EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Director of undergraduate studies: Pauline Lin, 143 Elm St., Rm. 104, 432-2938, pauline.lin@yale.edu; eall.yale.edu

The major in East Asian Languages and Literatures provides an intellectually focused and rigorous immersion in the East Asian humanities. The department’s courses reflect the breadth, depth, and variety of East Asian textual traditions, premodern through modern, including film and theater. The major is focused on the analysis of literature, culture, and thought, and is built on a solid foundation of language study. Students elect either the Chinese or the Japanese track, but are encouraged to take courses in both tracks and to become familiar with aspects of East Asian literary culture that transcend geographic parameters.

COURSES FOR NONMAJORS

All courses offered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures are open to nonmajors.

COURSE NUMBERING

Language courses use the subject codes CHNS, JAPN, or KREN. Multiple titled courses that include CHNS and JAPN subject codes and are numbered 200 to 299 have some sections taught in Chinese or Japanese. Courses with the subject code EALL are content courses whose focus is critical and humanistic; those numbered 200 to 299 are introductory, and those numbered 300 to 399 are advanced. Courses numbered EALL 001 to 099 are freshman seminars on East Asian literature, film, and humanities.

PREREQUISITE

Candidates for the major must complete CHNS 140 or JAPN 140 or the equivalent.

PLACEMENT PROCEDURES

Students who enroll in the department’s language courses for the first time but who have studied Chinese, Japanese, or Korean elsewhere, and students who have skills in one of these languages because of family background, must take a placement examination at the beginning of the academic year. The times and places of the examinations are listed on the departmental website in August. The Chinese and Japanese examinations have online components accessed through the same site. Students of Japanese, Chinese, and Korean who are returning from programs abroad must take a placement examination, unless the course work was completed at an institution preapproved by the Richard U. Light Fellowship program. For questions, consult with the director of undergraduate studies.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

The major consists of at least eleven term courses beyond the prerequisite. Students must take two terms of advanced modern Chinese (CHNS 150 and 151 or equivalents) or advanced Japanese (JAPN 150 and 151 or equivalents), as well as two terms of literary Chinese or Japanese (CHNS 170 and 171, or JAPN 170 and 171). Students also take a survey course in Chinese, Japanese, or East Asian history and culture, preferably early in their studies. Three courses are required in literature in translation, taught in English, selected from EALL 200–399; one must be focused primarily on premodern content. These three may include courses on theater and film. In addition, two advanced courses with readings in literary or modern Chinese and/or Japanese are required.

Credit/D/Fail

A maximum of one course taken Credit/D/Fail may be counted toward the requirements of the major, with permission of the director of undergraduate studies.

SENIOR REQUIREMENT

Students prepare a one-term senior essay in EALL 491 or a yearlong senior essay in EALL 492 and 493. Those who elect a yearlong essay effectively commit to taking twelve term courses in the major, because the second term of the essay may not be substituted for any of the eleven required courses.

STUDY ABROAD

Students are encouraged to study abroad. Interested students should consult with the director of undergraduate studies and with the office of the Richard U. Light Fellowship to apply for support for programs in China, Japan, and Korea.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

Prerequisite CHNS 140 or JAPN 140 or equivalent

Number of courses 11 courses (incl one-term senior essay) or 12 courses (incl yearlong senior essay) beyond prereq

Specific courses required Chinese track—CHNS 150, 151, 170, 171, or equivalents; Japanese track—JAPN 150, 151, 170, 171, or equivalents

Distribution of courses 1 course in Chinese, Japanese, or East Asian hist and culture; 3 courses in lit in translation numbered EALL 200–399, one of them premodern; 2 adv courses with readings in Chinese and/or Japanese

Senior requirement One-term senior essay (EALL 491) or yearlong senior essay (EALL 492, 493)

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Professors Kang-i Sun Chang, Aaron Gerow (Chair), Edward Kamens, Tina Lu, Jing Tsu

Assistant Professors Lucas Bender, Michael Hunter, Seth Jacobowitz
Senior Lecturer  Pauline Lin
Lecturer  Stephen Poland
Senior Lecturers  II  Seungja Choi, Angela Lee-Smith
Senior Lecturers  Hsiu-hsien Chan, Min Chen, Koichi Hiroe, Rongzhen Li, Ninghui Liang, Fan Liu, Yoshiko Maruyama, Michiaki Murata, Hiroyo Nishimura, Masahiko Seto, Jihanua Shen, Mari Stever, Wei Su, Chuanmei Sun, Haiwen Wang, Yu-lin Wang Saussy, Peisong Xu, Yongtao Zhang, William Zhou
Lector  Aoi Saito
Affiliated Faculty  Chloe Starr (Divinity School)

Courses

East Asian Humanities

EALL 200a / CHNS 200a / EAST 240a / HUMS 270a, The Chinese Tradition  Tina Lu and Yongtao Zhang
An introduction to the literature, culture, and thought of premodern China, from the beginnings of the written record to the turn of the twentieth century. Close study of textual and visual primary sources, with attention to their historical and cultural backdrops. Students enrolled in CHNS 200 must have L5 proficiency in Mandarin or permission of the course instructor.  HU TR

EALL 206b / EAST 250b / HSAR 206b / HUMS 232b / LITR 175b, Japan’s Classics in Text and Image  Edward Kamens and Mimi Yienprukasawan
An introduction to the Japanese classics (poetry, narrative fiction, drama) in their manifestations in multiple media, especially in the visual and material realm. Special reference to and engagement with a simultaneous Yale University Art Gallery installation of rare books, paintings, and other works of art from Japan. No knowledge of Japanese required. Formerly JAPN 200.  WR, HU TR

EALL 211a / EAST 241 / LITR 174a / WGSS 405a, Women and Literature in Traditional China  Kang-i Sun Chang
A study of major women writers in traditional China, as well as representations of women by male authors. The power of women’s writing; women and material culture; women in exile; courtesans; Taoist and Buddhist nuns; widow poets; cross-dressing women; the female body and its metaphors; footbinding; notions of love and death; the aesthetics of illness; women and revolution; poetry clubs; the function of memory in women’s literature; problems of gender and genre. All readings in translation; no knowledge of Chinese required. Some Chinese texts provided for students who read Chinese. Formerly CHNS 201.  HU TR

* EALL 230a / EAST 242 / HUMS 269a, Poetry and Ethics Amidst Imperial Collapse  Lucas Bender
Du Fu has for the last millennium been considered China’s greatest poet. Close study of nearly one-sixth of his complete works, contextualized by selections from the tradition that defined the art in his age. Exploration of the roles literature plays in interpreting human lives and the ways different traditional forms shape different ethical orientation. Poetry as a vehicle for moral reflection. All readings are in English.  WR, HU

* EALL 233b / EAST 243b / HSAR 417b / HUMS 285b, History of Chinese Imperial Parks and Private Gardens  Pauline Lin
Study of notable parks and private gardens of China, spanning from the 2nd century BCE to contemporary China. Themes include the history, politics, and economics surrounding construction of parks; garden designs and planning; cultural representations of the garden; and modern reinterpreted landscapes. Some sessions meet in the Yale University Art Gallery. No previous knowledge of Chinese language is necessary. Students previously enrolled in EALL 150 may not take this course for credit.  HU

* EALL 252a / EAST 252, Japanese Modernism  Seth Jacobowitz
Japanese literature and art from the 1920s through the 1940s. The avant-garde and mass culture; popular genre fiction; the advent of new media technologies and techniques; effects of Japanese imperialism, militarism, and fascism on cultural production; experimental writers and artists and their resistance to, or complicity with, the state.  HU

* EALL 256b / EAST 253b / HUMS 251b / LITR 251b, 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 and Africa, Mandarinization, labor and migration, Chinese America, nationalism and humiliation, and art and counterfeiting. Readings and discussion in English.  HU

* EALL 265b / EAST 251b / LITR 251b, Japanese Literature after 1970  Stephen Poland
Study of Japanese literature published between 1970 and the present. Writers may include Murakami Ryu, Maruya Saiichi, Shimada Masahiko, Nakagami Kenji, Yoshimoto Banana, Yamada Eimi, Murakami Haruki, and Medoruma Shun. Enrollment limited to 20. No knowledge of Japanese required.  HU
* EALL 280a / EAST 260 / FILM 307a, East Asian Martial Arts Film  Aaron Gerow
The martial arts film has not only been a central genre for many East Asian cinemas, it has been the cinematic form that has most defined those cinemas for others. Domestically, martial arts films have served to promote the nation, while on the international arena, they have been one of the primary conduits of transnational cinematic interaction, as kung-fu or samurai films have influenced films inside and outside East Asia, from The Matrix to Kill Bill. Martial arts cinema has become a crucial means for thinking through such issues as nation, ethnicity, history, East vs. West, the body, gender, sexuality, stardom, industry, spirituality, philosophy, and mediality, from modernity to postmodernity. It is thus not surprising that martial arts films have also attracted some of the world's best filmmakers, ranging from Kurosawa Akira to Wong Kar Wai. This course focuses on films from Japan, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea—as well as on works from other countries influenced by them—covering such martial arts genres such as the samurai film, kung-fu, karate, wuxia, and related historical epics. It provides a historical survey of each nation and genre, while connecting them to other genres, countries, and media. HU TR

* EALL 286a / EAST 261 / HUMS 290a / LITR 285a / PORT 360a, The Modern Novel in Brazil and Japan  Seth Jacobowitz
Brazilian and Japanese novels from the late nineteenth century to the present. Representative texts from major authors are read in pairs to explore their commonalities and divergences. Topics include nineteenth-century realism and naturalism, the rise of mass culture and the avant-garde, and existentialism and postmodernism. No knowledge of Portuguese or Japanese required. HU TR

EALL 289a / EAST 262 / LITR 255a, Crime and Detective Fiction in East Asian Literature and Film  Stephen Poland
Exploration of East Asian literature, film, culture, and history through examination of the genre of "crime" or "detective" fiction. Topics include genre theory, as well as a variety of traveling themes in modernity, such as sexuality, surveillance, colonialism, scientific rationality, perversion, the urban, debt, violence, and transnational cultural flows. HU

* EALL 294b / EAST 395b / Rlst 344b, Death and the Afterlife in Chinese Cultures  Kelsey Seymour
This seminar explores ideas surrounding death in China and Taiwan, including retribution, the afterlife, and ghosts in Chinese religious traditions. To investigate this, we turn to religious scriptures, mortuary items, documentaries, and scholarly writings, and ask ourselves the following questions: How do concepts of the afterlife reflect and affect the situations of the living? How do the living maintain a relationship with the dead? HU

* EALL 299b / EAST 263, Decolonizing East Asia  Stephen Poland
Exploration of how literary and cinematic works engaged with, promoted, critiqued, and struggled with empire and colonization in East Asia from the late-nineteenth-century to the present day. Topics include Japan's imperial rivalry with colonial and postcolonial Europe; post-WWII cultural works and the neoimperialism of Soviet-American Cold War order; empire and colonization after the Cold War, especially in terms of the rise of China; and continued relevance of past imperial formations in twenty-first-century cultural production. HU

* EALL 300a / EAST 340, Sinological Methods  Pauline Lin
A research course in Chinese studies, designed for students with background in modern and literary Chinese. Exploration and evaluation of the wealth of primary sources and research tools available in Chinese. For native speakers of Chinese, introduction to the secondary literature in English and instruction in writing professionally in English on topics about China. Topics include the compilation and development of Chinese bibliographies; bibliophiles' notes; editions, censorship, and textual variation and reliability; specialized dictionaries; maps and geographical gazetteers; genealogies and biographical sources; archaeological and visual materials; and major Chinese encyclopedias and compendia. Prerequisite: CHNS 171 or equivalent. Formerly CHNS 202. HU

* EALL 302a / EAST 341, Readings in Classical Chinese Prose  Kang-i Sun Chang
Close reading of classical Chinese texts (wenyan) primarily from late Imperial China. A selection of formal and informal prose, including memoirs, sanwen essays, classical tales, biographies, and autobiographies. Focus on cultural and historical contexts, with attention to reception in China and in some cases in Korea and Japan. Questions concerning readership and governmental censorship, function of literature, history and fictionality, memory and writing, and the aesthetics of qing (emotion). Readings in Chinese; discussion in English. Prerequisite: CHNS 171 or equivalent, or permission of instructor. Formerly CHNS 302. HU

* EALL 304b / EAST 342, Li Yu (1610-1680): Playwright, Storyteller, Pornographer  Tina Lu
Students read across the complete works of this major seventeenth-century figure. Li Yu was a short story writer, a playwright, a literary critic, an essayist, and a pornographer. Each week we read a substantial amount of Li Yu's writings to better understand his corpus as a whole and also as a window onto seventeenth-century culture. Prerequisites: CHNS 171 or permission of instructor. HU

* EALL 357a, Meiji Literature and Visual Culture  Seth Jacobowitz
Introduction to the literature and visual culture of Meiji Japan (1868–1912), including novels, poetry, calligraphy, woodblock prints, painting, photography, and cinema. The relationship between theories and practices of fine art and literature; changes in word and image relations; transformations from woodblock to movable-type print culture; the invention of photography and early forms of cinematic practice. No knowledge of Japanese required. HU TR

* EALL 470a or b and EALL 471a or b, Independent Tutorial  Pauline Lin
For students with advanced Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language skills who wish to engage in concentrated reading and research on literary works in a manner not otherwise offered in courses. The work must be supervised by a specialist and must terminate in a term paper or its equivalent. Ordinarily only one term may be offered toward the major or for credit toward the degree. Permission to enroll
requires submission of a detailed project proposal by the end of the first week of classes and its approval by the director of undergraduate studies.

* EALL 491a or b, Senior Essay  Pauline Lin
Preparation of a one-term senior essay under faculty supervision.

* EALL 492a or b and EALL 493a or b, Yearlong Senior Essay  Pauline Lin
Preparation of a two-term senior essay under faculty supervision. Credit for EALL 492 only on completion of EALL 493.

Chinese

* CHNS 110a, Elementary Modern Chinese I  Staff
Intended for students with no background in Chinese. An intensive course with emphasis on spoken language and drills. Pronunciation, grammatical analysis, conversation practice, and introduction to reading and writing Chinese characters. L1  RP  1¿ Course cr

CHNS 112a, Elementary Modern Chinese for Advanced Learners I  Hsiu-hsien Chan
First level of the advanced learner sequence. Intended for students with some aural proficiency but very limited ability in reading and writing Chinese. Training in listening and speaking, with emphasis on reading and writing. Placement confirmed by placement test and by instructor. L1  RP  1¿ Course cr

* CHNS 120b, Elementary Modern Chinese II  Staff
Continuation of CHNS 110. After CHNS 110 or equivalent. L2  RP  1¿ Course cr

CHNS 122b, Elementary Modern Chinese for Advanced Learners II  Hsiu-hsien Chan
Continuation of CHNS 112. L2

* CHNS 130a, Intermediate Modern Chinese I  Staff
An intermediate course that continues intensive training in listening, speaking, reading, and writing and consolidates achievements from the first year of study. Students improve oral fluency, study more complex grammatical structures, and enlarge both reading and writing vocabulary. After CHNS 120 or equivalent. L3  RP  1¿ Course cr

* CHNS 132a, Intermediate Modern Chinese for Advanced Learners I  Staff
The second level of the advanced learner sequence. Intended for students with intermediate oral proficiency and elementary reading and writing proficiency. Students receive intensive training in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, supplemented by audio and video materials. The objective of the course is to balance these four skills and work toward attaining an advanced level in all of them. Prerequisite: CHNS 122b or equivalent. L3  RP  1¿ Course cr

* CHNS 140b, Intermediate Modern Chinese II  Staff
Continuation of CHNS 130. To be followed by CHNS 150. After CHNS 130 or equivalent. L4  RP  1¿ Course cr

* CHNS 142b, Intermediate Modern Chinese for Advanced Learners II  Staff
Continuation of CHNS 132. After CHNS 132 or equivalent. L4  1¿ Course cr

* CHNS 150a, Advanced Modern Chinese I  Staff
Third level of the standard foundational sequence of modern Chinese, with study in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Use of audiovisual materials, oral presentations, skits, and longer and more frequent writing assignments to assimilate more sophisticated grammatical structures. Further introduction to a wide variety of written forms and styles. Use of both traditional and simplified forms of Chinese characters. After CHNS 140 or equivalent. L5

* CHNS 151b, Advanced Modern Chinese II  Staff
Continuation of CHNS 150. After CHNS 150 or equivalent. L5

* CHNS 152a, Advanced Modern Chinese for Advanced Learners I  Staff
The third level of the advanced learner sequence. Intended for students with intermediate high to advanced low speaking and listening skills and with intermediate reading and writing skills. 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. Prerequisite: CHNS 142 or equivalent. L5

* CHNS 153b, Advanced Modern Chinese for Advanced Learners II  Staff
The second level of the advanced learner sequence. Intended for students with intermediate to advanced oral proficiency and high elementary reading and writing proficiency. Students receive intensive training in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, supplemented by audio and video materials. The objective of the course is to balance these four skills and work toward attaining an advanced level in all of them. After CHNS 152 or equivalent. L5

* CHNS 154a, Upper Advanced Modern Chinese III  William Zhou
Fourth level of the standard foundational sequence of modern Chinese, with study in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Readings in a wide range of subjects form the basis of discussion and other activities. Students consolidate their skills, especially speaking proficiency, at an advanced level. Materials use both simplified and traditional characters. After CHNS 151 or equivalent. L5
Japanese

* JAPN 110a, Elementary Japanese I  Staff
Introductory language course for students with no previous background in Japanese. Development of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including 50 hiragana, 50 katakana, and 75 kanji characters. Introduction to cultural aspects such as levels of politeness and group concepts. In-class drills in pronunciation and conversation. Individual tutorial sessions improve conversational skills. L1 RP 1½ Course cr

* JAPN 120b, Elementary Japanese II  Staff
Continuation of JAPN 110, with additional materials such as excerpts from television shows, anime, and songs. Introduction of 150 additional kanji. After JAPN 110 or equivalent. L2 RP 1½ Course cr

* JAPN 130a, Intermediate Japanese I  Staff
Continued development in both written and spoken Japanese. Aspects of Japanese culture, such as history, art, religion, and cuisine, explored through text, film, and animation. Online audio and visual aids facilitate listening, as well as the learning of grammar and kanji. Individual tutorial sessions improve conversational skills. After JAPN 120 or equivalent. L3 RP 1½ Course cr

* JAPN 140b, Intermediate Japanese II  Staff
Continuation of JAPN 130. After JAPN 130 or equivalent. L4 RP 1½ Course cr

* JAPN 150a, Advanced Japanese I  Staff
Advanced language course that further develops proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Reading and discussion materials include works by Nobel Prize winners. Japanese anime and television dramas are used to enhance listening and to develop skills...
in culturally appropriate speech. Writing of essays, letters, and criticism solidifies grammar and style. Individual tutorial sessions improve conversational skills. After JAPN 140 or equivalent. L5 RP 1½ Course cr

* JAPN 151b, Advanced Japanese II  Staff
  Continuation of JAPN 150. After JAPN 150 or equivalent. L5 RP

* JAPN 156a, Advanced Japanese III  Hiroyo Nishimura
  Close reading of modern Japanese writing on current affairs, social science, history, and literature. Development of speaking and writing skills in academic settings, including formal speeches, interviews, discussions, letters, e-mail, and expository writing. Interviews of and discussions with native speakers on current issues. Individual tutorial sessions provide speaking practice. L5 RP 1½ Course cr

* JAPN 157b, Advanced Japanese IV  Michiaki Murata
  Continuation of JAPN 156. After JAPN 156 or equivalent. L5

* JAPN 162a, Reading Academic Japanese I  Koichi Hiroe
  Close reading of major writings from the Meiji era to the present, including newspaper articles, scholarly works, fiction, and prose. Students gain a command of academic Japanese through comprehensive study of grammar in the context of culture. Individual tutorial sessions provide speaking practice. After JAPN 157 or equivalent; recommended to be taken after or concurrently with JAPN 170. L5

* JAPN 163b, Reading Academic Japanese II  Masahiko Seto
  Continuation of JAPN 162. After JAPN 162 or equivalent; recommended to be taken after JAPN 170. L5

* JAPN 164a and JAPN 165b, Academic and Professional Spoken Japanese  Michiaki Murata
  Advanced language course with a focus on the speaking skills necessary in academic and professional settings. Includes online interviews, discussions, and debates with native Japanese students and scholars on contemporary topics such as globalization, environment, technology, human rights, and cultural studies. Individual tutorial sessions provide speaking practice. After JAPN 157 or equivalent. L5

* JAPN 165b, Academic and Professional Spoken Japanese  Koichi Hiroe
  Advanced language course with a focus on the speaking skills necessary in academic and professional settings. Includes online interviews, discussions, and debates with native Japanese students and scholars on contemporary topics such as globalization, environment, technology, human rights, and cultural studies. Individual tutorial sessions provide speaking practice. After JAPN 164 or equivalent. L5

JAPN 170a, Introduction to Literary Japanese  Edward Kamens
  Introduction to the grammar and style of the premodern literary language (bungotai) through a variety of texts. After JAPN 151 or equivalent. L5

* JAPN 171b, Readings in Literary Japanese  Adam Haliburton
  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 170 or equivalent. L5

Korean

* KREN 110a, Elementary Korean I  Staff
  A beginning course in modern Korean. Pronunciation, lectures on grammar, conversation practice, and introduction to the writing system (Hankul). L1 1½ Course cr

* KREN 120b, Elementary Korean II  Staff
  Continuation of KREN 110. After KREN 110 or equivalent. L2 RP 1½ Course cr

* KREN 130a, Intermediate Korean I  Seungja Choi
  Continued development of skills in modern Korean, spoken and written, leading to intermediate-level proficiency. After KREN 120 or equivalent. L3 RP 1½ Course cr

* KREN 132a, Intermediate Korean for Advanced Learners I  Seungja Choi
  Intended for students with some oral proficiency but little or no training in Hankul. Focus on grammatical analysis, the standard spoken language, and intensive training in reading and writing. L3 RP 1½ Course cr

* KREN 140b, Intermediate Korean II  Angela Lee-Smith
  Continuation of KREN 130. After KREN 130 or equivalent. L4 RP 1½ Course cr

* KREN 142b, Intermediate Korean for Advanced Learners II  Angela Lee-Smith
  Continuation of KREN 132. After KREN 132 or equivalent. L4 RP 1½ Course cr

* KREN 152a, Advanced Korean for Advanced Learners  Angela Lee-Smith
  An advanced course in modern Korean. Reading of short stories, essays, and journal articles, and introduction of 200 Chinese characters. Students develop their speaking and writing skills through discussions and written exercises. After KREN 142 or 151, or with permission of instructor. L5 1½ Course cr
* KREN 154b, Advanced Korean III  Seungja Choi
An advanced language course designed to develop reading and writing skills using Web-based texts in a variety of genres. Students read texts independently and complete comprehension and vocabulary exercises through the Web. Discussions, tests, and intensive writing training in class. After KREN 151 or equivalent.  1.5