

California State University, Long Beach 2025-2026 Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog

Courses

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Asian Studies

Note: General Education Category A must be completed prior to taking any upper-division course except upper-division language courses where students meet formal prerequisites and/or competency equivalent for advanced study.

A/ST 190 - Introduction to Eastern Ways of Thinking

(3 units)

Explores how reasoning in Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism compares with traditional Western concepts of logic.

Both grading options.

A/ST 200 - Popular Culture in East Asia

(3 units)

Introduction to popular culture in East Asia (such as television dramas, music, films, and comics) and how it is shaped by, reflects, and in turn shapes broader social, cultural, political, and economic processes in Asia and the wider world.

Letter grade only (A-F).

A/ST 290 - Selected Topics in Asian Studies

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Topics of special interest in Asian Studies selected for intensive study.

Both grading options. May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units with different topics. Topics announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

A/ST 299 - Directed Studies

(1-3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Directed studies to permit individual students to pursue topics of special research interest.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units.

A/ST 306 - Traditional Asia

(3 units)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation complete or sophomore standing for UD GE.

An interdisciplinary examination of the traditional civilizations of Asia focusing on the transfer of culture and technology along the Spice Route, Silk and Tea Roads linking the region to the wider world prior to 1500 CE.

Both grading options. Not open to students with credit in Asian Studies 300I.

A/ST 307 - Modern Asia

(3 units)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation complete or sophomore standing for UD GE

An interdisciplinary examination of cultural change and globalization of Asia through the exchange of ideas, commodities, and technology since 1500 CE.

Both grading options. Not open to students with credit in Asian Studies 301I.

A/ST 309 - Asia and Globalization

(3 units)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation complete or sophomore standing for UD GE.

A comparative analysis of the political and economic systems of Asia, with a focus on East Asian sphere of influence and its contribution to globalization.

Letter grade only (A-F).

A/ST 311 - Statistics and Asian Societies

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): GE Foundation complete or sophomore standing for UD GE

Introduction to statistical analysis and information literacy specific to the field of Asian Studies.

Both grading options. May be repeated to a maximum of 3 units in different semesters.

A/ST 315 - Modern Korea

(3 units)

Prerequisite: GE Foundation complete or sophomore standing for UD GE

An interdisciplinary examination of major historical, political, social, and cultural themes and changes in the Korean peninsula since the early 20th century.

Both grading options. (3 hours lecture/discussion)

A/ST 320 - Asian Films: Culture and Identity

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Students must have scored 11 or higher on the GVAR Placement Examination or completed the necessary portfolio course that is a prerequisite for a GVAR Writing Intensive course. **(Note: The preceding prerequisite statement related to GVAR is temporarily suspended effective Summer 2025.)**

Introduces a comparative study of the historical and cultural context of Asian films or documentaries and how they represent and influence changes in individual, national and global identities.

Letter grade only (A-F).

A/ST 327 - South Asian Studies: Contexts and Challenges

(3 units)

This course introduces students to the wide scope of scholarly debates and research on South Asia. Topics include colonialism, decolonization, and nationalism; religion and violence; alternate regional formations; migration and labor; the circulation of caste, gender, and sexuality.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as I/ST 327. Not repeatable for credit.

A/ST 336 - Politics and Literature in Southeast Asia

(3 units)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation requirements, one or more Explorations courses, and upper-division standing.

Prerequisites: Students must have scored 11 or higher on the GVAR Placement Examination or completed the necessary portfolio course that is a prerequisite for a GVAR Writing Intensive

Capstone. (Note: The preceding prerequisite statement related to GWAR is temporarily suspended effective Summer 2025.)

The course introduces the historical background and political context of Southeast Asian modern literature during the twentieth century.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to 6 units in different semesters

A/ST 393 - Japan: Continuities and Transformations

(3 units)

Prerequisites: GE Foundation complete or sophomore standing for UD GE

Introduction to the cultural legacies of Japan's historical development, including the emergence of social classes and contacts with other cultures, as evidenced in religion, visual and performing arts.

Letter grade only (A-F). Lecture 3 hours, or blended learning.

A/ST 428 - Korean Cinema

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): Completion of GE Foundation courses with "C" or better. Junior or Senior standing.

This course surveys Korean cinema's historical development with notable trends, issues, and directors in the national, transnational, and global frames of world cinema.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as [CINE 428](#)

. Not repeatable for credit. Not open to credit for students with credit in FEA 428 or CINE 428.

A/ST 429 - Japanese Cinema

(3 unit)

Prerequisite(s): Completion of GE Foundation courses with "C" or better. Junior or Senior standing

This course surveys Japanese cinema's historical development with select genres and filmmakers in the frame of social, cultural, economic, and political events and changes.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as [CINE 429](#)

. Not open to credit for students with credit in FEA 429 or CINE 429.

A/ST 462 - East Asian Cinemas

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Completion of GE Foundation requirements; upper-division standing.

Historical and critical examination of cinemas of China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as FEA/ [CINE 462](#)

. Not repeatable for credit. Not open to credit for students with credit in FEA 462 or [CINE 462](#)

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A/ST 463 - Southeast Asian Cinemas

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): Completion of GE Foundation requirements; upper-division standing

Historical and critical examination of cinemas of Southeast Asia.

Letter grade only (A-F). Same course as FEA/ [CINE 463](#)

. Not repeatable for credit. Not open to credit for students with credit in FEA 463 or [CINE 463](#)

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A/ST 490 - Selected Topics in Asian Studies

(1-5 units)

Topics of special interest in Asian Studies selected for intensive study.

Both grading options. May be repeated to a maximum of 10 units with different topics in different semesters. Topics announced in the *Schedule of Classes*.

A/ST 499 - Directed Studies

(1-3 units)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Directed studies to permit individual students to pursue topics of special research interest.

Letter grade only (AF). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units.

A/ST 600 - Asian Studies and Languages: Research and Methodologies

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Asian Studies or consent of instructor.

This course introduces the current trends in research for Asian Studies and languages. It also examines the basic qualitative and quantitative research methods for the disciplines associated with these fields. It requires the development of a concept for the culminating project in [A/ST 697](#).

Letter grade only (A-F).

A/ST 620 - Comparative Traditional Cultures of Asia

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate standing in Asian Studies or consent of instructor

A comparative analysis of traditional Asian cultures-religion and values, social class and caste, family structure and gender roles, political organization and economics-and how these have either changed or still influence opportunities in contemporary Asia.

Letter grade only (A-F).

A/ST 630 - Asia and Globalization

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): Graduate standing in Asian Studies or consent of instructor.

This course focuses on an analysis of the economic and cultural impact of the inter-regional trade zone (ASEAN) being established in Asia as well as the cultural, social, and economic consequences and trends of globalization on various Asian countries.

Letter grade only (A-F).

A/ST 692 - Directed Research for Comprehensive Examination

(3 units)

Prerequisite: Graduate Standing and Consent of Instructor

Directed Research under the supervision of a faculty member in preparation of an MA student's Comprehensive Examination.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated to a maximum of 6 units in different semesters. In certain cases, this course may be substituted for [A/ST 697](#) with consent of the graduate advisor.

A/ST 695 - Directed Readings

(1-6 units)

Prerequisites: Graduate standing in Asian Studies and consent of graduate advisor.

Directed studies to permit individual students to pursue topics of special interest in Asian Studies.

Letter grade only (A-F). May be repeated for a maximum of 6 units in different semesters.

A/ST 697 - Research Capstone and Practicum

(3 units)

Prerequisite(s): [A/ST 600](#)

; [A/ST 620](#)

or [A/ST 630](#)

; consent of graduate advisor

This course prepares the MA student for the presentation of his or her culminating project at the end of this course and for academic conferences. It also informs students about the publication process for scholarly journals and ensures that their culminating project is academically rigorous. It guides the student in job searches and prepares the student for interviews across professional fields.

Letter grade only (A-F).