

East Asian Languages and Civilizations

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Program of Study

The Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations (EALC) offers a B.A. program in East Asian studies that introduces students to the traditional and modern civilizations of China and Japan and provides them with the opportunity to achieve a basic reading and speaking knowledge of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean. This program is interdisciplinary and students may take relevant courses in both the humanities and the social sciences.

Students in other fields of study may also complete a minor in EALC. Information follows the description of the major.

Program Requirements

Students who plan to major in EALC typically meet the general education requirement in civilization studies by taking Introduction to the Civilizations of East Asia I, II, III (EALC 10800-10900-11000). This sequence is cross listed with HIST 15100-15200-15300.

Students must demonstrate competency in an East Asian language that is equivalent to one year of study through course work or examination.

EALC majors are required to take a three-quarter, second-year sequence in an East Asian language and to take Issues in East Asian Civilization (EALC 27105).

A further nine courses related to East Asia are required, three of which may be either an additional year of the same language or a year of a second East Asian language (examination credit may not be used for either of these two language options). A minimum of three of the nine courses should be in the same discipline (e.g., history, literature, art history). A maximum of six approved courses taken while studying abroad may be counted toward program requirements.

Before declaring their major in EALC, students must meet with the director of undergraduate studies (typically before the end of their second year) to discuss their areas of interest.

Students in other fields of study may also complete a minor in EALC. Information follows the description of the major.

Summary of Requirements

3	courses in a second-year East Asian language*
1	Issues in East Asian Civilizations (EALC 27105)
9	courses related to East Asia (three of which may be a further year of the same language, or a year of a second East Asian language**, and three of which should be in one discipline)
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* *Credit may be granted by examination.*

** *Credit may not be granted by examination.*

Bachelor's Thesis and Honors. Students who have maintained an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher are eligible for honors. Students who do not wish to be considered for honors are not required to submit a bachelor's thesis for graduation. However, all students are eligible to write a bachelor's thesis upon submitting an acceptable proposal to the department. Students typically choose an adviser for their B.A. project in Spring Quarter of their third year. The project must be approved by both the adviser and the director of undergraduate studies early in the student's fourth year, typically by third week of Autumn Quarter. Interested students should consult the director of undergraduate studies for details concerning the proposal.

Students may not use the optional B.A. paper in this major to meet the B.A. paper or project requirement in another major. Students who wish to discuss an exception to this policy should consult the director of undergraduate studies before the end of their third year. Consent to use a single paper or project requires the approval of both program chairs on a form available from the College adviser. To be eligible for honors, students must enroll in two quarters of the Senior Thesis Tutorial (EALC 29500-29600-29700). The B.A. paper may draw on material from other classes in the major; however, to receive credit for the Senior Thesis Tutorial and to be considered for honors, the student must write a paper that represents significant additional work. The B.A. paper is read by two members of the department and, if judged to be of *A* quality, the student is recommended for graduation with honors. Length and scope of the project should be agreed upon in consultation with the adviser. Use of original language material is desirable but not required.

Grading. Students must receive quality grades in all courses taken to meet requirements in the major.

Minor Program in East Asian Languages and Civilizations

Students in other fields of study may complete a minor in EALC. The minor in EALC requires a total of seven courses: Issues in East Asian Civilization (EALC 27105) and six other courses chosen in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies. No more than three of these courses may be in an East Asian language (neither first-year modern language courses nor examination credit may be used for this language option). Students who plan to pursue an EALC minor are encouraged to take Introduction to the Civilizations of East Asia (EALC 10800-10900-11000) to meet the general education requirement in civilization studies.

Students who elect the minor program in EALC must meet with the director of undergraduate studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor by submitting a form obtained from their College adviser. Students choose courses in consultation with the director of undergraduate studies. The director's approval for the minor program should be submitted to the student's College adviser by the deadline above on a form obtained from the adviser.

Courses in the minor (1) may not be double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors and (2) may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

Faculty

G. Alitto, S. Burns, F-P. Cai, K.-H. Choi, P. Copp, P. Duara, N. Field, D. Harper, Y. He, Y. Katagiri, J. Ketelaar, H.-S. Kim, J.-H. Lee, M. Li, Y. Liu, M. Miyachi, H. Noto, M. Raine, E. Shaughnessy, L. Skosey, Y. Wang, Y. Watanabe, H. Wu, J. Yang, J. Zeitlin

Courses: Interregional

East Asian Languages and Civilizations (EALC)

10800-10900-11000. Introduction to the Civilizations of East Asia I, II, III. (=HIST 15100-15200-15300, SOSC 23500-23600-23700) *May be taken in sequence or individually. This sequence meets the general education requirement in civilization studies.* This is a three-quarter sequence on the civilizations of China, Japan, and Korea, with emphasis on major transformation in these cultures and societies from the Middle Ages to the present. *Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

14601. Chinese Martial Arts Cinema. *M. Yip. Winter.*

14602. Transnational Chinese Cinemas. *M. Yip. Spring.*

16100. Art of Asia: China. (=ARTH 16507) This course introduces key monuments in Chinese art, with a focus on Chinese painting from the pre-modern eras. We survey a range of image-making traditions (e.g., paintings found on tomb walls and Buddhist cave temples, court-sponsored palatial works, the elite art of the literati class). Visual analysis is further elucidated through considering major interpretive approaches that are current in modern art historical studies (e.g., by evaluating aesthetic theories against pictorial conventions, surviving works on silk or paper in conjunction with archaeological findings, artistic production in light of social and political contexts). *P. Foong. Autumn.*

21500. Autobiography: From the Ancients to Rousseau. (=CMLT 28901, HUMA 28901) Scholars have long associated the genre of autobiography with the rise of the modern Western subject and treated Rousseau's *Confessions* as the first true autobiography. This course questions the validity of these claims and argues for a wider definition of the genre. By examining a range of personal narratives from the pre-modern period, representing cultures both East and West, we investigate what motivates people to write about themselves. Authors include Li Qingzhao, St. Augustine, Sei Shonagon, Villon, and Rousseau. All texts read in English; students with reading knowledge of relevant languages (i.e., Chinese, French, Japanese, Latin) encouraged to read passages in the original languages. *R. Handler-Spitz. Spring.*

23207. Classics of Chinese Religious Literature. This course is intended to introduce students to the great breadth of Chinese religious literature, particularly its Daoist and Buddhist varieties, through close and careful reading of some of its great books. We read four or five major texts in their entirety, as well as selections from other texts, against the background of religious doctrine and cultural history. But our focus is on the texts themselves, rather than trying to understand them as exemplars of a certain "religion." Texts in English. *P. Copp. Autumn.*

24305. Autobiographical Writings, Gender, and Modern Korea. (=GNDR 25300) This course explores the relationship between gender, the genre of autobiography, and Korea's historical contexts. Focus is placed on self-representation, fictionalization, and the conditions of self-writing. *K.-H. Choi. Spring.*

24707. Japanese Revolutionary Literature in World Historical Context. *PQ: Reading knowledge of Japanese or consent of instructor.* This course is a reading of the genre commonly known as Japanese proletarian literature of the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. Given that this literature was produced in the wake of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 in the context of an international excitement about the possibility of revolutionary change elsewhere, we look at historical analyses and other forms of cultural production in Japan and elsewhere. *N. Field. Spring.*

24903/34903. Cinema in Japan: Art and Commerce in a Transnational Medium. (=CMST 24903/34903) *Knowledge of Japanese not required.* This course surveys Japanese cinema from its prehistory to the work of contemporary

transnational *auteurs*. We focus on both aspects of the object of study: Japan and the cinema. A “moment” from the history of Japanese cinema is presented each week along with a methodological issue in film studies brought into focus by it. We pay attention to the masters of Japanese cinema (e.g., Mizoguchi, Ozu, Kurosawa) but also study film in relation to broader cultural movements. Texts in English and the original. *M. Raine. Autumn.*

26300. Medicine in Traditional China. This course is a survey of medical ideas and practices in pre-modern China. Topics include “classical” medical theory, religious and magical medicine, sexology, and longevity practices. *D. Harper. Winter.*

27000. Chinese Drama and Theater: Twelfth to Twentieth Centuries. This course studies texts and performances (the latter through filmed stage performances and contemporary movies) of Chinese drama and theater. We study the traditional theatrical forms (e.g., Variety Plays [*zaju*] and Southern Plays [*nanxi*]), twentieth-century revolutionary Model Operas (*yangban xi*), and the post-modern (re)production of ancient Chinese plays in and for a global market. All texts available in English, but readings in the original Chinese offered to interested students and incorporated into class when appropriate. *Y. He. Autumn.*

27105. Issues in East Asian Civilizations. *Required of students who are majoring in EALC.* This seminar examines the ways in which people of East Asia have produced, appreciated, and preserved texts in a broad sense. By linking issues related to texts to notions of body, we explore intellectual and textual production through the different sociohistorical relationships among materials, humans, and institutions. Input is received from various EALC faculty members. *K.-H. Choi. Winter.*

27450/37450. Silk Road Fictions. (=CMLT 29001/39001, ENGL 16181/36181) Who first idealized the Silk Road as a crossing of peoples, ideas, and cultural traditions between East and West—and why? This course explores the relations between literary form and cross-cultural history through a range of genres from Tang dynasty poetry to post-colonial detective novel to Japanese anime. Readings include the epic Chinese novel *Journey to the West*; *The Greek Alexander Romance* and its Persian rewritings; *The Travels of Marco Polo*; Kipling’s *Kim*; Norbu’s *The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes*; and poems, music, and essays by Bei Dao, Yo-Yo Ma, Salman Rushdie, and Wole Soyinka. *T. Chin. Spring.*

27605. Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Beyond. (=HMRT 25400) *Knowledge of Japanese not required.* This course considers the history of Hiroshima and Nagasaki through literature, film, photo essays, and nonfiction writing. We grapple with the shifting understanding of the bomb and continued nuclear testing both within and without Japan during the cold war and beyond. We also study what many consider the current and ongoing form of nuclear war in the deployment of depleted uranium. *N. Field. Spring.*

29500-29600-29700. Senior Thesis Tutorial I, II, III. *PQ: Consent of EALC Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students are required to submit the College Reading and Research Course Form. One quarter of this sequence may be counted for credit in the major. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

Courses: Languages

Chinese (CHIN)

10100-10200-10300. Elementary Modern Chinese I, II, III. *Must be taken for a quality grade. No auditors permitted. Two sections.* This three-quarter sequence introduces the fundamentals of modern Chinese. By the end of Spring Quarter, students should have a basic knowledge of Chinese grammar and vocabulary. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing are equally emphasized. Accurate pronunciation is also stressed. In Spring Quarter, students are required to submit a video project for the Chinese Video Project Award. *Class meets for five one-hour sessions each week. A drill session with the T.A. is one hour each week in addition to scheduled class time. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

11100-11200-11300. First-Year Chinese for Bilingual Speakers I, II, III. *Must be taken for a quality grade.* This three-quarter series is designed for bilingual speakers of Chinese. Our objectives include teaching students standard pronunciation and basic skills in reading and writing, while broadening their communication skills for a wider range of contexts and functions. *Class meets for three one-hour sessions each week. Students unsure of whether they should register for this course are strongly encouraged to contact the instructor. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

20100-20200-20300. Intermediate Modern Chinese I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 10300 or placement. Must be taken for a quality grade. No auditors permitted. Two sections.* This sequence aims to enhance students' reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills by dealing with topics at an intermediate linguistic level. In addition to mastering the content of the textbook, students are required to complete two language projects each quarter. Chinese computing skills are also taught. *Class meets for five one-hour sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

20800-20900-21000. Elementary Literary Chinese I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 20300 or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a quality grade.* This course introduces students to the basic grammar of the written Chinese language from the time of the Confucian *Analects* to the literary movements at the beginning of the twentieth century. Students read original texts of various genres, including philosophy, memorials, poetry, historical narratives, and commentary. *Class meets for two eighty-minute sessions each week. Staff, Autumn; Staff, Winter; D. Harper, Spring.*

21133-21200-21300. Accelerated Modern Chinese for Bilingual Speakers I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 11300 or placement.* This three-quarter sequence offers texts from both Intermediate Modern Chinese (CHIN 20100-20200-20300)

and Advanced Modern Chinese (30100-30200-30300). By the end of Spring Quarter, students receive credits for both levels. The goal of this sequence is to help bilingual students further develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Extensive reading is encouraged, and writing is strongly emphasized. *Class meets for five one-hour sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

24500/34500. Reading Qing Documents. (=HIST 24500/34500) This course is a reading and discussion of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century historical political documents, including such forms as memorials, decrees, local gazetteers, diplomatic communications, and essays. *G. Alitto. Winter.*

30100-30200-30300. Advanced Modern Chinese I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 20300 or placement.* The goal of this sequence is to help students develop advanced proficiency in reading, listening, speaking, and writing. This sequence emphasizes more advanced grammatical structures. We begin with discussion in Chinese on topics relevant to modern China and then shift to authentic Chinese texts in an effort to better prepare students to deal with original Chinese source materials. Discussion in Chinese required. *Class meets for five one-hour sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

31100-31200-31300. Business Chinese I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 20300 or placement.* This three-quarter sequence aims at improving overall language skills and introduces business terminology. Students learn about companies and their services and/or products, the stock market, real estate market, insurance, and e-commerce. *Class meets for three ninety-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

40800-40900-41000. Readings in Literary Chinese I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 21000 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.* This course involves advanced readings in classical Chinese with selections from philosophical and historical writings. *Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

41100-41200-41300. Fourth-Year Modern Chinese I, II, III. *PQ: CHIN 30300 or placement.* This sequence introduces a range of influential literary works and scholarly essays on Chinese cultural and social issues from the 1920s to the 1990s. Students not only expand their vocabulary and knowledge of grammatical structures but also learn sophisticated speaking and writing skills through intensive readings and discussions. *Class meets for three one-hour sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

Japanese (JAPN)

10100-10200-10300. Elementary Modern Japanese I, II, III. *Must be taken for a quality grade. No auditors permitted.* This is the first year of a three-year program designed to provide students with a thorough grounding in modern Japanese. Grammar, idiomatic expressions, and vocabulary are learned through oral work, reading, and writing in and out of class. Daily practice in speaking,

listening, reading, and writing is crucial. Students should plan to continue their language study through at least the second-year level to make their skills practical. *Class meets for five fifty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

20100-20200-20300. Intermediate Modern Japanese I, II, III. *PQ: JAPN 10300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a quality grade. No auditors permitted.* The emphasis on spoken language in the first half of the course gradually shifts toward reading and writing in the latter half. Classes conducted mostly in Japanese. *Class meets for five fifty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

21200-21300. Intermediate Modern Japanese through “Japanimation” I, II. *PQ: JAPN 20100 or consent of instructor.* This course focuses on learning spoken Japanese that is aimed at native speakers. Our goals are to get students accustomed to that sort of authentic Japanese and to enable them to speak with high fluency. To keep the balance, writing and reading materials are provided. Students are encouraged to watch videos and practice their speaking. *Winter, Spring.*

30100-30200-30300. Advanced Modern Japanese I, II, III. *PQ: JAPN 20300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a quality grade.* The third year marks the end of the basic modern language study. The purpose of the course is to help students learn to understand authentic written and spoken materials with reasonable ease. The texts are all authentic materials with some study aids. Classes conducted in Japanese. *Class meets for three eighty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

30800-30900-31000. Reading Scholarly Japanese I, II, III. *PQ: JAPN 20300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.* This course focuses on the reading of scholarly Japanese materials with the goal of enabling students to do independent research in Japanese after the course’s completion. The materials are selected from a wide range of disciplines covering the past three centuries. *Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

40500-40600-40700. Fourth-Year Modern Japanese I, II, III. *PQ: JAPN 30300 or equivalent.* This course is designed to improve Japanese reading, speaking, writing, and listening ability to the advanced high level as measured by the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Proficiency Guidelines. Weekly assignments require students to tackle modern Japanese texts of varying length and difficulty. Organized around a range of thought-provoking themes (from brain death and organ transplants to Japanese values on work and religion), reading assignments include academic theses in psychology and anthropology, literary texts, and popular journalism. After each reading, students are encouraged to discuss the topic in class. Videos/DVDs are used to improve listening comprehension skills. There are also writing assignments. *Class meets for two eighty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

Korean (KORE)

10100-10200-10300. Introduction to the Korean Language I, II, III. *PQ: Consent of instructor. Must be taken for a quality grade.* This introductory course is designed to provide beginners with a solid foundation in modern Korean focusing on the balanced development of the four basic language skills of speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing. Along with basic conversational and grammatical patterns, the course introduces students to Korean culture through various channels (e.g., Korean movies, music, and other cultural activities). *Class meets for five fifty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

20100-20200-20300. Intermediate Korean I, II, III. *PQ: KORE 10300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a quality grade.* As a continuation of KORE 10100-10200-10300, this course is designed to help students increase their communication skills (both oral and written) in the Korean language. Through an integrated framework of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, this course aims to increase fluency and accuracy in Korean. Videotapes and additional reading materials are used in a supplementary fashion and approximately one hundred Chinese characters are introduced for the achievement of basic literacy. Classes conducted mostly in Korean. *Class meets for five fifty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

30100-30200-30300. Advanced Korean I, II, III. *PQ: KORE 20300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor. Must be taken for a quality grade.* This course introduces readings of a wide selection of written styles (e.g., journalistic pieces, college-level textbooks, literary prose). The class focuses on the exercises of reading comprehension and discussions on various topics/issues related to contemporary Korea. Some audio and videotapes (e.g., televised news programs, movies, dramas) are used to improve the students' capacity in advanced Korean. Classes conducted in Korean. *Class meets for two eighty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*

40100-40200-40300. Readings in Korean Culture, Politics, and Society I, II, III. *PQ: KORE 30300 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.* The aim of this course is to allow advanced students to improve their comprehension of readings selected from various sources (e.g., newspapers, contemporary journal articles, literary works) that cover topics of Korean culture, politics, and society. These reading materials serve as the foundation for classroom activities and outside projects, which bring both conversation skills and writing ability to a more advanced level. *Class meets for three eighty-minute sessions each week. Autumn, Winter, Spring.*