours of directed group study per week
6 weeks - 2.5-10 hours of directed group study per week
8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/ Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.
Directed Group Study: Read Less [-]
EA LANG 199 Independent Study 1 - 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2007, Spring 2007
Independent study in topics not covered by regularly scheduled courses.
Independent Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing
Credit Restrictions: Enrollment is restricted; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week
Summer:
3 weeks - 5-20 hours of independent study per week
6 weeks - 2.5-10 hours of independent study per week
8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Undergraduate
Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Independent Study: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 200 Proseminar: Approaches to East Asian Studies 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020
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.
Proseminar: Approaches to East Asian Studies: Read More [+]

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.

Proseminar: Approaches to East Asian Studies: Read Less [-]

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.
Close Reading Area Studies: China and Japan in the World: Read More [+]

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

Close Reading Area Studies: China and Japan in the World: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 204 Topics in East Asian Studies 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 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.
Topics in East Asian Studies: Read More [+]

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.

Topics in East Asian Studies: Read Less [-]
EA LANG C220 Seminar in Buddhism and Buddhist Texts 2 or 4 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2019, Fall 2016
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.
Seminar in Buddhism and Buddhist Texts: Read More [+]

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
Seminar in Buddhism and Buddhist Texts: Read Less [-]

EA LANG 291 Teaching East Asian Philosophy and Religion 4 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2015
This course is taught in parallel with the EA LANG 191 capstone course 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. Graduate students will additionally attend five “teaching East Asia thought” lectures and also produce an original syllabus in a related area of their interest.
Teaching East Asian Philosophy and Religion: Read More [+]

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

Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: East Asian Languages and Cultures/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Teaching East Asian Philosophy and Religion: Read Less [-]

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.
Methods of Teaching East Asian Languages: Read More [+]

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.
Methods of Teaching East Asian Languages: Read Less [-]