

Spring Semester 2012 Courses

For Asian Studies courses requiring Department or Program Permission, please contact Professor Tannenbaum at nt01@lehigh.edu

ASIA/REL 060 Religions of South Asia (4 credits; CRN 17115) Professor Joel Bordeauz

A thematic introduction to the foundational religious traditions of South Asia: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism and Islam. Students explore the social and spiritual dimensions of these religious worlds through scripture, ritual practices, narrative and teaching traditions, music and art. MW 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ASIA/HIST/MLL 076 Understanding Contemporary China (4 credits; CRN 17112)

Professor David Pankenier

An overview of recent history, politics, economy, religion, problems of modernization, popular culture, and attitudes. Contemporary Chinese society viewed against the backdrop of tradition and the tumultuous history of twentieth-century China. T 1:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ASIA/DES/MLL 079 Digital Bridges (2 credits; CRN 17056) Professor Dongning Wang

Run as an independent study; research ancient Chinese bridges, gardens, and pavilions. Digitize images and website design. Create photographic documentation of the Bridge Project. Produce documentary from historical materials concerning history of Chinese students at Lehigh. Bridge Project students could continue project work in Shanghai and Beijing. May be repeated for credit. TBD

ASIA/SSP 114 Social Issues in Contemporary China (4 credits; CRN 17413) Professor Yuping Zhang

Dramatic economic, cultural and social changes are underway in China today and have aroused much debate among social scientists East and West. The following social issues are critical for understanding China's development trajectory: in equality and poverty; rapid demographic shifts; provision of health care services; provision of education services; and becoming an "information society." We will explore how these issues intersect with old hierarchies in China, urban-rural differences, and gender differences. TR 9:10 a.m. – 1:35 a.m.

ASIA/REL 162 Zen Buddhism (4 credits; CRN 17117) Professor Kenneth Kraft

History, doctrines, and practices of Zen Buddhism in China, Japan, and the West. Monastic life, notable Zen masters, Zen's cultural impact, and enlightenment. Current aspects of the Zen tradition. (Optional meditation workshop.) MW 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ASIA/HIST/MLL/STS 195 Explorations in the History of Chinese Science and Technology (4 credits; CRN 17122) Professor David Pankenier

Survey of China's scientific and technical achievements in their cultural and historical context. From printing, paper, gunpowder, the magnetic compass, the seismograph, cast iron, steel, porcelain, silk, equal temperament in music, all the way to inoculation against smallpox, bean curd, and noodles -- all were Chinese discoveries. Historically, the source of most of these discoveries was unknown to the West, where some, like gunpowder and the compass, had the profoundest historical implications.

R 1:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ASIA/GCP/MLL 196 Drinking and Immortality in Traditional China (4 credits; CRN 17126) Professor Constance Cook

Study modes of transcendence, visions of the afterlife, and communication with the supernatural revealed in the essays, poems, tales, and material culture since ancient times in China.
MW 12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ASIA/REL 234 Buddhist Visions of a Good Society (4 credits; CRN 17415) Professor Kenneth Kraft

This course examines Buddhist visions of a better world. Present-day Buddhist teachers, most notably the Dalai Lama, propose "zones of peace," advocate "a policy of kindness," and extol "compassionate consumption." Are there wiser ways to pursue happiness? What is the relation between individual transformation and social transformation? Can we imagine a community guided by altruism and nonviolence? The process of contemplating alternative societies is also a way to achieve a clearer understanding of one's own highest ideals. MW 2:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

ASIA/ARCH/REL 297 Chinese Bridge Project: The Chinese Pavillion (6 credits; CRN 16033) Professors Norman Girardot and Christine Ussler

Guided by an interdisciplinary team (Profs. C. Ussler and N. Girardot, along with the master carpenter, Marcus Brandt), this special studio/seminar course will combine a cross-cultural consideration of traditional Western and Chinese architecture (involving history, cultural context, and technical aspects) with the hands-on building of a Chinese style pavilion. The pavilion will be dedicated in a campus and community event in the spirit of a traditional Chinese Spring Festival/Qing Ming. May be repeated for credit. TR 1:10 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

ASIA/AAS/GS/POLS 343 (POLS 443) Global Politics of Race: Asia and Africa (4 credits; CRN 17133) Professor Vera Fennell

An examination of the concept of "race" and its impact on domestic and international politics.
TR 2:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

ASIA 361 Internship Asian Studies (1-4 credits; CRN 15002) Professor Nicola Tannenbaum

Internship in public or private agency involved in some aspect of Asian studies. Program permission required.

ASIA 371 Advanced Readings in Asian Studies (1-4 credits; CRN 10615) Professor Nicola Tannenbaum

Directed course of reading and writing in advanced topic not covered in regular Asian Studies course offerings. May be repeated for credit. Program permission required.

ASIA 381 Special Topics Asian Studies (1-4 credits; CRN 10627) Professor Nicola Tannenbaum

Advanced study of aspects of Asian studies not covered in regular course offerings. Individual faculty supervision. Research paper required. May be repeated for credit. Program permission required.

ASIA 391 Senior Seminar (1-4 credits; CRN 15001) Professor Nicola Tannenbaum

Advanced seminar focusing on discussion and research on specialized subjects in Asian studies. Variable subject matter. Offered by faculty on rotating basis. May be repeated for credit. Program permission required.

ASIA 399 Senior Thesis in Asian Studies (1-4 credits; CRN 10629) Professor Nicola Tannenbaum

Advanced, individual research project on topic agreed between faculty and student. Research paper and oral defense required. May be repeated for credit. Open to Asian studies majors only. Program permission required.

Additional course offerings applicable to the Asian Studies Major/Minor programs

- CHIN 002 (CRN 12170; CRN 17127) Beginning Chinese Reading & Writing
- CHIN 004 (CRN 11615; CRN 14756) Beginning Spoken Chinese
- CHIN 012 (CRN 12171) Intermediate Chinese Reading & Writing
- CHIN 014 (CRN 11617) Intermediate Spoken Chinese
- CHIN 112 (CRN 15135) Advanced Chinese Reading & Writing
- CHIN 114 (CRN 11618) Advanced Spoken Chinese
- CHIN 252 (CRN 17130) Business Chinese
- CHIN 254 (CRN 15820) Intensive Conversation
- JPNS 002 (various CRNs) Elementary Japanese II
- JPNS 012 (CRN 10490) Intermediate Japanese
- JPNS 197 (CRN 17146) Advanced Japanese Reading and Writing II
- JPNS 198 (CRN 17147) Intensive Oral Japanese II
- JPNS 290 (CRN 11021) Special Topics
- JPNS 390 (CRN 11022) Special Topics