Asian and Asian American Studies (AAS)

Major and Minor in Asian and Asian American Studies

Department of Asian and Asian American Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

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Office: 1046 Humanities
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Minors of particular interest to students majoring in Asian and Asian American Studies: Anthropology (ANT), Business (BUS), China Studies (CNS), International Studies (INT), Japanese Studies (JNS), Korean Studies (KOR), Linguistics (LIN), Religious Studies (RLS), Sociology (SOC), South Asian Studies (SOA)

Department Information - Asian and Asian American Studies

The interdisciplinary major in Asian and Asian American Studies combines analytical perspectives and research methods of the social sciences and humanities in an integrated curriculum that is intellectually challenging, socially relevant, and directed toward advancing students' professional career goals. Students acquire in-depth knowledge of particular regions of Asia, enhanced appreciation of Asian cultures and societies, greater awareness of contemporary issues of global concern facing both Asia and America, and a better understanding of the histories, struggles, and contributions of Asian Americans.

The major includes training in a relevant Asian language, a concentration in a specific region of Asia, and courses in various disciplines that converge on an identified theme of study. It complements minors in China Studies, Japanese Studies, Korean Studies, and South Asian Studies, as well as the major and minor in Religious Studies.

Students are encouraged to gain a first-hand experience of living in and studying Asian cultures by participating in Study Abroad programs. Stony Brook offers a summer program in India, a winter program in China, and academic year programs in China and Japan. Similar programs are being planned in other countries.

The academic offerings of the department are complemented by the rich array of resources and programming at the program in China Studies, Center for India Studies, Center for Japan Studies, the Korean Studies Program, the Asian American Center Bridge, and the Charles B. Wang Center, which collaborate with various academic departments, student groups, community organizations, and individuals to promote a better understanding of Asia and Asian Americans today.

The Department of Asian and Asian American Studies has strong ties with selected academic and cultural organizations in Asia, and Asian and Asian American institutions on Long Island and in the greater New York area. Stony Brook's proximity to the New York City metropolitan area, with its Asian ethnic communities, offers rich opportunities for cultural and intellectual enrichment.

A major in Asian and Asian American Studies will open attractive opportunities for students who plan to pursue a wide range of careers, including the arts, business, education, economics, government, journalism, law, literature, and media. Many students increase their employment opportunities by pursuing a double major. In addition, Asian and Asian American Studies offers challenging opportunities at the graduate and professional school level as well.

Requirements for the Major and Minor in Asian and Asian American Studies

The major in Asian and Asian American Studies leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. All courses taken for the major must be taken for a letter grade and passed with a grade of C or higher. Completion of the major requires 42 to 44 credits, including at least 21 upper-division credits.

A. Language Proficiency
Six credits (or the equivalent of one year) of college study of an Asian language at the intermediate level or above.

B. Regional Focus
Fifteen credits of coursework focusing on the region of East Asia, South Asia, or Southeast Asia. At least nine credits must be at the 300 or 400 level.

C. Asian American Studies
Three credits of coursework focusing on Asian American studies.

D. Comparative Region
Six credits of upper-division coursework relating to one or two other regions of Asia (i.e., one or two regions not selected to satisfy requirement B).

E. Theme Requirement
Nine credits of upper-division coursework concentrating on a theme chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

**Themes**

Possible themes include (but are not limited to): Literature, Arts, and Culture of Asia; Asian Philosophy and Religion; Asian Society and History; Linguistics of an Asian language; Asian Histories and Politics; International Relations; Business and Economics; Science and Technology; Advanced Language Study; the Asian American Experience.

Three sample themes include:

1. **Asian Philosophy and Religion**
   
   AAS 391, AAS 392 Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies (when appropriate)
   
   AAS 367/RLS 367 Meditation and Enlightenment
   
   AAS 380/RLS 380 Islamic Classics
   
   AAS 382/RLS 382 Japanese Buddhism
   
   AAS 346 Philosophy of Education in Korea and Japan
   
   PHI 342 History of Chinese Philosophy
   
   PHI 344 Japanese Thought and Philosophy
   
   PHI 378 Philosophical Topics in Asian American History (when appropriate)

2. **Literature, Arts, and Culture of Asia**
   
   AAS/EGL 305 The Pacific, Travel, and Empire
   
   AAS 320 Literature of India
   
   AAS 321 Korean Literature
   
   AAS 331 Japanese Literature in the Feminine Domain
   
   AAS 332 Japanese Literature in the Meiji Era
   
   AAS 333 Indian Cinemas & Cultures
   
   AAS 391, AAS 392 Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies (when appropriate)
   
   AAS 317/ARH 317 Islamic Art
   
   AAS 394/ARH 394 Topics in Asian Art
   
   AAS 391/AAS 392 Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies (when appropriate)
   
   AAS 322 Literature of Japan
   
   AAS 321 Korean Literature
   
   ARH 318 History of Chinese Painting
   
   THR 313 Asian Theatre and Drama

3. **Society and Contemporary Issues**
   
   AAS 300 Intellectual History of East Asia
   
   AAS/EGL 305 The Pacific, Travel, and Empire
   
   AAS 330 Language and Society in South Asia
   
   AAS 331 Japanese Literature in the Feminine Domain
   
   AAS 332 Japanese Literature in the Meiji Era
   
   AAS 333 Indian Cinemas & Cultures
   
   AAS 357 India's Foreign Policy
   
   AAS 392 Social Science Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies (when appropriate)
   
   AAS 371/ANT 371 Ancient China
   
   AAS 372/ANT 372 Family, Marriage, and Kinship in China
   
   AAS 379/ANT 379 Ethnicity and Ecology in China
   
   AAS 340/HIS 340 Topics in Asian History
   
   AAS 341/HIS 341 20th Century China
   
   AAS 345/HIS 345/WST 345 Women and Gender in Chinese History
   
   AAS 348/HIS 348 History of British India
   
   AAS 351/HIS 351 Revolutionary China: Politics, Culture, and Power
   
   AAS 352/HIS 352 Environmental History of China
   
   ECO 339 China's Economy Since 1949
   
   ECO 340 Japanese Economy
   
   HIS 344 20th Century Japan
   
   HIS 431/HIS 432 Colloquia in Asian History

F. Senior Seminar

AAS 401 Senior Seminar in Asian and Asian American Studies

G. Upper-Division Writing Requirement

By the end of their junior year, students must complete one upper-division course from requirements B, D, or E that includes a minimum of ten pages of written English work. Written assignments for the course must be submitted to the Director of Undergraduate Studies for assessment of
advanced writing skills appropriate to the major. This review is separate from the evaluation made by the course instructor and has no effect on the course grade.

Notes:
1. Students with a pre-established proficiency in an Asian language (determined through a university Challenge Exam) must take six additional credits under requirements B, D, or E.
2. A course may be used to satisfy only one requirement category.
3. At least 12 of the upper-division credits must be taken at Stony Brook University.
4. All courses (including special topics) offered by other departments are acceptable for the major with the approval of the Director of Undergraduate Studies. These may include: ARH 203, ARH 318; CLT 220; ECO 339, ECO 340; HIS 220, HIS 343, HIS 344, HIS 431, HIS 432; LIN 355, LIN 431; PHI 342, PHI 344, PHI 378; RLS 390, RLS 391; SOC 264, SOC 386; THR 313.
5. Acceptable courses may include, but are not limited to courses with the following designators: ANT, ARH, CCS, CHI, CLT, ENG, HIN, HIS, JPN, KOR, LIN, PHI, POL, RLS, SRT, SOC, THR.

The Honors Program in Asian & Asian American Studies (AAS)
To be eligible to participate in the honors program, majors must have an overall g.p.a. of 3.00 and an average g.p.a. of 3.50 in AAS through their junior year. An eligible student wishing to write a senior thesis must find a faculty member to act as thesis advisor. The student, with the approval of this advisor, must submit a proposal of a project in writing to the Director of Undergraduate Studies. The deadline for submission of the proposal is April 30 for the spring semester, and November 30 for the fall semester. Selection of candidates and topics is made by a committee within the Department. Students in the honors program must enroll in AAS 495 for the semester in which the thesis is written. The thesis is evaluated by the thesis advisor, and approved by two additional faculty. For further information consult the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Chinese and Japanese Secondary Teacher Education Program
See the Education and Teacher Certification entry in the alphabetical listings of Approved Majors, Minors, and Programs.

Requirements for the Minor in Asian and Asian American Studies (AAS)
The Minor in Asian and Asian American Studies encourages students of any academic major to enhance their knowledge and understanding of Asian cultures, societies, and histories. Students with a minor in Asian and Asian American Studies consult with the Undergraduate Director of Asian and Asian American Studies to select a curriculum of interdisciplinary comparative study that speaks to their particular interests and career goals. All courses for the minor must be taken for a letter grade and passed with a grade of C or higher.

Completion of the minor requires 21 credits.

A. Nine credits of coursework, selected from any three of the following categories. At least three credits must be at the 300 or 400 level.
   1. East Asia
   2. South Asia
   3. Southeast Asia
   4. Asian America

B. Three credits of 100- or 200-level course-work on Asian religion, selected from the following:
   AAS 211 Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Social Sciences (appropriate topic only)
   AAS 212 Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Humanities (appropriate topic only)
   AAS 102/RLS 102 Eastern Religions
   AAS 240/RLS 240 Confucianism and Taoism
   AAS 246/RLS 246 Korean and Japanese Religions
   AAS 256/RLS 256 Hinduism
   AAS 260/RLS 260 Buddhism
   AAS 280/RLS 280 Islam

C. Nine credits of upper-division coursework concentrating on a theme chosen in consultation with the Director of Undergraduate Studies. (See “Themes” above for examples.)

Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Asian and Asian American Studies

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**Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Asian and Asian American Studies with Chinese Language Certification**

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**Junior Fall**

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**Senior Fall**

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<td>FLA 452</td>
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Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Asian and Asian American Studies with Japanese Language Certification

**Freshman Fall**

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**Junior Fall**

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<td>PSY 327</td>
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<td>FLA 339</td>
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<td>Comparative Religion course</td>
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AAS
Asian & Asian American Studies

AAS 102 - B: Eastern Religions
An historical introduction to Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. Attention is given to the cultural background, art, literature, philosophy, and institutional development of each tradition. This course is offered as both AAS 102 and RLS 102.
3 credits

AAS 110 - G: Appreciating Indian Music
An introduction to the basic elements of Indian classical music, such as "raga" and "tala", "gharanas" (schools) and styles. Vocal and instrumental masterpieces are studied. Topics include: the roles of stringed and percussion instruments; the intimate relationship between music and religion, and music and ethnicity; and the influence of Indian classical music on contemporary art forms such as films and folk music. No previous musical training is required.
3 credits

AAS 201 - J: Introduction to the Civilization of the Indian Subcontinent
Key concepts in South Asian civilization in art, architecture, religion, philosophy, science, society, literature, and politics from the Indus Valley to the present. Topics include evolution of Hinduism, Buddhism, yoga, classical and modern languages, the caste system and reform movements, Asohka, Akbar and great emperors, impact of Islam and Western colonization, and Gandhi and the impact of South Asia on the world.
3 credits

AAS 209 - D: Indian Classical Dance: Bharatanatyam
Introduction to the basics of Bharatanatyam (South Indian classical dance) technique. Includes primary postures and basic steps, or adavus. Class also covers the theory of Bharatanatyam including hand gestures, head, neck and eye movements, as delineated in Nandikeswara's Abhinaya Darpana. Students will gain a well-rounded knowledge of the dance by studying Bharatanatyam's form, content, basic history, music, and repertoire. By the end of the class, students will learn and present short dance pieces including a Jathi (string for adavus) and a Shilokam (poem).
Advisory Prerequisite: Any dance class
3 credits

AAS 211 - F: Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Social Sciences
Using the methodologies of the social sciences disciplines of history, political science, sociology, and economics, this course provides an introductory overview of important topics in Asian and American studies. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes.
3 credits

AAS 212 - G: Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Humanities
Using methodologies of the Humanities disciplines, such as literature, linguistics, classics, cultural studies, philosophy, religious studies, art history and criticism, this course provides an introductory overview of important topics in Asian and American Studies. Topics may range from Women in Japanese fiction to Mahatma Gandhi's impact on politics and ethics. May be repeated as the topic changes.
3 credits

AAS 215 - D: Classical Performing Arts of India
An introduction to the stories, histories, and aesthetics of Indian classical performing arts. The course focuses on Bharatanatyam, the solo dance form from South India. Kathakali, Manipuri, Odissi, and Kathak will be introduced to compare and contrast dance-theatre forms of South Asia. Students will be introduced to each performance form by studying its ancient and modern history, practitioners, technique, stage presentation, and aesthetics. The course explores the commonalities of all these performing art forms including: mythology, the classic text: Natya Shastra, abhinaya (mime) and the theory of rasa. Lessons will be accompanied by suitable reading material and visual demonstrations either on video or by a practitioner of the art form.
Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. A
3 credits

AAS 220 - J: China: Language and Culture
An introduction to ancient Chinese science and technology, including engineering, medicine, mathematics, architecture and military technology. The global, social and historical impact of these inventions on Western civilization and the subsequent decline of the Chinese scientific paradigm will be examined.
Prerequisites: One DEC E course and U2 status or higher
3 credits

AAS 221 - H: China: Science and Civilization
An introduction to ancient Chinese science and technology, including engineering, medicine, mathematics, architecture and military technology. The global, social and historical impact of these inventions on Western civilization and the subsequent decline of the Chinese scientific paradigm will be examined.
Prerequisites: One DEC E course and U2 status or higher
3 credits

AAS 222 - G: Introduction to Asian American Fiction and Film
The course is an introductory survey of Asian American fiction (short stories and novels) and films (narratives and documentaries). A central premise of the course is that the histories of racial segregation in the U.S., immigrant exclusion acts, colonial and contemporary wars in Asia, and global migrations are the political and historical contexts of Asian American narratives.
3 credits

AAS 240 - J: Confucianism and Taoism
An introduction to the basic philosophies and doctrines of Confucianism and Taoism, such as the concept of Tao, non-action, benevolence, and propriety. The course explores both the similarities and the differences between these two traditions. This course is offered as both AAS 240 and RLS 240.

3 credits

**AAS 250 - K: Languages and Cultures of Asian Americans**

Study of language use and cultural accommodation in selected Asian American communities in relation to the changing roles of Asians in U.S. society from the early democracy to the present. Issues include linguistic and cultural diversity of Asia and Asian Americans; comparison of Asian and European immigration patterns; struggle for equality and acceptance; cultural factors in assimilation; patterns of Asian language use and maintenance in various domains; the role of language in ethnic identity; attitudes toward English and bilingualism; bilingualism as a problem and as a resource. This course is offered as both AAS 250 and LIN 250.

3 credits

**AAS 256 - J: Hinduism**

Survey of the principal religious and philosophical currents of Hindu civilization in India from the time of the Vedas and Upanishads through the development of the major devotional ways and schools of thought current in India today. These include the polytheism of Hindu mythology, the theism of various forms of devotional practice, and the monotheism and nondualism of Hindu philosophy. This course is offered as both AAS 256 and RLS 256.

3 credits

**AAS 260 - J: Buddhism**

An introduction to the basic philosophy and doctrines of Buddhism, beginning with a survey of lives and works of major historical figures of Buddhism. The principal issues of Buddhist thought, drawing from Indian, East Asian, and Western sources, are treated. Particular attention is paid to the meaning of faith, practice, and enlightenment in Buddhism. This course is offered as both AAS 260 and RLS 260.

3 credits

**AAS 271 - J: Religion in Ancient Mesopotamia**

Presents a picture of religion in ancient Mesopotamia based on archaeological data and ancient texts. A major contribution of the Mesopotamian civilization was the development of a special spiritual life of the people. Since the sixth millennium BC, these beliefs were the way they explained un-known and un-seen experiences. Set rules, traditions and special architecture were developed around these beliefs. These will be discussed, including the incorporation of these beliefs by other cultures. Not for credit in addition to AAS 212, Religion of Ancient Mesopotamia.

3 credits

**AAS 280 - J: Islam**

An introduction to the main features of Islamic revelation as contained in the Koran and its impact on the major spiritual, intellectual, legal, and social teachings and institutions of the Islamic world. This course concludes with an examination of Islam in the modern world. This course is offered as both AAS 280 and RLS 280.

3 credits

**AAS 300 - G: Intellectual History of East Asia**

Study of the historical development of major intellectual traditions of East Asia (China, Japan, Korea). Topics include the Political Thoughts of the Ancient World (Formations of Confucianism, Taoism, and Yin Yang and Correlative Thinking), Era of Metaphysics (Introduction and Development of Buddhism and East Asian Mysticism), Ethics and Nationalism (Neo-Confucianism and Encounter of the Western Civilization), and East Asia's Modern Transformation (Modernization, Socialism, and Westernization).

Prerequisite: One 200-level course in Asian Studies

3 credits

**AAS 305 - J: The Pacific, Travel & Empire**

This cultural studies course examines the cultures of travel (i.e. fiction, memoirs, photography, and filmmaking) in narratives by and about the Pacific, South and Southeast Asia. We will study #empire# by analyzing narratives about the former colonies of Spain, France, Britain and the United States. As we discuss the metaphors or tropes of empire, we will also examine the concept of empire as a historical and contemporary formation, or what an empire meant in the 19th century and what it means today in the early 21st century. The course begins with the premise that travel narratives and modern visual culture illuminate the relationship between the violence and romance of travel. The course includes modern travel narratives (i.e. novels by Asian Americans) that focus on the lives of those who are forced to travel or migrate due to civil war, poverty and/or economic instability. This course is offered as AAS 305 and EGL 305.

3 credits

**AAS 319 - J: Arts of China**

A survey of Chinese art from the Neolithic period to modern-day China. Visual media such as bronze, jade, sculpture, ink painting and pottery as well as their cultural influence on philosophy, literature, religion and politics will be explored. The course will also examine the influence of India and Central Asian on Chinese art and, in turn, China's influence on Korean and Japanese art.

Prerequisite: One DEC D course and U3 or U4 standing

3 credits

**AAS 320 - G: Literature of India**

Introduction to selected classics of Indian literature in English translation. Classical and modern works are discussed, representing Sanskrit (the Vedas, the Upanishads, the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata, classical drama of Kalidasa and Bhasa), Tamil, Kannada, Hindi-Urdu, and Indian English. Western and Indian literary theories and critical approaches are compared and evaluated.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 201 (or the former SAS 240)

3 credits

**AAS 321 - G: Korean Literature**

An introduction in English to the literary tradition of Korea. Representative literary texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their historical background and the aesthetic and cultural values that inform them. Previously offered as KRH 251. Not for credit in addition to KRH 251.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 217 (formerly KRH 240)

3 credits

**AAS 322 - G: Literature of Japan**

An introduction in English to the literary tradition of Japan. Representative literary texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their historical background and the aesthetic and cultural values that formed them.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 216 (formerly JNH 201)

3 credits

**AAS 324 - W: Modern Chinese Literature**

Survey of Chinese literature from the late Qing period to the present. This course will also examine the influence of India and Central Asian on Chinese art and, in turn, China's influence on Korean and Japanese art.

Prerequisite: One DEC D course and U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 201 (or the former SAS 240)

3 credits

**AAS 326 - J: Chinese Literature**

An introduction in English to the literary tradition of China. Representative literary texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their aesthetic and cultural values that inform them.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 217 (formerly KRH 240)

3 credits

**AAS 327 - J: The Pacific, Travel & Empire**

Cultural studies course examines the cultures of travel (i.e. fiction, memoirs, photography, and filmmaking) in narratives by and about the Pacific, South and Southeast Asia. We will study #empire# by analyzing narratives about the former colonies of Spain, France, Britain and the United States. As we discuss the metaphors or tropes of empire, we will also examine the concept of empire as a historical and contemporary formation, or what an empire meant in the 19th century and what it means today in the early 21st century. The course begins with the premise that travel narratives and modern visual culture illuminate the relationship between the violence and romance of travel. The course includes modern travel narratives (i.e. novels by Asian Americans) that focus on the lives of those who are forced to travel or migrate due to civil war, poverty and/or economic instability. This course is offered as AAS 305 and EGL 305.

3 credits

**AAS 328 - J: Hindu and Buddhist Literature**

Study of the principal religious and philosophical currents of Hindu and Buddhist civilizations in India from the time of the Vedas and Upanishads through the development of the major devotional ways and schools of thought current in India today. These include the polytheism of Hindu mythology, the theism of various forms of devotional practice, and the monotheism and nondualism of Hindu philosophy. This course is offered as both AAS 256 and RLS 256.

3 credits

**AAS 330 - J: Islamic Literature**

An introduction to the main features of Islamic revelation as contained in the Koran and its impact on the major spiritual, intellectual, legal, and social teachings and institutions of the Islamic world. This course concludes with an examination of Islam in the modern world. This course is offered as both AAS 280 and RLS 280.

3 credits

**AAS 331 - J: Chinese Literature**

An introduction in English to the literary tradition of China. Representative literary texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their historical background and the aesthetic and cultural values that inform them.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 217 (formerly KRH 240)

3 credits

**AAS 332 - J: Japanese Literature**

An introduction in English to the literary tradition of Japan. Representative texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their historical background and the aesthetic and cultural values that formed them.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 216 (formerly JNH 201)

3 credits

**AAS 333 - J: Korean Literature**

An introduction in English to the literary tradition of Korea. Representative literary texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their aesthetic and cultural values that inform them.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing

Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 217 (formerly KRH 240)

3 credits
AAS 326 - G: Indian Mythology
Study of the major themes in Indian mythology and their evolution, including the relation of these myths to philosophy and religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Myths are traced from the Vedas of 1500 B.C. to the modern Indian myths. The course will consider the impact of myths on classical Indian literature and art forms, as well as their impact on contemporary art forms such as film, television, and theater.
Prerequisite: AAS 201 or 212
3 credits

AAS 327 - G: Great Epics of India: Ramayana and Mahabharata
The themes, characters, and plots of Ramayana and Mahabharata are analyzed in detail. The moral dilemmas presented and their sometimes controversial solutions are explored in the context of "dharma", or righteousness--the central concept of Hinduism. The course will compare the two epics with each other.
Prerequisite: AAS 201 or 212
3 credits

AAS 328 - K: Race, Comedy and Asian America
This comparative ethnic American cultures course examines how contemporary American comedians, fiction writers, visual artists, independent filmmakers, feminist and transgendered comics deploy the language of comedy to invoke serious social matters in contemporary American life such as racism, immigration, homophobia, class biases against the poor and the undocumented, misogyny, war and other burning issues of the day. We will explore how the ends of comedy are more than laughter and how comedy confronts political issues that are constitutive of and threatening to the U.S. body politic.
Prerequisite: 100-level course in AAS, AMR, or AST
3 credits

AAS 330 - J: Language and Society in South Asia
Study of the evolution, stucture, and role of representative languages in South Asia. Focus is on multilingualism, lingua francas, national language, contact, convergence, and use, especially in education, administration, business, religion, literature, and the media. Topics may also include language, ethnic identity, and conflict; English in India; globalization and localization; and India's impact on linguistics.
Advisory Prerequisite: LIN 101
3 credits

AAS 331 - J: Japanese Literature in the Feminine Domain
This course examines both writings of Japanese women and writings about Japanese women. It will challenge the application of current Western feminist standards to Japanese culture through the analysis of Japanese literary works. We will begin with Japanese mythology focusing on the stories of the creator goddess and Amaterasu, the sun goddess, from whom the imperial line was descended. We will consider the great Heian Era women writers and their culture, examining the difference between men's and women's writing. From the Heian era we will move to the Meiji Era, when Japan's isolationist period had ended and centuries of Western literature was introduced to Japan. We will concentrate on the writings of Higuchi Ichiyo, noting how the position of women had changed by her day and how it affected her literary style. The course will close with a focus how literature treats Japanese women in our own time. This course is offered as AAS 331 and WST 331.
3 credits

AAS 332 - J: Japanese Literature in the Meiji Era
This course examines Japanese literature of the Meiji era, an era unique in the history of the world. Until the 1400s, Japan had no contact with the West due to its geographic location. After a brief and limited exposure to Western literature, Japan closed its doors to the West and remained isolated from approximately 1600 until 1868. During the Meiji Era (1868-1912) Japan was flooded with examples of all the phases of Western literature it had missed, and Japanese writers soon responded to the Western developments. This course will deal with that response, from Tsubouchi Shoyo's criticism of modern Japanese novels and their lack of appreciation for Realism, to the development of the Japanese I-novel. Due to Japan's literary response to the West, it can also be argued that the Meiji Era marked the end of Japanese literature as a unique entity, and this course will explore this issue as well.
3 credits

AAS 334 - J: English in Asia
Study of the expanding roles of English in South Asia, East Asia, and Southeast Asia. With more non-native speakers than native speakers, and more in Asia than elsewhere, English has acquired new identities. We will study functions of English in colonial and post-colonial times; how it competes with, and complements local languages in business, advertising, media, education, research, administration, judiciary, creative literature, call centers, and on the Internet; the evolution of dynamic new Asian Englishes, such as Indian English, and their social and cultural contexts; controversies regarding English medium education and its impact on local languages, relevance of native English standards, and implications for theory, description, and method in diverse disciplines, such as, business communication, cultural studies, English, lexicography, speech recognition, journalism, media studies, sociolinguistics, teaching English as a second language, and Asian Studies.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 status
3 credits

AAS 338 - J: Contemporary India: History, Politics, and Diplomacy
Study of the forces shaping India's post-independence history, domestic politics, and foreign diplomacy. As the world's largest democracy, second most populous nation, and Asia's second fastest growing economy, its impact on the international scene in the coming years will be carefully analyzed. The course, taught by a former Ambassador, will also focus on emerging trends in Indo-U.S. relations and impact of the Indian diaspora. This course is offered as both AAS 338 and POL 338.
Prerequisites: AAS 201 or POL 101; U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AAS 339 - J: Contemporary China: History, Politics, and Diplomacy
This course will analyze the evolution of major events in contemporary China following the communist revolution that led to the establishment of the People's Republic in 1949. The course, taught by a former Ambassador, will examine major political, economic, and social developments in light of both their general global impact and their particular relationship with the U.S. This course is offered as both AAS 339 and POL 339.
Prerequisites: AAS 219 or POL 101; U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AAS 340 - J: Topics in Asian History
Past topics have included titles such as Late Imperial China; The Chinese Diaspora; and Overseas Chinese and Chinatowns. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic relating to non-Western world civilizations. Students will be expected to demonstrate either a knowledge of a broad outline of world history, or the distinctive features of the
AAS 347 - J: South Asia Before Colonialism
The South Asia region (contemporary India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Afghanistan) has been a crossroads of diverse people, ideas and commodities for millennia. This course covers key themes and developments in the subcontinent from antiquity to the rise of British colonialism. We will begin by covering major issues in early South Asia, and proceed to consider closely the medieval and early modern periods. Central themes include pre-modern dimensions of the Hindu-Muslim encounter, emergence of South Asian regions, the subcontinent in global networks, and early presence of European powers. This course is offered as both AAS 347 and HIS 347.

AAS 351 - J: Revolutionary China: Politics, Culture, and Power
Explores the history of revolutionary nation-building efforts in 20th century China, examining social, cultural, economic and political developments during the "Republican" and "Maoist" periods. Focuses on key terms and concepts used by agents and analysts of revolutionary change. Draws on interdisciplinary scholarly studies, government documents, media reports, auto-biographical accounts, and popular fiction to assess the consequences of major events on people's lives, livelihoods, worldviews, and personal relationships. This course is offered as both AAS 351 and HIS 351.

Prerequisite: One AAS or HIS course

AAS 352 - H: Environmental History of China
The history of interaction between human activities and the natural environment in China, with special attention to ecological consequences of various paradigms of economic development throughout Chinese history. Focus in on the political ecology of state-level societies, and the relationships between cultural ideas, behavioral practices, human health, and environmental change. This course is offered as both AAS 352 and HIS 352.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; completion of D.E.C. category E

AAS 357 - J: India's Foreign Policy
A critical analysis of the foreign policy of India since Independence in 1947, especially Non-alignment and relations with major powers. The factors behind India's entry into the nuclear club and its impact on her international relations within the subcontinent and beyond. Analysis of issues such as Kashmir, terrorism, India's quest for a permanent seat in the U.N. Security Council, economic reforms, and role of Indian diaspora to the country's relations with the countries of their adoption.

Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing or permission of instructor

AAS 366 - G: Feminine Spirituality
The role and destiny of human beings as envisaged by the world's great traditions, especially the Chinese and the Islamic. The course focuses on the concept of femininity as a principle in the realms of theology, metaphysics, cosmology, and spiritual psychology; and the theoretical and practical applications of the feminine principle to the place of both men and women in society. Topics include feminine and masculine as metaphysical and cosmological principles; woman and religious law; woman's role in symbolism, mythology, and literature; and the feminine aspects of the self that both women and men need to develop on the path of achieving spiritual perfection. Previously offered as RLS 426, this course is now offered as RLS 366. Not for credit in addition to the former RLS 426. This course is offered as both AAS 366 and RLS 366.

Prerequisite: any 200-level or higher RLS course

AAS 367 - J: Meditation and Enlightenment
A critical analysis of the traditions, practices, and literature of Zen and other traditions of Buddhism, with particular attention paid to the meaning of enlightenment and the practice of meditation. Previously offered as RLS 341, this course is now offered as both AAS 367 and RLS 367. Not for credit in addition to the former RLS 341.

Prerequisite: AAS/RLS 102 or 260

AAS 368 - J: Yoga: Theory and Praxis
In this course we investigate Yogic systems of philosophy and self-transformation in their many forms throughout history. Topics include the origins of Yoga in ancient India, the philosophy of the Yoga Sutras and its commentarial traditions, Buddhist Yoga, Hatha Yoga, Tantric Yoga, and the medicalization and globalization of Yoga in the modern period. Students are encouraged to supplement class discussions by participating in Yoga classes at the Stony Brook University Wellness Center. This course is offered as both AAS 368 and RLS 368.

Prerequisite: One previous course in AAS or RLS

Advisory Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing

AAS 370 - J: Intercultural Communication
Through combination of theory and research from discourse linguistics and linguistic anthropology, this course examines (i) how culture shapes ways of speaking; (ii) how language constructs identities, dispositions, role relations; and (iii) what challenges people from different cultures may face when they communicate with each other. The following analytical perspectives will be presented: speech act theory, ethnography of communication, linguistic politeness, and sequential organization of turn taking. This course is offered as both AAS 370 and LIN 370.

Prerequisite: One previous course in D.E.C. J or one previous course in Linguistics

AAS 371 - J: Ancient China
Explores the development of social, economic, political, and cultural systems in ancient China, from the neolithic period through the Han dynasty. Draws on archaeological data and historical texts to examine the emergence of state-level polities and their subsequent unification under imperial authority. Analytical focus is on political economy, social organization, ritual exchange, and notions of power and rulership expressed in philosophical thought. This course is offered as both AAS 371 and ANT 371.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; completion of D.E.C. category F

AAS 372 - J: Family, Marriage, and Kinship in China
Examines forms and dynamics of social organizations in Chinese society, focusing on cultural, social, and economic aspects of family, marriage, and extended kinship relations such as lineages, clans, and sworn
brotherhoods. Particular attention is paid to how gender, generation, class, and ritual exchange shape identity, status, and power. This course is offered as both AAS 372 and ANT 372.

**Prerequisite:** ANT 102
**Advisory Prerequisites:** AAS 220 and ANT 354

3 credits

**AAS 379 - J: Ethnicity and Ecology in China**

This course explores issues of ethnic and national identity in the context of the social ecology of the Chinese state, both past and present. It focuses on the material and social relationships that have shaped perceptions of, and interactions between, cultural groups in China and along its frontiers. Drawing on case studies from the Himalayan plateau, Yunnan highlands, Inner Asian steppes, Taiwan, and elsewhere, students examine how sustenance strategies, economic organization, and political administration have influenced construct of ethnic identity. This course is offered as both AAS 379 and ANT 379.

**Prerequisite:** U3 or U4 standing
**Advisory Prerequisite:** AAS 220 or HIS 219 (or the former CNS 249 or 250)

3 credits

**AAS 380 - G: Islamic Classics**

A study in depth of Islamic texts in translation. Selections may be made from the Qur'an, the Hadith, the Law, and from one or more of the major intellectual schools, such as Kalam (scholastic theology), Peripatetic philosophy, illuminationist theosophy, Sufism, and the "transcendent theosophy" of the School of Isfahan. May be repeated as the topic changes. Previously offered as RLS 408, this course is now offered as both AAS 380 and RLS 380.

**Prerequisite:** AAS/RLS 280

3 credits

**AAS 382 - G: Japanese Buddhism**

An introduction to the teachings and practices of two major schools of Japanese Buddhism: Zen and Pure Land. The course focuses on the writings of the founders of the important lineages within these schools. Formerly offered as RLS 406, this course is now offered as both AAS 382 and RLS 382. Not for credit in addition to the former RLS 406.

**Prerequisite:** AAS/RLS 260

3 credits

**AAS 386 - J: Topics in Asian Philosophy**

Designed for upper-division students, this course presents in-depth study of a specific topic in an Asian philosophical tradition. Students are expected to demonstrate knowledge through mastery of native terms and concepts from that tradition. May be repeated as the topic changes. This course is offered as both AAS 386 and PHI 386.

**Prerequisites:** One previous course in AAS or PHI
**Advisory Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior Standing

3 credits

**AAS 387 - J: Islam and Confucianism**

The goal of this course is to compare the basic teachings of Islam and Confucianism concerning the correct way to achieve true human status. Special stress will be placed on books that Muslim scholars wrote in Chinese beginning in the seventeenth century. These books employed Neo-Confucian language to introduce Chinese Muslims to their own theology, cosmology, and spiritual psychology, thus providing a rare pre-modern example of inter-religious dialogue. This course is offered as both AAS 387 and RLS 387.

**Prerequisites:** AAS 260 or RLS 260 or AAS 280 or RLS 280; U3 or U4 standing

3 credits

**AAS 391 - G: Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies**

Past topics have included titles such as Sikhism; Introduction to Indian Philosophy; Modern Indian Literature; and Appreciating Indian Music. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within humanities disciplines such as music, art, literature, religion, and philosophy. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods used in the humanities discipline(s) studied. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior Standing

3 credits

**AAS 392 - F: Social Science Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies**

Topics may include titles such as Indian Grammatical Tradition, English in Asia, and Indian Economics. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within social sciences disciplines such as history, economics, political science, and linguistics. Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, and knowledge of the major concepts, models, and issues of the social science discipline(s) studied. May be repeated as the topic changes.

**Prerequisites:** U4 standing; one ARH course

3 credits

**AAS 394 - J: Topics in Asian Art**

Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific descriptions when course is offered. Past topics have included titles such as The Art of India and The Art of the Silk Road. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic relating to non-Western world civilizations. Students will be expected to demonstrate either a knowledge of a broad outline of world history, or the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, and culture of one non-Western civilization. May be repeated as the topic changes. This course is offered as both AAS 394 and ARH 394.

**Prerequisites:** U3 or U4 standing; one ARH course

3 credits

**AAS 400: Seminar in Korean Studies**

A seminar for upper-division students in the Korean studies minor, exploring in depth a single theme chosen to illustrate the relations among literary, religious, philosophical, historical, and cultural aspects of Korean life. Use of original texts and other materials is emphasized. May be repeated once as topic changes.

**Prerequisites:** U3 or U4 standing; one 200-level course in Korean Studies

3 credits

**AAS 401: Senior Seminar in Asian and Asian American Studies**

An intensive study of the theoretical and methodological issues in Asian and Asian American Studies, examining the intellectual histories and political contexts of ‘area’ and ‘ethnic’ studies and their relationship to broader interdisciplinary research and public discourse. Possible topics may include history, memory, and representation; Asian American social activism; global/local interactions; and the politics of national identity and security.

**Prerequisites:** U4 standing; one ARH course

3 credits

**AAS 404: Senior Seminar in China Studies**

An intensive in-depth study of key texts and issues relating to China Studies. Emphasizes critical scrutiny of original source materials and close reading of interpretative commentaries, as well as constructive debate and analytical writing at an advanced level. Focal topic varies with offering, ranging from
the literary to the political, from the classical canon to contemporary social concerns. 
Prerequisite: U4 status; completion of upper-division writing requirement for AAS majors; permission of instructor for non-AAS majors or non-CNS minors
3 credits

**AAS 447: Directed Readings in Asian and Asian American Studies**
Independent readings in advanced topics in Asian and Asian American studies. May be repeated.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
1-6 credits

**AAS 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I**
Students assist instructors in Asian and Asian American studies courses with large enrollments. Under the supervision of the course instructor, they are responsible for conducting discussion and review sections and helping students with course readings and assignments.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
3 credits, S/U grading

**AAS 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II**
Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.
Prerequisites: AAS 475; permission of instructor
3 credits, S/U grading

**AAS 487: Supervised Research in Asian and Asian American Studies**
Independent research under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated to a limit of 6 credits.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
0-3 credits

**AAS 488: Internship**
Participation in a local, state, or federal governmental agency or community organization. Students are required to submit progress reports to their department sponsor and a final report on their experience to the department faculty. May be repeated up to a limit of 12 credits.

**AAS 495: Senior Honors Project in AAS**
This is a course for AAS majors who are candidates for the degree with honors. The project involves independent readings or research and the writing of a thesis. Not for major credit.
Prerequisite: Admission to the AAS Honors Program; permission of department
3 credits