

East Asian Studies Undergraduate Course List for Spring 2026 **As of 11/14/2025**

Some of the information contained here may have changed since the time of publication. Always check with the department under which the course is listed, or on Yale University Course Search found at <https://courses.yale.edu/> to see whether the courses you are interested in are still being offered and that the times have not changed.

Courses not listed here may also apply to the major with permission of the DUS. The final paper in the course must be on East Asia. Please contact the DUS or Registrar if you have questions.

ANTHROPOLOGY & ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

ANTH 3820b	Contemporary China through Ethnography and Film	Yukiko Koga
Seminar, Pre-Modern		
T 1.30-3.20		

This course introduces students to contemporary China through ethnography and film. Global political economic forces are dramatically reshaping the Chinese landscape—by the end of next decade more than half of its 1.3 billion people will live in cities. The China of today is unfolding within these cities, where generational change and social disparities are sharpened, new consumption patterns and identities take shape, and conflicts among the city-dwellers, nouveau riche, and labor migrants play out. The ethnographic texts and films in this course capture how these changes are experienced in everyday life. We examine the lure and disillusionment of “modern life,” a buzzword in today’s China, and how the major socio-economic and cultural transformations of the present relate to the past. *Instructor permission required.*

ANTH 4101b/ARCG 4101b	Archaeological Plant Remains from East Asia and Beyond	Xuexiang Chen
EAST 4101b		
Seminar, Pre-Modern		
T,Th 9.00-10.15		

Archaeology asks who we are, and how did humanity get to where it is today. This course explores the subfield of archaeobotany that is dedicated to understanding the same questions through the analysis of plant remains from archaeological sites. Students gain foundational knowledge of archaeobotanical methods, the kinds of plant remain studied, and key research themes including climate and ecology, subsistence economies, plant domestication and spread, and non-food plant uses. There is a long history of research on archaeological plant remains in East Asia. We examine how ancient peoples interacted with their environments mainly through macro plant evidence, i.e. seeds and fruits. We discuss the social impact of choices people made about different kinds of domesticated and wild plants for foods and for production of objects for daily life. The course also highlights contemporary advancements in theories and methodologies within the discipline, supported by case studies from around the globe, with a particular emphasis on East Asia.

ANTH 4120b/EAST 4120b	Islam and Communist Modernities in Central Asia and Xinjiang	Usmon Boron
Seminar		
MW 1.00-2.15		

In the early 20th century, Central Asia and Xinjiang—two Muslim-majority regions with a shared history—fell under the rule of two communist states, the USSR and China. Both states facilitated the emergence of local nations while launching aggressive secularization policies aimed at suppressing local Islamic beliefs and practices. This course takes a comparative approach to the interwoven trajectories of Islam, nation-building, and secularization in Central Asia and Xinjiang. In so doing, it pursues two overarching objectives. The first is to trace the major historical events that have shaped these regions since the late 19th century. The second is to examine the main theoretical frameworks scholars have employed to better understand these historical transformations. Key conceptual questions explored in this course include: What is nationalism and how did Central Asian nations emerge? What is Islam as an object of scholarly inquiry? What is secularism, and how does it shape and regulate religion? How did Soviet and Chinese secularization campaigns transfigure Islam in Central Asia and Xinjiang? What forces facilitate the ongoing ethnocide of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang?

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

**CPLT 2300b/EALL 2280b/
EAST 3224b/HUMS 2280b**

Seminar, Pre-Modern
MW 9.00-10.15

Imitation and Originality in Japanese Literature

Yoshitaka Yamamoto

Exploration of the creative powers of imitation in Japanese literature and related cultural pursuits, with a focus on the emulation of earlier Chinese and Japanese models by premodern Japanese authors. This seminar makes use of Yale's collections of East Asian manuscripts, printed books, calligraphy, and paintings. Discussions will revolve around enduring themes, such as originality, authenticity, nationalism, and universality. *No knowledge of Japanese or Chinese required.*

**CPLT 2510b/EALL 2650b/
EAST 3221b**

Seminar
Th 9.25-11.15

Japanese Literature After 1970: What Sells?

Luciana Sanga

This course is an introduction to Japanese literature written in the last fifty years, with a focus on women writers. Since the 1970s, Japanese women writers have increasingly appeared on the shelves of international bookshops and on the lists of international prizes. These authors have experimented with multiple genres, from romance to horror, and depicted diverse worlds, from the daily grind of working women to the simple pleasures of eating and cooking. Over the course of a semester, students encounter a new novel each week that introduces them to the world of contemporary Japanese literature. Novels are selected around a different theme each year. This year the class focusses on the circulation of post-1970s Japanese fiction as world literature and the economy of literary prizes. *Instructor permission required.*

CPLT 2535b

Seminar
T 1.30-3.20

Chinese Science Fiction

Jing Tsu

This first-year seminar is an introductory course to modern and contemporary China through the lens of science fiction. We trace the development of science fiction alongside China's social and political changes since the mid-twentieth century. We discuss narratology, transnational influences, the Cold War, China's development, and cultural shifts and conflicts. *All readings are in English.*

**CPLT 2650b/EALL 2560b/
EAST 2221b/GLBL 2251b/
HUMS 2720b**

Lecture
MW 11.35-12.50

China in the World

Jing Tsu

Recent headlines about China in the world, deciphered in both modern and historical contexts. Interpretation of new events and diverse texts through transnational connections. Topics include China's international relations and global footprint, language and script, Chinese America, science and technology, and science fiction. Special topic for AY 2025-2026 with guest speakers: AI, U.S.-China futurism, and tech policy. *Readings and discussion in English.*

**CPLT 3840b/EALL 2520b/
EAST 3220b/FILM 4467b**

Seminar; Screenings T 7.00-10.00 PM
MW 11.35-12.50

Japanese Cinema before 1960

Kristen Seuffret

The history of Japanese cinema to 1960, including the social, cultural, and industrial backgrounds to its development. Periods covered include the silent era, the coming of sound and the wartime period, the occupation era, the golden age of the 1950s, and the new modernism of the late 1950s. *No knowledge of Japanese required.*

COMPUTER SCIENCE

**CPSC 1900b/EAST 2830b/
HIST 2423b**

Lecture
Th 9.25-11.00

**Decentering Computer Science: Transpacific Computing History across
U.S., East Asia, and Beyond**

Yoehan Oh

Escalating conflicts between China, Taiwan, and the U.S. are mediated in part by semiconductor manufacturing and their advanced uses, like artificial intelligence. Inquiries into the transpacific history of computer science (CS) can teach us that these relationships have been much more dynamic than 'Friend or Foe,' and have shaped CS in various ways. When cutting-edge computing capabilities

are at the forefront of national interests, studying CS and U.S.-Asia relations should no longer be separate intellectual tasks, and multi-view perspectives are needed to understand both processes. This course combines lectures with team-based activities to explore the decentered, international history of CS. We focus on the transpacific relations between the United States and East Asian countries, including Asian diasporas in North America. The course focuses on CS research and engineering, with less emphasis on (anti-)social implications such as mis/dis-information and data privacy. The subjects of study include: China-born first-generation digital computer pioneers; digitizing Asian characters; developing transpacific networks of computers and labor; transpacific works in building CS fundamentals. The course culminates with current moods of exclusionism, trade protectionism, and 'friendshoring' across Asia-Pacific regions. *Instructor permission required.*

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

EALL 0600b

Samurai Vendettas and Japanese Drama

Adam Haliburton

Seminar, Pre-Modern
MW 4.00-5.15

We explore in this course two worlds—the world in which Japanese feudal warriors, the samurai, lived and acted out vendettas, and the afterworld in which history and legend combined as the events of those vendettas were adapted in the three dramatic traditions of noh, kabuki, and bunraku puppet theater. The course considers in depth the twelfth-century Soga vendetta and the early eighteenth-century incident involving the 47 rōnin, or master-less samurai, and introduces the main theatrical forms of medieval and early modern Japan, combining the benefits of a seminar and a survey course. We also look at woodblock prints as complements to kabuki theater and actors. We may add screenings if there is interest. *Enrollment limited to first-year students.*

EALL 2050b/EAST 3204b/ HSAR 4477b

The Culture of Landscape in China

Pauline Lin

Seminar, Pre-Modern
F 1.30-3.20

An introduction to Chinese philosophical, poetic, and visual explorations of landscape and the changing relationship between human beings and nature. Through texts, archaeological materials, visual and material culture, and garden designs from the 2nd c. BCE to modern times, we learn about the Chinese conception of the world, relationship to and experiences in nature, and shaping of the land through agriculture, imperial parks, and garden designs. We conclude with contemporary environmental issues confronting China, and how contemporary parks can help regenerate our ecosystem.

EALL 2120b/PHIL 2203b

Ancient Chinese Thought

Mick Hunter

Lecture, Pre-Modern
MW 10.30-11.20

An introduction to the foundational works of ancient Chinese thought from the ruling ideologies of the earliest historical dynasties, through the Warring States masters, to the Qin and Han empires. Topics include Confucianism and Daoism, the role of the intellectual in ancient Chinese society, and the nature and performance of wisdom.

EALL 2280b/CPLT 2300b/ EAST 3224b/HUMS 2280b

Imitation and Originality in Japanese Literature

Yoshitaka Yamamoto

Seminar, Pre-Modern
MW 9.00-10.15

Exploration of the creative powers of imitation in Japanese literature and related cultural pursuits, with a focus on the emulation of earlier Chinese and Japanese models by premodern Japanese authors. This seminar makes use of Yale's collections of East Asian manuscripts, printed books, calligraphy, and paintings. Discussions will revolve around enduring themes, such as originality, authenticity, nationalism, and universality. *No knowledge of Japanese or Chinese required.*

EALL 2380b/EAST 3623b/ RLST 3270b

Buddhist Monastic Experience

Hwansoo Kim

Seminar
Th 1.30-3.20

Is monastic life relevant in contemporary society, where religion is increasingly considered less significant in our secular lives? Can we find valuable aspects of a monastic lifestyle that can be integrated into our daily lives? If so, what are these aspects, and how can we incorporate them? This seminar represents a collaborative effort to gain insight into one of the major monastic traditions: Buddhist monasticism. Throughout this seminar, we delve into various facets of Buddhist monastic life, examining its origins, historical development, monastic identity, rules and regulations, practices, and the dynamics between monastics and the laity. We also explore the tensions that often arise between the ideals of monasticism and the realities it faces in today's world. As part of this exploration, we embark on an eight-week monastic life project, during which students create their own set of daily rules (precepts), adhere to

these rules, engage in meditation and other relevant practices, and establish a regular communal gathering with fellow students. *Instructor permission required.*

**EALL 2511b/EAST 4231b/
RLST 3435b**

Seminar
Th 3.30-5.20

Religions in Modern Korean Literature and Film

Youngkyun Choi

This seminar examines how Christianity, Buddhism, and shamanism have shaped modern Korean literature and film. We do not study religion by learning its teachings or doctrines, but by exploring how it functions as a cultural and social force that influenced how Koreans experienced modernization, socio-economic and gender inequality, national division, and diaspora. Through novels, short stories, poetry, and cinema from the colonial period to the present, we analyze how these traditions have been represented, debated, and reimagined, discovering the complex and sometimes contradictory roles of religion in Korea—as a support for authority on the one hand, and as a source of resistance and transformation on the other. *No prior knowledge of Korean language or culture is required.*

**EALL 2520b/CPLT 3840b/
EAST 3220b/FILM 4467b**

Seminar
MW 11.35-12.50

Japanese Cinema before 1960

Kristen Seuffret

The history of Japanese cinema to 1960, including the social, cultural, and industrial backgrounds to its development. Periods covered include the silent era, the coming of sound and the wartime period, the occupation era, the golden age of the 1950s, and the new modernism of the late 1950s. *No knowledge of Japanese required.*

**EALL 2560b/CPLT 2650b/
EAST 2221b/GLBL 2251b/
HUMS 2720b**

Lecture
MW 11.35-12.50

China in the World

Jing Tsu

Recent headlines about China in the world, deciphered in both modern and historical contexts. Interpretation of new events and diverse texts through transnational connections. Topics include China's international relations and global footprint, language and script, Chinese America, science and technology, and science fiction. Special topic for AY 2025-2026 with guest speakers: AI, U.S.-China futurism, and tech policy. *Readings and discussion in English.*

**EALL 2650b/EAST 3221b/
CPLT 2510b**

Seminar
Th 9.25-11.15

Japanese Literature After 1970: What Sells?

Luciana Sanga

This course is an introduction to Japanese literature written in the last fifty years, with a focus on women writers. Since the 1970s, Japanese women writers have increasingly appeared on the shelves of international bookshops and on the lists of international prizes. These authors have experimented with multiple genres, from romance to horror, and depicted diverse worlds, from the daily grind of working women to the simple pleasures of eating and cooking. Over the course of a semester, students encounter a new novel each week that introduces them to the world of contemporary Japanese literature. Novels are selected around a different theme each year. This year the class focusses on the circulation of post-1970s Japanese fiction as world literature and the economy of literary prizes. *Instructor permission required.*

**EALL 2830b/EAST 3602b/
RLST 1310b**

Seminar, Pre-Modern
Th 9.25-11.15

Religion in Japanese Culture

Marta Sanvido

This course traces the development of religious beliefs and practices in Japan from the earliest myths to the present. Its central aim is to challenge and reassess common assumptions about Japanese religions through a multi-faceted approach that draws on historical, textual, visual, and ethnographic perspectives. We explore how diverse religious traditions have interacted and coexisted over the centuries. Organized thematically, the course offers both a historical and cultural overview of Japan's major religious traditions.

EALL 2860b/EAST 4222b

Seminar
W 9.25-11.15

Reading and Translating Modern Japanese Literature

Luciana Sanga

In this class, we read Natsume Sōseki's canonical 1908 novel *Sanshirō* in its original Japanese. One of the most beloved works of modern Japanese literature, *Sanshirō* features an eponymous protagonist struggling to navigate college life, love, and friendship. I provide vocabulary lists as well as the historical background necessary to understanding the text, with a focus on its format as a newspaper serialization. Students are expected to come to class having carefully read the assigned chapter. We translate selected passages into

English and discuss the text in the context of its initial publication venue and beyond. Students gain a deep understanding of this Japanese classic and become more aware of some recurrent challenges in translating Japanese into English. *Prerequisite: third year Japanese or equivalent. Graduate students from any discipline who wish to take the class should email the instructor. Instructor permission required.*

EALL 3180b/HUMS 4301b

The Story of the Stone (or The Dream of the Red Chamber)

Tina Lu

Seminar

T 1.30-3.20

Close reading of the eighteenth-century Chinese novel *The Dream of the Red Chamber*, with particular attention to historical context. Readings also in secondary and theoretical materials. Students are expected to read three chapters a week in the original Chinese. *Instructor permission required.*

EALL 3530b

Studies in Korean Popular Culture

Youngkyun Choi

Seminar

T 3.30-5.20

This advanced undergraduate seminar examines the dissemination, visibility, and prominence of Korean popular culture within and outside its national borders. We spend time exploring a wide variety of cultural forms such as music, film, television, fashion, performance, and new media from the early twentieth century to the present-day moment, focusing our attention on the following questions: How did Korean cultural values and historical experiences shape the content, style, and aesthetics of contemporary Korean popular culture? What is the ideological, economic, and socio-political function of popular culture in South Korea today? What makes Korean popular culture attractive to a global audience who are not necessarily familiar with the Korean language and culture? In answering these questions, we examine Korean popular culture against major historical events that took place in Korea over the twentieth century such as Japanese occupation and the Korean War, as well as the military dictatorships, democratization, and neoliberalization of South Korea. On top of conventional research writing assignments, students are also expected to produce creative essays reflecting on their own relationship with Korean popular culture and present them in class. *Students are not expected to be deeply familiar with Korean history, but some level of familiarity with Korean culture and language is helpful.*

EALL 3540b/EAST 4228b

Japanese Postwar and Contemporary Visual Culture

Kristen Seuffert

Seminar

Th 1.30-3.20

This course explores the visual culture of postwar and contemporary Japan through the lens of visual studies. Taking a cross-media approach, it critically investigates diverse visual media such as live-action film and anime, manga, television, photography, performance, advertising, design, material goods, and more, tracing connections to the sociohistorical and cultural backgrounds of their production. Representation is key, but other aspects of visual media analysis, such as consumption, image-making practice, industrial concerns, and the process of constructing media histories is also considered. Students are asked to engage with “Japanese images” as well as the effects these images have on their surrounding social, media, historical, and lived environments. Crucial to this inquiry is the importance of thinking about not only who is looking and whom/what is being looked at but also how and why we look. *Instructor permission required.*

EALL 3801b

Transpacific Performance in the Cold War

Rosa van Hensbergen

Seminar

M 3.30-5.20

A research course designed for graduate and advanced undergraduate students interested in transpacific cultural exchange from the 1950s–1980s, especially between Japan and the US. During the Cold War, interdisciplinary artists were crisscrossing the Pacific between East Asia and the US, presenting their works in exhibitions, participating in performance festivals, and engaging in experimental collaborations. These crossings and crossovers took place with varying degrees of state involvement as the US government worked to promote its version of American culture abroad. In this course, we discover a series of transpacific performances and events against the backdrop of Cold War cultural politics, from collaborations between Japanese modern dancers and American jazz musicians in the early 60s to immersive works of Japanese video art presented in New York in the 90s. The rare archival and print materials that form an essential component of this course are made available in English. Japanese and other relevant language specialisms are welcome though not required, as are comparative and creative approaches. An aim of this course is to work closely together to produce a publishable or performable piece of work—critical or creative—related to your future research and career ambitions. For those wishing to work with Japanese-language materials, please contact the instructor directly to discuss readings. *This course is limited to juniors and seniors.*

CHINESE

CHNS 1200b Elementary Modern Chinese II (L2)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of CHNS 1100. *After CHNS 1100 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1220b Elementary Modern Chinese for Heritage Speakers (L2)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20

Continuation of CHNS 1120. *After CHNS 1120 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1400b Intermediate Modern Chinese II (L4)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of CHNS 130. To be followed by CHNS 1500. *After CHNS 1300 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1420b Intermediate Modern Chinese for Heritage Speakers (L4)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of CHNS 1320. *After CHNS 1320 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1510b Advanced Modern Chinese II (L5)

MWF 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of CHNS 1500. *After CHNS 1500 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1530b Advanced Modern Chinese for Heritage Speakers (L5)

Peisong Xu

MWF 10.30-11.20

This course is intended for heritage speakers at the low advanced level with advanced low speaking and listening skills and with intermediate high to advanced low reading and writing proficiency. This course follows CHNS 1520 in the heritage track. The goal of the course is to help students effectively expand their skills in reading and writing while concurrently addressing the need to improve their listening and oral skills in formal environments. The materials cover a variety of topics relating to Chinese culture, society, and cultural differences, supplemented with authentic video materials. *After CHNS 1520, CHNS 1560, or equivalent.*

CHNS 1590b Advanced Modern Chinese IV through Films and Stories (L5)

MWF 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of CHNS 1580. *After CHNS 1580 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1610b Chinese for the Food Culture of China (L5)

Fan Liu

MW 9.00-10.15

This course aims to improve advanced-level Chinese learners' conversational, reading, and writing skills by engaging them with diverse topics related to Chinese food and food culture. The class is suitable for students who have completed CHNS 1530, 1570, 1590, or the equivalent of one of these classes elsewhere. Through readings, lectures, discussion, video screenings, and interviews, students explore China's food culture through these topics: 1) Chinese culinary history; 2) Regional specialties; 3) Chinese food in the context of globalization; 4) Food safety and environmental protection; 5) Food and health. *After CHNS 1530, 1570, 1590, or equivalent.*

CHNS 1630b Advanced Chinese through History and Art (L5)

Rongzhen Li

T,Th 11.35-12.50

This course is intended for both heritage and non heritage learners with advanced proficiency. Students develop sophisticated language skills through working with authentic written materials, images, and videos concerning historical events, historical figures, artists, writers, and philosophers. Activities include working with translation tools, discussions, debates, presentations, oral and written exercises on platforms such as Playposit and Perusall, and collaborative projects. *After CHNS 1530, CHNS 1570, CHNS 1590, or equivalent.*

CHNS 1650b Readings in Modern Chinese Fiction (L5)

Wei Su

MW 11.35-12.50

We read and discuss modern short stories, most written prior to 1949, for the purpose of developing advanced language skills in reading, speaking, and writing. *After CHNS 1530, CHNS 1570, CHNS 1590, or equivalent.*

CHNS 1670b Chinese for Current Affairs (L5)

Jingjing Ao

MW 11.35-12.50

Advanced language course with a focus on speaking and writing in formal styles. Current affairs are used as a vehicle to help students learn advanced vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, complex sentence structures, news writing styles and formal stylistic register. Materials include texts and videos selected from news media worldwide to improve students' language proficiency for sophisticated

communications on a wide range of topics. *After CHNS 1530, CHNS 1570, or CHNS 1590.*

CHNS 1690b

Chinese for Global Enterprises (L5)

Haiwen Wang

MW 1.00-2.15

Advanced language course with a focus on Chinese business terminology and discourse. Discussion of China's economic and management reforms, marketing, economic laws, business culture and customs, and economic relations with other countries. Case studies from international enterprises that have successfully entered the Chinese market. *After CHNS 1530, CHNS 1570, CHNS 1590 or equivalent.*

CHNS 1710b

Introduction to Literary Chinese II (L5)

Pauline Lin

Pre-Modern

T,Th 11.35-12.50

Continuation of CHNS 170. *After CHNS 1700, or equivalent.*

JAPANESE

JAPN 1200b

Elementary Japanese II (L2)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

JAPN 1200 is designed for students who have successfully completed JAPN 1100 (fall semester) or an equivalent course. This course aims to further develop foundational proficiency in elementary-level Japanese. Students will learn the basics of pronunciation, speaking, listening comprehension, reading, writing, and gain insight into Japanese culture. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate on simple, everyday topics. *After JAPN 1100 or equivalent. This course meets during reading period.*

JAPN 1400b

Intermediate Japanese II (L4)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20

Continuation of JAPN 1300. *After JAPN 1300 or equivalent. This course meets during reading period.*

JAPN 1510b

Advanced Japanese II (L5)

MW 1.00-2.15 or T,Th 100-2.15

Continuation of JAPN 1500. *After JAPN 1500 or equivalent. This course meets during reading period.*

JAPN 1570b

Advanced Japanese IV (L5)

T,Th 4.00-5.15

Continuation of JAPN 1560. *After JAPN 1560 or equivalent.*

JAPN 1600b

Reading Stories in Modern Japanese (L5)

Eric Jose Esteban

MW 1.00-2.15

Spanning texts from the end of the Nineteenth Century to the present day, this course bridges the gap between reading Japanese literature in a language class environment and reading Japanese literature with fluency for academic purposes and indeed, for pleasure. Students learn best practices for carefully reading and translating texts in Japanese, such as how to pay attention to aspects of form and style, the effective use of physical and digital dictionaries, and how to understand editorial annotations and translator notes. As students continue to build reading competencies and speed, they also encounter different approaches to literary works: methods of close-reading, the importance of historical context, bibliographic methods, and the relevance of author biography. *Readings are in Japanese with discussion in English. L5 Japanese or equivalent. Instructor permission required.*

JAPN 1710b

Readings in Literary Japanese (L5)

Yoshitaka Yamamoto

Seminar, Pre-Modern

W 3.30-5.20

Close analytical reading of a selection of texts from the Nara through the Tokugawa periods: prose, poetry, and various genres. Introduction to *kanbun*. *After JAPN 1700 or equivalent.*

KOREAN

KREN 1200b

Elementary Korean II (L2)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of KREN 1100. *After KREN 1100 or equivalent.*

KREN 1400b

Intermediate Korean II (L4)

M-F 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20

Continuation of KREN 1300. *After KREN 1300 or equivalent.*

KREN 1420b

M-F 9.25-10.15, 11.35-12.25

Continuation of KREN 1320. *After KREN 1320 or equivalent.***Intermediate Korean for Advanced Learners II (L4)****KREN 1510b**

MWF 11.35-12.25

This course is content and project-based to further develop integrated language skills-spoken and written, including grammar and vocabulary, as well as intercultural competence through Korean media. Through a variety of media, such as print media, publishing, digital media, cinema, broadcasting (radio, television, podcasting), and advertising, students explore and reflect on a wide range of topics and perspectives in Korean culture and society. The course learning activities include interactive, interpretive, and presentational communication; critical analysis; creative and authentic language applications in formal/informal contexts. *After KREN 1500 or equivalent.*

Advanced Korean II: Language and Culture through Media (L5)

Angela Lee-Smith

KREN 1520b

MWF 11.35-12.25

This course is an advanced language course designed to further develop language skills through topics related to contemporary Korea, including lifestyle, society, culture, and literature, supplemented with authentic media materials. This course aims to expand students' understanding of Korea while enhancing their multiliteracy. *Intended for both non-heritage speakers and heritage speakers. After KREN 1420, 1510, or equivalent.*

Advanced Korean III: Contemporary Life in Korea (L5)

Boo Kyung Jung

KREN 1530b

MWF 9.25-10.15, 10.30-11.20

This course is an interdisciplinary content-based advanced course in modern Korean. It aims to advance language skills in all four areas and cultural competence to communicate with fluency and accuracy. Students build up wide-ranging vocabulary and grammar, while registering and deepening their understanding of cultural aspects through authentic materials and communicative tasks across a variety of topics, such as social, academic, or career interests. *After KREN 1520 or with permission of instructor*

Advanced Korean IV: Korean Sociocultural Practices and Perspectives (L5)**KREN 1700b**

MW 1.00-2.15

This course teaches Hanja, the Chinese characters commonly used in modern Korean society. The main goal is for students to master 300 basic Hanja that frequently appear in Korean vocabulary. Through various materials, students explore how these characters are integrated into Korean words and how these words are used in everyday contexts. By engaging with these concepts, students enhance their understanding of Korean vocabulary and improve their overall proficiency in the language. *After KREN 1400 or equivalent.*

Introduction to Hanja (L5)

Seunghye Back

EAST ASIAN STUDIES
**EAST 2221b/CPLT 2650b/
EALL 2560b /GLBL 2251b/
HUMS 2720b**

Lecture

MW 11.35-12.50

Recent headlines about China in the world, deciphered in both modern and historical contexts. Interpretation of new events and diverse texts through transnational connections. Topics include China's international relations and global footprint, language and script, Chinese America, science and technology, and science fiction. Special topic for AY 2025-2026 with guest speakers: AI, U.S.-China futurism, and tech policy. *Readings and discussion in English.*

China in the World

Jing Tsu

EAST 2321b/HIST 1457b

Lecture

MW 11.35-12.50

An introduction to modern Chinese history spanning from the fall of the Qing Empire to the present. Examines the factors that led to the end of China's dynastic system, the political and social divisions that emerged after the Qing Dynasty's collapse, and the various alternative visions for China's future that have arisen from the late nineteenth century onward. Focuses on aspects of political, economic, and social history.

The History of Modern China, 1911-2026

George Remisovsky

EAST 2402b/HSAR 3237b

Lecture, Pre-Modern

T,Th 10.30-11.20

Arts of China is a window to the nation's history, culture, society, and aesthetics. This course introduces the visual arts of China from the prehistoric period to the twentieth century. We look at the archaeological findings (including pottery, jade, and bronze vessels) as well as ancestor worship and belief in posthumous souls and immortal mountains. We look at the art and architecture inspired by

Arts of China

Quincy Ngan

Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism. We investigate the place of Chinese painting and calligraphy in court and elite cultures and explore how these arts intertwine with politics, printing culture, and popular culture. Lastly, we investigate the decorative arts, like ceramics, textiles, and furniture, as well as the art and architecture that reflect foreign tastes.

**EAST 2520b/GLBL 2309b/
PLSC 2466b**

The Rise of China

Daniel Mattingly

Lecture
MW 10.30-11.20

Analysis of Chinese domestic and foreign politics, with a focus on the country's rise as a major political and economic power. Topics include China's recent history, government, ruling party, technology, trade, military, diplomacy, and foreign policy.

**EAST 2830b/CPSC 1900b/
HIST 2423b**

**Decentering Computer Science: Transpacific Computing History across
U.S., East Asia, and Beyond**

Yoehan Oh

Lecture
Th 9.25-11.00

Escalating conflicts between China, Taiwan, and the U.S. are mediated in part by semiconductor manufacturing and their advanced uses, like artificial intelligence. Inquiries into the transpacific history of computer science (CS) can teach us that these relationships have been much more dynamic than 'Friend or Foe,' and have shaped CS in various ways. When cutting-edge computing capabilities are at the forefront of national interests, studying CS and U.S.-Asia relations should no longer be separate intellectual tasks, and multi-view perspectives are needed to understand both processes. This course combines lectures with team-based activities to explore the decentered, international history of CS. We focus on the transpacific relations between the United States and East Asian countries, including Asian diasporas in North America. The course focuses on CS research and engineering, with less emphasis on (anti-)social implications such as mis/dis-information and data privacy. The subjects of study include: China-born first-generation digital computer pioneers; digitizing Asian characters; developing transpacific networks of computers and labor; transpacific works in building CS fundamentals. The course culminates with current moods of exclusionism, trade protectionism, and 'friendshoring' across Asia-Pacific regions. *Instructor permission required.*

**EAST 3204b/EALL 2050b/
HSAR 4477b**

The Culture of Landscape in China

Pauline Lin

Seminar, Pre-Modern
F 1.30-3.20

An introduction to Chinese philosophical, poetic, and visual explorations of landscape and the changing relationship between human beings and nature. Through texts, archaeological materials, visual and material culture, and garden designs from the 2nd c. BCE to modern times, we learn about the Chinese conception of the world, relationship to and experiences in nature, and shaping of the land through agriculture, imperial parks, and garden designs. We conclude with contemporary environmental issues confronting China, and how contemporary parks can help regenerate our ecosystem.

**EAST 3220b/CPLT 3840b/
EALL 2520b/FILM 4467b**

Japanese Cinema before 1960

Kristen Seuffret

Seminar
MW 11.35-12.50; Screenings T 7.00-10.00 PM

The history of Japanese cinema to 1960, including the social, cultural, and industrial backgrounds to its development. Periods covered include the silent era, the coming of sound and the wartime period, the occupation era, the golden age of the 1950s, and the new modernism of the late 1950s. *No knowledge of Japanese required.*

**EAST 3221b/EALL 2650b/
CPLT 2510b**

Japanese Literature After 1970: What Sells?

Luciana Sanga

Seminar
Th 9.25-11.15

This course is an introduction to Japanese literature written in the last fifty years, with a focus on women writers. Since the 1970s, Japanese women writers have increasingly appeared on the shelves of international bookshops and on the lists of international prizes. These authors have experimented with multiple genres, from romance to horror, and depicted diverse worlds, from the daily grind of working women to the simple pleasures of eating and cooking. Over the course of a semester, students encounter a new novel each week that introduces them to the world of contemporary Japanese literature. Novels are selected around a different theme each year. This year the class focusses on the circulation of post-1970s Japanese fiction as world literature and the economy of literary prizes. *Instructor permission required.*

**EAST 3224b/CPLT 2300b/
EALL 2280b/HUMS 2280b**
Seminar, Pre-Modern
MW 9.00-10.15

Imitation and Originality in Japanese Literature

Yoshitaka Yamamoto

Exploration of the creative powers of imitation in Japanese literature and related cultural pursuits, with a focus on the emulation of earlier Chinese and Japanese models by premodern Japanese authors. This seminar makes use of Yale's collections of East Asian manuscripts, printed books, calligraphy, and paintings. Discussions will revolve around enduring themes, such as originality, authenticity, nationalism, and universality. *No knowledge of Japanese or Chinese required.*

EAST 3323b/HIST 3726b

Yale and Japan

Daniel Botsman

Seminar, Pre-Modern
Th 1.30-3.20

Exploration of Yale's rich historical connections to Japan. Focus on use of the University's museum and library collections to learn about various aspects of the Japanese past, from ancient times to the post-World War II era. *Knowledge of Japanese helpful but not required. Instructor permission required.*

EAST 3324b/HIST 2437b

Digital Histories of Space and Place in East Asia

Fabian Drixler

Seminar
MW 1.00-2.15

This project-driven course explores how historical spaces and places can be represented, imagined, and analyzed through the creation of digital objects. What limitations and challenges come with this medium? What might it contribute? Our concept of space is broad and includes spatial imaginaries and practices, from sacred geographies to trade networks and the organization of the home. While the primary focus of our shared readings is on Japan, student projects may be situated in any part of East Asia. The course includes introductory training in GIS software, but students are welcome to design projects that make use of other technologies. *Knowledge of an East Asian language will open up a greater range of possibilities for student projects. Strong reading skills in Japanese, Chinese, or Korean help expand the possibilities for students' projects, but the course welcomes students who read no East Asian language. Instructor permission required.*

**EAST 3520b/GLBL 3129b/
PLSC 3101b**

Chinese Foreign Policy

Daniel Mattingly

Seminar
T 9.25-11.15

Study of the international relations and foreign policy of contemporary China. Topics include war, diplomacy, grand strategy, the military, cyber security, finance, trade, domestic politics, nuclear weapons, and international crises. *There are no formal prerequisites, but some basic knowledge of China is assumed, so a background equivalent to having taken one of the introductory courses on China is recommended.*

**EAST 3602b/EALL 2830b/
RLST 1310b**

Religion in Japanese Culture

Marta Sanvido

Seminar, Pre-Modern
Th 9.25-11.15

This course traces the development of religious beliefs and practices in Japan from the earliest myths to the present. Its central aim is to challenge and reassess common assumptions about Japanese religions through a multi-faceted approach that draws on historical, textual, visual, and ethnographic perspectives. We explore how diverse religious traditions have interacted and coexisted over the centuries. Organized thematically, the course offers both a historical and cultural overview of Japan's major religious traditions.

EAST 3623b/RLST 3270b

Buddhist Monastic Experience

Hwansoo Kim

Seminar
Th 1.30-3.20

Is monastic life relevant in contemporary society, where religion is increasingly considered less significant in our secular lives? Can we find valuable aspects of a monastic lifestyle that can be integrated into our daily lives? If so, what are these aspects, and how can we incorporate them? This seminar represents a collaborative effort to gain insight into one of the major monastic traditions: Buddhist monasticism. Throughout this seminar, we delve into various facets of Buddhist monastic life, examining its origins, historical development, monastic identity, rules and regulations, practices, and the dynamics between monastics and the laity. We also explore the tensions that often arise between the ideals of monasticism and the realities it faces in today's world. As part of this exploration, we embark on an eight-week monastic life project, during which students create their own set of daily rules (precepts), adhere to these rules, engage in meditation and other relevant practices, and establish a regular communal gathering with fellow students. *Instructor permission required.*

**EAST 4101b/ANTH 4101b/
ARCG 4101b**

Seminar, Pre-Modern
T,Th 9.00-10.15

Archaeological Plant Remains from East Asia and Beyond

Xuexiang Chen

Archaeology asks who we are, and how did humanity get to where it is today. This course explores the subfield of archaeobotany that is dedicated to understanding the same questions through the analysis of plant remains from archaeological sites. Students gain foundational knowledge of archaeobotanical methods, the kinds of plant remain studied, and key research themes including climate and ecology, subsistence economies, plant domestication and spread, and non-food plant uses. There is a long history of research on archaeological plant remains in East Asia. We examine how ancient peoples interacted with their environments mainly through macro plant evidence, i.e. seeds and fruits. We discuss the social impact of choices people made about different kinds of domesticated and wild plants for foods and for production of objects for daily life. The course also highlights contemporary advancements in theories and methodologies within the discipline, supported by case studies from around the globe, with a particular emphasis on East Asia.

EAST 4120b/ANTH 4120b

Seminar
MW 1.00-2.15

Islam and Communist Modernities in Central Asia and Xinjiang

Usmon Boron

In the early 20th century, Central Asia and Xinjiang—two Muslim-majority regions with a shared history—fell under the rule of two communist states, the USSR and China. Both states facilitated the emergence of local nations while launching aggressive secularization policies aimed at suppressing local Islamic beliefs and practices. This course takes a comparative approach to the interwoven trajectories of Islam, nation-building, and secularization in Central Asia and Xinjiang. In so doing, it pursues two overarching objectives. The first is to trace the major historical events that have shaped these regions since the late 19th century. The second is to examine the main theoretical frameworks scholars have employed to better understand these historical transformations. Key conceptual questions explored in this course include: What is nationalism and how did Central Asian nations emerge? What is Islam as an object of scholarly inquiry? What is secularism, and how does it shape and regulate religion? How did Soviet and Chinese secularization campaigns transfigure Islam in Central Asia and Xinjiang? What forces facilitate the ongoing ethnocide of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang?

EAST 4222b/EALL 2860b

Seminar
W 9.25-11.15

Reading and Translating Modern Japanese Literature

Luciana Sanga

In this class, we read Natsume Sōseki's canonical 1908 novel *Sanshirō* in its original Japanese. One of the most beloved works of modern Japanese literature, *Sanshirō* features an eponymous protagonist struggling to navigate college life, love, and friendship. I provide vocabulary lists as well as the historical background necessary to understanding the text, with a focus on its format as a newspaper serialization. Students are expected to come to class having carefully read the assigned chapter. We translate selected passages into English and discuss the text in the context of its initial publication venue and beyond. Students gain a deep understanding of this Japanese classic and become more aware of some recurrent challenges in translating Japanese into English. *Prerequisite: third year Japanese or equivalent. Graduate students from any discipline who wish to take the class should email the instructor. Instructor permission required.*

EAST 4228b/EALL 3540b

Seminar
Th 1.30-3.20

Japanese Postwar and Contemporary Visual Culture

Kristen Seuffert

This course explores the visual culture of postwar and contemporary Japan through the lens of visual studies. Taking a cross-media approach, it critically investigates diverse visual media such as live-action film and anime, manga, television, photography, performance, advertising, design, material goods, and more, tracing connections to the sociohistorical and cultural backgrounds of their production. Representation is key, but other aspects of visual media analysis, such as consumption, image-making practice, industrial concerns, and the process of constructing media histories is also considered. Students are asked to engage with “Japanese images” as well as the effects these images have on their surrounding social, media, historical, and lived environments. Crucial to this inquiry is the importance of thinking about not only who is looking and whom/what is being looked at but also how and why we look. *Instructor permission required.*

**EAST 4231b/EALL 2511b/
RLST 3435b**

Seminar
Th 3.30-5.20

Religions in Modern Korean Literature and Film

Youngkyun Choi

This seminar examines how Christianity, Buddhism, and shamanism have shaped modern Korean literature and film. We do not study religion by learning its teachings or doctrines, but by exploring how it functions as a cultural and social force that influenced how Koreans experienced modernization, socio-economic and gender inequality, national division, and diaspora. Through novels, short stories, poetry, and cinema from the colonial period to the present, we analyze how these traditions have been represented, debated, and reimagined, discovering the complex and sometimes contradictory roles of religion in Korea—as a support for authority on the one hand, and as a source of resistance and transformation on the other. *No prior knowledge of Korean language or culture is required.*

EAST 4401b/HSAR 4393bSeminar, Pre-Modern
M 3.30-5.20**The Transcultural Life of Things: Case Studies from East Asia** Yingxue Wang

From production to circulation and consumption, the life of an artifact often unfolds across multiple geographic locations and varied environments. The movement of things in space and time offers valuable insights into the waxing and waning of maritime and terrestrial networks that fostered transregional connectivity. This course introduces students to a variety of objects from pre-modern East Asia with a view to understanding the histories of intercultural exchange inscribed into their designs, materials, and itineraries. It begins by familiarizing students with methodologies, interpretive frameworks, and critical vocabulary for studying interconnected material cultures. The rest of the course is organized as a series of case studies on specific object types and structured into four modules, each focusing on a different sphere of exchange defined by shared geography, trade, religion, or ecosystem. Through this diverse group of objects, we will explore the entanglement of material culture with evolving structures of power, networks of interregional and long-distance exchange, and the physical environment in East Asia.

EAST 4520b/PLSC 3133bSeminar
Th 3.30-5.20**Chinese Thinking on International Relations**

Feng Zhang

How have the Chinese thought about international relations and their country's role in the world? How has such thinking influenced China's foreign relations past and present? This advanced seminar canvasses Chinese thinking on international relations from the imperial epoch to the present, focusing on the post-1949 era of the People's Republic of China. It is structured around three core engagements: the historical background of Chinese thinking; policy thinking of the successive PRC leaderships; and new strands of thinking at present. It examines both the evolutionary process of thinking and a body of prominent ideas and doctrines. Throughout the course, students have the opportunity to place China's foreign policy in a broader and deeper intellectual context than is often the case. *Instructor permission required.*

EAST 4601b/RLST 3430bSeminar, Pre-Modern
T,Th 11.35-12.50**Tibetan Buddhism**

Tulku Ngawang Sonam

This course provides a broad introduction to the intellectual history, philosophy, practices, and culture of Tibetan Buddhism. In this course, we will approach Tibetan Buddhism through four topics: 1) the historical development of Buddhism in Tibet and its key characters, including major gods, goddesses, and human figures; 2) Buddhist ideas about a central theme in nearly all religions: human suffering; 3) ideas and practices that address the problem of human suffering; and 4) the lives of individuals in contemporary Tibetan Buddhist communities. We will read and discuss excerpts from Tibetan Buddhist literature; learn to appreciate and analyze Tibetan art and architecture; and watch short documentaries about Tibet that allow us to see how the ideas and practices from the texts connect to peoples' lives today.

EAST 4621b/RLST 3431bSeminar
W 3.30-5.20**Understanding Korean Buddhism in Context**

Jeongeun Park

This seminar course is designed to help students to understand Korean Buddhism in historical, social, cultural, and transnational contexts. The first part of the course provides a basic historical background to contextually analyze the Korean Buddhist traditions and their developments in premodern and early modern Korea, after which the second part investigates specific topics, including colonialism, transnationalism, gender, and social engagement in modern and contemporary Korean Buddhism. In the process, students will examine case studies and pursue answers to empirical and conceptual questions about Korean Buddhism using interdisciplinary approaches. Such questions include: What are the relationships between Buddhism and other religious traditions (e.g., shamanism and Confucianism), and how did those relationships change over time? How was modern Korean Buddhism imagined and constructed in transnational contexts? How do we assess women's agency in institutional and individual religious practices? Beyond that, what is the Minjung Buddhist movement, and can religion contribute to social and political change?

EAST 4722b/SOCY 3402bSeminar
W 9.25-11.15**Politics and Society in South Korea**

Angela McClean

In this course, students are introduced to twelve major themes that illuminate the politics and society of contemporary South Korea. Each theme takes up a complex issue or phenomenon that has shaped or continues to shape South Korea today, ranging from its rapid economic transformation and democratic consolidation to relations with North Korea, social inequality, and demographic "crisis." Each week's topic is framed as a set of puzzles that guide critical inquiry and interpretation. Through lectures, readings, and discussions, students will explore diverse scholarly approaches to these puzzles and gain a comprehensive perspective on the complexities of South Korean politics and society.

EAST 4890b	Independent Study	EAST DUS
For students with advanced Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language skills who wish to pursue a close study of the East Asia region, not otherwise covered by departmental offerings. May be used for research, a special project, or a substantial research paper under faculty supervision. A term paper or its equivalent and regular meetings with an adviser are required. Ordinarily only one term may be offered toward the major or for credit toward the degree. <i>Permission to enroll requires submission of a detailed project proposal, signed by the adviser, by the end of the first week of classes and its approval by the director of undergraduate studies.</i>		
EAST 4900b	One-Term Senior Essay	EAST DUS
Preparation of a one-term senior essay under the guidance of a faculty adviser. Students must receive the prior agreement of the director of undergraduate studies and of the faculty member who will serve as the senior essay adviser. Students must arrange to meet with that adviser on a regular basis throughout the term. <i>Permission required.</i>		
EAST 4920b	Senior Research Project	EAST DUS
Two-term directed research project under the supervision of a ladder faculty member. Students should write essays using materials in East Asian languages when possible. Essays should be based on primary material, whether in an East Asian language or English. Summary of secondary material is not acceptable. <i>Permission required. Credit only on completion of both terms.</i>		

FILM & MEDIA STUDIES

FILM 4467b/CPLT 3840b/ EALL 2520b/EAST 3220b/ Seminar	Japanese Cinema before 1960	Kristen Seuffret
MW 11.35-12.50, Screenings T 7.00-10.00 PM		
The history of Japanese cinema to 1960, including the social, cultural, and industrial backgrounds to its development. Periods covered include the silent era, the coming of sound and the wartime period, the occupation era, the golden age of the 1950s, and the new modernism of the late 1950s. <i>No knowledge of Japanese required.</i>		

GLOBAL AFFAIRS

GLBL 2251b/CPLT 2650b/ EALL 2560b/EAST 2221b/ HUMS 2720b Lecture	China in the World	Jing Tsu
MW 11.35-12.50		
Recent headlines about China in the world, deciphered in both modern and historical contexts. Interpretation of new events and diverse texts through transnational connections. Topics include China's international relations and global footprint, language and script, Chinese America, science and technology, and science fiction. Special topic for AY 2025-2026 with guest speakers: AI, U.S.-China futurism, and tech policy. <i>Readings and discussion in English.</i>		
GLBL 2309b/EAST 2520b/ PLSC 2466b Lecture	The Rise of China	Daniel Mattingly
MW 10.30-11.20		
Analysis of Chinese domestic and foreign politics, with a focus on the country's rise as a major political and economic power. Topics include China's recent history, government, ruling party, technology, trade, military, diplomacy, and foreign policy.		
GLBL 3129b/EAST 3520b/ PLSC 3101b Seminar	Chinese Foreign Policy	Daniel Mattingly
T 9.25-11.15		
Study of the international relations and foreign policy of contemporary China. Topics include war, diplomacy, grand strategy, the military, cyber security, finance, trade, domestic politics, nuclear weapons, and international crises. <i>There are no formal prerequisites, but some basic knowledge of China is assumed, so a background equivalent to having taken one of the introductory courses on China is recommended.</i>		

GLBL 3902b

Seminar

T 3.30-5.20

U.S.-China Economic Relations: Globalization or Decoupling? Hanscom Smith

For three decades after China's economic opening in 1979, and especially after China's 2001 accession to the WTO, U.S.-China economic relations were based on a U.S. assumption that China would integrate into the U.S.-backed international economic order. China's rapid growth and adherence to a state-oriented economic model, however, combined with globalization's challenges to the liberal economic system, have significantly increased tensions between the world's two biggest economies. This course examines the factors driving economic friction between the United States and China, and is divided into four sections. The course is taught by a practitioner who spent over a decade managing U.S. Government economic policy in and on China. *Instructor permission required.*

HISTORY**HIST 1457b/EAST 2321b**

Lecture

MW 11.35-12.50

The History of Modern China, 1911-2026

George Remisovsky

An introduction to modern Chinese history spanning from the fall of the Qing Empire to the present. Examines the factors that led to the end of China's dynastic system, the political and social divisions that emerged after the Qing Dynasty's collapse, and the various alternative visions for China's future that have arisen from the late nineteenth century onward. Focuses on aspects of political, economic, and social history.

**HIST 2423b/CPSC 1900b/
EAST 2830b**

Lecture

Th 9.25-11.00

**Decentering Computer Science: Transpacific Computing History across
U.S., East Asia, and Beyond**

Yoehan Oh

Escalating conflicts between China, Taiwan, and the U.S. are mediated in part by semiconductor manufacturing and their advanced uses, like artificial intelligence. Inquiries into the transpacific history of computer science (CS) can teach us that these relationships have been much more dynamic than 'Friend or Foe,' and have shaped CS in various ways. When cutting-edge computing capabilities are at the forefront of national interests, studying CS and U.S.-Asia relations should no longer be separate intellectual tasks, and multi-view perspectives are needed to understand both processes. This course combines lectures with team-based activities to explore the decentered, international history of CS. We focus on the transpacific relations between the United States and East Asian countries, including Asian diasporas in North America. The course focuses on CS research and engineering, with less emphasis on (anti-)social implications such as mis/dis-information and data privacy. The subjects of study include: China-born first-generation digital computer pioneers; digitizing Asian characters; developing transpacific networks of computers and labor; transpacific works in building CS fundamentals. The course culminates with current moods of exclusionism, trade protectionism, and 'friendshoring' across Asia-Pacific regions. *Instructor permission required.*

HIST 2437b/EAST 3324b

Seminar

MW 1.00-2.15

Digital Histories of Space and Place in East Asia

Fabian Drixler

This project-driven course explores how historical spaces and places can be represented, imagined, and analyzed through the creation of digital objects. What limitations and challenges come with this medium? What might it contribute? Our concept of space is broad and includes spatial imaginaries and practices, from sacred geographies to trade networks and the organization of the home. While the primary focus of our shared readings is on Japan, student projects may be situated in any part of East Asia. The course includes introductory training in GIS software, but students are welcome to design projects that make use of other technologies. *Knowledge of an East Asian language will open up a greater range of possibilities for student projects. Strong reading skills in Japanese, Chinese, or Korean help expand the possibilities for students' projects, but the course welcomes students who read no East Asian language. Instructor permission required.*

HIST 3458b

Seminar

Th 3.30-5.20

The History of The Chinese Communist Party

Arne Westad

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has ruled mainland China since 1949 and has been a key part of Chinese politics since the 1920s. This seminar provides an introduction to the history of the CCP from its founding in 1921 up to the 2020s. We look at some of the concerns that have stayed with the party and its leaders since it was set up and at questions that have animated the party in particular phases of its development. The seminar discusses issues relating both to domestic and international affairs and pays particular attention to turning points in the party's history. *Instructor permission required.*

HIST 3726b/EAST 3323b

Seminar, Pre-Modern

Th 1.30-3.20

Yale and Japan

Daniel Botsman

Exploration of Yale's rich historical connections to Japan. Focus on use of the University's museum and library collections to learn about various aspects of the Japanese past, from ancient times to the post-World War II era. *Knowledge of Japanese helpful but not required. Instructor permission required.*

HISTORY OF ART**HSAR 3237b/EAST 2402b**

Lecture, Pre-Modern

T,Th 10.30-11.20

Arts of China

Quincy Ngan

Arts of China is a window to the nation's history, culture, society, and aesthetics. This course introduces the visual arts of China from the prehistoric period to the twentieth century. We look at the archaeological findings (including pottery, jade, and bronze vessels) as well as ancestor worship and belief in posthumous souls and immortal mountains. We look at the art and architecture inspired by Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism. We investigate the place of Chinese painting and calligraphy in court and elite cultures and explore how these arts intertwine with politics, printing culture, and popular culture. Lastly, we investigate the decorative arts, like ceramics, textiles, and furniture, as well as the art and architecture that reflect foreign tastes.

HSAR 4393b/EAST 4401b

Seminar, Pre-Modern

M 3.30-5.20

The Transcultural Life of Things: Case Studies from East Asia Yingxue Wang

From production to circulation and consumption, the life of an artifact often unfolds across multiple geographic locations and varied environments. The movement of things in space and time offers valuable insights into the waxing and waning of maritime and terrestrial networks that fostered transregional connectivity. This course introduces students to a variety of objects from pre-modern East Asia with a view to understanding the histories of intercultural exchange inscribed into their designs, materials, and itineraries. It begins by familiarizing students with methodologies, interpretive frameworks, and critical vocabulary for studying interconnected material cultures. The rest of the course is organized as a series of case studies on specific object types and structured into four modules, each focusing on a different sphere of exchange defined by shared geography, trade, religion, or ecosystem. Through this diverse group of objects, we will explore the entanglement of material culture with evolving structures of power, networks of interregional and long-distance exchange, and the physical environment in East Asia.

HSAR 4457b

Seminar, Pre-Modern

W 1.30-3.20

Japanese Gardens

Mimi Yiengpruksawan

Arts and theory of the Japanese garden with emphasis on the role of the anthropogenic landscape from aesthetics to environmental precarity, including the concept of refugium. Case studies of influential Kyoto gardens from the 11th through 15th centuries, and their significance as cultural productions with ecological implications. *Instructor permission required.*

**HSAR 4477b/EALL 2050b/
EAST 3204b**

Seminar, Pre-Modern

F 1.30-3.20

The Culture of Landscape in China

Pauline Lin

An introduction to Chinese philosophical, poetic, and visual explorations of landscape and the changing relationship between human beings and nature. Through texts, archaeological materials, visual and material culture, and garden designs from the 2nd c. BCE to modern times, we learn about the Chinese conception of the world, relationship to and experiences in nature, and shaping of the land through agriculture, imperial parks, and garden designs. We conclude with contemporary environmental issues confronting China, and how contemporary parks can help regenerate our ecosystem.

HUMANITIES**HUMS 2280b/CPLT 2300b/
EALL 2280b/EAST 3224b**

Seminar, Pre-Modern

MW 9.00-10.15

Imitation and Originality in Japanese Literature

Yoshitaka Yamamoto

Exploration of the creative powers of imitation in Japanese literature and related cultural pursuits, with a focus on the emulation of earlier Chinese and Japanese models by premodern Japanese authors. This seminar makes use of Yale's collections of East Asian

manuscripts, printed books, calligraphy, and paintings. Discussions will revolve around enduring themes, such as originality, authenticity, nationalism, and universality. *No knowledge of Japanese or Chinese required.*

**HUMS 2720b/CPLT 2650b/
EALL 2560b/EAST 2221b/
GLBL 2251b**

China in the World

Jing Tsu

Lecture
MW 11.35-12.50

Recent headlines about China in the world, deciphered in both modern and historical contexts. Interpretation of new events and diverse texts through transnational connections. Topics include China's international relations and global footprint, language and script, Chinese America, science and technology, and science fiction. Special topic for AY 2025-2026 with guest speakers: AI, U.S.-China futurism, and tech policy. *Readings and discussion in English.*

HUMS 4301b/EALL 3180b

The Story of the Stone (or The Dream of the Red Chamber)

Tina Lu

Seminar
T 1.30-3.20

Close reading of the eighteenth-century Chinese novel *The Dream of the Red Chamber*, with particular attention to historical context. Readings also in secondary and theoretical materials. Students are expected to read three chapters a week in the original Chinese. *Instructor permission required.*

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 2203b/EALL 2120b

Ancient Chinese Thought

Mick Hunter

Lecture, Pre-Modern
MW 10.30-11.20

An introduction to the foundational works of ancient Chinese thought from the ruling ideologies of the earliest historical dynasties, through the Warring States masters, to the Qin and Han empires. Topics include Confucianism and Daoism, the role of the intellectual in ancient Chinese society, and the nature and performance of wisdom.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

**PLSC 2466b/EAST 2520b/
GLBL 2309b**

The Rise of China

Daniel Mattingly

Lecture
MW 10.30-11.20

Analysis of Chinese domestic and foreign politics, with a focus on the country's rise as a major political and economic power. Topics include China's recent history, government, ruling party, technology, trade, military, diplomacy, and foreign policy.

**PLSC 3101b/EAST 3520b/
GLBL 3129b**

Chinese Foreign Policy

Daniel Mattingly

Seminar
T 9.25-11.15

Study of the international relations and foreign policy of contemporary China. Topics include war, diplomacy, grand strategy, the military, cyber security, finance, trade, domestic politics, nuclear weapons, and international crises. *There are no formal prerequisites, but some basic knowledge of China is assumed, so a background equivalent to having taken one of the introductory courses on China is recommended.*

PLSC 3133b/EAST 4520b

Chinese Thinking on International Relations

Feng Zhang

Seminar
Th 3.30-5.20

How have the Chinese thought about international relations and their country's role in the world? How has such thinking influenced China's foreign relations past and present? This advanced seminar canvasses Chinese thinking on international relations from the imperial epoch to the present, focusing on the post-1949 era of the People's Republic of China. It is structured around three core engagements: the historical background of Chinese thinking; policy thinking of the successive PRC leaderships; and new strands of thinking at present. It examines both the evolutionary process of thinking and a body of prominent ideas and doctrines. Throughout the course, students have the opportunity to place China's foreign policy in a broader and deeper intellectual context than is often the case. *Instructor permission required.*

**RLST 1310b/EALL 2830b/
EAST 3602b**

Religion in Japanese Culture

Marta Sanvido

Seminar, Pre-Modern
Th 9.25-11.15

This course traces the development of religious beliefs and practices in Japan from the earliest myths to the present. Its central aim is to challenge and reassess common assumptions about Japanese religions through a multi-faceted approach that draws on historical, textual, visual, and ethnographic perspectives. We explore how diverse religious traditions have interacted and coexisted over the centuries. Organized thematically, the course offers both a historical and cultural overview of Japan's major religious traditions.

RLST 3270b/EAST 3623b

Buddhist Monastic Experience

Hwansoo Kim

Seminar
Th 1.30-3.20

Is monastic life relevant in contemporary society, where religion is increasingly considered less significant in our secular lives? Can we find valuable aspects of a monastic lifestyle that can be integrated into our daily lives? If so, what are these aspects, and how can we incorporate them? This seminar represents a collaborative effort to gain insight into one of the major monastic traditions: Buddhist monasticism. Throughout this seminar, we delve into various facets of Buddhist monastic life, examining its origins, historical development, monastic identity, rules and regulations, practices, and the dynamics between monastics and the laity. We also explore the tensions that often arise between the ideals of monasticism and the realities it faces in today's world. As part of this exploration, we embark on an eight-week monastic life project, during which students create their own set of daily rules (precepts), adhere to these rules, engage in meditation and other relevant practices, and establish a regular communal gathering with fellow students. *Instructor permission required.*

RLST 3430b/EAST 4601b

Tibetan Buddhism

Tulku Ngawang Sonam

Seminar, Pre-Modern
T,Th 11.35-12.50

This course provides a broad introduction to the intellectual history, philosophy, practices, and culture of Tibetan Buddhism. In this course, we will approach Tibetan Buddhism through four topics: 1) the historical development of Buddhism in Tibet and its key characters, including major gods, goddesses, and human figures; 2) Buddhist ideas about a central theme in nearly all religions: human suffering; 3) ideas and practices that address the problem of human suffering; and 4) the lives of individuals in contemporary Tibetan Buddhist communities. We will read and discuss excerpts from Tibetan Buddhist literature; learn to appreciate and analyze Tibetan art and architecture; and watch short documentaries about Tibet that allow us to see how the ideas and practices from the texts connect to peoples' lives today.

RLST 3431b/EAST 4621b

Understanding Korean Buddhism in Context

Jeongeun Park

Seminar
W 3.30-5.20

This seminar course is designed to help students to understand Korean Buddhism in historical, social, cultural, and transnational contexts. The first part of the course provides a basic historical background to contextually analyze the Korean Buddhist traditions and their developments in premodern and early modern Korea, after which the second part investigates specific topics, including colonialism, transnationalism, gender, and social engagement in modern and contemporary Korean Buddhism. In the process, students will examine case studies and pursue answers to empirical and conceptual questions about Korean Buddhism using interdisciplinary approaches. Such questions include: What are the relationships between Buddhism and other religious traditions (e.g., shamanism and Confucianism), and how did those relationships change over time? How was modern Korean Buddhism imagined and constructed in transnational contexts? How do we assess women's agency in institutional and individual religious practices? Beyond that, what is the Minjung Buddhist movement, and can religion contribute to social and political change?

**RLST 3435b/EALL 2511b/
EAST 4231b**

Religions in Modern Korean Literature and Film

Youngkyun Choi

Seminar
Th 3.30-5.20

This seminar examines how Christianity, Buddhism, and shamanism have shaped modern Korean literature and film. We do not study religion by learning its teachings or doctrines, but by exploring how it functions as a cultural and social force that influenced how Koreans experienced modernization, socio-economic and gender inequality, national division, and diaspora. Through novels, short stories, poetry, and cinema from the colonial period to the present, we analyze how these traditions have been represented, debated, and reimagined, discovering the complex and sometimes contradictory roles of religion in Korea—as a support for authority on the one hand, and as a source of resistance and transformation on the other. *No prior knowledge of Korean language or culture is required.*

SOCY 3402b/EAST 4722b**Politics and Society in South Korea**

Angela McClean

Seminar

W 9.25-11.15

In this course, students are introduced to twelve major themes that illuminate the politics and society of contemporary South Korea. Each theme takes up a complex issue or phenomenon that has shaped or continues to shape South Korea today, ranging from its rapid economic transformation and democratic consolidation to relations with North Korea, social inequality, and demographic “crisis.” Each week’s topic is framed as a set of puzzles that guide critical inquiry and interpretation. Through lectures, readings, and discussions, students will explore diverse scholarly approaches to these puzzles and gain a comprehensive perspective on the complexities of South Korean politics and society.