

# Asian Studies (AIST)

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Asian Studies Website (<https://fulbright.uark.edu/area-studies/asian-studies/>)

Students may pursue Asian studies as a second, dependent major to be taken alongside a primary major in Fulbright College. The program also offers two minors, one in Asian Studies and a second in East Asian History and Politics.

The Asian Studies Program draws on the strength of faculty both in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences and in other colleges on campus to provide resources and training in Asian languages, cultures, history, politics and economics. The program strives to provide students with a well-rounded education essential for careers in which knowledge of Asia is vital, promote interdisciplinary research on the Pacific region, and serve as a source of knowledge and expertise for the community.

## Requirements for a Dependent Major in Asian Studies

A total of 30 credit hours in Asian Studies courses in addition to the requirements of another major.

### Language Requirement 3

Completion of Chinese (CHIN) or Japanese (JAPN) at the elementary II (10203) level or higher.<sup>1</sup>

(Proficiency in other Asian languages may also satisfy this requirement upon approval from the director of the program.)

### Colloquium 3

AIST Asian Studies Colloquium  
40003/400H3

### AIST Electives 24

In addition to the above requirements, students must complete 24 credit hours of courses chosen from below, subject to the following conditions of distribution:

1. Students must complete at least 6 credit hours in history (HIST) courses.
2. Students must complete at least 6 credit hours in social science courses chosen from economics (ECON), political science (PLSC), or sociology (SOCI).

AIST 3900V Special Topics in Asian Studies

AIST Asian Studies Colloquium (If taken a second time)  
40003/400H3

CHIN/AIST Chinese Culture through Film  
31003

CHIN 39803 Special Studies

CHIN 43103/ AIST 43203 Culture and Society in China

ECON 39303 The Japanese Economic System

ECON 46303 International Trade

HIST 35203 Modern China

HIST/AIST World War II  
35303

HIST/AIST Modern Japan  
36303

HIST/AIST Islam in Asia  
44003

JAPN 39803 Special Studies

JAPN 43103 Language and Society of Japan

PLSC/AIST Governments and Politics of East Asia  
35003

PLSC/AIST Foreign Policy of East Asia  
48203

SOCI/AIST Sociology of China  
32703

Any additional CHIN 30000+ course

Any additional JAPN 30000+ course

Any additional course with a Course prefix of AIST that is not in this list may also count towards major/minor requirements

**Total Hours 30**

<sup>1</sup> This is usually accomplished through completion of a sequence of world language courses: Elementary I (10103) and Elementary II (10203).

## Requirements for a Minor in Asian Studies

Students may earn a minor in Asian Studies by taking at least 15 credit hours of courses in art, anthropology, economics, geography, history, languages, sociology, political science, and literature of Asia.

### Language Requirement 3

Completion of Chinese (CHIN) or Japanese (JAPN) at the elementary II (10203) level or higher.<sup>1</sup>

(Proficiency in other Asian languages may also satisfy this requirement upon approval from the director of the program.)

### Colloquium 3

AIST Asian Studies Colloquium  
40003/400H3

### AIST Electives 9

In addition to the above requirements and the requirements, students must complete 9 credit hours of courses chosen from below:

AIST 3900V Special Topics in Asian Studies

AIST Asian Studies Colloquium (If taken a second time)  
40003/400H3

CHIN/AIST Chinese Culture through Film  
31003

CHIN 39803 Special Studies

CHIN 43103/ AIST 43203 Culture and Society in China

ECON 39303 The Japanese Economic System

ECON 46303 International Trade

HIST 35203 Modern China

HIST/AIST World War II  
35303

HIST/AIST Modern Japan  
36303

HIST/AIST Islam in Asia  
44003

JAPN 39803 Special Studies

JAPN 43103 Language and Society of Japan

PLSC/AIST 35003	Governments and Politics of East Asia
PLSC/AIST 48203	Foreign Policy of East Asia
SOCI/AIST 32703	Sociology of China
Any additional CHIN 30000+ course	
Any additional JAPN 30000+ course	
Any additional course with a Course prefix of AIST that is not in this list may also count towards major/minor requirements	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>15</b>

<sup>1</sup> This is usually accomplished through completion of a sequence of world language courses: Elementary I (10103) and Elementary II (10203).

Other courses that include Asia-specific content may be taken for credit toward the secondary major or minor with the approval of the Chair of Asian Studies.

## Minor in East Asian History and Politics

The East Asian history and political science minor is designed to enhance students' understanding of the historical and political development of East Asia, in particular China and Japan. Students must complete 15 hours in courses related to East Asian history and political science in order to earn the minor. The interdisciplinary nature of this degree will allow students to use a variety of courses on East Asia to develop their own B.A. degree and thus prepare for a career related to the region.

**Students must complete 15 hours from the following:**

### Required Courses (6 hours)

PLSC 35003	Governments and Politics of East Asia	3
HIST 35203	Modern China	3

### Electives 9

Choose any three courses

AIST 40003	Asian Studies Colloquium
or AIST 400H Honors Asian Studies Colloquium	
CHIN 31003	Chinese Culture through Film
CHIN 43103	Culture and Society in China
HIST 44003	Islam in Asia
Students can apply up to 3 hours of upper level Chinese or Japanese language courses and 3 hours in an approved study abroad program toward the minor.	

**Total Hours 15**

## Courses

### AIST 31003. Chinese Culture through Film. 3 Hours.

Explores Chinese culture through the lens of Chinese films with an emphasis on contemporary communicative culture. Designed to give students analytical insights into Chinese culture, especially how its language, history, philosophy, society, education, customs, family values, and gender roles shape contemporary culture and people's communication. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

### AIST 32703. Sociology of China. 3 Hours.

This class offers a sociological account of China, including both its social ethos and the experience of Chinese Americans in the United States. (Typically offered: Fall)  
This course is cross-listed with SOCI 32703.

### AIST 35003. Government and Politics of East Asia. 3 Hours.

Comparative analysis of structures, processes, and problems of the political systems of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, Japan, and the Peoples Republic of China. Prerequisite: PLSC 20103. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)  
This course is cross-listed with PLSC 35003.

### AIST 35303. World War II. 3 Hours.

This course explores broad themes such as imperialism, colonialism, nationalism, transnationalism, and racism by placing WWII in the context of the build-up of tensions between China, the Japanese Empire, and the United States starting in the nineteenth century. (Typically offered: Spring)  
This course is cross-listed with HIST 35303.

### AIST 36303. Modern Japan. 3 Hours.

This course exposes students to the rapid transformations in Japan from the mid-nineteenth century through to their rise into an important player in global politics. Students will be familiarized with the narrative history of the Japanese home islands as well as the place of Japan in the context of world events and global currents. (Typically offered: Fall)  
This course is equivalent to HIST 36303.

### AIST 3900V. Special Topics in Asian Studies. 1-3 Hour.

Special topics in Asian Studies. May be repeated for degree credit. (Typically offered: Fall, Spring and Summer) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

### AIST 40003. Asian Studies Colloquium. 3 Hours.

An interdepartmental colloquium with an annual change of subject, required of students in the Asian studies program. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. (Typically offered: Fall) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

### AIST 400H3. Honors Asian Studies Colloquium. 3 Hours.

An interdepartmental colloquium with an annual change of subject, required of students in the Asian studies program. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. (Typically offered: Fall) May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.  
This course is equivalent to AIST 40003.

### AIST 43203. Culture and Society in China. 3 Hours.

Examines contemporary Chinese society and culture through the lens of language and with an emphasis on globalization. (Typically offered: Fall and Spring)

### AIST 44003. Islam in Asia. 3 Hours.

This course will introduce students to the history and varieties of Muslim life in East Asia and Southeast Asia during the past 1,200 years. Through a comparative historical approach, it will examine themes of gender, imperialism and nationalism, religious education, pilgrimage, Islamic modernism, and religious extremism. (Typically offered: Fall)  
This course is cross-listed with HIST 44003.

### AIST 48203. Foreign Policy of East Asia. 3 Hours.

This course provides an introduction to China's foreign policy at the undergraduate level. Key topics covered include the historical, domestic, and international contexts of Chinese foreign policy, China's relations with key partner countries, security strategies, foreign economic relations, and evolving role in global governance. (Typically offered: Fall)  
This course is cross-listed with PLSC 48203.