



Spring 2014

The Department of Asian and Asian American Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences welcomes you to:

Introduction to Asian Studies (AAS211.01)

Tues/Thurs 10:00 am – 11:20 am

Humanities 3018

Lecturer: Professor Peg Christoff

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Office: Humanities 1126

Office Hours: Monday 4-5 pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30-9:30 am

Course Description: This course will provide students with information on subjects of common concern to people in both Asia and America, including education, health, religion and values, consumer issues, family and home, mobility (including immigration), children, careers and work, entertainment and leisure, etc. In this context, “Asia” as a cultured space includes India, Southeast Asia, China, Korea and Japan. Students will design their own maps and timelines to explain the historical development of “tongues, texts, and scripts” as well as ethnic identities.

Course Pre/co-requisites:

Since this is an introductory/gateway course in the Department of Asian and Asian American Studies, there are no pre-requisites.

Student Learning Outcomes: This course will enable students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Asian societies or cultures outside of the US and the interconnectedness of the world, both past and present. To demonstrate mastery of course concepts, upon completion of this introductory course, students will be able to:

1. Define and explain the significance of basic concepts relating to population, climate, political structure, cultural and socio-economic diversity in India, Southeast Asia, China, Korea, and Japan (class participation and exams);
2. Identify the most important historical events, religions, languages, literary classics, social groups, social and religious movements, and socio-economic issues in Asia (class participation and exams);
3. Using *Viewshare* platform, select, classify, and describe Asian artifacts relating to education, health, religion and values, consumer issues, family and home, mobility and diaspora, children, careers and work, entertainment and leisure, etc (project); and
4. Distinguish between major and minor concentrations in the Department of Asian and Asian American Studies (class participation and exams)

Course Requirements: Regular attendance and active participation are required. Students are granted two unexcused absences without penalty. All cell phones and other electronic devices should be set on “silent” during the duration of the class. No audio/visual recording of class sessions is permitted.

Blackboard: Email and especially email sent via Blackboard (<http://blackboard.stonybrook.edu>) is one of the ways we officially communicate with you in this course. It is your responsibility to make sure that you read your email in your official University email account. For most students, that is Google Apps for Education (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud>). Please verify your official Electronic Post Office (EPO) address at: <http://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/checking-or-changing-your-mail-forwarding-address-in-the-epo>

If you choose to forward your official University email to another off campus account, we are not responsible for any undeliverable messages to your alternative personal accounts. You can set up email forwarding using these DoIT-provided instructions found at: <http://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/setting-up-mail-forwarding-in-google-mail>. If you need technical assistance, please contact Client Support at (631) 632-9800 or supportteam@stonybrook.edu

Required Reading (Selected chapters from the following two textbooks):
 Carolyn Brown Heinz. Asian Cultural Traditions, Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 1999.
 Patricia Ebrey, Anne Walthall, and James Palais. Modern East Asia: From 1600 (2nd edition) 2009.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Tues., Jan. 28 **Course Introduction**
 No reading assignments

Thurs., Jan. 30 **Introduction to ViewShare**
Exercise: World Treasures
<http://viewshare.org/share/f2e52946-f92a-11e2-bc01-4040e007d488/>
Reading: Heinz, pp. 1-10

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:
Monsoon Asia Asu Qin Shihuang King Ashoka Upanishads Clifford Geertz Metaphysics	Foundational civilizations Secular management

Thurs., Feb. 4 **Guest Lecturer Ambassador Harsh Bhasin**
THE GEOPOLITICS OF ASIA: CRITICAL ISSUES

Tues., Feb. 6 **Theme #1: Ecological and Geophysical Spaces**
Reading: Heinz, pp. 11-38

Terms/people to know:	Important Concepts:
Ganges River Mount Kailash Tibetan Plateau Xiongnu	Mytho-geography Major fault lines in Asia Silk Road River origins

J. G. Andersson Yellow River (Huanghe) Yangtze River Zhoukoudian Grand Canal Himalayan pinch Shiva Ganga Mama Wallace's Line Krakata Arc of Fire Oryza Sativa Hemudu Zhejiang	Benefits of rice cultivation Neolithic Refined management Peking man versus Java man Homo erectus versus Homo sapiens Swidden and paddy ecosystems
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Tues., Feb. 11 **National Geographic Assessments**
http://education.nationalgeographic.com/archive/xpeditions/lessons/03/g68/assesbound.html?ar_a=1

Thurs., Feb. 13 **Theme #2: The Development and Transmission of Language**
Reading: Heinz, pp. 39-76

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:
Hindi Dravidian Sanskrit Cognates Loan words PIE (Proto-Indo-European) Vernacular language Vedic Vedas scripts Paleo-linguistics Sino-Tibetan Tibetan-Burman Mandarin Chinese Mnemonic Xuanzang Faxian Dunhuang James Prinsen Hangul Kana	Language versus dialect Politics of language Tonal language Divine symbol Diamond Sutra Syllabic system

Tues., Feb. 18 **Guest Lecturer, Professor Shikaripur Sridhar**
INDIAN WORLD VIEWS

Thurs., Feb. 20 **Theme #3: Tribal "Systems"**
Reading: Heinz, pp. 77-116
Send TA first view (first 7-10 artifacts)

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:
Sima Qian Tribe (World Bank definition) Census data Scheduled tribes Francis Buchanan Stevan Harrell Dai (language) Lao and Khmer identities Norma Diamond Miao Golden Triangle Marshall Sahlins Tergi	Marginal tribes National policies re tribes Han-icization Civilizing project Pre-modern states Evolution of ethnic Thai groups National identity and colonialism Interactions between Hmong and Karen Hmong creation myth Marriage-by-capture Chingneng

Tues., Feb. 25 **Guest Lecturer, Professor Gregory Ruf**
“ON-THE-GROUND” FIELD RESEARCH IN CHINA

Thurs., Feb. 27 **EXAM (THEMES 1-3)**

Tues., March 4 **Theme #4: India as a Foundational Civilization**
Reading: Heinz, pp. 117-220

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:
Brahman Rama Sita Laws of Manu Dharma Adharma Indus Valley civilization Vedic Age Gupta Age Mughal Empire Syncreticism Aryan Rg Veda Ashoka Mauryan Empire Asceticism Hypergamy Mithila Panchgavya Arthashastra Suhag Satimata Lakshmi Mahabharata Bhagavadghita Jati Atma Maya	Indigenous historiography Moral authority and the nature of the soul British colonialism Caste system Family as a metaphor Types of Dharma Sacrifice Rama myths Varna system Upanishadic thought Jajamani system Ashoka's conversion Iterations of Buddhism Development of Islam in India

Karma Samsara Yogi Bhakti Arupa Akbhar Delhi Sultanate Sufism	
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Thurs., March 6 **Theme #4 (continued)**
Send TA second view (add 7-10 artifacts)

Tues., March 11 **Guest Lecturer, Professor Nerissa Balce**
**AMERICAN ORIENTALISM AND THE IMPERIAL CAMERA:
PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE PHILIPPINES AFTER 1898**

Thurs., March 13 **Theme #5: Southeast Asian Legacies**
Reading: Heinz, pp. 183-220

Complete the below table and submit it to me (in your folder) no later than March 25

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:

SPRING BREAK (MARCH 17-21)

Tues., March 25 **EXAM (THEMES 4-5)**

Thurs., March 27 Film screening: "Digital Dharma"
Send TA third view (add 7-10 artifacts)

Tues., April 1 **Theme #6: China as a Foundational Civilization**
Reading: Ebrey, Walthall, Palais, chapters 16 and 18

Complete the below table and submit it to me (in your folder) no later than April 8

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:

Thurs., April 3 **Theme #6 (continued)**
Reading: Ebrey, Walthall, Palais, chapters 24 and 25

Tues., April 8 **Guest Lecturer, Professor William Chittick**
AN INTRODUCTION TO ISLAMIC PRACTICES IN ASIA

Thurs., April 10 **Theme #7: Japanese Culture and Identity**
Reading: Ebrey, Walthall, Palais, chapters 17 and 19

Tues., April 15 **Theme #7 (continued)**
Reading: Ebrey, Walthall, Palais, chapters 20 and 22

Complete the below table and submit to me (in your folder) by April 17

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:

Thurs., April 17 **Guest Lecturer, Professor Eriko Sato**
JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND ITS ASSOCIATED CULTURE
Send TA fourth view (add 7-10 artifacts)

Tues., April 22 Film screening: “Ancestors in the Americas – Coolies, Sailors, and Settlers”

Thurs., April 24 **Theme #8: Korean language and culture**
Reading: Ebrey, Walthall, Palais, chapters 21 and 23

Tues., April 29 **Guest Lecturer, Professor Heejeong Sohn**
KOREA’S MODERNIZING AND COLONIAL PERIOD (1896-1945)

Complete the below table and submit to me (n your folder) by May 1

Terms/people to know:	Important concepts:

Thurs., May 1 **Theme #9: Diverse Asian connections to America**
In-class exercise

Tues., May 6 **Jeopardy Review and Questions**
Send TA last view (add 7-10 artifacts)

Tues., May 8 **Student Viewshare Presentations**

FINAL EXAM: FRIDAY, MAY 16, 11:15 AM – 1:45 PM

Grading:

Final grades will be calculated using the following percentages: Attendance and class participation (10%), 2 mid-term exams (20% each, 40% total), View Share project (20%), and final exam/term paper (8-10 double-spaced pages) option (30%).

Grading scale:

A (94-100) A- (90-93) B+ (87-89) B (84-86) B- (80-83) C+ (77-79) C (74-76) C- (70-73) D+ (69-68), D (67-65), F (64 and below)

Additional class resources:

Library resources: Melville Library has an excellent collection of Asian and Asian American resources. This link will be very useful: <http://guides.library.stonybrook.edu/aas>

Blackboard: To access grades, announcements, and reading, see <https://blackboard.stonybrook.edu/webapps/login/>

Writing Center: For help with writing papers and composing essays, please use our writing center: http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/writrhet/writing_center/writing.html

Career Center: To talk with someone about career options, <http://career.stonybrook.edu/>

Other places to seek advice: <http://stonybrook.edu/aadvising/tut.html>

Disability Support Services (DSS): If you have a physical, psychological, medical, or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services at 631-632-6748; <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/dss/>. They will determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential. Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and DSS. For procedures and information: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities>

Academic Integrity: Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty members are required to report any suspected instance of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/>

Critical Incident Management: Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, and/or inhibits students' ability to learn.