

East Asian Languages and Literatures

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The major in East Asian Languages and Literatures provides rigorous training in the study of East Asian languages, literatures, cultures, and thought from ancient times through the present, with a strong focus on the reading and analysis of texts, theater, film, and other forms of media. Students select either the Chinese, Japanese, or Korean concentration but are encouraged to take courses across geographical regions to become familiar with East Asian literary culture more broadly. The major is excellent preparation for careers including law, business, academia, foreign service, translation, and journalism that demand advanced linguistic proficiency and analytical sophistication. East Asian Languages and Literatures graduates have gone on to careers in law, business, academia, medicine, film, translation, teaching, and diplomacy.

COURSES FOR NONMAJORS

All courses offered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures are open to nonmajors.

COURSE NUMBERING

Language courses use the subject codes CHNS, JAPN, or KREN. Multiple-titled courses that include CHNS, JAPN, or KREN subject codes and are numbered 2000–2999 are taught in English with some sections taught in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean. Courses with the subject code EALL are content courses whose focus is critical and humanistic; those numbered 2000–2999 are introductory, and those numbered 3000–3999 are advanced. Courses numbered EALL 0001–0099 are First-Year Seminars with topics on East Asian literature, film, and humanities.

PREREQUISITE

Candidates for the major must complete CHNS 1400, JAPN 1400, KREN 1400, or the equivalent.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Students who enroll in the department's language courses for the first time but who have studied Chinese, Japanese, or Korean elsewhere, and students who have skills in one of these languages because of family background, must take a placement examination before the beginning of the academic year. These exams can be accessed via the department website and must be completed before the end of July. Students of Japanese, Chinese, and Korean languages, returning from programs abroad, must take a placement examination, unless the coursework was completed at an institution pre-approved by the Richard U. Light Fellowship program. For questions, consult with the director of undergraduate studies (DUS).

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Students are held to the requirements that were in place when they declared their major. However, with approval from the director of undergraduate studies (DUS), the following requirements, updated for the academic year 2024–2025, may be fulfilled by students who declared the major in a prior term. A Korean concentration was added to the Chinese and Japanese concentrations.

The major consists of at least eleven term courses beyond the prerequisite. Students must take two terms of advanced modern Chinese (CHNS 1500 and 1510 or equivalents), advanced Japanese (JAPN 1500 and 1510 or equivalents), or advanced Korean (KREN 1500 and 1510 or equivalents) as well as one term of literary Chinese (CHNS 1700), literary Japanese (JAPN 1700), or Introduction to Hanja (KREN 1700). Students also take a survey course in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, or East Asian history and culture, preferably early in their studies. Three courses are required in literature in translation, taught in English, selected from EALL 2000–3999; one must be focused primarily on premodern content. These three may include courses on theater and film. In addition, three advanced courses with readings in literary or modern Chinese, Japanese, and/or Korean are required.

Credit/D/Fail No more than one course taken Credit/D/Fail may be applied toward the requirements of the major, with permission of the DUS.

Outside credit Courses taken at another institution or during an approved summer or term-time study abroad program may count toward the major requirements with DUS approval.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

Students prepare a one-term senior essay in EALL 4910 or a yearlong senior essay in EALL 4920 and 4930. Those who elect a yearlong essay effectively commit to taking twelve term courses in the major, because the second term of the essay may not be substituted for any of the eleven required courses.

STUDY ABROAD

Students are encouraged to study abroad. Interested students should consult with the DUS and with the office of the Richard U. Light Fellowship to apply for support for programs in China, Japan, and Korea.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite CHNS 1400, JAPN 1400, KREN 1400, or equivalent

Number of courses 11 courses (incl one-term senior essay) or 12 courses (incl yearlong senior essay) beyond prerequisite

Specific courses required *Chinese concentration*—CHNS 1500, 1510 or equivalents, and 1700; *Japanese concentration*—JAPN 1500, 1510 or equivalents, and 1700; *Korean concentration*—KREN 1500, 1510 or equivalents, and 1700

Distribution of courses 1 survey course in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, or East Asian history and culture; 3 courses in literature in translation numbered EALL 2000–3999, one of them premodern; 3 adv courses with readings in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean

Senior requirement One-term senior essay (EALL 4910) or yearlong senior essay (EALL 4920, 4930)

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED LANGUAGE STUDY

The Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures offers a Certificate of Advanced Language Study in Chinese, Korean, and Japanese. A certificate adviser, typically the director of undergraduate studies (DUS), advises students on the

certification process. The Certificate of Advanced Language Study, once certified, is listed on the student's transcript.

REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking to earn the certificate are required to take four courses beyond the L4 level in their chosen language, at least two of which must be Yale courses designated as L5. (Courses conducted in English, such as CHNS 1700 and 1710, JAPN 1700 and 1710, and KREN 1700 do not count.) All courses must be taken for a letter grade, and students must achieve a grade of B or above. With the approval of the certificate adviser, one advanced non-L5 course, conducted in the target language, such as an independent study course (graded pass/fail), a graduate seminar, or an advanced seminar may count toward certification requirements.

The certificate adviser may allow one “language across the curriculum” (LxC) course taught in English to count toward the certification requirements provided the course includes at a minimum a weekly discussion section conducted entirely in the target language. The discussion section must enroll a minimum of three students and the course must be designated as LxC in the course description.

The certificate adviser may also approve the substitution of up to two credits earned during study abroad and taught in the target language to count toward the certificate requirements. If the adviser approves courses taken outside of Yale for inclusion in the certificate requirements, students must take the necessary steps to ensure those courses appear on their transcript.

Credit/D/Fail No courses taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the requirements of the certificate.

Declaration of Candidacy

Students must declare their intention to earn a Certificate on the *Declare Major, Concentration within the Major, Certificate* page on Yale Hub, as early as possible, but at the very latest, by the 15th of January or September in their last semester at Yale. Once declared, Degree Audit tracks students' progress toward completion of the certificate.

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Professors Aaron Gerow (*Chair*), Tina Lu, Jing Tsu

Associate Professors Lucas Bender, Michael Hunter, Hwansoo Kim

Assistant Professors Kyunghye Eo, Rosa van Hensbergen, Yoshitaka Yamamoto

Senior Lecturer Pauline Lin

Senior Lectors II Angela Lee-Smith, Rongzhen Li, Ninghui Liang, Hiroyo Nishimura, Peisong Xu

Senior Lectors Hsiu-hsien Chan, Min Chen, Boo Kyung Jung, Fan Liu, Jianhua Shen, Wei Su, Chuanmei Sun, Haiwen Wang, Yu-lin Wang Saussy, Mika Yamaguchi, Yongtao Zhang, William Zhou

Lectors Jingjing Ao, Seunghee Back, Hye Seong Kim, Hyun Sung Lim, Saori Nozaki,
Yuki Sakomura