

ASIAN STUDIES

Dr. Jonathan M. Smith, Director
McMurrin Hall 165
(757) 594-8762
jonathan.smith@cnu.edu

The Minor Program in Asian Studies (18-21 credits)

Asia is far and away the world's largest land mass both in geographic and demographic terms. Its consideration as a unit, apart from and opposed to Europe and the West, is due to historical and cultural factors. In reality, Asia is home to tremendous cultural, religious, linguistic, political and environmental diversity. The continent's historical position is also unique: Asia gave rise to some of the earliest civilizations, while China and India remained the world's economic centers throughout most of the Common Era.

Recent decades have seen the reemergence of Asian societies on the global political and economic scene, a trend likely to continue in coming years. CNU's minor in Asian Studies aims to offer interested students a structured overview of the cultures, economies, histories, philosophies, politics and religions of East, South and Southeast Asia. Students may take individual courses without committing to the entire program.

Program Objectives:

1. Provide an Asia-focused area studies minor combining the structured overview of an introductory course with the depth offered in more specialized and advanced courses.
2. Complement work done in the student's major by offering a focus on Asia that is otherwise unavailable.
3. Formally document a student's concentrated study of Asia.
4. Assist students with interest in Asia by integrating all relevant coursework and providing Asia-focused extra-curricular and study abroad opportunities.

Program Requirements:

1. CHIN 101(or its equivalent) or other Asian language approved by the director. Native speakers of an Asian language may have this requirement waived at the discretion of the director.
2. IDST 205.
3. CHIN 102 or higher. A 102 level course in another Asian language may be approved by the director. Students who fulfill this requirement in a language new to them via an independent study must complete the equivalent of two semesters (six credits) even if the independent study is at the 300 or 400 level. Native speakers of an Asian language should meet with the director.
4. Four program electives (12 credits) from the following approved list. Courses must be from three different disciplines (course prefix). **ANTH/SOCL prefixes count as one discipline.**

5. Certain independent study, special topics and Honors courses focusing on Asian topics may count toward the minor as determined by the director.
6. Students must consult the director on matters of course selection and advising.

THE CURRICULUM IN ASIAN STUDIES

IDST 205. Introduction to Asian Studies (3-3-0) AIGM [formerly ASIA 201, equivalent]

A broad introduction to the cultures, economics, histories, politics, and religions of East, South, and Southeast Asia, from ancient times to the modern day. This course is required for students in the Asian studies minor, but is open to all interested students.

Core

CHIN 101	Beginning Chinese I
CHIN 102	Beginning Chinese II
IDST 205	Introduction to Asian Studies

Electives

The following course descriptions appear in appropriate sections throughout the catalog.

ANTH/SOCL 309	The Refugee Experience*
ANTH/SOCL 330	Language and Culture*
ANTH 365	Case Study in Culture*
CHIN 201	Intermediate Chinese I, or higher^
FNAR 374	Asian Art
HIST 360	History of Traditional East Asia
HIST 367	Modern Chinese History
HIST 368	Modern Japanese History
HIST 405	Law and Justice in Chinese History
HIST 466	Society and Culture in Chinese History
PHIL 344	Yoga: Philosophy and Practice
PHIL 348	Asian Philosophy
POLS 353	East Asian Politics
RSTD 211	Religions of the East
RSTD 220	The Vision of Hinduism
RSTD 260	The Vision of Buddhism
RSTD 330	The Mystic Quest
RSTD 366	Bhagavad Gita and Sacred Hindu Texts

*by permission of the Director

^if not used to fulfill program requirement #3