

## Asian Studies

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### Master of Arts in Asian Studies

The M.A. degree in Asian Studies is an interdisciplinary program that draws on faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences and professional schools at FIU. The courses are coordinated by Asian Studies, which also sponsors workshops, lectures, cultural events, and study abroad programs.

The master's program provides students with a rich learning experience about a fascinating and increasingly important region of the world, and is intended to enhance the student's competitiveness upon graduation. The program provides a multidisciplinary approach covering the philosophy, religion, art history, language and literature of Asia as well as issues in history, politics, geography, sociology/anthropology, and international relations.

The M.A. has two concentrations: **International Political Economy of Asia**, which emphasizes social scientific studies involving economics, international relations, politics, and sociology; and **Asian Cultural Studies**, which emphasizes the humanities and arts disciplinary approaches.

For further information please contact the Asian Studies office, located at DM 300 B, at [asian@fiu.edu](mailto:asian@fiu.edu) or at (305) 348-1914. Also, visit our website at: <http://asian.fiu.edu>.

### Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet one of the following minimum requirements for admissions to the MAAS program:

1. 3.5 undergraduate GPA;
2. 550 score on the verbal portion of the GRE, or M.A. in the humanities or social sciences from an accredited institution,
3. 3.0 or above in 9 hours of graduate courses as a special student in the program. (These nine hours may not be in Independent Study courses.) A limited number of applicants may be admitted after passing a writing exam, if they also present either a 475 score on the verbal section of the GRE or a 3.0 undergraduate GPA.

International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 80 on the iBT TOEFL or 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

The above admission requirements are minimums and not all students meeting them are assured admission. Students with either a grade-point average or GRE score below the above minimums may still apply and request a waiver of those scores.

### Degree Requirements (both concentrations)

The MAAS program offers two graduation exit options:

1. 30 credits - Completion of thesis project
2. 33 credits - Completion of a master's essay

### Language Requirements

Students choosing the Master's Thesis option will be asked to demonstrate competence in an Asian language relevant to their thesis project when appropriate (e.g. for pre-modern studies or fieldwork research). Proficiency requirements will be determined by the thesis committee. Credits earned in meeting the language requirement will not count towards the credit hours required for the degree.

### Core Courses: (6 credits)

ASN 5315 Topics in Modern Asia  
ASN 5050 Methods in Asian Studies

### Other Coursework: (18 credits)

A minimum of 12 credits are required in the main concentration. Students may receive credit through independent study, study abroad, or internship approved by the program advisor.

An additional research methods course in a discipline related to the student's primary area of study may be taken as an elective, such as HIS 6059 (Historical Methods), INR 5615 (Research Design in International Relations), POS 5706 (Research Methodology), REL 6013 (Modern Analysis of Religion), REL 6935 (Seminar in Sacred Texts), SYA 6305 (Research Methods I), or equivalent.

### Master's Thesis Option: (6 credits)

ASN 6972 Thesis

Please visit the FIU Graduate School website for up to date information on thesis guidelines and deadlines.

### Non-Thesis Option: Master's Essay (9 credits)

1. ASN 6912 Master's Essay in Asian Studies 3 credits
2. 6 credits in either concentration

Please visit the Asian Studies website for up to date information on guidelines and deadlines for the master's essay.

**Important Note about Program Options:** At mid-course in the program (15 credits) the student must meet with the Program Director or Graduate Director who will determine whether the student is recommended for the thesis option or the non-thesis option.

### International Political Economy of Asia Concentration

#### Electives:

ECO 5709	World Economy
ECO 5735	Multinational Corporations
ECP 5707	International Economic Problems and Policies
EVR 5350	International Organizations and Environmental Politics
INR 5086	Islam in International Relations
INR 5315	Foreign Policy Analysis
INR 5544	The New Asian Century
INR 6205	World Politics
INR 6706	Political Economy of International Relations
SYD 6655	Seminar on Social Change in Asia

### Asian Cultural Studies Concentration Electives:

ASH 5446 Pre-modern Japan

ASH 5905	Readings in Asian History
HIS 5289	Comparative History
IDS 6938	Great Ideas Seminar: Human Nature
MUH 5057	Music of the World
MUH 5575	Survey of Asian Music
REL 5331	Religions of India
REL 5346	Seminar on Buddhism
REL 5352	Religions of East Asia
REL 6395	Seminar in Asian Religions

For more information, contact the Asian Studies office, DM 300B. Email: [asian@fiu.edu](mailto:asian@fiu.edu); phone: (305) 348-1914; website: <http://asian.fiu.edu>.

## Combined BA/MA in Asian Studies

The combined BA/MA degree program allows highly qualified undergraduate students to pursue an accelerated MA degree in Asian Studies. Students accepted into this program will be able to complete the MA degree as early as one year sooner than would otherwise be possible. Students accepted into the Asian Studies Honors track are particularly encouraged to apply for this program.

To be considered for admission to the combined bachelor's/master's degree program, students must have completed at least 75-90 credits in the bachelor's degree program at FIU and meet the admissions criteria for the graduate degree program to which they are applying. Students need only apply once to the combined degree program, but the application must be submitted to Graduate Admissions before the student starts the last 30 credits of the bachelor's degree program. A student admitted to the combined degree program will be considered to have undergraduate status until the student applies for graduation from their bachelor's degree program. Upon conferral of the bachelor's degree, the student will be granted graduate status and be eligible for graduate assistantships. Only 5000-level or higher courses, and no more than the number of credits specified by the program catalog, may be applied toward both degrees. A complete application requires:

- Current enrollment in BA program in Asian Studies at FIU
- Completion of 75-90 credits of undergraduate coursework
- Combined GRE score of 1000
- Overall GPA of 3.2
- One letter of recommendation
- Statement of purpose discussing interests in the field

Students should consult the graduate catalog and the Asian Studies website for a more comprehensive discussion of admission requirements (<http://asian.fiu.edu>).

The program gives students the opportunity to take up to 9 credits of graduate coursework in the second semester of their senior year that will count towards both the BA and the MA. Students may take up to three 5000-level or higher graduate courses in the second semester of their senior year and follow the regular MA curriculum after they earn their BA degree.

### Undergraduate Senior Year

Fall Semester – apply to the program by the end of the semester

Spring Semester – take 12 credits, including 9 graduate credits in 5000-level or higher courses

### Graduate Program

Summer Semester – take 3 graduate credits (5000-level or higher)

Fall Semester – take 9 graduate credits (5000-level or higher)

Spring Semester – take 9 graduate credits (5000-level or higher, including thesis or master's essay)

Students in the combined BA/MA program in Asian Studies must complete all other requirements for the MA degree in Asian Studies (please consult the graduate catalog and the Institute's online graduate handbook). Students in this program have up to a year to complete the master's degree after receipt of the bachelor's degree. Students who fail to meet this year post BA requirement or who elect to leave the combined program at any time and earn only the BA degree will have the same access requirements to regular graduate programs as any other student, but will not be able to use the 9 graduate credits in both the bachelor's and master's degrees.

## Combined MA in Asian Studies/Ph.D. in International Relations

The combined MA in Asian Studies/Ph.D. in International Relations program allows qualified graduate students to pursue both degrees simultaneously. To be accepted into this program, students must submit an application for the MA in Asian Studies/Ph.D. in International Relations by March 15 in the year in which they wish to begin their studies. Applicants must meet the admission eligibility requirements and follow the admission procedures for both programs.

Students must fulfill the requirements for both programs, and up to 33 credits may count for both degrees. To graduate, students must complete the requirements of the International Relations doctoral program, including the required 75 hours.

In addition to the requirements for the two degrees, during their first two years of enrollment in this dual degree program, students will enroll in the following course:

INR 5615            Research Design in International Relations

The following International Relations courses will also be taken by MA in Asian Studies students during the first two years of the program and will count toward the MA:

INR 5609            Contemporary Dynamics of International Relations

INR 6706            Political Economy of International Relations

## Master of Arts in Asian Studies

### Requirements

(30 credits Thesis Option / 33 credits Non-Thesis Option)

### Core Courses: (24 credits)

- 3 credits Topics in Modern Asia (ASN 5315)
- 3 credits Methods in Asian Studies (ASN 5050)
- 12 credits pertaining to main concentration
- 6 credits in other concentration

MAAS offers two exit options, Thesis or Non-Thesis

**Thesis Exit Option (6 credits):**

ASN 6972 Master's Thesis

**Non-Thesis Exit Option (9 credits):**

Master's Essay (3 credits and two additional courses (6 credits))

**Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations (75 credits)****Core Courses: (18 credits)**

GEO 6473	Space, Place, and Identity	3
INR 5609	Contemporary Dynamics of International Relations	3
INR 5615	Research Design in International Relations	3
INR 6604	International Relations Theory I	3
INR 6608	Contemporary International Relations Theory	3

**Major and Minor Fields: (21 credits)**

12 credits in major field of study

9 credits in minor field of study

**Electives: (21 credits)**

Additional elective coursework

**Comprehensive Exams**

Once students have achieved 60 credits, they must sit for written examination on the core sequence of their fields

**Dissertation: (15 credits)**

INR 7980 Ph.D. Dissertation

**Course Descriptions****Definition of Prefixes**

ASN-Asian Studies; FLE-Foreign Language Education

**ASN 5050 Methods in Asian Studies (3).** An examination of interdisciplinary methods for studies of Asia covering premodern and modern, language and area studies, fieldwork and deskwork, and qualitative and quantitative approaches.

**ASN 5120 Religion and Society in Japan (3).** Examines the relation between religion and the state, the growth of new religious movements, the role of religion during times of war and conflict, issues of religious freedom and legality, the impact of religious institutions on gender and ethnicity.

**ASN 5130 Zen and the Arts (3).** Examines the history, theory, and practice of Chado (Way of Tea), a Zen-inspired art that has had, and still exerts, a long-lasting influence on Japanese society.

**ASN 5131 Zen and the Arts II (3).** Theory, practice, aesthetics and cultural history of Chado the Tea Ceremony of Zen Buddhism.

**ASN 5171 International Relations of Contemporary China (3).** Survey of the dynamic interaction between external and internal factors on China's international relations.

**ASN 5211 Asian Cultures and Influences (3).** Examines diverse forms of Asian cultural manifestations and examples of self-expression, and the manner in which these styles have influenced modern Western movements (Transcendentalism and the Beats).

**ASN 5306 Applying Asian Cultural Values in Business (3).** Critical survey of traditional Asian values. Topics to include the way they have been applied to the world of entrepreneurship, cultural constructions of the Asian business community and philosophical approaches to the formation of entrepreneurial strategies.

**ASN 5315 Topics in Modern Asia (3).** Focus on modernization, or the transition from pre-modern (classical and medieval) to elements of the modern, including westernization, industrialization, and the roles of capitalism, communism, imperialism, and colonialism, as well as the impact of post-colonialism and post-modern society in Asia.

**ASN 5605 Silk Road: Then and Now (3).** Examination of the historical and contemporary significance of the Silk Road as an avenue for commercial and cultural exchange between East and West.

**ASN 5815 Studies of Classical East Asian Texts (3).** Advanced studies of classical East Asian readings from literature and religion, including interpretation and analysis from traditional and contemporary perspectives.

**ASN 5910 Independent Research in Asian Studies (1-6).** Topics will be selected to meet academic needs for students doing research in some specialized area of Asian studies. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

**ASN 5932 Special Topics in Asian Studies (3).** An examination of specific topics in Asian Studies. The content to be determined by instructor.

**ASN 6912 Master's Essay in Asian Studies (3).** Supervised research project. Requires prior approval by instructor. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**ASN 6930 Seminar in Asian Studies (3).** Content to be determined by the instructor. May be repeated for credit when content changes.

**ASN 6940 Internship in Asian Studies (1-3).** Students intern in local, national and international organizations with ties to Asia. The nature of the work to be determined in conjunction with the advisor. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.

**ASN 6972 Master's Thesis (1-6).** Writing and completion of thesis. Students must have completed all other requirements for Master of Arts degree in Asian Studies. Prerequisite: Permission of the Thesis director.

**FLE 5855 Pedagogical Methods for Chinese Language (3).** Introduction to Chinese language pedagogy, providing knowledge and tools for teaching Chinese language and culture in a classroom and a variety of pedagogical settings. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.