Asian Studies

Asian Studies is an interdisciplinary program in which specialists on Japan, China, and South Asia train students in the languages, cultures, economics, geography, history, and politics of Asian countries.

We offer a major and minor in Asian Studies, which can be combined with another field of study, including art history, biology, business, chemistry, economics, e-media, engineering, film, history, international affairs, music, and political science.

Combining professional training with linguistic ability and cultural understanding of Asia makes students more marketable to prospective employers.

The Major in Asian Studies

Requires 36 credits of Asian Studies courses, including:

- 10 credits of 2nd year language
- 6 or more credits in Humanities (art history, literature, culture, history, philosophy, religion)
- 6 or more credits in Social Sciences (anthropology, economics, geography, planning, political science, environmental studies)
- 6 credits of methodology and senior project

The Minor in Asian Studies

Requires 21 credits in Asian Studies courses. Two typical options for the minor are:

- Up to 10 credits in language courses and 12 credits in non-language courses, or
- 21 credit hours of non-language courses

For the non-language courses, students select at least one social science and one humanities class. Courses may also include a geographic breadth of at least one class covering East/Southeast Asia and one on South/Southwest Asia.

For further details, please visit our homepage: http://www.artsci.uc.edu/departments/interdisciplinary-studies/asian-studies.html

Certificate Programs

Asian Studies also offers the following three certificates. Many students earn the certificate while majoring in Asian Studies or any other discipline.

Certificate in Chinese Language & Culture

Requires 3 years of Chinese, Introduction to Chinese Culture, and one elective in Asian Studies.

Certificate in Japanese Language & Culture

Requires 3 years of Japanese, Introduction to Japanese Culture, and one elective in Asian Studies.

Graduate Certificate in Asian Studies

Requires a survey course (AIST 7050) and 3 more graduate courses from at least two disciplines.

Study Abroad

Two types of study abroad programs are available: faculty-led short-term (2-3 weeks, often in summer) and semester-long programs. Courses are taught in English. Our current programs include: Short-term Programs in Japan (AIST 2064), China (AIST 2062), SE Asia (AIST 2063)

Semester-long Programs in:

Japan

- Chiba University
- Nanzan University

China

- Southwest University of Finance and Economics (Chengdu)
- Guangxi University (Naning)

Republic of Korea

- Korea University (Seoul)
- Sogan University (Seoul)

Singapore

Nanyang Technological University

Students pay UC tuition while on the semester-long program.

Careers for Asian Studies Students

Our graduates pursue graduate degrees in the humanities and social sciences, professional degrees such as law, business, and international affairs, teaching or working opportunities in an Asian country, research and analysis on Asia, or employment in the Cincinnati area.

Asian businesses have a significant presence in the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area and Columbus. As per data from 2014 to 2017:

- The Tristate area has over 140 Japanese investment companies, which employ more than 15,000 people locally.
- In 2013, Japanese-owned facilities in Ohio hired 2,719 new employees.
- Kentucky has about 170 Japanese companies.

Such companies prioritize job applicants who are familiar with Asian cultures.

Other possible career paths include:

- Arts and entertainment sector
- Bilingual editor
- Bilingual online content writer
- Cross-cultural communications
- Embassy personnel
- ESL teacher
- Government and public policy
- Hospitality industry
- Immigration issues
- Importer/exporter
- International and multinational business
- International student advisor
- Interpreter/translator
- Journalist
- Market research
- Peace corps volunteer
- Study abroad coordinator
- Tourism industry

Japanese Studies Lecture Series

Has brought 15 external speakers to campus since 2015.





To support our students and programs, please visit https://foundation.uc.edu/areas-to-support and direct your gift to the Asian Studies Discretionary Fund, or contact Andrew Polter, Associate Director of Development A&S, at andrew.polter@uc.edu or 513-556-8984.

Asian Studies Student Activities







For more information, contact Dr. Miki Hirayama, Director of Asian Studies miki.hirayama@uc.edu

Find us on Facebook and view interviews of recent alumni on Youtube (search "Asian Studies University of Cincinnati").





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