

# 2015 Spring Course Offerings

## Asian Studies

Director: Professor Kiri Lee



Major and minor declaration forms are available in the Office of Interdisciplinary Programs, Maginnes 490

**ASIA, MLL, HIST 076-10 Understanding Contemporary China CRN 19316 4 credits (SS)**

An overview of recent history, politics, economy, religion, problems of modernization, popular culture, and attitudes. Contemporary Chinese society viewed against the backdrop of tradition and the tumultuous history of twentieth-century China.

**Professor Pankenier** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

**ASIA, MLL, HIST 097-10 Introduction to Traditional Crafts & Technologies in China CRN 18719 4 credits (HU)**

Through the study of traditional architecture, textiles, paper-making, and metallurgy that developed over thousands of years of Chinese history, students will explore a few key Chinese technologies that expanded later by sea or overland (the Silk Road) into other regions in Asia and elsewhere. Students will also be encouraged to explore other Chinese inventions such as gunpowder and the compass, as part of individual projects. **Professor Wang** M,W; 12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

**ASIA, MLL 098-10 Japanese Storytellers: from Anime to Mythology CRN 18319 4 credits (HU)**

An introductory survey of Japanese stories and their adaptations in various media such as print, film, TV, and internet. Our "texts" include ancient Japanese creation myth, fairytale, medieval war tale, ghost stories, novels, manga (comics), anime films, and more. No prerequisites. Taught in English. **Professor Taniguchi** W,F; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

**ASIA, SSP 114-10 Social Issues in Contemporary China CRN 17413 4 credits (SS)**

Dramatic economic, cultural and social changes are underway in China today and have aroused much debate among social scientists East and West. The following social issues are critical for understanding China's development trajectory: in equality and poverty; rapid demographic shifts; provision of health care services; provision of education services; and becoming an "information society." We will explore how these issues intersect with old hierarchies in China, urban-rural differences, and gender differences.

**Professor Zhang** T,TR; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

**ASIA, REL, GCP 145-10 Islam and the Modern World CRN 19407 4 credits (HU)**

Examines how numerous Muslim thinkers, religious scholars, modernists, and Islamists have responded to the changes and challenges of the colonial and postcolonial eras. Special emphasis is placed on the public debates over Islamic authority and authenticity in contemporary South Asia. **Professor Hussain** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

**ASIA, IR 161-10 US-China Relations CRN 19447 4 credits (SS)**

Introduction and analysis of the historical context and key aspects of contemporary US-China relations: Korean War, Vietnam War, and US containment; rapprochement and diplomatic normalization; American arms sale and the Taiwan controversy; conflict and cooperation in Korean Peninsular; economic interdependence and frictions; human rights, climate change, and cybersecurity; security relations; response to regional disputes. (*prerequisites IR 10 or IR 61*) **Professor He** M,W; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

**ASIA, ENG 196-10 Asian Americans in Literature and Popular Culture CRN 19204 4 credits (HU)**

Asian Americans are often left out of conversations about race and ethnicity in American life. But this group of immigrant communities play an increasingly important -- and sometimes pivotal -- role in American cultural life. This course begins with a brief consideration of the history of Asian immigration in the early 20th century, including the Asian Exclusion Act and its subsequent reversal in the Civil Rights era. We move on to key works of literature by authors from Japanese-American, Chinese-American, Korean-American, Filipino-American and Indian-American backgrounds. The final third of the course will explore the growing role of Asian-American performers in American popular culture, including film, television, and popular music.

**Professor Singh** T,TR; 10:45 - 12:00 p.m.

**ASIA, PHIL 198-10 Zen and the Art of the Everyday: Japanese Aesthetics CRN 18547 4 credits (HU)**

The Japanese conception of beauty is strikingly different to our own: it is associated with impermanence, imperfection, and austerity. Moreover, an attention to beauty seems to pervade even the most everyday of activities in Japan, such as wrapping purchases at the dollar store or putting out garbage. In this course we will explore the principles that guide the Japanese aesthetic sensibility with a particular eye to its expression in Japanese literature, film, and various of the traditional arts, such as the tea ceremony and gardening, amongst still others. **Professor Bliss** M,W, F; 1:10 – 2:00 p.m.

**ASIA, POLS, GS 201-10 Democracy and Dictatorship in South Asia CRN 18602 4 credits (SS)**

Theories of democracy and democratization explored in the South Asian context. Relationship of democracy to economic development and identity considered. How do historical legacies and conflict shape contemporary outcomes?

**Professor Deo** T,TR; 1:10 - 2:25 p.m.

**ASIA, REL 247-10 Islamic Mysticism CRN 17822 4 credits (HU) (Writing Intensive)**

Sufism, the inner or 'mystical' dimension of Islam, has deep historical roots and diverse expressions throughout the Muslim world. Students examine Sufi doctrine and ritual, the master-disciple relationship, and the tradition's impact on art and music, poetry and prose **Professor Rozehnal** T,TR; 2:35 - 3:50 p.m.

**ASIA 361-10 Internship in Asian Studies CRN 15002 1-4 credits (HU/SS depending on focus)**

Instructor permission required.

**ASIA, IR 364-10 Chinese Foreign Policy CRN 19449 4 credits (SS)**

Theory and research oriented seminar focusing on the sources of Chinese foreign policy preferences and goals, foreign policy decisionmaking process; international implications of the rise of China, and pressing regional and global issues that China is facing now and in the future. Substantial research paper on topic of student's own choice is required. Department approval required.

(prerequisites IR 10 and IR 61) **Professor He** M,W; 11:10 - 12:25 p.m.

**ASIA 371-10 Advanced Readings in Asian Studies CRN 10615 1-4 credits (HU/SS depending on topic)**

Directed course of reading and writing in advanced topic not covered in regular Asian Studies course offerings. May be repeated for credit. Program permission required. **Professor Lee**

**ASIA 381-10 Special Topics in Asian Studies CRN 10627 1-4 credits (HU/SS depending on topic)**

Advanced study of aspects of Asian studies not covered in regular course offerings. Individual faculty supervision. Research paper required. May be repeated for credit. Program permission required. **Professor Lee**

**ASIA 391-10 Senior Seminar in Asian Studies CRN 15001 1-4 credits (HU/SS depending on topic)**

Advanced seminar focusing on discussion and research on specialized subjects in Asian studies. Variable subject matter. Offered by faculty on rotating basis. May be repeated for credit. Program permission required. **Professor Lee**

**ASIA 399-10 Senior Thesis in Asian Studies CRN 10629 1-4 credits (HU/SS depending on topic)**

Advanced, individual research project on topic agreed between faculty and student. Research paper and oral defense required. May be repeated for credit. Open to Asian studies majors only. Program permission required. **Professor Lee**