AAS Asian and Asian American Studies

AAS 102-B Eastern Religions
An historical introduction to Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. Attention is given to the cultural background, art, literature, philosophy, and institutional development of each tradition. This course is offered as both AAS 102 and RLS 102. 3 credits

AAS 110-G Appreciating Indian Music
An introduction to the basic elements of Indian classical music, such as “rāga” and “tāla”; “gharānas” (schools); and styles. Vocal and instrumental masterpieces are studied. Topics include: the roles of stringed and percussion instruments; the intimate relationship between music and religion, and music and ethnicity; and the influence of Indian classical music on contemporary art forms such as films and folk music. No previous musical training is required. 3 credits

AAS 201-J Introduction to the Civilization of the Indian Subcontinent
Key concepts in South Asian civilization in art, architecture, religion, philosophy, science, society, literature, and politics from the Indus Valley to the present. Topics include evolution of Hinduism, Buddhism, yoga, classical and modern languages, the caste system and reform movements, Ashok, Akbar and great emperors, impact of Islam and Western colonization, and Gandhi and the impact of South Asia on the world. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes. 3 credits

AAS 211-F Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Social Sciences
Using the methodologies of the social sciences disciplines of history, political science, sociology, and economics, this course provides an introductory overview of important topics in Asian and Asian American studies. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes. 3 credits

AAS 212-G Asian and Asian American Studies Topics in the Humanities
Using methodologies of the Humanities disciplines, such as literature, linguistics, classics, cultural studies, philosophy, religious studies, and art history and criticism, this course provides an introductory overview of important topics in Asian and Asian American Studies. Topics may range from women in Japanese fiction to Mahatma Gandhi’s impact on politics and ethics. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description of topic and when course is offered. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes. 3 credits

AAS 216-J Introduction to Japanese Studies
An introduction to Japanese culture as a foundation for understanding Japan. The changing historical experiences of the Japanese people are examined, exposing students to the diversity of backgrounds, values, and opinions in Japan. Japanese history and culture are also explored in relation to other countries and peoples. Prerequisite: Completion of D.E.C. category B 3 credits

AAS 217-J Introduction to Korean Culture
A general survey of Korean culture from the earliest recorded periods to the 20th century, including painting, music, dance, ceramic art, sculpture, architecture, literature, and folklore. These are discussed in relation to the intellectual, philosophical, and religious movements of their time. Previously offered as KRH 240. Not for credit in addition to KRH 240. 3 credits

AAS 219-J Introduction to Chinese History and Civilization
Introductory survey examining key concepts and significant themes in Chinese history. Topics include Confucianism, popular religion, government, foreign policy, the economy, Western influence, Chinese revolution, and modernization. This course is offered as both AAS 219 and HIS 219. 3 credits

AAS 220-J China: Language and Culture
A survey of regional languages and cultures of China. Addresses issues of diversity and standardization in the world’s most populous country; particularly the role of language as both a system of spoken and written signs as well as a resource for cultural reproduction and social change. Explores discourse norms, key cultural concepts, and the unique problems posed by cross-cultural translation and interpretation. 3 credits

AAS 240-J Confucianism and Taoism
An introduction to the basic philosophies and doctrines of Confucianism and Taoism, such as the concept of Tao, non-action, benevolence, and propriety. The course explores both the similarities and the differences between these two traditions. This course is offered as both AAS 240 and RLS 240. 3 credits

AAS 246-J Korean and Japanese Religions
An introduction to Korean and Japanese religious history from earliest recorded periods to the 19th century. Emphasis is given to Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Korean Shamanism, and Japanese Shintoism. Relationships between the Korean variant of religious traditions and those of China and Japan are also investigated. This course is offered as both AAS 246 and RLS 246. 3 credits

AAS 250-K Languages and Cultures of Asian Americans
Study of language use and cultural accommodation in selected Asian American communities in relation to the changing roles of Asians in U.S. society from the early democracy to the present. Issues include linguistic and cultural diversity of Asian and Asian Americans; comparison of Asian and European immigration patterns; struggle for equality and acceptance; cultural factors in assimilation; patterns of Asian language use and maintenance in various domains; the role of language in ethnic identity; attitudes toward English and bilingualism; bilingualism as a problem and as a resource. This course is offered as both AAS 250 and LIN 250. 3 credits

AAS 256-J Hinduism
Survey of the principal religious and philosophical currents of Hindu civilization in India from the time of the Vedas and Upanishads through the development of the major devotional ways and schools of thought current in India today. These include the polytheism of Hindu mythology, the theism of various forms of devotional practice, and the monotheism and nondualism of Hindu philosophy. This course is offered as both AAS 256 and RLS 256. 3 credits

AAS 260-J Buddhism
An introduction to the basic philosophy and doctrines of Buddhism, beginning with a survey of lives and works of major historical figures of Buddhism. The principal issues of Buddhist thought, drawing from Indian, East Asian, and Western sources, are treated. Particular attention is paid to the meaning of faith, practice, and enlightenment in Buddhism. This course is offered as both AAS 260 and RLS 260. 3 credits

AAS 280-J Islam
An introduction to the main features of Islamic revelation as contained in the Qur’an; its impact on the major intellectual, legal, and social institutions of the world it subsequently shaped; schism in the form of the Shi‘ite sects; Sufism. The course concludes with an examination of Islam in the modern world. This course is offered as both AAS 280 and RLS 280. 3 credits

AAS 300 Intellectual History of East Asia
Study of the historical development of major intellectual traditions of East Asia (China, Japan, Korea). Topics include the Political Thoughts of the Ancient World (Formations of Confucianism, Taoism, and Yin Yang and Correlative Thinking), Era of Metaphysics (Introduction and Development of Buddhism and East Asian Mysticism), Ethics and Nationalism (Neo-Confucianism and Encounter of the Western Civilization), and East Asia’s Modern Transformation (Modernization, Socialism, and Westernization). Prerequisites: One 200-level course in Asian Studies 3 credits

AAS 317-J Islamic Art
Art and architecture in the Islamic world from ca. 600 A.D. to the present, introducing the varied traditions of the arts of the Islamic world, from Spain and Morocco to the Indian subcontinent. Consideration of both religious and secular art and architecture in their historical and cultural contexts with emphasis on the development of Islamic forms of visual representation. This course is offered as both AAS 317 and ARH 317. Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; one ARH course 3 credits

AAS 320-G Literature of India
Introduction to selected classics of Indian literature in English translation. Classical and modern works are discussed, representing Sanskrit (the Vedas, the Upanishads, the epics Ramayana and Mahabharata, classical drama of Kalidasa and Bhasa), Tamil, Kannada, Hindi-Urdu, and Indian English. Western and Indian literary theories and critical approaches are compared and evaluated. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 201 (or the former SAS 240) 3 credits

AAS 321-G Korean Literature
An introduction in English to the literary tradition of Korea. Representative literary texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their historical background and the aesthetic and cultural values that inform them. Previously offered as KRH 251. Not for credit in addition to KRH 251. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 217 (formerly KRH 240) 3 credits

AAS 322-G Literature of Japan
An introduction in English to the literary tradition of Japan. Representative texts chosen from various periods are studied with attention to their historical background and the aesthetic and cultural values that formed them. Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 216 (formerly JNH 240) 3 credits

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Spring 2007: updates since Fall 2006 are in red
AAS 326-G Indian Mythology
Study of the major themes in Indian mythology and their evolution, including the relation of these myths to philosophy and religious issues such as Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. Myths are traced from the Vedas of 1500 B.C. to the modern Indian myths. The course will consider the impact of myths on classical Indian literature and art forms, as well as their impact on contemporary art forms such as film, television, and theatre.
Prerequisite: AAS 201 or 212
3 credits

AAS 327-G Great Epics of India: Ramayana and Mahabharata
The themes, characters, and plots of Ramayana and Mahabharata are analyzed in detail. The moral dilemmas presented and sometimes controversial solutions are explored in the context of “dharma,” or righteousness—the central concept of Hinduism. The course will compare the two epics with each other.
Prerequisite: AAS 201 or 212
3 credits

AAS 330-J Language and Society in South Asia
Study of the evolution, structure, and role of representative languages in South Asia. Focus is on multilingualism, lingua francas, national language, contact, and convergence, especially in education, administration, business, religion, literature, and the media. Topics may also include language, ethnic identity, and conflict; English in India: globalization and localization; and India’s impact on linguistics.
Advisory Prerequisite: LIN 101
3 credits

AAS 338-J Contemporary India: History, Politics, and Diplomacy (Post-1947)
Study of the forces shaping India’s post-independence history, domestic politics, and foreign diplomacy. As the world’s largest democracy, second most populous nation, and Asia’s second fastest growing economy, its impact on the international scene in the coming years will be carefully analyzed. The course, taught by a former Ambassador, will also focus on emerging trends in Indo-U.S. relations and impact of the Indian diaspora. This course is offered as both AAS 338 and POL 338.
Prerequisites: AAS 201 or POL 101; U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AAS 339-J Contemporary China: History, Politics, and Diplomacy (Post-1949)
This course will analyze the evolution of major events in contemporary China following the communist revolution that led to the establishment of the People’s Republic in 1949. The course, taught by a former Ambassador, will examine major political, economic, and social developments in light of both their general global impact and their particular relationship with the U.S. This course is offered as both AAS 339 and POL 339.
Prerequisites: AAS 219 or POL 101; U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AAS 340-J Topics in Asian History
Semester supplement to this Bulletin contain specific descriptions when course is offered. Past topics have included titles such as Late Imperial China; The Chinese Diaspora; and Overseas Chinese and Chinatowns. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic relating to non-Western world civilizations. Students will be expected to demonstrate either a knowledge of a broad outline of world history, or the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, and culture of one non-Western civilization. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes.
This course is offered as both AAS 340 and HIS 340.
Prerequisite: HIS 219 or 220
3 credits

AAS 341-J 20th-Century China
The history of China from the collapse of the monarchical to the triumph of communism, emphasizing the revolutionary, political, social, and economic changes in China today. Special attention is given to the theory and practice of Chinese communism. This course is offered as both AAS 341 and HIS 341.
3 credits

AAS 345-J Women and Gender in Chinese History
Exploration of traditional cultural practices and values, and the 20th-century changes in Western and Asian relations in China brought about by nationalism, interaction with Western influences, and social-ist rule. This course is offered as AAS 345, HIS 345, and WST 345.
Prerequisite: One of the following: HIS 219, HIS 220, CNS 249, CNS 250, or any WST course
3 credits

AAS 346 Philosophy of Education in Korea and Japan
An examination of the philosophical and religious principles of traditional education in Korea and Japan and the way in which these are reflected in actual practice. Since Confucius provides the basic framework for the discussion, special attention is paid to his teachings and the ways in which they were adapted and modified by his followers over the centuries.
Prerequisite: One 200-level course in Asian religion or philosophy
3 credits

AAS 348-J History of British India
The rise, development, and decline of British power in India from the mid-18th century to the mid-20th century; the nature and extent of British power; British social, cultural, and economic policies, and their impact on Indian society; Indian responses to British rule, resistance and collaboration, religious and cultural movements, and the rise of Indian nationalism; Hindu-Muslim conflict; partition and the transfer of power. This course is offered as both HIS 348 and AAS 348.
3 credits

AAS 351-J Revolutionary China: Politics, Culture, and Power
Explores the history of revolutionary nation-building efforts in 20th century China, examining social, cultural, economic, and political developments during the “Republican” and “Maoist” periods. Focuses on key terms and concepts used by agents and analysts of revolutionary change. Draws on interdisciplinary studies, studies, government documents, media reports, autobiographical accounts, and popular fiction to assess the consequences of major events on people’s lives, livelihoods, worldviews, and personal relationships. This course is offered as both AAS 351 and HIS 351.
Prerequisite: One AAS or HIS course
3 credits

AAS 352-H Environmental History of China
The history of interaction between human activities and the natural environment in China, with special attention to ecological consequences of various paradigms of economic development throughout Chinese history. Focus in on the political ecology of state-level societies, and the relationships among cultural ideas, behavioral practices, human health, and environmental change.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; completion of D.E.C. category E
3 credits

AAS 357-J India’s Foreign Policy
A critical analysis of the foreign policy of India since Independence in 1947, especially Non-alignment and relations with major powers. The factors behind India’s entry into the nuclear club and its impact on her international relations within the subcontinent and beyond. Analysis of issues such as Kashmir, terrorism, India’s quest for a permanent seat in the U.N. Security Council, economic reforms, and role of Indian diaspora to the country’s relations with the countries of their adoption. This course is offered as both AAS and POL 357.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing or permission of instructor
Advisory Prerequisites: AAS 201 and 348
3 credits

AAS 367-J Meditation and Enlightenment
A critical analysis of the traditions, practices, and literature of Zen and other traditions of Buddhism, with particular attention paid to the meaning of enlightenment and the practice of meditation. Previously offered as RLS 341, this course is now offered as both AAS 367 and RLS 367.
Prerequisite: AAS/RIS 102 or 260
3 credits

AAS 370-J Intercultural Communication
Through combination of theory and research from discourse linguistics and linguistic anthropology, this course examines (i) how culture shapes ways of speaking; (ii) how language constructs identities, dispositions, role relations; and (iii) what challenges people from different cultures may face when they communicate with each other. The following analytical perspectives will be presented: speech act theory, ethnography of communication, linguistic politeness, and sequential organization of turn taking.
This course is offered as both AAS 370 and LIN 370.
Prerequisite: One previous course in D.E.C. or one previous course in Linguistics.
3 credits

AAS 371-J Ancient China
Explores the development of social, economic, political, and cultural systems in ancient China, from the Neolithic period through the Han dynasty. Draws on archaeological and historical texts to examine the emergence of state-level polities and their subsequent unification under imperial authority. Analytical focus is on political economy, social organization, ritual exchange, and notions of power and rulership expressed in philosophical thought. This course is offered as both AAS 371 and ANT 371.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; completion of D.E.C. category F
3 credits

AAS 372-J Family, Marriage, and Kinship in China
Examines forms and dynamics of social organizations in Chinese society, focusing on cultural, social, and economic aspects of family, marriage, and extended kinship relations such as lineages, clans, and sworn brotherhoods. Particular attention is paid to how gender, generation, class, and ritual exchange shape identity, status, and power. This course is offered as both AAS 372 and ANT 372.
Prerequisite: ANT 102
Advisory Prerequisites: AAS 220 and ANT 354
3 credits
AAS 379-J Ethnicity and Nation in China
Focusing on the material and social contexts that have shaped perceptions of cultural groups in China, both past and present, the course explores issues of identity, minority status, civilizations and autonomous movements, and notions of race, ethnicity, and nation. Drawing on case studies from the Himalayan plateau, the Central Asian steppes, Taiwan, and Diaspora communities, students examine how ecology and livelihood, social organization and exchange, and politics and religion influence constructions of identity. This course is offered as both AAS 379 and ANT 379.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
Advisory Prerequisite: AAS 220 or HIS 219 (or the former CNS 249 or 250)
3 credits

AAS 380-G Islamic Classics
A study in depth of Islamic texts in translation. Selections may be made from the Qur’an, the Hadith, the Law, and from one or more of the major intellectual schools, such as Kalam (scholastic theology), Peripatetic philosophy, illuminationist theosophy, Sufism, and the “transcendent theosophy” of the School of Isfahan. May be repeated as the topic changes. Previously offered as RLS 408, this course is now offered as both AAS 380 and RLS 380.
Prerequisite: AAS/RLS 280
3 credits

AAS 382-G Japanese Buddhism
An introduction to the teachings and practices of the three major schools of Japanese Buddhism: Esoteric Buddhism, Zen, and Pure Land. The course focuses on the writings of the founders of the important lineages within these schools. Formerly offered as RLS 406, this course is now offered as both AAS 382 and RLS 382. Not for credit in addition to the former RLS 406.
Prerequisite: AAS/RLS 260
3 credits

AAS 391-G Humanities Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific descriptions when course is offered. Past topics have included titles such as Sikhism; Introduction to Indian Philosophy; Modern Indian Literature; and Appreciating Indian Music. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific descriptions when course is offered. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within humanities disciplines such as music, art, literature, religion, and philosophy. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge of the conventions and methods used in the humanities discipline(s) studied. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AAS 392-F Social Science Topics in Asian and Asian American Studies
Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific descriptions when course is offered. Topics may include titles such as Indian Grammatical Tradition, English in Asia, and Indian Economics. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic within social sciences disciplines such as history, economics, political science, and linguistics. Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the methods social scientists use to explore social phenomena, and knowledge of the major concepts, models, and issues of the social science discipline(s) studied. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes.
Prerequisite: U3 or U4 standing
3 credits

AAS 394-J Topics in Asian Art
Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. Past topics have included titles such as The Art of India and The Art of the Silk Road. Designed for upper-division students, this course provides an in-depth study of a specific topic relating to non-Western world civilizations. Students will be expected to demonstrate either a knowledge of a broad outline of world history, or the distinctive features of the history, institutions, economy, society, and culture of one non-Western civilization. May be repeated for credit as the topic changes. This course is offered as both AAS 394 and ARH 394.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; one ARH course
3 credits

AAS 400 Seminar in Korean Studies
A seminar for upper-division students in the Korean studies minor, exploring in depth a single theme chosen to illustrate the relations among literary, religious, philosophical, historical, and cultural aspects of Korean life. Use of original texts and other materials is emphasized. May be repeated once as topic changes.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; one 200-level course in Korean Studies
3 credits

AAS 401 Senior Seminar in Asian and Asian American Studies
An intensive study of the theoretical and methodological issues in Asian and Asian American Studies, examining the intellectual histories and political contexts of ‘area’ and ‘ethnic’ studies and their relationship to broader interdisciplinary research and public discourse. Possible topics may include history, memory, and representation; Asian American social activism; global/local interactions; and the politics of national identity and security.
Prerequisites: U4 standing; AAS major
3 credits

AAS 447 Directed Readings in Asian and Asian American Studies
Independent readings in advanced topics in Asian and Asian American studies. May be repeated.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
1-6 credits

AAS 475, 476 Undergraduate Teaching Practica I, II
Students assist instructors in Asian and Asian American studies courses with large enrollments. Under the supervision of the course instructor, they are responsible for conducting discussion and review sections and helping students with course readings and assignments. In AAS 476, students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.
Prerequisites to AAS 475: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
Prerequisites to AAS 476: AAS 475; permission of instructor
5 credits per course, S/U grading

AAS 487 Supervised Research in Asian and Asian American Studies
Independent research under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated to a limit of 6 credits.
Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
0-3 credits

AAS 488 Internship
Participation in a local, state, or federal governmental agency or community organization. Students are required to submit progress reports to their department sponsor and a final report on their experience to the department faculty. May be repeated up to a limit of 12 credits.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate program director
0-6 credits, S/U grading