

ASIAN STUDIES

Department Website: <https://www.smu.ca/asian-studies/>

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Since 1975, the Asian Studies degree program has helped students understand Canada's relationship with Asia and the impacts Asia has upon Canada. The program consists of the study of language, culture, geography, history and society, and facilitates student travel to experience parts of Asia first hand. Students are encouraged to add Asian Studies as a minor or a second major, or a more focused minor in either Chinese or Japanese Studies. Saint Mary's University is the only institution in the Atlantic Provinces offering a comprehensive degree-granting program in Asian Studies.

An academic background in Asian Studies will help to prepare students for careers in a variety of fields, including diplomatic service, international trade and industry and secondary and university education.

Facility in an Asian language is central to the program and students are encouraged to consider participating in one or more of our cultural exchange programs overseas.

Programs

The Bachelor of Arts (BA) is a well-established, foundational degree and requires the requirements listed below alongside general graduation requirements (<https://smu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/undergraduate/faculties/faculty-arts/bachelor-arts/>).

Major in Asian Studies

Students must complete forty-two (42) credit hours within the following constraints:

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Select 12 consecutive Asian language credit hours (Introductory and Intermediate) | | 12 |
| Select six credits of the following: | | 6 |
| ASNT 1105 | Introduction to Chinese Culture | |
| ASNT 1106 | Introduction to Japanese Culture | |
| ASNT 1107 | Introduction to Korean Culture | |
| ASNT 2210 | Indigenous Voices in Modern Asia | |
| HIST 1222 | Introduction to East Asian History | |
| ASNT 3300 | Multidisciplinary Study Asia | 3 |
| ASNT 4400 | Seminar in Asian Studies | 3 |
| Select 18 additional credit hours from at least two different disciplines other than languages from the list of core courses below. Eighteen (18) of the forty-two (42) credit hour total must be at the 3000 or 4000 level. | | 18 |
| Total Credit Hours | | 42 |

BA Breadth Requirements

Students may find it useful to note that the following introductory courses available for credit towards degrees in Asian Studies also fulfill Basic Arts requirements:

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|-----------------------|---|--------------|
| Requirement 3b | | |
| JPNS 1100 | Introductory Japanese | 6 |
| CHNS 1101 | Introductory Modern Chinese I | 3 |
| CHNS 1102 | Introductory Modern Chinese II | 3 |
| Requirement 3c | | |
| ASNT 1105 | Introduction to Chinese Culture | 3 |
| ASNT 1106 | Introduction to Japanese Culture | 3 |
| ASNT 1107 | Introduction to Korean Culture | 3 |
| HIST 1222 | Introduction to East Asian History | 3 |
| Requirement 3d | | |
| ANTH 1202 | Introducing Socio-Cultural Anthropology | 3 |

Concentrations

To obtain concentrations in Asian Studies, Chinese Studies, or Japanese Studies in partial fulfillment of the B.A. General Degree (Double Arts Concentrations) (<https://smu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/undergraduate/faculties/faculty-arts/bachelor-arts-general-double-arts-concentrations/>), a minimum of twenty-four (24) credit hours in one of these three subject areas is required, with twelve (12) credit hours at the 3000 or 4000 level, and a minimum grade point average of 2.00. Further details are available from the Coordinator.

Honours in Asian Studies

- Admission to and continuance in the honours program in Asian Studies follows the general regulations of the Faculty of Arts.
- To obtain an honours or double honours program in Asian Studies, students must complete at least sixty (60) credit hours and satisfy the following requirements;
 - all of the requirements of the major listed above.
 - six (6) additional Asian language credit hours;
 - six (6) additional credit hours at the 2000 level or above in: Anthropology, Asian Studies, History or Religious Studies in courses listed as Asian Studies core courses or recognized by the Coordinator as relevant for Asian Studies;
 - an honours thesis (Honours Thesis (ASNT 4500)), prepared during the final year of study in the program. The topic must be approved by the Asian Studies Committee and the thesis will be supervised and graded by three faculty members chosen by the Asian Studies Committee; and
 - annual approval of their program of study by the Coordinator of the Asian Studies Committee.

Minor in Asian Studies

Students majoring in another academic discipline may obtain a minor in Asian Studies by completing the equivalent of twenty-four (24) credit hours approved for the program:

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Select six credits of the following: | | 6 |
| CHNS 1101 | Introductory Modern Chinese I | |
| CHNS 1102 | Introductory Modern Chinese II | |
| JPNS 1100 | Introductory Japanese | |
| ASNT 3300 | Multidisciplinary Study Asia | 3 |

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|
| ASNT 4400 | Seminar in Asian Studies | 3 |
| Select 12 credit hours from the Asian Studies Core Courses (below) (at least six from the 2000 level or above) | | 12 |
| Total Credit Hours | | 24 |

Minor in Chinese Studies

Students in the undergraduate Arts program who are not Asian Studies majors can complete a minor in Chinese Studies by completing the following courses:

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|---|--|--------------|
| CHNS 1101 & CHNS 1102 | Introductory Modern Chinese I and Introductory Modern Chinese II | 6 |
| ASNT 3300 & ASNT 4400 | Multidisciplinary Study Asia and Seminar in Asian Studies | 6 |
| Select 12 other credit hours on China in at least two different disciplines of the following: | | 12 |
| ANTH 2326 | Contemporary East Asia | |
| ASNT 1105 | Introduction to Chinese Culture | |
| ASNT 2305 | Contemporary China: Institutions and Culture | |
| ASNT 3310 | Chinese Film and Literature | |
| CHNS 2200 | Intermediate Modern Chinese | |
| CHNS 3300 | Advanced Oral and Written Chinese I | |
| CHNS 3301 | Advanced Oral and Written Chinese II | |
| HIST 1222 | Introduction to East Asian History | |
| HIST 2381 | China before 1800 | |
| HIST 2382 | China in Revolution:1800-1949 | |
| HIST 3372 | Food in Chinese History | |
| HIST 2383 | China since 1949 | |
| HIST 2422 | The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-45 | |
| HIST 3371 | The Chinese Cultural Revolution in History and Memory | |
| HIST 3416 | Love and Family in China | |
| HIST 4572 | Memories of WW II in East Asia | |
| HIST 4576 | Environmental History of China | |
| HIST 4577 | Gender in Modern East Asia | |
| RELS 2327 | Introduction to Buddhism | |
| RELS 3359 | Buddhist Diversity | |
| RELS 3360 | Engaged Buddhism | |
| Total Credit Hours | | 24 |

Transfer credits from other academic institutions may be recognized.

Minor in Japanese Studies

Students in the undergraduate Arts program who are not Asian Studies majors can complete a minor in Japanese Studies by completing the following courses:

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|-----------|------------------------------|--------------|
| JPNS 1100 | Introductory Japanese | 6 |
| ASNT 3300 | Multidisciplinary Study Asia | 3 |
| ASNT 4400 | Seminar in Asian Studies | 3 |

Select 12 other credits on Japan in at least two different disciplines taken of the following:

| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| ANTH 2326 | Contemporary East Asia | |
| ANTH 2327 | Japanese Society | |
| ASNT 1106 | Introduction to Japanese Culture | |
| ASNT 2303 | Contemporary Japan: Institutions and Culture | |
| ASNT 3302 | Japanese Film and Literature | |
| HIST 1222 | Introduction to East Asian History | |
| HIST 2354 | Japan before 1800 | |
| HIST 2355 | Late Tokugawa and Imperial Japan: 1800-1945 | |
| HIST 2356 | Japan since 1945 | |
| HIST 2422 | The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-45 | |
| HIST 4573 | The Rise and Fall of the Japanese Empire | |
| JPNS 2200 | Intermediate Japanese | |
| JPNS 3300 | Advanced Oral and Written Japanese I | |
| JPNS 3301 | Advanced Oral and Written Japanese II | |
| RELS 2327 | Introduction to Buddhism | |

Total Credit Hours 24

Transfer credits from other academic institutions may be recognized.

Certificate Programs

Information concerning the requirements for the Certificate of Chinese Studies Program and the Certificate of Japanese Studies Program are found in this *Calendar* under Chinese (<https://smu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/undergraduate/programs/chinese/>) and Japanese (<https://smu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/undergraduate/programs/japanese/>). These certificate programs are run through the Department of Languages and Cultures, not Asian Studies.

Dual Degree Program

Since it is possible to obtain two undergraduate degrees from Saint Mary's University, for Commerce students it may be attractive to combine a degree in their field with a major in Asian Studies, especially in light of the interest which the Canadian federal and provincial governments and private industries have in developing trade with the Pacific Rim countries. It is relatively easy to combine Commerce and Asian Studies if Commerce students select their non-commerce and free electives carefully. The second degree can be obtained in a year or less in addition to the normal time requirement for a Commerce degree. For more information please contact the BA Advising Centre (<https://www.smu.ca/arts/arts-ba-advising-centre.html>).

Core Courses

Asian Studies Core Courses

Note: With the Coordinator's permission, relevant courses not listed below may be acceptable for credit towards the Major or Minor in Asian, Chinese, or Japanese Studies. Students are encouraged to contact the departments listed below regarding the timing of specific course offerings in order to plan their degrees – some courses below are offered irregularly.

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|---------------------|---|--------------|
| Anthropology | | |
| ANTH 1202 | Introducing Socio-Cultural Anthropology | 3 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|--|---|
| ANTH 2326 | Contemporary East Asia | 3 | CHNS 2200 | Intermediate Modern Chinese | 6 |
| ANTH 2327 | Japanese Society | 3 | CHNS 3300 | Advanced Oral and Written Chinese I | 3 |
| Asian Studies | | | CHNS 3301 | Advanced Oral and Written Chinese II | 3 |
| ASNT 1105 | Introduction to Chinese Culture | 3 | Japanese | | |
| ASNT 1106 | Introduction to Japanese Culture | 3 | JPNS 1100 | Introductory Japanese | 6 |
| ASNT 1107 | Introduction to Korean Culture | 3 | JPNS 2200 | Intermediate Japanese | 6 |
| ASNT 2210 | Indigenous Voices in Modern Asia | 3 | JPNS 3300 | Advanced Oral and Written Japanese I | 3 |
| ASNT 2220 | Introduction to Asian Film | 3 | JPNS 3301 | Advanced Oral and Written Japanese II | 3 |
| ASNT 2303 | Contemporary Japan: Institutions and Culture | 3 | Religious Studies | | |
| ASNT 2305 | Contemporary China: Institutions and Culture | 3 | RELS 1221 | Judaism, Christianity and Islam | 3 |
| ASNT 3300 | Multidisciplinary Study Asia | 3 | RELS 1222 | Religions of Asia (formerly RELS 1220) | 3 |
| ASNT 3302 | Japanese Film and Literature | 3 | RELS 1252 | Religious Diversity in Canada | 3 |
| ASNT 3310 | Chinese Film and Literature | 3 | RELS 2323 | Introduction to Islam | 3 |
| ASNT 3826 - ASNT 3849 | Selected Topics in Asian Studies | | RELS 2324 | World Christianity | 3 |
| ASNT 4400 | Seminar in Asian Studies | 3 | RELS 2326 | Introduction to Hinduism | 3 |
| ASNT 4500 | Honours Thesis | 6 | RELS 2327 | Introduction to Buddhism | 3 |
| ASNT 4826 - ASNT 4849 | Selected Topics in Asian Studies | | RELS 2370 | Introduction to the Qur'an | 3 |
| ASNT 4876 - ASNT 4899 | Directed Study | | RELS 2401 | Religions of China and Japan | 3 |
| Geography | | | RELS 3010 | Vietnamese Religious Traditions | 3 |
| GEOG 1100 | Global Perspectives on Land and Life (Group D) | 3 | RELS 3359 | Buddhist Diversity | 3 |
| GEOG 1200 | People, Place and Environment (Group D) | 3 | RELS 3360 | Engaged Buddhism | 3 |
| GEOG 4150 | Geographical Perspectives on Asia-Pacific Development (Group D) | 3 | RELS 3373 | Islam in South Asia | 3 |
| Global Development Studies | | | RELS 3374 | Islam in North America | 3 |
| GDST 4461 | South East Asia: Contemporary Development Issues | 3 | | | |
| History | | | | | |
| HIST 1222 | Introduction to East Asian History | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2381 | China before 1800 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2382 | China in Revolution:1800-1949 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2383 | China since 1949 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2354 | Japan before 1800 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2355 | Late Tokugawa and Imperial Japan: 1800-1945 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2356 | Japan since 1945 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2393 | History of Vietnam | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2394 | History of Korea | 3 | | | |
| HIST 2422 | The Asia-Pacific War, 1937-45 | 3 | | | |
| HIST 3371 | The Chinese Cultural Revolution in History and Memory | 3 | | | |
| HIST 3372 | Food in Chinese History | 3 | | | |
| HIST 3416 | Love and Family in China | 3 | | | |
| HIST 4572 | Memories of WW II in East Asia | 3 | | | |
| HIST 4573 | The Rise and Fall of the Japanese Empire | 3 | | | |
| HIST 4576 | Environmental History of China | 3 | | | |
| HIST 4577 | Gender in Modern East Asia | 3 | | | |
| Arabic | | | | | |
| ARBC 1100 | Introduction to Arabic: Language and Cultures | 6 | | | |
| Chinese | | | | | |
| CHNS 1101 | Introductory Modern Chinese I | 3 | | | |
| CHNS 1102 | Introductory Modern Chinese II | 3 | | | |