

## 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 SIPA 505, 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:

- 3.5 GPA in upper level undergraduate coursework;
- 3.0 GPA in upper level undergraduate course work and 151 score on the verbal portion of the GRE;
- MA in the humanities or social sciences from an accredited institution;
- 3.0 GPA in upper level undergraduate course work and with appropriate language or study abroad background as determined by written examination or evaluated by the program faculty committee;
- 3.0 GPA in upper level undergraduate course work and a 3.0 GPA 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.); and
- 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:

- 30 credits - Completion of thesis project
- 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)

- ASN 6912 Master's Essay in Asian Studies 3 credits
- 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
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
- GRE scores
- 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.

**M.A. in Asian Studies/Ph.D. in Global and Sociocultural Studies Combined Degree Program**

The combined Asian Studies MA/Global & Sociocultural Studies PhD program allows qualified graduate students to pursue both degrees at the same time. Students can develop an expertise in Asian Studies while progressing towards a PhD in one of the three majors in the Global and Sociocultural Studies PhD: geography, sociology, or anthropology.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must meet the following minimum requirements of Global and Sociocultural Studies to be considered for admission:

1. Baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution for higher education (or equivalent);
2. Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent) for the last two years of undergraduate work and/or a GPA of 3.5 on any previous graduate work;
3. Official Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores;
4. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English and who have not obtained a degree from an English-speaking academic institution 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 internet-based TOEFL (equivalent to 550 on the paper-based version) or a 6.5 overall on the IELTS is required.

**Admission Procedure**

To be accepted into this program, students must submit an application to the PhD in Global and Sociocultural Studies with a sub-plan for a MA in Asian Studies. This designation will appear in the menu of programs in the graduate application. To be accepted into this program,

students must submit an application by February 15 in the year in which they wish to begin their studies.

The following documents must be submitted and will be reviewed by the Admissions Committees from both units.

The following must be submitted as part of the online application:

- Online application and application fee;
- Official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate coursework;
- Official GRE scores;
- Official TOEFL scores, if applicable;
- Statement of purpose explaining his/her interest for enrolling in both the AS MA program and in the Ph.D. program in GSS. The statement of purpose must clearly address the applicant's academic and professional objectives for enrolling in both fields of inquiry. The statement of purpose must also indicate the intended major (international political economy or Asian cultural studies for the AS MA ,and anthropology, geography, or sociology for Ph.D. in GSS) the applicant plans to select while engaged in the PhD in GSS;
- Three letters of recommendation from university professors who are able to comment on the various aspects of the student's academic ability;
- A curriculum vitae or resume; and
- Writing samples and other relevant professional work that may support their applications.

### **Degree Requirements for M.A. in Asian Studies**

(30 credits Thesis Option/33 credits Non-Thesis Option)  
Up to 33 credits earned for the M.A. in AS will count towards the 75 credits required for the Ph.D. in GSS.

#### **Core (6 credits)**

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

#### **Courses required for GSS Track (12 credits)**

ANG 5093      Research Design and Methods  
SYA 6127      Theory and Inquiry  
SYA 6315      Social Research Quantitative Methods  
SYA 6959      Writing Research Proposals

#### **Asian Studies Courses (9 credits)**

6 credits Asia-specific courses pertaining to main concentration (from courses listed below)

- SYD 6418 Urban Sociology in Global Perspective
- SYD 6655 Seminar on Social Change in Asia
- SYD 6901 Japanese Society in Global Perspective
- SYD XXXX State and Society in China

3 credits of Asia-specific electives

#### **Language Requirement**

Depending on the research topic students may be required to demonstrate language competency by the Asian Studies Graduate Committee.

#### **MAAS Exit Options, Thesis or Non-Thesis**

Thesis Exit Option (3 credits):

ASN 6972 Thesis

Non-Thesis Exit Option (6 credits):

Master's Essay (3 credits) and one additional Asia-specific course (3 credits)

### **Application for Graduation from MA in AS**

Students should apply for graduation for the MA in AS as soon as they have completed all requirements for the degree – including the exit option.

#### **Matriculation to PhD in GSS**

All students must undergo a successful M.A. review upon completion of the AS Master's Program requirements in order to continue toward the Ph.D. in GSS. The GSS Graduate Committee, along with an appointee from AS, conducts these reviews. The purpose of the M.A. review is to determine the ability of the student to do Ph.D. level work with the department's faculty. Among the information considered during the review are student's performances and grades in courses, and faculty recommendations.

### **Degree Requirements for Ph.D in Global and Sociocultural Studies**

The doctorate in Global and Sociocultural Studies requires a minimum of 75 credits beyond the baccalaureate including a dissertation based on original research, up to 33 credits of the MA in AS will count toward the 75-credit minimum. Thus, a minimum of 42 credits must be earned beyond the MA.

#### **Major Courses (36 credits)**

All doctoral students will choose a major in Anthropology, Geography, or Sociology. The following distribution of coursework is required:

- a) Major theory methods (3)
- b) Major methods (3)
- c) Major course electives (9 minimum)
  - Doctoral Exam Preparation (6 maximum)
  - Doctoral Dissertation (15 minimum)

#### **General Electives (6 credits)**

GSS and non-GSS Department electives

#### **Ph.D. General Examination**

After successfully completing the common core requirements, the major's course requirements, and electives, a student prepares for the Ph.D. General Exam by enrolling in a maximum of six credits of exam preparation for their major. In preparation for the exam, a student forms a dissertation committee according to the regulations published on the University Graduate School web page (<http://gradschool.fiu.edu>). The Ph.D. General Exam addresses the student's anticipated dissertation topic, and is conducted according to the University Graduate School Policies and Procedures Manual and the Department's Ph.D. General Exam guidelines.

#### **The Dissertation Proposal and Defense/Candidacy Exam**

After passing the Ph.D. General Exam, a student works under the guidance of the dissertation committee to prepare a dissertation proposal and defend it orally before the committee. The chair of the dissertation committee must hold Dissertation Advisor Status from the University Graduate School. The proposal defense serves as the doctoral candidacy exam for the Ph.D. program in Global and Sociocultural Studies. Upon passing the proposal defense, a student is admitted to candidacy status.

## The Dissertation and Dissertation Defense

After successfully defending a dissertation proposal, a student conducts the proposed research and completes a dissertation under the guidance of a dissertation committee. Only after successfully defending the dissertation proposal may a student register for dissertation hours (ANG 7980, GEO 7980, or SYA 7980). The Ph.D. program requires a student to be continuously enrolled in a minimum of 3 hours of Doctoral Dissertation each semester from the time of advancement to candidacy until completion of the dissertation, including summers. Upon completion of the dissertation manuscript and authorization by the committee, a student defends the dissertation before the committee and the University community. The University Graduate School's regulations governing the dissertation are described at <http://gradschool.fiu.edu>.

## Combined Master of Arts in Asian Studies/Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations

The combined M.A. 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 M.A. 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 which fulfills the M.A. in Asian Studies methods requirement:

INR 5615      Research Design in International Relations

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

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):

ASN 6912      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 5131 Zen and the Arts II (3).** Theory, practice, aesthetics and cultural history of Chado the Tea Ceremony of Zen Buddhism.

**ASN 5149 Topics in Modern China (3).** Advanced studies in contemporary Chinese society from the early period of the People's Republic to the period since economic reforms in 1978.

**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.