Reach Us

EAST ASIAN STUDIES MAJOR 
AND LANGUAGE MINORS

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EAS Course Highlights 2023-2024

Fall Semester
EAS 216 Writing and Culture of Premodern Korea
EAS 225 Japanese Society and Culture
HUM/EAS 233 East Asian Humanities I: The Classical Foundations
TRA/EAS 304 Translating East Asia
HIS/EAS 472 Medicine and Society in China: Past and Present

Spring Semester
EAS 219 Japanese Literature to 1800: The Major Texts
EAS 232 Introduction to Chinese Literature
HUM/EAS 234 East Asian Humanities II: Traditions and Transformations

Cross-disciplinary
EAS coursework crosses boundaries into literature, history, anthropology, media, and cultural studies

Associated with
Princeton in Beijing
Princeton in Ishikawa
Princeton in Korea
East Asian Library and Gest Collection
Humanities Council
Center for Digital Humanities

Updated August 30, 2023
EAST ASIAN STUDIES DEPARTMENT MAJORS

PREREQUISITES
One year in an East Asian Language (Chinese, Japanese, Korean)
One 200-level or higher EAS course

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
Proficiency through the third year (at least two courses at or above 300-level) in one East Asian language.

REQUIREMENTS
Eight departmental courses, which must satisfy the following requirements:

Six EAS-prefix courses including:
- Junior Seminar (EAS 300) as an introductory methods survey course
- At least one course on premodern East Asia
- Two of the following transnational courses:
  - History of East Asia to 1800 (HIS/EAS 207)
  - East Asia since 1800 (HIS/EAS 208)
  - East Asian Humanities I (HUM/EAS/COM 233)
  - East Asian Humanities II (HUM/EAS/COM 234)
  - Contemporary East Asia (EAS 229)

Two additional courses, which may be:
- EAS courses including cross listed courses
- Cognate courses approved by the DUS
- Language courses at or above the 300 level (after the three-year proficiency is fulfilled)
- Any second East Asian language course

A single course may not be used to satisfy two requirements, with the exception of HIS 207 and HUM 233. Either course may be used to satisfy both the premodern and transnational requirements, however, the course will only count towards one of the six required EAS-prefix departmentals.

INDEPENDENT WORK
Independent work consists of two junior papers (one in the fall and one in the spring) and the senior thesis (including an oral defense).

FULL DESCRIPTION
eas.princeton.edu/undergraduate/major

CHINESE, JAPANESE, & KOREAN LANGUAGE MINORS

REQUIREMENTS
Six language courses, two or more of which must be beyond the second-year level. PIB, PII, and PIK count as the equivalent of one year of language instruction towards the minor.

One or more East Asian studies or cognate courses in linguistics, religion, history, or anthropology.

A substantial research paper (20-25 pages), based at least in part on Chinese, Japanese, or Korean sources dealing with aspects of East Asia, with a topic in the humanities and social sciences.

The paper can be an independent work, a junior paper, or a senior thesis. If such a junior paper or senior thesis is written for another department, at least half of the work must be on an East Asia topic. The use of East Asian language sources is required.

FULL DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION
eas.princeton.edu/undergraduate/language-minors

Nothing is so new as the world you do not know. The study of East Asian history, languages and cultures reveals empires, beliefs and societies that transcend your imagination.

Professor Thomas Conlan
Medieval Japanese History

I believe that the study of East Asia is tantamount to an exercise in difference. It helps us familiarize ourselves with the unfamiliar and defamiliarize the familiar. It helps us accept difference, without eliminating, domesticating, or exoticizing it. It helps us understand that we are other.

Professor Federico Marcon
Early-Modern Japanese History

EAST ASIAN STUDIES MINOR

Administered by the Program in East Asian Studies

REQUIREMENTS
Students must complete seven one-term courses in East Asian Studies to earn the minor. At least two of these must be language courses at the second-year level or higher; no more than four of the seven courses may be language courses. PIB, PII and PIK count as the equivalent of one year of language instruction towards the minor.

Completion of at least one 200-level East Asian Studies content course is required. All content and language courses cross-listed in the EAS Department can count towards minor. Any other courses, including those abroad, need to be approved by the program director.

A substantial research paper, which may be a senior thesis, a junior paper, or independent written work (min. 20 pages) on an East Asian topic. The use of East Asian language sources is strongly encouraged.

FULL DESCRIPTION AND ELIGIBILITY
eap.princeton.edu/program-certificate