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
E-mail: peggy.christoff@stonybrook.edu
Phone: 631-632-4030
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](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](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](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](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):
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](http://viewshare.org/share/f2e52946-f92a-11e2-bc01-4040e007d488)  
Reading: Heinz, pp. 1-10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms/people to know:</th>
<th>Important concepts:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monsoon Asia</td>
<td>Foundational civilizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asu</td>
<td>Secular management</td>
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<td>Qin Shihuang</td>
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<td>King Ashoka</td>
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<td>Upanishads</td>
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<td>Clifford Geertz</td>
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<td>Metaphysics</td>
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**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms/people to know:</th>
<th>Important Concepts:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ganges River</td>
<td>Mytho-geography</td>
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<td>Mount Kailash</td>
<td>Major fault lines in Asia</td>
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<td>Tibetan Plateau</td>
<td>Silk Road</td>
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<td>Xiongnu</td>
<td>River origins</td>
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<td>J. G. Andersson</td>
<td>Benefits of rice cultivation</td>
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<td>Yellow River (Huanghe)</td>
<td>Neolithic</td>
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<td>Yangtze River</td>
<td>Refined management</td>
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<td>Zhoukoudian</td>
<td>Peking man versus Java man</td>
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<td>Grand Canal</td>
<td>Homo erectus versus Homo sapiens</td>
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<td>Himalayan pinch</td>
<td>Swidden and paddy ecosystems</td>
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<td>Shiva</td>
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<td>Ganga Mama</td>
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<td>Wallace’s Line</td>
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<td>Krakata</td>
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<td>Arc of Fire</td>
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<td>Oryza Sativa</td>
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<td>Hemudu</td>
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<td>Zhejiang</td>
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**Tues., Feb. 11**  
National Geographic Assessments  
[http://education.nationalgeographic.com/archive/xpeditions/lessons/03/g68/asses_sbound.html?ar_a=1](http://education.nationalgeographic.com/archive/xpeditions/lessons/03/g68/asses_sbound.html?ar_a=1)

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

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

Important concepts:
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:
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
Suag
Satimata
Lakshmi
Mahabharata
Bhagavadgita
Jati
Atma
Maya

Important concepts:
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

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

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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

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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**

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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 (in your folder) by May 1**

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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.