

An interdepartmental program

East Asian Studies

Courses of Study:
Minor
Major (BA)

Objectives

The East Asian Studies Program (EAS) is an interdisciplinary program that seeks to give the student broad yet intimate knowledge of East Asian civilization. It can be taken either as a major or a minor. At the crux of the program is the language requirement of an East Asian language, providing the basis for postgraduate study or careers dealing with East Asia.

How to Become a Major or a Minor

To enroll in the program, either as a major or a minor, students must see the program chair. Together they will select as an adviser a faculty member who seems best suited to that student's interest and area of future work.

Committee

Aida-Yuen Wong, Chair
(Fine Arts)

Yu Feng
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Matthew Fraleigh
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Donald Hindley
(Politics)

Gary Jefferson, Undergraduate Advising Head
(Economics)

Stephen Platt
(History)

Hiroko Sekino
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Ellen Schattschneider, Colloquium Director
(Anthropology)

Ralph Thaxton
(Politics)

Requirements for the Minor

A. At least five courses are required for the minor. Students without East Asian language skills equivalent to a 20-level course will complete a total of six courses.

B. CHIN 10a and CHIN 20b or JAPN 10a and JAPN 20b. These courses must be taken in residence at Brandeis (or abroad with approval of the undergraduate advising head prior to commencement of the language study program), or their equivalents in another approved East Asian language. Students with demonstrated language skills at an equivalent level may be exempted from this requirement. For further information on the language requirement, see the undergraduate advising head.

C. The EAS core course, HIST 80a (Introduction to East Asian Civilization).

D. At least three additional courses from the EAS or EAS elective offerings. These three courses must be in at least two different departments. Students who are exempted from the language requirement for the EAS minor must complete a fourth elective course from the EAS or elective offerings for a total of five courses. Only East Asian language courses at the 100-level or higher may be used as electives for the minor.

Requirements for the Major

A. Satisfactory completion of at least ten semester courses from among the EAS and elective offerings. No course with a grade below C- can count toward the major requirement of ten courses. It is expected that at least five of the courses used to fulfill the major will be taken in residence at Brandeis.

B. Completion of the 40-level or its equivalent in Chinese or Japanese. Students who can demonstrate this level of competence in another East Asian language may use it to fulfill the requirement. Note that in a student's first East Asian language, no course below the 40-level may count toward the ten required courses for the major. However, if a student has achieved the 40-level in one language, courses in additional East Asian languages at or above the 20-level may count toward the ten. For further information on these language requirements, see the undergraduate advising head.

C. The EAS core course, HIST 80a (Introduction to East Asian Civilization).

D. From the EAS or elective offerings:

1. At least one course in the social sciences (in addition to HIST 80a) and at least one course in the humanities or creative arts.

2. An additional course in either the social sciences (other than HIST 80a) or in the humanities or creative arts.

Honors

Candidates for honors are required to register for EAS 99d (or for a 99d course [or 99a and 99b courses] in an appropriate department) and to prepare an honors thesis on a topic relating to East Asia. If completed successfully, the 99d course [or 99a and 99b courses] can be counted as two of the ten courses of the major.

Courses of Instruction

(1–99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students

EAS 98a Independent Study

Usually offered every year.
Staff

EAS 98b Independent Study

Usually offered every year.
Staff

EAS 99d Senior Research

Seniors who are candidates for degrees with honors in East Asian studies must register for this course and, under the direction of a faculty member, prepare an honors thesis on a suitable topic. Usually offered every year.
Staff

(100–199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

EAS 175a Masterpieces of Chinese Literature

[hum]

This course may not be repeated for credit by students who have taken COML 175a in previous years.

Surveys Chinese literature from the classical era through the eighteenth century. Readings are in English translation and include a wide range of genres, with particular emphasis on the great Chinese novels. Usually offered every third year.
Staff

Core Courses

CHIN 10a

Beginning Chinese I

CHIN 20b

Continuing Chinese

CHIN 30a

Intermediate Chinese

CHIN 40b

Advanced Intermediate Chinese

HIST 80a

Introduction to East Asian Civilization

JAPN 10a

Beginning Japanese

JAPN 20b

Continuing Japanese

JAPN 30a

Intermediate Japanese

JAPN 40b

Advanced Intermediate Japanese

Elective Courses

The following courses are approved for the program. Not all are given in any one year. Please consult *Schedule of Classes* each semester. Additional courses may be approved by the chair on a case-by-case basis.

ANTH 178b

Culture, Gender, and Power in East Asia

CHIN 98a

Readings in Modern Chinese

CHIN 98b

Readings in Modern Chinese

CHIN 105a

Advanced Conversation and Composition I

CHIN 106b

Business Chinese and Culture

CHIN 120a

Readings in Contemporary Chinese Literature: Advanced Chinese Language

CHIN 120b

Readings in Contemporary Chinese Literature: Advanced Chinese Language II

CHIN 130b

China on Film: The Changes of Chinese Culture

COML 146b

Classical East Asian Poetics

EAS 175a

Masterpieces of Chinese Literature

ECON 30a

The Economy of China

ECON 64a

East Asia's Economies

FA 12a

History of Asian Art

FA 13b

Buddhist Art

FA 15b

Arts of the Ming Dynasty

FA 181b

The Art of Japan

FA 184a

Studies in Asian Art

HIST 80b

East Asia: Nineteenth Century to the Present (China and Japan)

HIST 176a

The Emergence of Modern Japan

HIST 181a

Seminar on Traditional Chinese Thought

HIST 182a

Sino-American Relations from the Eighteenth Century to the Present

JAPN 98a

Readings in Japanese

JAPN 98b

Readings in Japanese

JAPN 105a

Advanced Conversation and Composition I

JAPN 120a

Readings in Contemporary Japanese Literature

JAPN 120b

Readings in Modern Japanese Literature

JAPN 125b

Putting Away Childish Things: Coming of Age in Modern Japanese Literature and Film

JAPN 130a

The Literature of Multicultural Japan

JAPN 135a

Screening National Images: Japanese Film and Anime in Global Context

JAPN 140a

The World of Early Modern Japanese Literature

JAPN 145a

The World of Classical Japanese Literature

MUS 4a

Introduction to Chinese Music

PHIL 119b

Chinese Philosophy

POL 147a

The Government and Politics of China

POL 148a

Seminar: Contemporary Chinese Politics

POL 150a

Politics of Southeast Asia

POL 167a

United States and China in World Politics