

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) DEGREE WITH A MAJOR IN ASIAN STUDIES AND A MAJOR CONCENTRATION IN ASIAN LANGUAGE

Program Learning Outcomes for the BA Degree with a Major in Asian Studies and a Major Concentration in Asian Language

Upon completing the BA Degree with a major in Asian Studies, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a broad historical and geographic knowledge about Asia as a transnational region.
2. Achieve the cultural literacy necessary for studying abroad and/or practicing internationally-based professions by demonstrating interactional and intercultural abilities and knowledge.

Additionally, upon completing the BA Degree with a major in Asian Studies and a major concentration in Asian Language, students will be able to:

1. Communicate in an Asian language at an advanced level, as indicated by the ability to understand, converse, read, and write in that language.
2. Learn and apply various communication, critical thinking, and interpretation skills to Asian language sources.

Requirements for the BA Degree with a Major in Asian Studies and a Major Concentration in Asian Language

For general university requirements, see [Graduation Requirements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/). Students pursuing the BA degree with a major in Asian Studies must complete:

- A minimum of 10 courses (30 credit hours) to satisfy major requirements.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours to satisfy degree requirements.
- A minimum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.
- A maximum of 2 courses (6 credit hours) from study abroad or transfer credit. For additional departmental guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the *Policies* tab.
- The requirements of a major concentration. When students declare the major in Asian Studies, students must additionally identify and declare one of two major concentrations, either in:
 - [Transnational Asian Studies \(https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/asian-studies/asian-studies-ba-transnational-asian-studies-concentration/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/asian-studies/asian-studies-ba-transnational-asian-studies-concentration/), or
 - [Asian Language \(p. 1\)](#).

- Demonstration of advanced proficiency in an Asian Language.

Because of the common core requirements, it is possible for students to change their major concentration at any time, even after initially declaring the major. To do so, please contact the [Office of the Registrar \(registrar@rice.edu\)](mailto:registrar@rice.edu).

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this major. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the major's academic advisor, or where applicable, the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the major's [Official Certifier \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/).) Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Asian Studies and a Major Concentration in Asian Language		30
Total Credit Hours Required for the BA Degree with a Major in Asian Studies		120

Degree Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Requirement		
ASIA 295	INTRODUCTION TO TRANSNATIONAL ASIAN STUDIES	3
Major Concentration in Asian Language		
Elective Requirements		
Select 9 elective courses (see course list below) ¹		27
Advanced Language Proficiency		
Students must demonstrate advanced language proficiency in an Asian language ²		
Total Credit Hours Required for the Major in Asian Studies and a Major Concentration in Asian Language		30
Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements *		59
University Graduation Requirements (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/) *		31
Total Credit Hours		120

Footnotes and Additional Information

- * **Note:** [University Graduation Requirements](#) include 31 credit hours comprised of Distribution Requirements (Groups I, II, and III), FWIS, and LPAP coursework. In some instances, courses satisfying FWIS or distribution requirements may additionally meet other requirements, such as the Analyzing Diversity (AD) requirement, or some of the student's declared major, minor, or certificate requirements. [Additional Credit Hours to Complete Degree Requirements](#) include general electives, coursework completed as upper-level, residency (hours taken at Rice), and/or any other additional academic program requirements.

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- Of these 9 elective courses (27 credit hours), a minimum of 2 courses (6 credit hours) and up to 5 courses (15 credit hours) may be selected from Asian Content coursework. Additionally, a minimum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) and up to 7 courses (21 credit hours) may be selected from Asian Language coursework.
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- Students must demonstrate advanced language proficiency in an Asian language. This proficiency requirement may be demonstrated by coursework taken at the upper-level (300-level or above) or by other means. For students pursuing the Asian Language major concentration, a minimum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) and up to 7 courses (21 credit hours) of the 9 required elective courses (27 credit hours) may be Asian language courses (Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Korean). Students are encouraged to consult with a major advisor regarding this point.

Course Lists to Satisfy Requirements

Elective Requirements

Students must complete a total of 9 courses (27 credit hours) from course offerings with predominantly Asian content, which can be found below. Of these 9 elective courses (27 credit hours), a minimum of 2 courses (6 credit hours) and up to 5 courses (15 credit hours) must be selected from Asian Content coursework. Additionally, a minimum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) and up to 7 courses (21 credit hours) must be selected from Asian Language coursework (Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, or Korean).

Elective Requirements: Asian Content

Select a minimum of 2 courses (6 credit hours) and up to 5 courses (15 credit hours) from the following department approved electives in Asian Content.

Art History

Code	Title	Credit Hours
HART 221	INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHITECTURE: CITIES, MOSQUES, PALACES	3
HART 319	ARCHITECTURE, TRADE, AND POWER IN EARLY MODERN ISLAMIC EMPIRES	3
HART 324	PERSIANATE ARTS OF THE BOOK	3
HART 385	ARCHITECTURE AND LITERATURE IN ISLAMIC CULTURES	3

Asian Studies¹

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ASIA 213	TRANSNATIONAL ART AND CULTURE IN ASIA BEFORE THE TWENTIETH CENTURY	3
ASIA 214	ART & WORLD CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES IN CHINA, JAPAN AND KOREA	3
ASIA 218 / HIST 218 / FILM 218	HISTORY THROUGH FILM IN EAST AND NORTHEAST ASIA	3
ASIA 219	MODERN JAPAN	3
ASIA 221 / RELI 221	THE LIFE OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD	3
ASIA 222 / ENGL 222	THE WORLD AND SOUTH ASIA	3
ASIA 223	SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES	3

ASIA 224	A HISTORY OF THE SILK ROADS	3
ASIA 229	MODERN EAST ASIA: CULTURE, HISTORY, AND SOCIETY	3
ASIA 230 / RELI 230	ASIAN RELIGIONS IN AMERICA	3
ASIA 231 / RELI 231	AMERICAN METAPHYSICAL RELIGION	3
ASIA 232 / RELI 232	RELIGIONS FROM INDIA	3
ASIA 236	BUDDHISM AND SCIENCE	3
ASIA 242	CHINA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS, 1500-PRESENT: FROM THE CELESTIAL EMPIRE TO AN ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE	3
ASIA 243	PREMODERN CHINA: HISTORY OF AN OPEN EMPIRE TO 1800	3
ASIA 244	KOREA AND EMPIRES: FROM THE MONGOLS TO THE COLD WAR	3
ASIA 251 / POLI 250 / SWGS 250	SEX, MONEY, AND POWER AROUND THE WORLD	3
ASIA 282	TRANSNATIONAL ASIAN FOOD: DIVERSITY AND AUTHENTICITY	3
ASIA 302	ASIAN PHILOSOPHY IN CONTEXT	3
ASIA 305	ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH IN/OF HOUSTON ASIA	3
ASIA 315 / RELI 315 / SWGS 315	GENDER AND ISLAM	3
ASIA 322 / RELI 322	INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM: ARTS FOR LIFE	3
ASIA 323 / HART 323 / MDEM 323	BUDDHIST AND DAOIST ART AND RITUAL	3
ASIA 328 / HIST 384 / SWGS 384	MODERN GIRL AND ASIA IN THE WORLD	3
ASIA 330 / CHIN 330 / MDEM 370	INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL CHINESE POETRY	3
ASIA 332 / CHIN 332	MODERN CHINESE LITERATURE AND ITS MOVIE ADAPTATIONS	3
ASIA 334 / CHIN 334	TRADITIONAL CHINESE TALES AND SHORT STORIES	3
ASIA 335 / CHIN 335 / MDEM 375	INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS	3
ASIA 336	GENDER AND SOCIETY IN BUDDHISM	3
ASIA 337	SOUTH ASIAN RELIGIOUS LANDSCAPES	3
ASIA 339	CONSCIOUSNESS FROM INDIAN TRADITIONS TO MODERN SCIENCE	3
ASIA 342	EAST ASIAN ORTHODOXIES AND HERESIES: LAW AND SOCIETY IN TRADITIONAL CHINA, KOREA, AND VIETNAM	3
ASIA 349 / POLI 349	URBAN LAB ISTANBUL	1

ASIA 353 / POLI 353	EAST ASIAN DEMOCRACIES	3
ASIA 356	GENOMIC GOVERNANCE IN ASIA	3
ASIA 357	ALGORITHMIC CULTURES IN ASIA	3
ASIA 358	FILM AND SOCIETY IN SOUTH ASIA	3
ASIA 360	TRANSNATIONAL CHINA: CHINA AND THE CHINESE DIASPORA	3
ASIA 371 / HART 371	HOW TO READ CHINESE PAINTING	3
ASIA 372 / HART 372 / MDEM 373	CHINESE ART AND THE WORLD	3
ASIA 377 / POLI 377	CHINESE POLITICS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE	3
ASIA 378 / MUSI 378	CLASSICAL, CONTEMPORARY, AND CROSS-CULTURAL ASIAN MUSIC	3
ASIA 380 / HIST 380	ASIAN AMERICAN HISTORY	3
ASIA 382	RUTH BENEDICT AND JAPAN: THE TEXT THAT SHAPED POSTWAR JAPANESE CULTURE	3
ASIA 383	UNDERSTANDING NORTH KOREA	3
ASIA 399 / MDEM 379 / SWGS 399	WOMEN IN CHINESE LITERATURE	3
ASIA 401	INDEPENDENT STUDY	1-15
ASIA 402	INDEPENDENT STUDY	1-15
ASIA 422 / CHIN 422	THE ORIGINAL BEAUTY OF CHINESE LITERATURE	3
ASIA 488	ASIA AND ENERGY	3

Footnotes and Additional Information

¹ In addition to the courses listed here, all ASIA program course offerings, many of which are cross-listed, may be used to satisfy requirements.

English

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ENGL 372	ASIAN AMERICAN LITERATURE	3
ENGL 376	SOUTHEAST ASIAN LITERATURE IN ENGLISH	3
ENGL 383	GLOBAL FICTIONS	3

History

Code	Title	Credit Hours
HIST 112	MODERN PALESTINIAN HISTORY	3
HIST 212	CONTEMPORARY CHINA	3
HIST 213	THE MIDDLE EAST FROM THE AGE OF MUHAMMAD TO THE ARAB SPRING	3
HIST 219	GENGHIS KHAN AND THE EMPIRE OF THE MONGOLS	3
HIST 236	STATE, SOCIETY, AND THE ECONOMY IN THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST	3
HIST 271	HISTORY OF SOUTH ASIA	3
HIST 275	MODERN MIDDLE EAST	3

HIST 278	MODERN ARAB HISTORY	3
HIST 281 / MDEM 281	GOLDEN AGE OF ISLAM	3
HIST 309	CHINESE INTELLECTUAL HISTORY	3
HIST 320	IMPERIAL PLEASURE GARDENS, A WORLD HISTORY	3
HIST 342	MODERN CHINA	3
HIST 378	MODERN ARAB HISTORY	3
HIST 408	THE JAPANESE EMPIRE	3
HIST 434	MUSLIMS, AMERICA, AND ISLAMOPHOBIA	3
HIST 436	AMERICA IN THE MIDDLE EAST	3
HIST 491	COEXISTENCE AND SECTARIANISM IN THE MIDDLE EAST	3
HIST 494	RULING HINDUSTAN: THE TIMURID-MUGHAL KINGS OF INDIA	3

Humanities

Code	Title	Credit Hours
HUMA 134	WHAT IS LOVE? A BIG QUESTIONS COURSE WITH AN INTERDISCIPLINARY EXPLORATION	3

Philosophy

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PHIL 289	HISTORY OF CHINESE PHILOSOPHY	3

Political Science

Code	Title	Credit Hours
POLI 478	US - CHINA: CONFLICT AND COOPERATION	3

Religion

Code	Title	Credit Hours
RELI 223	QUR'AN AND COMMENTARY	3
RELI 233 / TIBT 233	INTRODUCTION TO TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE	3
RELI 234 / TIBT 234	INTERMEDIATE TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE	3
RELI 332 / TIBT 332	ADVANCED TIBETAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE	3
RELI 333	KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND: BUDDHIST ARTS OF CONTEMPLATION AND ANALYSIS	3
RELI 356	MAJOR ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ISLAM	3
RELI 378	MIND AND ART, FILM AND LITERATURE IN BUDDHISM	3
RELI 442	CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY ARABIC TEXTS	3
RELI 470	BUDDHIST WISDOM TEXTS	3

Elective Requirements: Asian Language

Select a minimum of 4 courses (12 credit hours) and up to 7 courses (21 credit hours) from the following department approved electives in Asian Language.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Arabic		
ARAB 141	FIRST YEAR ARABIC I	3
ARAB 142	FIRST YEAR ARABIC II	3
ARAB 222	AP CREDIT IN ARABIC LANGUAGE	4
ARAB 238	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
ARAB 263	SECOND YEAR ARABIC I	3
ARAB 264	SECOND YEAR ARABIC II	3
ARAB 301	THIRD YEAR ARABIC I	3
ARAB 302	THIRD YEAR ARABIC II	3
ARAB 354	CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF MEDIA ARABIC	3
ARAB 477	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
Chinese		
CHIN 141	FIRST YEAR CHINESE I	3
CHIN 142	FIRST YEAR CHINESE II	3
CHIN 206	ACCELERATED SECOND-YEAR CHINESE FOR HERITAGE LEARNERS	3
CHIN 211	ACCELERATED ELEMENTARY CHINESE I	3
CHIN 212	ACCELERATED ELEMENTARY CHINESE II	3
CHIN 222	AP/OTH CREDIT IN CHINESE LANGUAGE	3
CHIN 263	SECOND YEAR CHINESE I	3
CHIN 264	SECOND YEAR CHINESE II	3
CHIN 301	THIRD YEAR CHINESE I	3
CHIN 302	THIRD YEAR CHINESE II	3
CHIN 311	ACCELERATED INTERMEDIATE CHINESE I	3
CHIN 312	ACCELERATED INTERMEDIATE CHINESE II	3
CHIN 319	SPECIAL TOPICS: ADVANCED CHINESE I	3
CHIN 330	INTRODUCTION TO TRADITIONAL CHINESE POETRY	3
CHIN 332	MODERN CHINESE LITERATURE AND ITS MOVIE ADAPTATIONS	3
CHIN 334	TRADITIONAL CHINESE TALES AND SHORT STORIES	3
CHIN 335	INTRODUCTION TO CLASSICAL CHINESE NOVELS	3
CHIN 401	FOURTH YEAR CHINESE I	3
CHIN 402	FOURTH YEAR CHINESE II	3
CHIN 422	THE ORIGINAL BEAUTY OF CHINESE LITERATURE	3
CHIN 477	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
Japanese		
JAPA 141	FIRST YEAR JAPANESE I	3
JAPA 142	FIRST YEAR JAPANESE II	3
JAPA 222	AP/OTH CREDIT IN JAPANESE LANGUAGE	3
JAPA 238	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
JAPA 263	SECOND YEAR JAPANESE I	3
JAPA 264	SECOND YEAR JAPANESE II	3
JAPA 301	THIRD YEAR JAPANESE I	3

JAPA 302	THIRD YEAR JAPANESE II	3
JAPA 401	FOURTH YEAR JAPANESE I	3
JAPA 402	FOURTH YEAR JAPANESE II	3
JAPA 477	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
Korean		
KORE 106	ACCELERATED FIRST YEAR KOREAN	3
KORE 141	FIRST YEAR KOREAN I	3
KORE 142	FIRST YEAR KOREAN II	3
KORE 206	ACCELERATED SECOND YEAR KOREAN	3
KORE 222	AP/OTH CREDIT IN KOREAN LANGUAGE	3
KORE 238	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4
KORE 263	SECOND YEAR KOREAN I	3
KORE 264	SECOND YEAR KOREAN II	3
KORE 301	THIRD YEAR KOREAN I	3
KORE 302	THIRD YEAR KOREAN II	3
KORE 401	CURRENT ISSUES IN KOREA THROUGH MULTIMODAL TEXTS	3
KORE 477	SPECIAL TOPICS	1-4

Policies for the BA Degree with a Major in Asian Studies and a Major Concentration in Asian Language

Program Restrictions and Exclusions

Students pursuing the major in Asian Studies and a major concentration in Asian Language should be aware of the following program restrictions:

- As noted in [Majors, Minors, and Certificates \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/), students may not major and minor in the same subject.
- Students pursuing the major in Asian Studies may only pursue one major concentration within the major.

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of [transfer credit advisors \(https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/\)](https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/) on their website: <https://oaa.rice.edu>. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the major in Asian Studies should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

- No more than 2 courses (6 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing as Rice may apply towards the major.
- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director (and/or the program's transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.

Distribution Credit Information

The determination of distribution credit eligibility is done initially as part of the [new course creation process](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/) (<https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/>). Additionally, as part of an [annual roll call](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/) (https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution credit eligibility is routinely reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-credit-eligible meet the criteria as set in the [General Announcements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text>). Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet [graduation requirements](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text) (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text>) by completing coursework designated as distribution-credit-eligible at the time of course registration.

Distribution courses from Asian Studies (ASIA) develop students' critical and aesthetic understanding of texts and the arts. They lead students to the analytical examination of ideas and values and introduce students to the variety of approaches and methods with which different disciplines approach intellectual problems. Additionally, they engage students with words of culture that have intellectual importance by virtue of the ideas they express, their historical influence, their mode of expression, or their critical engagement with established cultural assumptions and traditions.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Asian Studies website: <https://asianstudies.rice.edu/>.

Opportunities for the BA Degree with a Major in Asian Studies and a Major Concentration in Asian Language

Academic Honors

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see [Latin Honors](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/>) (*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *cum laude*) and [Distinction in Research and Creative Work](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/>). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Asian Studies website: <https://asianstudies.rice.edu/>.

See <https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life> (<https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life>) for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this major.