

Spring 2014 Course Listing

For Asian Studies courses requiring Department or Program Permission, please contact Professor Kiri Lee at kjl2@lehigh.edu

REL, ASIA 077-10 The Islamic Tradition, CRN 18655 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (11:10 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.)

A thematic introduction to Islamic history, doctrine and practice. Topics include: Qur'an; prophecy and sacred history; ritual practices; community life; legal interpretation; art and aesthetics; mysticism; politics and polemics. Professor Thaver

REL, MLL, ASIA 095-10 Monkey Business, CRN 18615 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (2:35 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.)

The search for immortality by Monkey, kongfu master and mischievous monk, is one of the most popular tales in Asia. A combination of comedy and religious quest, the traditional novel Journey to the West is filled with tricks and lively storytelling that teach without preaching. The class will read the entire novel looking carefully at the social context of its production but also its timeless lessons for transcendence. Professor Cook

MLL, ASIA 097-10 Introduction to Traditional Crafts & Technologies in China, CRN 18719 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Through the study of traditional architecture, textiles, paper-making, and metallurgy that developed over thousands of years of Chinese history, students will explore a few key Chinese technologies that expanded later by sea or overland (the Silk Road) into other regions in Asia and elsewhere. Students will also be encouraged to explore other Chinese inventions such as gunpowder and the compass, as part of individual projects. Professor Wang

MLL, ASIA 098-10 Japanese Storytellers: from Anime to Mythology, CRN 18319 (4 credits) (HU) W, F (12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

An introductory survey of Japanese stories and their adaptations in various media such as print, film, TV, and internet. Our "texts" include ancient Japanese creation myth, fairytale, medieval war tale, ghost stories, novels, manga (comics), anime films, and more. No prerequisites. Taught in English. Professor Taniguchi

SSP, ASIA 114-10 Social Issues in Contemporary China, CRN 17413 (4 credits) (SS) T, TR (10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

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. Professor Zhang

REL, ASIA 162-10 Zen Buddhism, CRN 18652 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

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.) Professor Kraft

MLL, WGSS, ASIA, HIST 198-10 Women in Pre-Industrial China, CRN 18547 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (11:10 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.)

This class will look at readings in English about and by Chinese women from antiquity up to the 19th century. Readings will touch on women in the fields of history, literature, medicine, philosophy, religion, and sociology. Discussions will focus on understanding the traditional framework for Chinese women's experience, how it evolved over time and place, and how aspects of this gendered power structure are still salient today. Professor Cook

POLS, GS, ASIA 201-10 Democracy and Dictatorship in South Asia (4 credits) (SS) W, F (11:10 a.m. - 12:25 p.m.)

Theories of democracy and democratization explored in the South Asian context. Relationship of democracy to economic development and identity considered. How do historical legacies and conflict shape contemporary outcomes? Professor Deo

REL, ASIA 247-10 Islamic Mysticism, CRN 17822 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (2:35 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.)

Sufism, the inner or 'mystical' dimension of Islam, has deep historical roots and diverse expressions throughout the Muslim world. Students examine Sufi doctrine and ritual, the master-disciple relationship, and the tradition's impact on art and music, poetry and prose Professor Thaver

REL, ES, ASIA 254-10 Buddhism and Ecology, CRN 17824 (4 credits) (HU) M, W (2:35 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.)

Buddhism's intellectual, ethical, and spiritual resources and reexamined in light of contemporary environmental problems. Is Buddhism the most green of the major world religions? What are the moral implications of actions that affect the environment? Professor Kraft

POLS, AAS, GS, ASIA 343-10 Global Politics of Race: Asia and Africa, CRN 17133 (4 credits) (SS) T, TR (1:10 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.)

An examination of the concept of "race" and its impact on domestic and international politics. Professor Fennel

ASIA 371-10 Advanced Readings in Asian Studies, CRN 10615 (1-4 credits) (HU/SS depending on topic) 0958

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. Professor Lee

ASIA 381-10 Special Topics in Asian Studies, CRN 10627 (1-4 credits) (HU/SS depending on topic)

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. Professor Lee

ASIA 391-10 Senior Seminar in Asian Studies, CRN 15001 (1-4 credits) (HU/SS depending on topic)

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. Professor Lee

ASIA 399-10 Senior Thesis in Asian Studies, CRN 10629 (1-4 credits) (HU/SS depending on topic)

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. Professor Lee