

# EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

**Director of undergraduate studies:** Luke Bender, (luke.bender@yale.edu) Humanities Quadrangle (HQ, 320 York St.), Room 111, (203) 432-5823

The major in East Asian Languages and Literatures provides rigorous training in the study of East Asian languages, literatures, cultures, and thought from ancient times through the present, with a strong focus on the reading and analysis of texts, theater, film, and other forms of media. Students select either the Chinese, Japanese, or Korean concentration but are encouraged to take courses across geographical regions to become familiar with East Asian literary culture more broadly. The major is excellent preparation for careers including business, law, academia, foreign service, translation, and journalism that demand advanced linguistic proficiency and analytical sophistication. East Asian Languages and Literatures graduates have gone on to careers in law, business, medicine, academia, film, translation, teaching, and diplomacy.

## 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, JAPN, or KREN subject codes and are numbered 200–299 are taught in English with some sections taught in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean. Courses with the subject code EALL are content courses whose focus is critical and humanistic; those numbered 200–299 are introductory, and those numbered 300–399 are advanced. Courses numbered EALL 001–099 are First-Year Seminars with topics on East Asian literature, film, and humanities.

## PREREQUISITE

Candidates for the major must complete CHNS 140, JAPN 140, KREN 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 before the beginning of the academic year. These exams can be accessed via the department website and must be completed before the end of July. Students of Japanese, Chinese, and Korean languages, returning from programs abroad, must take a placement examination, unless the coursework was completed at an institution preapproved by the Richard U. Light Fellowship program. For questions, consult with the director of undergraduate studies (DUS).

## REQUIREMENTS OF THE MAJOR

**Students are held to the requirements that were in place when they declared their major.** However, with approval from the director of undergraduate

studies (DUS), the following requirements, updated for the academic year 2024-2025, may be fulfilled by students who declared the major in a prior term. A Korean concentration was added to the Chinese and Japanese concentrations.

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), advanced Japanese (JAPN 150 and 151 or equivalents), or advanced Korean (KREN 150 and 151 or equivalents) as well as one term of literary Chinese (CHNS 170), literary Japanese (JAPN 170), or Introduction to Hanja (KREN 170). Students also take a survey course in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, 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, three advanced courses with readings in literary or modern Chinese, Japanese, and/or Korean 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 DUS.

#### 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 DUS and with the office of the Richard U. Light Fellowship to apply for support for programs in China, Japan, and Korea.

### SUMMARY OF MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

**Prerequisite** CHNS 140, JAPN 140, KREN 140, or equivalent

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

**Specific courses required** *Chinese concentration* – CHNS 150, 151 or equivalents, and 170; *Japanese concentration* – JAPN 150, 151 or equivalents, and 170; *Korean concentration* – KREN 150, 151 or equivalents, and KREN 170

**Distribution of courses** 1 survey course in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, or East Asian history and culture; 3 courses in literature in translation numbered EALL 200–399, one of them premodern; 3 adv courses with readings in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean

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