Asian Languages and Literature, B.A.

The B.A. program in Asian languages and literature gives students the opportunity to develop advanced skills in an Asian language while they study the people, literatures, and cultures of Asia. Students choose one of four tracks: Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, or Sanskrit.

Students interested in Asian studies may add a second major in international studies with an emphasis in Asian studies; see B.A. in International Studies in the Catalog. Many other disciplines work well as second majors for Asian languages and literature students, such as history, art history, political science, religion, sociology, journalism, business, and anthropology.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in Asian languages and literature requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 27-30 s.h. of work for the major. Students choose one of four tracks: Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, or Sanskrit. Credit required for the major depends on choice of track; requirements for each track are listed below. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences General Education Program. Furthering Language Incentive Program (FLIP) credit may not be counted toward the major.

The amount of approved transfer credit that may be applied to the major varies by track; students should consult their advisors about courses taken at other institutions, including study abroad.

The B.A. with a major in Asian languages and literature requires the following work.

**Tracks**

**Chinese Track**

Students in the Chinese track must complete the following course work.

Prerequisite Chinese Language Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:2101-CHIN:2102</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chinese Language**

All of these:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:3101-CHIN:3102</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:4101</td>
<td>Classical Chinese: First Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:4103-CHIN:4104</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chinese Literature and Cinema**

Two of these:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:3202</td>
<td>Chinese Literature: Prose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:3341</td>
<td>Chinese Literature: Poetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:4203</td>
<td>Modern Chinese Writers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:4206</td>
<td>Transnational Chinese Cinemas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Chinese Culture and Society**

Courses in this area include those in art, history, literature, religion, and translation.

A minimum of 9 s.h. from these:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIA:1060/RELS:1506</td>
<td>Introduction to Buddhism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIA:1510/CL:1510</td>
<td>Ghost Stories and Tales of the Weird in Pre-Modern Chinese Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIA:1602</td>
<td>Civilizations of Asia: China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIA:3220/ARTH:3230</td>
<td>Chinese Painting I: Pagodas and Palaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:1504</td>
<td>Asian Humanities: China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:1702</td>
<td>Chinese Popular Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:1800</td>
<td>Chinese Character Writing and Calligraphy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:3201</td>
<td>Workshop in Chinese Literary Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:4150</td>
<td>Advanced Readings in Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST:4650</td>
<td>Chinese History from 1600 to 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST:4655</td>
<td>China Since 1927</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Electives**

Courses and requirements listed above represent the minimum hours required to complete the Chinese track. Students also may choose additional Chinese elective courses (prefix CHIN), but may not exceed a total of 56 s.h. that will apply to the minimum 120 s.h. required to graduate. Elective Chinese courses will not count toward Chinese requirements for the major. Independent studies and arranged hours may be used as elective hours but are not counted toward requirements for the major.

**Hindi Track**

Students in the Hindi track must complete the following course work.

All of these:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Asian Languages and Literature, B.A.

Third-Year Hindi-Urdu: First Semester - Third-Year Hindi-Urdu: Second Semester

(students may substitute 6 s.h. of South Asian studies courses numbered 3000 or above, with the approval of their major advisors)

Additional South Asian studies courses numbered 3000 or above, including 1-3 s.h. of independent study

6

A list of advanced South Asian studies courses numbered 3000 or above is available from the department.

Hindi track students are urged to fulfill the General Education Program Historical Perspectives or International and Global Issues requirement (3 s.h.) by completing HIST:1606/ASIA:1606 Civilizations of Asia: South Asia.

Japanese Track

Students in the Japanese track must complete the following course work.

Prerequisite Japanese Language Courses  
Third- and Fourth-Year Japanese  
Literature and Translation Courses  
Linguistics and Advanced Language Studies Courses  
Cultural Studies Course  

Total Hours 30

Students may apply a maximum of 12 s.h. of approved transfer credit toward track requirements. Those who are planning to study abroad should consult with their Japanese track advisors in advance to determine whether their planned course work abroad will be accepted toward track requirements.

Prerequisite Japanese Language Courses

Students must successfully complete the prerequisite courses below, or the equivalent, before they enroll in required courses. These courses do not count as credit earned toward track requirements.

All of these:  
JPNS:1001 First-Year Japanese: First Semester 5  
JPNS:1002 First-Year Japanese: Second Semester 5  

Third- and Fourth-Year Japanese

Both of these sequences:  
JPNS:3001- 
JPNS:3002 Third-Year Japanese I-II 6  
JPNS:4001- 
JPNS:4002 Fourth-Year Japanese I-II 6  

Literature and Translation

Three of these:  
JPNS:3201 Workshop in Japanese Literary Translation 3  
JPNS:3202 Traditional Japanese Literature in Translation 3  
JPNS:3203 Modern Japanese Fiction in Translation 3  
JPNS:3204 Topics in Japanese Literature in Translation 3  
JPNS:3205 Major Authors in Modern Japanese Literature 3  
JPNS:3206 Warriors' Dreams 3  
JPNS:3207 Japan Illuminated: Japanese Literature and Visual Culture 3  
JPNS:3208 Japanese Film 3  
JPNS:3210 Japanese Theater 3  
JPNS:3601 Contemporary Japanese Culture 3  
JPNS:4201 The Tale of Genji 3  

Linguistics and Advanced Language Studies

At least 6 s.h. from these:  
JPNS:3107 Classical Japanese: First Semester 3  
JPNS:3128 Introduction to Japanese Linguistics 3  
JPNS:3401 Language in Japanese Society 3  
JPNS:3402 Japan: Culture and Communication 3  
JPNS:3501 Japanese for Professional Purposes II 3  
JPNS:4501 Fifth-Year Japanese I 3  
JPNS:4502 Fifth Year Japanese II 3  

Cultural Studies

Students complete one course chosen from the following lists:

Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures  
JPNS:1506 Asian Humanities: Japan 3  
JPNS:3135 Postmodern Aesthetics and Japanese Culture 3  

Anthropology  
JPNS:2175 Japanese Society and Culture 3  

Art History  
JPNS:2250 Introduction to the Art of Japan 3  
JPNS:3260 Japanese Painting 3  

History  
JPNS:4610 Japan - Age of the Samurai 3  
JPNS:4615 Modern Japan 3  
JPNS:4620 Japan-U.S. Relations 3  

Religious Studies  
JPNS:1115 Japanese Religions 3  
JPNS:3660 Japanese Religion and Thought 3  

World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
JPNS:3700 Topics in Global Cinema 3  

Sanskrit Track
Students in the Sanskrit track must complete the following course work.

All of these:
SOAS:3901-3902  Second-Year Sanskrit: First Semester - Second-Year Sanskrit: Second Semester 6
SOAS:4201-4202  Third-Year Sanskrit: First Semester - Third-Year Sanskrit: Second Semester (students may substitute 6 s.h. of South Asian studies courses numbered 3000 or above, with the approval of their major advisor) 6

Additional South Asian studies courses numbered 3000 or above, including 1-3 s.h. of independent study 15

Total Hours 27

A list of advanced South Asian studies courses numbered 3000 or above is available from the department.

Sanskrit track students are urged to fulfill the General Education Program Historical Perspectives or International and Global Issues requirement (3 s.h.) by completing HIST:1606/ASIA:1606 Civilizations of Asia: South Asia.

B.A. with Teacher Licensure
Students majoring in Asian languages and literature (Chinese or Japanese track) who are interested in earning licensure to teach in elementary and/or secondary schools must complete the College of Education’s Teacher Education Program (TEP) in addition to the requirements for their major and all requirements for graduation. The TEP requires several College of Education courses and student teaching. Contact the Office of Student Services for details.

Students must satisfy all degree requirements and complete Teacher Education Program licensure before degree conferral.

Asian languages and literature majors must complete designated pedagogy and linguistics courses in the department in addition to the course work required for their major.

Students who plan to use their work toward a minor in Chinese, Japanese, or Russian as academic background for earning teacher licensure should contact the Office of Student Services about requirements.

Honors
Honors in the Major
Students have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. They must have the consent of the department chair and a faculty sponsor (an Asian specialist from any department) for departmental honors work. Students must register for ASIA:4301 Honors Tutorial and ASIA:4506 Senior Honors Thesis, and must complete an acceptable thesis based on original research.

University of Iowa Honors Program
In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University’s honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the Asian languages and literature major.

Academic Plans
Four-Year Graduation Plan
The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University’s Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Before the third semester begins: for students in Chinese and Japanese tracks, language work begun (students in the Hindi and Sanskrit tracks may begin language work in their sophomore year)
Before the fifth semester begins: at least first-year language competency
Before the seventh semester begins: at least second-year language competency and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree
Before the eighth semester begins: at least third-year, first-semester language competency and one additional course in the major (for the Japanese track, two additional courses in the major)
During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining course work in the major, all remaining General Education courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate

Sample Plans of Study
Asian Languages and Literature (B.A.)

Chinese Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:2101</td>
<td>Second-Year Chinese: First Semester</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RHET:1030</td>
<td>Rhetoric (GE: Rhetoric or other General Education course)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE: Diversity and Inclusion</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSI:1600</td>
<td>Success at Iowa</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:2102</td>
<td>Second-Year Chinese: Second Semester</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL:1200</td>
<td>The Interpretation of Literature (GE: Interpretation of Literature)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GE: Historical Perspectives</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Asian Languages and Literature, B.A.

Elective course 1
Hours 15

Second Year

Fall

CHIN:3101  Third-Year Chinese: First Semester (major) 3
GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts 3
GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Spring

CHIN:3102  Third Year Chinese: Second Semester (major) 3
Major: Chinese literature and cinema course 3
GE: Natural Sciences without a lab 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Third Year

Fall

CHIN:4101  Classical Chinese: First Semester (major) 3
CHIN:4103  Fourth-Year Chinese: First Semester (major) 3
GE: Natural Sciences with a lab 4
Elective course 3
Elective course 2

Hours 15

Spring

CHIN:4104  Fourth-Year Chinese: Second Semester (major) 3
Major: Chinese literature and culture course 3
GE: International and Global Issues 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Fourth Year

Fall

CHIN:4101  Classical Chinese: First Semester (major) 3
Major: advanced Chinese language course 3
GE: Values and Culture 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Spring

Major: Chinese literature and culture course 3
GE: Social Sciences 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Total Hours 120

1 Assumes student placement begins with CHIN:2101 Second-Year Chinese: First Semester; students should begin with an appropriate placement, which may be a lower-level course. CHIN:1111 First-Year Chinese: First Semester or CHIN:1112 First-Year Chinese: Second Semester do not count toward the major.

2 General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE: World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. For more information, view the General Education Program.

3 Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

4 Students can begin to take this course after completion of CHIN:3101 Third-Year Chinese: First Semester

Japanese Track

Course Title Hours
First Year
Fall
JPNS:1001 First-Year Japanese: First Semester 5
RHET:1030 Rhetoric (GE: Rhetoric or other General Education course) 4
GE: Diversity and Inclusion 3
Elective course 1
CSI:1600 Success at Iowa 2

Hours 15

Spring

JPNS:1002 First-Year Japanese: Second Semester 5
ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature (GE: Interpretation of Literature) 3
GE: Historical Perspectives 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Hours 15

Second Year

Fall

GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts 3
GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Hours 15

Spring

GE: Natural Sciences without a lab 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 1

Hours 15
Asian Languages and Literature, B.A.

Third Year
Fall
JPNS:3001 Third-Year Japanese I (major) 3
Major: cultural studies course 3
GE: Natural Sciences with a lab 4
Elective course 3
Elective course 2
Hours 15

Spring
JPNS:3002 Third-Year Japanese II (major) 3
Major: literature and translation course 3
Major: literature and translation course 3
GE: International and Global Issues 3
Elective course 4
Hours 15

Fourth Year
Fall
JPNS:4001 Fourth-Year Japanese I (major) 3
Major: linguistics and language studies course 3
Major: literature and translation course 3
GE: Values and Culture 3
Elective course 3
Hours 15

Spring
JPNS:4002 Fourth-Year Japanese II (major) 3
Major: linguistics and language studies course 3
GE: Social Sciences 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Hours 15

Total Hours 120


2 General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. For more information, view the General Education Program.

3 Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

4 Students considering taking JPNS:3500 Japanese for Professional Purposes I and JPNS:3501 Japanese for Professional Purposes II should begin this sequence in the spring semester of their third year.

Hindi Track

Course | Title | Hours
---|---|---
First Year
Fall
SOAS:2101 First-Year Hindi-Urdu: First Semester 1 5
RHET:1030 Rhetoric (GE: Rhetoric or other General Education course) 2 4
GE: Diversity and Inclusion 3
Elective course 1

CSI:1600 Success at Iowa 2
Hours 15

Spring
SOAS:2102 First-Year Hindi-Urdu: Second Semester 1 5
ASIA:1606 Civilizations of Asia: South Asia (also GE: Historical Perspectives) 3-4
ENGL:1200 The Interpretation of Literature (GE: Interpretation of Literature) 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Hours 15

Second Year
Fall
SOAS:3101 Second-Year Hindi-Urdu: First Semester (major) 4
GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts 3
GE: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Hours 16

Spring
SOAS:3102 Second-Year Hindi-Urdu: Second Semester (major) 4
GE: Natural Sciences without a lab 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 2
Hours 15

Third Year
Fall
SOAS:4101 Third-Year Hindi-Urdu: First Semester (major) 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
GE: Natural Sciences with a lab 4
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Hours 15

Spring
SOAS:4102 Third-Year Hindi-Urdu: Second Semester (major) 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
GE: International and Global Issues 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Hours 15

Fourth Year
Fall
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
GE: Values and Culture 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Hours 15
Asian Languages and Literature, B.A.

Spring
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course independent study 1-3
GE: Social Sciences 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 2

Hours 15-17
Total Hours 121-124

1 SOAS:2101 First-Year Hindi-Urdu: First Semester and SOAS:2102 First-Year Hindi-Urdu: Second Semester do not count as semester hours toward the major.
2 General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. For more information, view the General Education Program.
3 Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

Elective course 3

Third Year
Fall
SOAS:4201 Third-Year Sanskrit: First Semester (major) 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
GE: Natural Sciences with a lab 4
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Spring
SOAS:4202 Third-Year Sanskrit: Second Semester (major) 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
GE: International and Global Issues 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15

Fourth Year
Fall
Major: additional South Asian studies course numbered 3000 or above 3
Major: additional South Asian studies course independent study 3
GE: Social Sciences 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3
Elective course 3

Hours 15
Total Hours 120

1 SOAS:2901 First-Year Sanskrit: First Semester and SOAS:2902 First-Year Sanskrit: Second Semester do not count as semester hours toward the major.
2 General Education (GE) courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses. For more information, view the General Education Program.
3 Students may use their elective courses to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.

Financial Support
Undergraduate students have access to the following financial aid and scholarship resources. Contact the Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures for application information.

Cheng/Liu Scholarship: Students currently majoring in Chinese in the Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and
Literatures at the University of Iowa may apply for the Cheng/Liu Scholarship. The award can be used for summer Chinese language study.

**Confucius Institute Scholarship:** The Confucius Institute at the University of Iowa provides scholarships for students to study Chinese language and culture or conduct research related to their academic disciplines in China.

**Fairall Scholarship:** Majors who have attended and/or graduated from Iowa elementary or secondary schools may be nominated by the department to receive a Fairall Scholarship. Preference is given to Japanese studies students. Applications are available late spring, with scholarships to be awarded the following fall semester.

**Summer language scholarships:** Currently enrolled students may compete for a Stanley-University of Iowa Foundation Support Organization Summer Language Scholarship to be used for intensive summer language study in Chinese, Hindi-Urdu, Japanese, or Sanskrit. Eight to ten awards of $2,000-$2,500 are made each summer. Applications are due March 1.

**Support for undergraduate study abroad:** Opportunities for undergraduates to study abroad include the Presidential Scholarships for Study Abroad and the Stanley Scholarships for International Research and Study.

### Career Advancement

Asian languages and literature graduates pursue careers in education, government, communication, business, and other fields in the United States and beyond. The programs also provide an excellent background for advanced study in the humanities and social sciences and in professional schools, such as law and business. The number of Americans who can speak Asian languages is relatively small, so many career opportunities exist for individuals trained in these areas.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.