EAST ASIAN STUDIES (EAST)

Faculty

Professor: Elizabeth L. Armstrong (adjunct)

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Assistant Professors: Song Chen, Xi Tian, Yunjing Xu

Visiting Assistant Professors: Yukiko Asano, Chunying Lin

The civilizations of East Asia offer a wealth of human experience of invaluable import to every academic discipline. Unbroken cultural lines of great antiquity lead to modern East Asian cultures of ever-growing global significance. Whether we look first to the past, the present, or the future, in studying East Asia we study ourselves and our world.

A traditional liberal education, limited to the study of “Western” civilization, is no longer a liberal education. The department of East Asian Studies, therefore, offers courses for all Bucknell students, as well as for the special interests of students choosing either the East Asian Studies major or one of the department’s three minors: East Asian Studies, Chinese, or Japanese.

All students majoring or minoring in the East Asian Studies department are strongly encouraged to seek opportunities for summer, semester, or preferably full-year study in China or Japan. Bucknell is a member of the Associated Kyoto Program (http://www.associatedkyotoprogram.org), under which students may, if accepted, spend part or all of their junior year at Doshisha University in Japan. Many other opportunities to study in East Asia also are available.

East Asian Studies Major

The major, requiring an emphasis on either China or Japan, entails a program of study (created in consultation with a department adviser) that requires a minimum of 11 courses:

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All students majoring in East Asian Studies will receive instruction in writing, speaking, and information literacy in the discipline through experiences in the language courses, culture courses, and the Culminating Experience that each major completes.

Minor in East Asian Studies

The department offers three minors.
East Asian Studies Minor

Five EAST courses

A minor in East Asian Studies consists of five department courses, of which one must be selected from the following:

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Courses offered or crosslisted by department that are a coherent grouping.

Minor in Chinese

A minor in Chinese consists of six department courses, of which four must be in the respective language.

Minor in Japanese

A minor in Japanese consists of six department courses, of which four must be in the respective language.

At the completion of the program, students in East Asian Studies will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a working knowledge of the history of Japan, China or Korea, and their basic chronologies.
2. Demonstrate a nuanced understanding of contemporary culture of their country of concentration, informed by the unique mix of academic disciplines in each student’s curriculum.
3. Discern major issues of cross-regional social, historical, or cultural importance.
4. Present ideas coherently in speech in the language of concentration.
5. Present ideas coherently in writing in the language of concentration.
6. Read basic fiction and non-fiction and be able to converse confidently about topics related to those materials.
7. Understand Japanese or Chinese spoken at a natural speed.

Chinese Courses

CHIN 101. Chinese I. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3, Recitation: 2
Intensive introduction to spoken and written "Mandarin" Chinese, the puutonghuah (common language) of modern China.

CHIN 102. Chinese I. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3, Recitation: 2
Intensive introduction to spoken and written "Mandarin" Chinese, the puutonghuah (common language) of modern China. Prerequisite: CHIN 101.

CHIN 103. Chinese II. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3, Recitation: 2
Continued rigorous study of spoken and written "Mandarin" Chinese now called puutonghuah (the common language). Prerequisite: CHIN 102 or equivalent.

CHIN 104. Chinese II. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3, Recitation: 2
Continued rigorous study of spoken and written "Mandarin" Chinese now called puutonghuah (the common language). Prerequisite: CHIN 103 or equivalent.

CHIN 201. Chinese III. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
Continued study of modern "Mandarin." Contemporary essays, movie scripts, short stories and newspaper articles. Equal emphasis on reading and speaking. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 104 or equivalent.

CHIN 202. Chinese III. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
Continued study of modern "Mandarin." Contemporary essays, movie scripts, short stories and newspaper articles. Equal emphasis on reading and speaking. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 201 or equivalent.

CHIN 203. Chinese IV. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
Reading and discussion of selected modern Chinese texts: newspaper and magazine articles, essays, short stories, and film scripts. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 202 or equivalent.
CHIN 204. Chinese IV. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Reading and discussion of selected modern Chinese texts: newspaper and magazine articles, essays, short stories, and film scripts. Conducted in Chinese. Prerequisite: CHIN 203 or equivalent.

CHIN 301. Chinese V. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:4
Study of Chinese films and film scripts and an introduction to Classical Chinese. Besides reading and speaking, interpreting and writing essays are emphasized. Prerequisite: CHIN 204 or equivalent.

CHIN 302. Chinese V. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:4
Study of Chinese films and film scripts and an introduction to Classical Chinese. Besides reading and speaking, interpreting and writing essays are emphasized. Prerequisite: CHIN 301 or equivalent.

CHIN 310. Advanced Seminar in Chinese Study. 1 Credit.
Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable
Selected topics in Chinese studies. In Chinese. Course topic varies. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

CHIN 319. Independent Studies in Chinese. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Independent projects conducted in Chinese in the student's area of special interest. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

CHIN 320. Independent Studies in Chinese. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Independent projects conducted in Chinese in the student's area of special interest. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

East Asian Studies Courses

EAST 111. East Asian Civilization. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3, Other:1
The development of Chinese, Korean, and Japanese civilizations highlighting their political, cultural, philosophical, and religious aspects from earliest times to the present.

EAST 120. Introduction to Chinese Culture. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Introductory course on Chinese culture from antiquity to the middle of the 20th century, covering philosophy, literature and arts.

EAST 125. Masterpieces of Chinese Literature in Translation. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
This course introduces students to various great works in Chinese literary tradition from early times to the modern period. No prerequisite.

EAST 130. Business Japanese: Language and Culture. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Basic Japanese business conversation, basic writing skills, and accepted conventions in the Japanese business world. No prerequisite.

EAST 137. Traditional Chinese Tales/Stories. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
Explores Chinese literature through the lens of stories. We will examine a variety of stories including, but not limited to creation stories, myths, ghost stories and romances.

EAST 203. Digital Methods in Chinese Studies. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3, Other:2.5
This course introduces students to digital tools and resources in Chinese studies. Topics include data mining, database design, and data visualization. It combines discussion of digitally-empowered scholarship in Chinese studies and training in the technical know-how. Knowledge of Chinese language, Chinese history, or programming is not required. Crosslisted as HIST 203.

EAST 205. Introduction to Translation Studies. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
An introduction to the history, theories, and development of the field of Translation Studies. Facility in one language other than English is strongly recommended. Crosslisted as HUMN 260.

EAST 208. The Red Brush: Women Writers in Imperial China. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
In this course we explore the writings of Chinese women from the 1st to the early 20th centuries, and discuss the changing social and historical contexts within which these women wrote, and the obstacles these women writers had to overcome in order to ensure that their voices were heard. Crosslisted as WMST 208.

EAST 211. Premodern Japanese Literature in Translation. 1 Credit.
Offered Alternate Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
The beginnings of Japanese literary traditions: works written before the close of the 19th century - before Western influence is seen. Taught in English.
EAST 212. Modern Japanese Literature in Translation. 1 Credit. 
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3

EAST 213. Chinese Literature in Translation. 1 Credit. 
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
Great works of modern and contemporary Chinese literature.

EAST 220. Japanese Warrior in Literature. 1 Credit. 
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Traces the literary (re)construction of the 'warrior' in Japanese literature, from the samurai of the 12th century to the Imperial soldier of the mid 20th century. Taught in English.

EAST 222. Passion/Perversion: Japan Film. 1 Credit. 
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3, Other:3
A discussion class in which numerous modern Japanese films are used to explore the representation of desire, both passionate and perverse. WARNING: explicit sexual content. Crosslisted as WMST 221.

EAST 226. East Asian Politics. 1 Credit. 
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
This course surveys political history, political institutions, economy, and society of major countries in East Asia, with focus on the continuity and changes in politics and policies of China, Japan, and Korea. Crosslisted as IREL 226 and POLS 226.

EAST 227. Art of Japan. 1 Credit. 
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Introduction to the art and architecture of Japan.

EAST 228. China Through the Lens. 1 Credit. 
Offered Alternating Spring Semester; Lecture hours:3
A history of cinema in mainland China, its origin and important periods, movements, and "generations," as well as representative cinemas of Taiwan and Hong Kong.

EAST 229. Late Imperial Chinese Fiction; the Short Stories. 1 Credit. 
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
This seminar explores "huaben", a maturing vernacular fiction genre starting early 17th century in China. We will discuss the social and cultural context that gave rise to this genre, the intersections between this genre and other literary, performative, and artistic genres, as well as its modern implications.

EAST 232. Romance in Chinese Literature and Art. 1 Credit. 
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
An introduction to Chinese literature and art through examinations of love stories in fairy tales, poetry, fiction, drama, theatre, film, and music.

EAST 233. China from Ancient Time to 18th Century. 1 Credit. 
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
Chinese history and culture from their beginnings to the middle of the Qing Dynasty, before that dynasty and China were challenged by the West. Crosslisted as HIST 293.

EAST 234. China Since 1800. 1 Credit. 
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
China from the eve of its modern confrontation with the West to the present through years of traumatic challenge and change. Crosslisted as HIST 294.

EAST 239. Tradition and Transformation. 1 Credit. 
Offered Summer Session Only; Lecture hours:3
A summer trip to China to study past and present in five historical capitals. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

EAST 241. Women in Chinese Literature. 1 Credit. 
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3
This course examines various modes of representation of women in Chinese literature to understand China's literary past from a women-centered point of view. Crosslisted as WMST 241.

EAST 244. Ghosts, Gods, & Immortals: The Taoist Religion in China. 1 Credit. 
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3
To live as long as heaven and earth; to make the body indestructible; to master the transformations of the cosmos; to control legions of demons and deities. These are the aims of the Chinese religion known as Taoism. This course examines Taoist beliefs and practices from ancient to modern times. Crosslisted as RELI 244.
EAST 248. International Relations in East Asia. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
This course offers an overview of international relations in East Asia, with focus on political, economic, and social interactions among major states in the region. Crosslisted as IREL 283 and POLS 283.

EAST 251. Buddhism. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3, Other: 1
Interdisciplinary introduction to Buddhism, including basic teachings of liberation from suffering, impermanence, no-self, ethics, and meditation. Also explores the historical development of various streams of Buddhism in Asia and the West, with attention to the effect of Buddhism on society, politics, and material culture. Crosslisted as RELI 200.

EAST 252. Marketing Chinese Religions. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3
Focus on the economies of Chinese religious institutions in modern and contemporary periods, with attention also paid to premodern precedents. Economics here indicates not only mechanisms of monetary exchange, but also negotiations of spiritual capital (ledgers of (de)merit) and of religious identities amidst rampant consumerism and commodification of sanctity. Crosslisted as RELI 245.

EAST 253. Death of Religion in Japan. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3
Religion in Japan is dead. Or, the rumors of its demise are greatly exaggerated. But one thing’s for sure, Japanese religion is the province of the dead. This course examines how Japanese religions, which are supposedly dead or dying, supply the primary means for coping with life and death. Crosslisted as RELI 246.

EAST 254. From Shinto to Shogun: Pre-modern Japan. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3
The course will examine the cultural and institutional developments which constitute the Japanese heritage, with emphasis on classical Heian and early medieval court culture and late medieval samurai society. Crosslisted as HIST 295.

EAST 255. Modern Japanese History. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
Japanese economy, society, politics, war, and diplomacy from 1868 to World War II; successes, crises, and conflicts in building a modern nation-state. Crosslisted as HIST 296.

EAST 256. Contemporary Japanese History. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3, Other: 1
Political and cultural history of post-World War II Japan using various sources including film, anime, art, political cartoon, popular song. Crosslisted as HIST 286.

EAST 257. The People's Republic of China. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
A historical look at life in China under the rule of the Communist Party. Unprecedented triumphs and tribulations. Crosslisted as HIST 297.

EAST 258. Chinese Politics. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3
This examines China’s rich political history, its dynamic economic and social changes, its lasting political culture, its enduring struggle for modernization, and its evolving relations with the rest of the world. Crosslisted as IREL 225 and POLS 225.

EAST 274. The Greater Chinese Economy. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
Coverage of topics essential to understanding the ongoing process of economic transition in China, while emphasizing China’s role in the Asian and world economies. Prerequisite: ECON 103.

EAST 278. Asian Economic Development. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours: 3
Analysis of contemporary economic development in Asia, focusing on the role of public policy, international trade and investment, and on prospects for future growth. Prerequisite: ECON 103.

EAST 289. Chinese Diaspora. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3
Is the world becoming Chinese? This course examines the history of China outside of China. It explores the development of overseas Chinese communities around the world, including SE Asia and the Americas. Crosslisted as HIST 289.

EAST 295. Topics in East Asian Studies. 1 Credit.
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours: 3; Repeatable
Topics vary.
EAST 299. Topics in the History of the Third World. 1 Credit.  
Offered Occasionally; Lecture hours:3  
History of Vietnam.

EAST 321. Independent Study. 1 Credit.  
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable  
Individual program of reading, research, or writing. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

EAST 322. Independent Study. 1 Credit.  
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable  
Individual programs of reading, research, or writing. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

EAST 339. China and the World Economy. 1 Credit.  
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:3  
An analysis of economic transition and development in China, with emphasis on its role in the Asia-Pacific and world economies. Prerequisites: ECON 256 and ECON 257 or permission of the instructor. Crosslisted as ECON 439. Preference given to ECON and ECMA majors.

EAST 340. Comparative Pacific Basin Economics. 1 Credit.  
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3  
Contemporary developmental issues facing selected Pacific Basin economies, emphasizing international trade, foreign investment, and public policies. Prerequisite: ECON 256, ECON 257, or permission of the instructor.

EAST 369. Seminar in East Asian History and Culture. 1 Credit.  
Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable  
A multidisciplinary seminar for Japanese and East Asian Studies majors. Bibliography, sources and disciplinary approaches to East Asia.

EAST 370. Seminar in East Asian History and Culture. 1 Credit.  
Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable  
A multidisciplinary seminar for Japanese and East Asian Studies majors. Individual and group studies of selected topics.

EAST 382. U.S.-China Relations. 1 Credit.  
Offered Either Fall or Spring; Lecture hours:3  
Through tracing the evolution of U.S.-China relations from the 18th century to the present, this course discusses major issues and challenges between the two countries today. Future trends of the bilateral relationship will also be explored. Prerequisite: POLS 170. Preference given to POLS/IREL/EAST majors. Crosslisted as IREL 482 and POLS 382.

EAST 395. East Asian Studies Honors Thesis. 1 Credit.  
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:Varies,Other:3  
Focused research relevant to department Culminating Experience. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor. Seniors only.

EAST 400. East Asian Studies Senior Thesis. 1 Credit.  
Offered Both Fall and Spring; Lecture hours:3  
Focused research relevant to department Culminating Experience. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor. Seniors only.

Japanese Courses

JAPN 101. Japanese I. 1 Credit.  
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:5,Recitation:2  
Beginning language skills. Training in speaking and comprehending the basic sentence patterns of modern Japanese. Introduction to reading and writing.

JAPN 102. Japanese I. 1 Credit.  
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:5,Recitation:2  
Beginning language skills. Training in speaking and comprehending the basic sentence patterns of modern Japanese. Introduction to reading and writing. Prerequisite: JAPN 101 or the equivalent.

JAPN 103. Japanese II. 1 Credit.  
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:5,Other:2  
Continued training in the four language skills. Review of basic and introduction to complex sentence patterns. Reading of texts in basic Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 102 or the equivalent.

JAPN 104. Japanese II. 1 Credit.  
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:5,Other:2  
Continued training in the four language skills. Review of basic and introduction to complex sentence patterns. Reading of texts in basic Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 103 or the equivalent.

JAPN 201. Japanese III. 1 Credit.  
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:5,Other:1  
Application of the four language skills. Reading of texts written in standard Japanese and exercises in content-controlled conversation. Prerequisite: JAPN 104 or equivalent.
JAPN 202. Japanese III. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:5, Other:1
Application of the four language skills. Reading of texts written in standard Japanese and exercises in content-controlled conversation. Prerequisite: JAPN 201 or equivalent.

JAPN 203. Japanese IV. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:4
Continued application of the four language skills. Reading and guided discussion of texts related to a variety of topics. Prerequisite: JAPN 202 or the equivalent.

JAPN 204. Japanese IV. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:4
Continued application of the four language skills. Reading and guided discussion of texts related to a variety of topics. Prerequisite: JAPN 203 or the equivalent.

JAPN 301. Japanese V. 1 Credit.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:4; Repeatable
Reading and discussion of selected materials. Exercises in the research skills of writing and presenting reports in Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 204 or the equivalent.

JAPN 302. Japanese V. 1 Credit.
Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:4; Repeatable
Reading and discussion of selected materials. Exercises in the research skills of writing and presenting reports in Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 301 or the equivalent.

JAPN 310. Japanese Studies Advanced Seminar. 1 Credit.
Offered Alternating Spring Semester; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable
Advanced study of Japanese/English translation. Prerequisite: JAPN 202 or higher.

JAPN 319. Independent Studies in Japanese. .5-1 Credits.
Offered Fall Semester Only; Lecture hours:Varies, Other:Varies; Repeatable
Independent projects conducted in Japanese in the student's area of special interest. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

Offered Spring Semester Only; Lecture hours:3; Repeatable
Independent projects conducted in Japanese in the student's area of special interest. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.