



# FALL 2025

DEPARTMENT OF EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURES

## REGION

## COURSE TITLE/DESCRIPTION

### EAST ASIA

**AHUM UN1400 COLLOQUIUM ON MAJOR TEXTS: EAST ASIA (GLOBAL CORE):  
001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007**

This course explores the core classical literature in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese Humanities.

**EAAS UN3322 EAST ASIAN CINEMA (GLOBAL CORE)**

This course introduces the aesthetics and politics of East Asian cinema from the Silent era to the present as part of the region's intertwining histories.

**EAAS UN3990 APPROACHES TO EAST ASIAN STUDIES: 001,**

A conceptual introduction to East Asian studies through the analysis of particular objects of historical, literary, religious, and cultural study from varying disciplinary perspectives.

### CHINA

**ASCE UN1359 INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION: CHINA (GLOBAL CORE)**

The evolution of Chinese civilization from antiquity to early modernity, with emphasis on characteristic institutions and traditions.

**NEW EARL UN3261 RELIGION AND REVOLUTION IN MODERN CHINA AND THE WORLD**

This course explores the negotiation of religion and revolutionary politics in modern China through literature, art, and cultural production. In the course, we will ask why religion continued to play an important role in the social, political, and cultural life of modern China, despite the frequently conjectured incompatibility between religion and revolution.

**NEW EAAS BC3840 BEYOND THE GREAT WALL: NOMADIC EMPIRES AND CHINA**

Taking the "Great Wall" as both a territorial boundary and a conceptual metaphor, this course examines the dynamic Sino-steppe interactions in the longue durée.





## CHINA

### **EAAS UN3935 THE FANTASTIC IN PREMODERN CHINA**

Using “fantastic” literature as a critical lens, this course takes a thematic approach to the masterpieces of Chinese literature from the first millennium BCE up until late imperial China.

### **HSEA GU4222 CHINA'S GLOBAL HISTORIES: PEOPLE, SPACE, AND POWER**

This seminar explores the interplay between Chinese and global history through a long-term, multiregional lens, encouraging students to analyze themes like trade, empire, migration, and ideology. It challenges Eurocentric and Sinocentric perspectives, aiming to develop new conceptual tools for understanding global historical processes.

### **EAAS GU4226 GENDER, CLASS, AND REAL ESTATE IN URBANIZING CHINA**

This seminar uses lenses of gender, class, and ethnicity to analyze socioeconomic consequences of China's development of a booming real-estate market since housing was privatized.

### **RELI GU4307 BUDDHISM & DAOISM IN CHINA**

This course addresses topics on terminology, doctrine, cosmology, eschatology, soteriology, exorcism, scriptural productions, ritual performance, miracle tales and visual representations that arose in the interactions of the two religions, with particular attention paid to critiquing terms such as “influence,” “encounter,” “dialogue,” “hybridity,” “syncretism,” and “repertoire.”

### **NEW EAAS GU4370 LITERATI CULTURE IN PRE-MODERN CHINA**

This course examines the birth and development of literati culture in pre-modern China. It also takes an interdisciplinary approach, including texts, images, material objects.

### **CHNS GU4507 READINGS IN CLASSICAL CHINESE**

Focusing on Tang and Song prose and poetry, this course introduces a broad variety of genres through close readings of chosen texts as well as the specific methods, skills, and tools to approach them.

### **EAAS GU4840 CHINA AND THE POLITICS OF DESIRE**

This course will explore the shifting figure of desire across the Maoist and post-Maoist eras by examining how academics, artists and others have represented Chinese needs, wants, and fantasies.

### **HSEA GU4880 HISTORY OF MODERN CHINA I (GLOBAL CORE)**

This course examines the social, economic, political, and cultural foundations of modern China as established during the last imperial regime.



## JAPAN

### **ASCE UN1361 INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION: JAPAN (GLOBAL CORE)**

A survey of important events and individuals, prominent literary and artistic works, and recurring themes in the history of Japan, from prehistory to the 20th century.

### **JPNS GU4519 INTRODUCTION TO KANBUN**

This class is intended to build proficiency in reading the variety of classical Japanese written styles subsumed under the broad term kanbun 漢文. More specifically, it aims to foster familiarity with kundoku 訓読, a collection of techniques for reading and writing classical Japanese in texts largely or entirely composed of Chinese characters.

### **HSEA GU4847 MODERN JAPAN (GLOBAL CORE)**

This course uses primary and secondary sources to explore the history of Japan since 1800, with a particular focus on the 20th century.

### **HSEA GU4870 JAPAN BEFORE 1600 (GLOBAL CORE)**

Introduces the history of the Japanese archipelago from the Stone Age to the 16th century C.E. through various primary source materials in translation.

## KOREA

### **HIST UN2851 MAKING MODERN KOREA**

This course explores Korea's history from the late nineteenth century to the present with a particular focus on caste/class, gender, war and industrialization. It will give students a thorough grounding in modern Korean history and introduce them to major interpretative currents in the study of Korean history.

### **EAAS UN3215 KOREAN LITERATURE & FILM**

This course traces the history of Korean cinema and literature from the 1930s to the early 2000s.

### **EARL GU4322 ENLIGHTENMENT OR SALVATION: PRACTICES & RITUALS OF KOREAN BUDDHISM**

The course explores basic doctrines and practices of Korean Buddhism, including Hwaŏm (Huayan) and Sŏn (Zen) as well as Maitreya and Amitābha worships and death rituals.

### **HSEA GU4860 CULTURE AND SOCIETY OF CHOSON KOREA**

This course takes a comprehensive look at the Choson dynasty (1392- 1910) which poses historiographical challenges to the understanding and conceptualization of Korean history and culture.

### **NEW: EAAS GU4310 NARRATING PREMODERN KOREA**

This course examines how historical narratives were crafted in premodern Korea, with a focus on the Chosŏn dynasty (1392–1910).





## TIBET

### **ASCE UN1365 INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION: TIBET (GLOBAL CORE)**

This course introduces Tibetan civilization and its history from its earliest recorded origins to the present. Topics include Tibetan Buddhism and contemporary politics.

### **EAAS GU4616 CLIMATE CHANGE: THE TIBETAN PLATEAU AS A CASE STUDY**

Exploration of climate change on the earth's vulnerable "Third Pole" which sources 3 billion people downstream. Topics include glaciers, permafrost, climate history, pastoralism, and adaptation.

### **NEW UPCOMING TIBETAN BUDDHIST AESTHETICS**

This course explores the role of beauty and aesthetics in Tibetan Buddhism, examining how sensory experiences—through images, objects, sounds, tastes, and feelings—can both aid and hinder spiritual practice. Students will critically investigate when the senses lead to attachment or liberation and how aesthetics can be ethically charged, particularly through the frequent association of beauty with virtue. This seminar is designed for graduate students and is also open to advanced undergraduates with instructor's approval.

[\(for more info contact professor Dominique Townsend\)](#)

## VIETNAM

### **ASCE UN1367 INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN CIVILIZATION: VIETNAM (GLOBAL CORE)**

An introduction to Vietnamese political, cultural, intellectual, linguistic, and literary development, from prehistoric origins to French colonization in the 19th century.

### **HIST UN3866 WARS OF INDOCHINA**

This course examines Saigon and Hanoi as social, political, and cultural spaces, and as representations of their respective states during the war. We consider the significance of regionalism in fashioning "new ways of being Vietnamese" and examine how colonial rule reinforced those distinctions. The rest of the semester is devoted to reading an array of works on the history of these cities.

## **\*\*GRADUATE-LEVEL ONLY COURSES\*\***

HSEA GR8883 **TOPICS IN THE MIDDLE PERIOD OF CHINESE HISTORY (SONG)**

HSEA GR8992 **CHINESE MEDIA CULTURES**

HSEA GR8880 **COLLOQUIUM ON MODERN CHINESE HISTORY**

**NEW** EAAS GR8029 **HISTORIOGRAPHY IN EARLY MEDIEVAL CHINA**

RELI GR9336 **CHINESE BUDDHIST LITERATURE**

EAAS GR8222 **KOREAN CULTURAL STUDIES SEMINAR**

EAAS GR6990 **MA THESIS RESEARCH**

EAAS GR6991 **MA THESIS WRITING**

\*\*PLEASE CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR DIRECTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE COURSE.



# *Course Information*

DEPARTMENT OF EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURES

## **COURSE DESIGNATOR KEY:**

**UN = UNDERGRADUATE COURSES:**  
3000-LEVEL AND BELOW

**GU = UNDERGRADUATE  
& GRADUATE COURSES:**  
4000-LEVEL

**GR = GRADUATE COURSES:**  
5000-LEVEL AND ABOVE

## **NOTE ON COURSES:**

**\*EALAC electives must be 3000 level or Above\***

**\*Non-EALAC electives must be approved by the DUS\***

**Undergraduate Program:** Any course listed in this document at the 3000-level or above can be used to fulfill one of the elective requirements.

For all courses taught outside of the EALAC department, please refer to the [Non-EALAC Elective Course List](#). If the course is not listed, you must contact the EALAC DUS for approval, in order to count the course as an EALAC elective.

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**MA Program:** Please consult with your advisor and the MA Program Director before enrolling in any course below the 4000 level.

Students may take relevant courses in other departments, but these courses must be approved by the MA Program Director and advisor prior to registration, in order to count towards the content course requirement. Students should submit a brief rationale, the course name, instructor, course description, and syllabus (when it is available).