LANGUAGES AND CULTURES OF ASIA, M.A.

The M.A. program offers a wide exposure to areas of Asia while developing skills in one or more Asian languages. The degree can lead to a Ph.D. program, or to a career in government agencies, educational foundations, or to work in non-government organizations. Ph.D. students in other departments may enroll in this M.A. program to provide for comprehensive Asian languages and area training.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM DEGREE REQUIREMENTS AND SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

To make progress toward a graduate degree, students must meet the Graduate School Minimum Degree Requirements and Satisfactory Progress (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiesandrequirementstext) in addition to the requirements of the program.

MASTER'S DEGREES

M.A.

MINIMUM GRADUATE DEGREE CREDIT REQUIREMENT

30 credits

MINIMUM GRADUATE RESIDENCE CREDIT REQUIREMENT

16 credits

MINIMUM GRADUATE COURSEWORK (50%) REQUIREMENT

50% of degree credits must be in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide (http://my.wisc.edu/CourseGuideRedirect/BrowseByTitle).

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: GRADUATE WORK FROM OTHER INSTITUTIONS

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree or earned ten years is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: UW–MADISON UNDERGRADUATE

No credits from a UW–Madison undergraduate degree are allowed to count toward the degree.

PRIOR COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS: UW–MADISON UNIVERSITY SPECIAL

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of coursework numbered 300 or above taken as a UW–Madison University Special student. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED

15 credits

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC COURSES REQUIRED

Students are required to take two courses in Literature, two seminars or proseminars in the department and additional LCA courses to meet the credit requirements.

OVERALL GRADUATE GPA REQUIREMENT

Overall 3.0 GPA

OTHER GRADE REQUIREMENTS

No other specific grade requirements.

PROBATION POLICY

A semester GPA below 3.0 will result in the student being placed on department probation. If a semester GPA of 3.0 is not attained during the subsequent semester of enrollment, the student may be dismissed from the program or allowed to continue for one additional semester based on advisor appeal to the Graduate School.

ADVISOR / COMMITTEE

Students are required to have a signed advisor form on file. In the absence of a signed advisor form, the APC chair will act as advisor.

ASSESSMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS

All students must complete an M.A. thesis and oral examination by committee with a Pass or High Pass to receive the M.A. degree.

Students will be required to pass a language competency exam prior to defense of their thesis.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

Master's degree students who have been absent for five or more consecutive years lose all credits that they have earned before their absence. Individual programs may count the coursework students completed prior to their absence for meeting program requirements; that coursework may not count toward Graduate School credit requirements.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Three years (six semesters) of an Asian language offered by the department or two years (four semesters) of two Asian languages offered by the department. The student’s required competence will be determined prior to the student's M.A. oral examination. The form of the examination will be determined by the faculty member administering the examination.

ADMISSIONS

The Graduate School sets minimum requirements for admissions (https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/requirements). Academic program admission requirements are often more rigorous than those set by the Graduate School. Please check the program website for details.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Demonstrate knowledge of one or more regions of Asia with a focus on the cultures, religions, history, literature and languages within the humanistic scholarship of Asia.
• Demonstrate proficiency in reading, speaking, and listening in one or more LCA languages.
• Analyze and synthesize information and ideas within the context of Asian humanities.
• Understand, respond to, and construct arguments across disciplines.
• Apply their knowledge to solutions of intellectual as well as practical problems.
• Conduct academic research using sources, methodologies, and critical theories.
• Communicate effectively in writing and orally.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT
• Recognize and apply principles of professional and ethical conduct.

PEOPLE

FACULTY

Professors Bühnemann, Dunne, Huang, Huntington, Kern, McGloin, Mori (chair), Nienhauser, Zhang; Associate Professors Cerulli, D’Etcheverry, Geyer, Lim, Meulenbeld, Ridgely; Assistant Professors Yang, Zhu (Diversity Liaison); Faculty Associate Barnard, Nakakubo

EAST ASIA

Charo D’Etcheverry (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/charo-detcheverry) (Associate Professor). Area: Classical Japanese Literature

Naomi Geyer (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/naomi-geyer) (Associate Professor). Area: Japanese Language

Nicole Huang (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/nicole-huang) (Professor). Area: Transcultural East Asia; 20th century Chinese and Taiwanese Literature

Rania Huntington (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/rania-huntington) (Professor). Area: Ming and Qing Narrative and Drama, Chinese Literature of the weird and supernatural


Byung-jin Lim (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/byung-jin-lim) (Associate Professor). Area: Korean Language and Linguistics, Second / Foreign Language Acquisition, Korean Language Textbook Development

Naomi McGloin (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/naomi-mcgloin) (Professor). Area: Japanese Language and Linguistics

Mark Meulenbeld (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/william-nienhauser) (Associate Professor). Area: Daoism, Chinese Religion and Literature

Junko Mori (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/steve-ridgely) (Professor). Area: Japanese Linguistics, Applied Linguistics, Sociolinguistics

Takako Nakakubo (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/takako-nakakubo) (Faculty Associate). Area: Second Language Acquisition of Japanese, Japanese Pedagogy

William Nienhauser (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/william-nienhauser) (Professor). Area: Early Traditional Chinese Fiction and History; early poetry (Du Fu and Tao Qian)

Steve Ridgely (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/steve-ridgely) (Associate Professor). Area: Modern Japanese Literature, Pop culture, TransAsian studies

Bei Yang (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/bei-yang) (Assistant Professor). Area: Second Language Acquisition, Chinese Languages and Linguistics

Hongming Zhang (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/hongming-zhang) (Professor). Area: Chinese Linguistics; History of Chinese Language; Teaching Chinese as a Second Language

Weihua Zhu (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/weihua-zhu) (Assistant Professor). Area: Chinese Language, Pedagogy and Second Language Acquisition

SOUTH ASIA

Gudrun Bühnemann (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/gudrun-b%20b%C3%BChnemann) (Professor). Area: Sanskrit Language and Literature; Buddhism in India and Nepal; Hinduism; Tantrism; Yoga Studies

Anthony Cerulli (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/anthony-cherulli) (Associate Professor). Area: Theory and Method in the Study of Religion in South Asia; History of Medicine in India; Sanskrit Language and Literature; Kerala History and Culture; Malayalam Language.

John D. Dunne (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/john-d-dunne) (Professor). Area: Buddhist Philosophy and Contemplative Practice; Religious Studies; Cognitive Science of Religion

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Erlin Barnard (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/erlin-barnard) (Faculty Associate) Area: Indonesian Language, Language Pedagogy, Materials Development; Second Language Acquisition

LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS

Language instructors (http://alc.wisc.edu/about/language-instructors) are an integral part of our department, teaching more than 14 languages during the academic year from East (Chinese, Japanese, Korean), South (Hindi, Persian, Sanskrit, Tibetan, Urdu), Southeast (Burmese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Thai, Vietnamese) Asian Languages.

GRADUATE ADVISOR

Undergraduate Advisor:
email Rachel Weiss (rweiss@wisc.edu)
1244 Van Hise Hall
608-890-0138