



ASIAN STUDIES

The Asian Studies program provides undergraduates in any college within Lehigh an opportunity to acquire a systematic knowledge of Asia. Study the dynamic and rich shared and individual cultural heritages of Asian societies. Understand their impact on the past, present, and future world. A wide range of courses provides students the tools to negotiate our modern global society.

THE MAJOR

The Asian Studies major is designed to accomplish three goals: to ground the student in a regional language and culture, to survey various disciplines in Asian Studies, and to provide advanced research opportunities. The program prepares students for further graduate work, professional education, or employment in the public or private sector. There is also an increasing demand for graduates who combine a major in a disciplinary field (e.g., business, economics, international relations) with a second major in Asian Studies, including Asian language competence.

Requirements: The major in Asian Studies requires a minimum of 9 courses (36 credits), which includes Study Abroad. Students must reach Intermediate II level in an Asian language and accomplish courses in the following three categories:

- A. 6 HU/SS courses (varied credit):
 - One must be at the 200 level or above and may include an advanced Asian language course.
- B. 1 Study Abroad course (3 – 4 credits):**
 - **If Study Abroad is difficult academically or financially, other arrangements can be made upon major advisor's approval.
- C. 2 Cap-stone project courses (Senior Thesis):
 - Pre-thesis (4 credits in Fall); Thesis (4 credits in the Spring)
 - Students are encouraged to work with primary sources under supervision of a faculty member.

THE MINOR

The minor in Asian Studies is intended to complement a student's major field of study and it is flexible according to individual needs. Students are free to survey the

field broadly or concentrate in a special area such as Chinese or Japanese studies.

Requirements: The minor is composed of a minimum of 16 credits (approximately 4 courses) in Asian Studies. 8 credits of language study can count towards the Asian Studies minor. Students interested only in language study are encouraged to major/minor in Chinese or Japanese. For information consult the department of Modern Languages & Literatures at 610-758-3090. mll.cas2.lehigh.edu/

CORE CURRICULUM

The core program focuses on three Asian cultural regions: East Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. The program explores the histories, languages, religions, societies, politics, literature, and media as they impact Asian societies, the world at large, and the United States. Students are encouraged to expand their own experiences of Asia through the many Study Abroad opportunities. Courses offered at other LVAIC institutions and approved in the Study Abroad Programs may be taken for credit by Lehigh students. Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities that are offered in Asian Studies, such as special lectures and seminars, films, performances, and exhibits.

The overall program is administered by the Asian Studies Program Faculty, an interdisciplinary body of faculty with experience in the region. The Program Faculty oversees both the formal academic work within the program as well as the extracurricular activities sponsored at the university. It also cooperates with the Asian Cultural Society and other campus organizations involved in aspects of Asian Studies.

COURSES OFFERED

- Anthropology
- Art
- Global Studies
- History
- International Relations
- Languages
- Literature
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Religion
- Sociology

CAREERS OUR GRADUATE HAVE TAKEN

- Graduate School (both doctorate and master's programs)
- Teaching in Asian Countries
- Business
- Computer industries
- Entrepreneurs
- Etc.

For more information on Asian Studies, go to asia.cas2.lehigh.edu

STUDY ABROAD

Students are required for the major and encouraged for the minor to spend a summer, semester, or year in an approved study program in China, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, South Asia, or the Pacific. Students who wish to study abroad, and who wish to have the academic work taken in that program count toward a Lehigh degree, must have a GPA of 2.7 or higher for the semester/year and 2.0 (in good standing) for short-term programs. Any student with a lower GPA may petition the Committee on the Standing of Students for an exception to this rule before applying to an approved study abroad program. For information on all programs consult Study Abroad Office, 610-758-3351 or studyabroad@lehigh.edu



WHAT STUDENTS SAY ABOUT ASIAN STUDIES

"Being a part of Lehigh University's Asian Studies program was an amazing experience. As a Japanese-American, I felt it was important to learn more about my roots and the experiences of my ancestors. The professors I had were extremely knowledgeable and passionate about teaching. I would highly recommend the Asian Studies major to anyone who has an interest in Asian culture and language, and also wants to be part of a tight-knit and supportive family."

Keiko Akamine - '13

"I have really enjoyed Lehigh's Asian Studies program. Asian Studies courses at Lehigh can vary in discipline from international relations to religion, foreign languages to English. The breadth of the course offerings is balanced by the depth of each course. The professors are all experts in their fields and I have learned a lot from discussions with them and my fellow students."

The major requires that students study abroad at some point during their college career. I did my study abroad in Kyoto, Japan through KCJS, which is a consortium of schools that runs an 8-week intensive summer language program. Being able to hear the language I was learning in class being used on a daily basis was an amazing experience. I heard about this program from a professor in the Asian studies department, and she was also helpful and supportive during the application process."

Briana Fowler-Puja- '16



ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM FACULTY

Professors: Constance Cook (MLL), Tong Soon Lee (Music), Kiri Lee (MLL)

Associate Professors: Yuping Zhan (Ant/Soc), Yinan He (IR)

Assistant Professors: Thomas Chen (MLL), Annabella Pitkin (Religion Studies), Nobuko Yamasaki (MLL).

Professor of Practice: Kyoko Taniguchi (MLL), Limei Shan (MLL)



CONTACT

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