East Asian Languages and Civilizations

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Program of Study

The Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations offers a B.A. program in East Asian studies that introduces students to the traditional and modern civilizations of China and Japan and provides them with the opportunity to achieve a basic reading and speaking knowledge of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean. This program is interdisciplinary and students may take relevant courses in both the humanities and the social sciences.

Program Requirements

Students enrolled in the concentration program normally meet the College language requirement with Chinese, Japanese, or Korean; the concentration further requires a three-quarter second-year sequence in the language elected. In addition, concentrators are directed to take Introduction to the Civilizations of East Asia I, II, III (EALC 10800-10900-11000) to meet the civilization studies requirement in general education. This sequence is cross listed with HIST 15100-15200-15300. Beyond the second-year language requirement, students are required to take Issues in East Asian Civilizations (EALC 29800). A further nine courses related to East Asia are required, three of which may be either an additional year of the East Asian language to meet the concentration language requirement, or a year of a second East Asian language (neither of these two language options may be met by examination credit). A maximum of six quarters of language counts toward concentration requirements. A minimum of three of the nine courses should be in the same discipline (e.g., history, literature, art history). A maximum of six approved courses taken while studying abroad may count toward concentration requirements. Before declaring their concentration in EALC, students must meet with the director of undergraduate studies (ideally before the end of their second year) to discuss their areas of interest.

Summary of Requirements

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<tr>
<th>College Language Requirement</th>
<th>demonstrated competence in an East Asian language equivalent to one year of college-level study</th>
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<td>General Education</td>
<td>EALC 10800-10900-11000</td>
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Concentration

3 courses in a second-year East Asian language†
1 Issues in East Asian Civilizations (EALC 29800)
9 courses related to East Asia (three of which may be a further year of an East Asian language,* or a year of a second East Asian language;* and three of which should be in one discipline)

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† Credit may be granted by examination.
* Credit may not be granted by examination.

Bachelor's Thesis. The department does not require a bachelor's thesis for graduation except from students who wish to receive honors. However, all students are eligible to write a bachelor's thesis upon submitting an acceptable proposal to the department early in the fourth year, usually by the fifth week of the Autumn Quarter. Interested students should consult the director of undergraduate studies for details concerning the proposal.

Grading. Students must receive letter grades in all courses taken to meet requirements in the concentration. No P/N or R grades are offered in language courses.

Honors. Any student who has maintained an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher is eligible to be considered for honors. Students who wish to receive honors must submit a bachelor's thesis. This paper is read by two members of the department and, if judged to be of superior quality, the student is recommended for graduation with honors. With the consent of the departmental adviser, honors students are required to enroll in at least two quarters of the Senior Thesis Tutorial (EALC 29500, 29600, 29700).

Faculty


Courses

The courses listed below are open to students in the College, regardless of level, subject to the consent of the instructor where indicated. East Asian linguistic knowledge is not required for nonlanguage courses unless indicated. Transfer students who wish to enroll in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language courses, or who wish to validate credit for language courses taken elsewhere, must take the placement examination offered during Orientation in late September. Over the summer, information that describes these tests is sent to all incoming students, and students may also consult Lewis Fortner (HM 286, 702-8613).

Chinese (CHIN)

10100-10200-10300. Elementary Modern Chinese I, II, III. Must be taken for a letter grade. No auditors permitted. Two sections are for "true beginners," and another section is for "partial beginners." ("Partial beginners" are those who can speak Mandarin fluently with or without
dialectal accent, but do not know how to read and write Chinese.) This
course introduces the fundamentals of modern Chinese. Listening, speaking,
reading, and writing are equally emphasized. Accurate pronunciation is also
stressed. Both classes meet for five eighty-minute periods a week. C. Chao,
F. Cai, Staff, Autumn; F. Cai, Staff, Winter, Spring.

17100. The First Emperor in Chinese History. (=ARTH 17100, EALC
17100) For course description, see Art History. H. Wu. Winter.

10300 or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a letter grade. No auditors
permitted. This course emphasizes drills and the discussion of readings in a
variety of source materials, including contemporary Chinese short stories,
lectures, newspapers, and some original academic articles. Simplified
characters and cursive script are also introduced. Classes conducted in
Chinese. Classes meet for five eighty-minute periods a week. Y. Wang.
Autumn, Winter, Spring.

20300 or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a letter grade. This course
introduces students to the basic grammar of the written Chinese language
from the time of the Confucian Analects to the literary movement at the
beginning of the twentieth century. Students read original texts of various
genres including philosophy, memorials, poetry, and historical narratives;
the third quarter is devoted solely to reading poetry. D. Sena, Autumn,
Winter, Spring; L. Skosey, Spring.

22200. Narratives, Images, and Modern China. (=EALC 22200, HIST
14800) In this introductory course we study some core literary and visual
representations of China in the twentieth century. By incorporating a review
of historical developments, this course is designed to explore some
fundamental issues confronting modern China, as well as to enhance our

22300. Overseas Chinese Between Nations. (=EALC 22300, HIST
24800/34800) PQ: Third- or fourth-year standing. For course description,

23300. Wisdom and Emulation in Warring States Philosophy. (=EALC
23300) In the quest for moral excellence, Warring States philosophers
frequently referred to idealized historical precedents. This course critically
evaluates the employment of moral (and immoral) precedent by drawing
upon the works of both Chinese and Western philosophers, and upon select

23600/33600. Women Writers in Late Imperial China. (=EALC 23600,
GNDR 23600) PQ: Advanced standing. Some background in Chinese
literature, history, or language helpful. Contrary to our stereotypes about the
silent, invisible woman of premodern China, women actually wrote and
published their work in unprecedented numbers from the sixteenth to the
twentieth century. This course explores the literary and historical
significance of this output, which mainly took the form of poetry, some
drama, and novels in verse, and which was produced primarily by gentry
25000. Art of Ancestral Worship: Chinese Art from Prehistorical to the Third Century. (=ARTH 20100/30100, EALC 25000, RLST 27600) For course description, see Art History. H. Wu. Spring.

26900. The Book in Early China. (=ANST 24000) In this course we consider how intellectual notions were communicated throughout early China and how the forms of communication available at the time may have influenced the content of the message. We consider in particular the Confucian classics and Warring States philosophical texts. E. Shaughnessy. Winter, 2003.

27800. Contemporary Chinese Fiction in Translation. (=EALC 27800) We read a variety of literary texts from contemporary China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, including works by Wang Anyi, Zhu Tianwen, Xi Xi, and Gao Xingjian (the Nobel laureate of 2000). The objective is first to appreciate the literary techniques and innovations in these texts, and then to discuss their separate engagement with a changing world. X. Tang. Winter, 2003.


29400/39400. Ghosts and the Chinese Literary Imagination. (=EALC 29400) This course considers the complex meanings, both literal and figurative, of the ghost in Chinese literature and culture (not only in the ghost story but in poetry, drama, medical cases, and the visual arts). We focus on the late Ming and early Qing dynasties, reading from both masterpieces and lesser known works. Texts in English. Concentrators specializing in Chinese literature are expected to do some work with texts in the original. J. Zeitlin. Winter, 2003.

30100-30200-30300. Advanced Modern Chinese I, II, III. PQ: CHIN 20300 or consent of instructor. This course emphasizes drills for more advanced sentence structures and requires discussions in Chinese on academic and scholarly subject matter. It provides exercises designed to increase reading comprehension and the ability to translate accurately original Chinese source materials (ranging over various topics, authors, and styles), to broaden students’ experience, and to enhance their capacity for independent study. Y. Wang. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

33700. The Laozi. PQ: Consent of instructor. In this course we use the various manuscript versions of the Laozi to consider such related questions as the nature of the "book" in early China, the methods of traditional textual criticism, and what role philology can play in the study of philosophy. E. Shaughnessy. Winter, 2003.

34000. Sickness and Modern Chinese Literature. The use of disease as a metaphor and device in modern Chinese literature brings together a host of complicated issues, such as the new individual, the modern nation-state, and the gendered body. In this class we read a wide range of canonical writers
(e.g., Wu Jianren, Lu Xun, Yu Dafu, Ding Ling, Ba Jin) and examine the meaning of disease in their works. Primary texts in English. X. Tang. Winter, 2003.


East Asian Languages and Civilizations (EALC)

10800-10900-11000. Introduction to the Civilizations of East Asia I, II, III. (=EALC 10800-10900-11000, HIST 15100-15200-15300, SOSC 23500-23600-23700) May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the civilization studies requirement in general education. For course description, see History. P. Duara, Autumn; J. Ketelaar, Winter; B. Cumings, Spring.

17100. The First Emperor in Chinese History. (=ARTH 17100, CHIN 17100) For course description, see Art History. H. Wu. Winter.


23600/33600. Women Writers in Late Imperial China. (=CHIN 23600, GNDR 23600) PQ: Advanced standing. Some background in Chinese


25000. Art of Ancestral Worship: Chinese Art from Prehistorical to the Third Century. (=ARTH 20100/30100, CHIN 25000, RLST 27600) For course description, see Art History. H. Wu. Spring.


29500-29600-29700. Senior Thesis Tutorial I, II, III. PQ: Consent of EALC director of undergraduate studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. One quarter of this sequence may be counted for credit in the concentration. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

29800. Issues in East Asian Civilizations: Culture. PQ: Required of EALC concentrators. The goal of this interdisciplinary seminar is to expose students to a range of important problems and methods across time and space in the study of China, Japan, and Korea. Guest lecturers and readings assigned by different University of Chicago faculty members are an integral part of the course. Students work on an individual research project tailored to their own interests, which they may subsequently develop into a B.A. paper. This course will be offered every year; however, the quarter may change. J. Zeitlin. Winter, 2003.

Japanese (JAPN)

10100-10200-10300. Elementary Modern Japanese I, II, III. Must be taken for a letter grade. No auditors permitted. This is the first year of a three-year program designed to provide students with a thorough grounding in modern Japanese. Grammar, idiomatic expressions, and vocabulary are learned through oral work, reading, and writing in and out of class. Daily practice in speaking, listening, reading, and writing is crucial. Students should plan to continue their language study through at least the second-year level to make their skills practical. The class meets for five fifty-minute periods a week. H. Lory, Y. Uchida. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

21200. Intermediate Modern Japanese through "Japanimation." PQ: JAPN 20100 or consent of instructor. This course focuses on learning spoken Japanese that is aimed at native speakers. The goals are getting accustomed to that sort of authentic Japanese and being able to speak with high fluency. To keep the balance, writing and reading materials are provided. Watching videos and practicing speaking are the keys to success in this course. H. Noto. Winter, Spring.

22100. The Horrific and Terrible: The Technological Body of Japanese Cinema. (=CMST 24600/34600, EALC 22100, GNDR 22100) This course examines the cinematic and narrative presentation of gender, technology, and the body in popular Japanese cinema from 1923 to the present. While attention is naturally given to the political culture and popular motivations behind mid-century monster and horror films such as Godzilla or The Invisible Man and late-century animation such as Neon Genesis Evangelion or Ghost in the Shell, the course pays equal attention to a study and theorization of the gendering of machines and their humans in the context of heavy industry, wartime mobilization, and mass-produced consumer durables. Examination follows feminist, Marxist, and postcolonial perspectives. J. Hall. Autumn, 2003.


25100. Literature and Politics in Japan, 1920s and 1930s. (=EALC 25100) PQ: Completion of the general education requirements in humanities and social sciences recommended. In this class we look at the assumptions that underlie the arguments for the separation of literature and politics in general and in the context of the rapid proliferation of modern mass media in Japan in the 1920s and 1930s. We explore these assumptions through fictional and theoretical writings from that period, one that was marked by exhilaration and anxiety, revolutionary aspiration, and its brutal suppression. N. Field, H. Bowen-Struyk. Autumn, 2003.

30100-30200-30300. Advanced Modern Japanese I, II, III. PQ: JAPN 20300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a letter grade. The third year marks the end of the basic modern language study. The purpose of the course is to help students learn to understand authentic written and spoken materials with reasonable ease. The texts are all authentic materials with some study aids. All work in Japanese. The class meets for three eighty-minute periods a week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

32200. Japanese Film/National Cinema. (=CMST 24900/34900) PQ: Consent of instructor. The course surveys Japanese cinema across the twentieth century while interrogating assumptions of identity incumbent to
both auteurist and national film studies traditions. Issues examined include
the influence of kabuki and modernism on early cinema, the Japanese studio
system as rival and complement to Hollywood production, cinema in Japan's
colonial expansion and wartime, postwar social criticism, mid-century
filmmaking of experimentation and resistance, and the recent vitality of
independent film. Careful attention is paid to the 1930s, 1950s to 1960s, and
1990s, as well as to directors such as Ozu, Mizoguchi, Naruse, Kurosawa,

33000-33001. Graduate Colloquium I, II: "Literature and Revolution"
and the Long Postwar. Consent of instructor. Reading knowledge of
modern Japanese. The course title cites Leon Trotsky's 1923 work as an
orientation for reading from the vast oeuvre of Nakano Shigeharu (1902 to
1978) and of Sata Ineko (1904 to 1998). Nakano and Sata were gifted writers
and dedicated comrades in the prewar revolutionary movement. They went
on to have significant public lives as writers and political intellectuals. N.

Korean (KORE)

10100-10200-10300. Introduction to the Korean Language I, II, III. PQ:
Consent of instructor. Must be taken for a letter grade. The first year is
devoted to acquiring the basic skills for speaking and listening
comprehension and the beginnings of literacy through reading and writing.
In addition to the Korean script, some of the most commonly used Chinese

equivalent, and consent of instructor. Must be taken for a letter grade. The
goals of this course include the comprehension and production of more
complex spoken constructions and an ability to read somewhat complex
materials. Videotapes are used in a supplementary fashion and enough new
Chinese characters are introduced for the achievement of basic literacy. O.
Che. Autumn, Winter, Spring.

30100-30200-30300. Advanced Korean I, II, III. PQ: KORE 20300 or
equivalent, and consent of instructor. Must be taken for a letter grade.
Along with continued work on spoken Korean, the emphasis shifts to
readings in a wide selection of written styles (i.e., journalistic pieces,
college-level textbooks, literary prose). An effort is made to accommodate
the specialized interests of individual students. Also, some audio- and
videotapes are used. Students are expected to increase their knowledge of
Chinese characters to a total of roughly nine hundred. O. Che. Autumn,
Winter, Spring.

40100-40200-40300. Readings in Korean Culture, Politics, and Society,
I, II, III. PQ: KORE 30300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
Completion of the three-year program of Korean language training. In this
course, we begin the study of texts from various areas of specialized