
ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

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About the Program

The Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC) Program, a component of the Asian Studies Program (see Asian Studies in this *Bulletin*), offers majors, minors and courses of interest to all undergraduates at Puget Sound. Grounded in a strong foundation of languages, the program draws on the broad expertise of the Asian Studies faculty and complements the Asian Studies Program's Interdisciplinary Minor and Trimble Distinguished Asia Scholar designation in offering students a focused and comprehensive understanding of the languages, cultures, and literatures of China and Japan. The program offers two majors, two minors, courses in the core curriculum, and Chinese and Japanese language courses that fulfill requirements toward the Asian Studies minor and meet the university's foreign language requirement.

ALC offers majors in Chinese Language and Culture, Japanese Language and Culture and Japanese Language and Literature, as well as minors in Chinese and Japanese. The goals of the language curriculum are based on the proficiency guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Each major is designed to provide students with a solid foundation in language and culture through intensive language training and broad exposure to the cultural traditions of China and Japan. The curriculum systematically prepares students through highly structured and interactive classroom instruction and a wide variety of learning opportunities outside of the classroom.

Students who graduate from the Asian Language & Cultures Program will be able to:

1. Communicate effectively with native speakers of Chinese and/or Japanese in a variety of situations using culturally appropriate language.
2. Read and understand the gist of authentic materials, such as news summaries and short essays, with the aid of dictionaries and other resources.
3. Write expository and expressive essays in the target language on a variety of topics.
4. Implement tools to become independent, self-sufficient learners of the target language beyond the classroom.
5. Demonstrate fundamental knowledge of the literary and cultural traditions of China and/or Japan, and understand those traditions within the East Asian and world contexts.
6. Analyze and discuss coherently Chinese and/or Japanese literary and cultural works.
7. Write logically and clearly in English about Chinese and/or Japanese literary and cultural traditions.
8. Apply critical thinking, research and learning skills to be successful in their academic, professional and personal lives after graduation.

Choice of Majors

Students may select from two major areas of study:

1. Chinese
2. Japanese

General Requirements for the Major or Minor

General university degree requirements stipulate that (1) at least four units of the major or three units of the minor be taken in residence at

Puget Sound; (2) students earn a GPA of at least 2.0 in courses taken for the major or minor; (3) all courses taken for a major or minor must be taken for graded credit. Any exceptions to these stipulations are indicated in the major and minor degree requirements listed below.

Requirements for the Major

Each major consists of 10 units.

1. Courses taken for an ALC major may not be used to satisfy requirements for a second ALC major or a minor.
2. Only courses in which a student has received a grade of C- or better may be counted toward the major or minor.
3. Each student must coordinate his or her program with an ALC faculty member. Variation of requirements is possible, as arranged by petition to the Director of Asian Studies.

Requirements for the Major in Chinese (BA)

1. Concentration in language and culture
 - a. Six units in Chinese language, of which at least one must be at the 300 level and taken on the Tacoma campus.
 - b. Four units of Chinese culture, of which at least two must be at the 300 level or above, taken on the Tacoma campus. Of the four, at least three must be chosen from the following courses: ALC 215, 225, 325, 345; ARTH 367, 369; HIST 245, 343, 344; IPE 350, IPE 388; PG 378, 379; PHIL 305; REL 234. An additional unit may be chosen from the following courses: ALC 205; ARTH 278, 370, 371; HIST 349; HUM 330; IPE 355; PG 323; REL 332; SOAN 225, 395.

Requirements for the Major in Japanese (BA)

1. Concentration in language and culture
 - a. Six units in Japanese language, of which at least one must be at the 300 level and taken on the Tacoma campus.
 - b. Four units of Japanese culture, of which at least two must be at the 300 level or above, taken on the Tacoma campus. Of the four, at least three must be chosen from the following courses: ALC 310, 320, 330, ARTH 368; HIST 248; PG 372; REL 233, 300, 328; SOAN 304. An additional unit may be chosen from the following courses: ALC 205; ARTH 278, 370, 371; HIST 349; HUM 330, 335; PG 323; REL 332.
2. Concentration in language and literature
 - a. Seven units in Japanese language, of which at least two must be at the 300 level, and one must be either JAPN 325, 360, 380, or 385.
 - b. Three units from the following: ALC 205, 310, 320, 330.

Requirements for the Minor (5 units)

Completion of a minimum of five units in one language is required for the minor in Chinese or Japanese.

Interdisciplinary Minor in Asian Studies

All students majoring in the Asian languages are strongly encouraged to augment these majors with the Interdisciplinary Minor in Asian Studies offered by the Asian Studies Program, thereby enhancing their major with a deeper and broader comprehension of Asian cultures and societies. Up to two courses taken for the ALC majors may be applied to the Asian Studies Minor. See requirements under the Asian Studies listing.

Robert Trimble Distinguished Asia Scholar

Students pursuing the Asian Studies Minor who demonstrate academic excellence and complete a one-semester senior thesis will achieve the added designation Robert Trimble Distinguished Asia Scholar (DAS). See requirements under the Asian Studies listing.

International Experience

Not all international experiences are suited for Asian Languages and Cultures majors and minors; therefore, only pre-approved study-abroad coursework may be counted toward degrees in the program. To ensure that credit will transfer, a student wishing to apply study-abroad credit toward a major should consult ALC faculty prior to enrollment. Students with demonstrated financial need who are selected for any Chinese or Japanese language program in Asia are eligible for financial support through the Charles Garnet Trimble Endowment in Chinese Studies.

Language Houses

Knowing that a residential atmosphere provides strong support for language learning, students are encouraged to create their own living-language programs. Students have the opportunity to organize a group of language learners and apply to live in university-owned houses on campus where they may communicate in Chinese or Japanese and share their enthusiasm for the cultures they study in a small group environment. For further information and application deadlines, contact Residence Life.

Spring Festivals

The Asian Languages and Cultures program organizes festivals each spring celebrating the cultures of China and Japan. The Chinese festival coincides with the Chinese Lunar New Year and features a number of activities including calligraphy and tea workshops, traditional cultural displays, and community-based events. Japan Week occurs during the spring cherry blossom season and features movies, speakers, performances, and student-led activities. All Puget Sound students are encouraged to participate in these events.

Transfer of Units and Placement

Students with previous high school language study may be capable of beginning their language coursework at Puget Sound beyond the introductory level. Heritage students and those with other international experiences, such as study abroad, living with exchange students or other intensive studies should have their language proficiency evaluated by a faculty member. Consult program advisors in the particular language.

Advanced Placement Examinations (AP) with a score of four or five apply toward majors or minors for a maximum of one unit at the 200 level.

Asian language coursework completed at other accredited institutions may be accepted toward major areas of concentration for a maximum of four units, with two going toward the language component, and two more units going toward non-language courses. For the minor, only two units of language may be accepted.

ALC transfer students, especially those who have experienced prolonged periods since their last language coursework, will be evaluated on an individual basis. The Asian Languages and Cultures program does not accept or award credit for distance learning courses. The program also reserves the right to exclude a course from a major or minor based on the age of the course.

Course Offerings

Unless otherwise specified, each course carries 1 unit of credit and is offered at least once each academic year. Please see "Frequency of

Course Offerings" on page 10. The proper course sequence in the first two years of foreign language instruction is 101, 102, 201, and 202. A student who has received a C- grade or better in any course of this sequence or its equivalent cannot subsequently receive credit for a course that appears before it in the sequence.

Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry. See *Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry in the Core Curriculum* section of this Bulletin for course descriptions (page 18). *Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry* do not count for the major or minor.

SSI1 145 Anime Bodies: Metamorphoses and Identity

Asian Languages and Culture

205 Introduction to Asian Literature This course uses literary works to explore the art, culture, and society of Asia. Regional focuses may include East Asia, South Asia, or Southeast Asia. Genres under study may include fiction, poetry, drama, essays, and autobiography. Themes and assigned texts vary by instructor. *Satisfies the Artistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

215 Stories of the Strange: From Fox Spirits to The Monkey King in Chinese Literature The cultures that have occupied modern-day China have left incredibly long and varied written histories. Among these histories, accounts of the strange and anomalous are often overlooked, and yet they provide a wealth of critical information about culture in a broad sense. This class uses analysis of stories of ghosts, demons, fox-spirits and other anomalies from over 2000 years of Chinese literary history as a way to understand Chinese fiction generally, but also to shed light on the ways in which the authors approached issues of identity, the other, society, and conceptions of the transcendent. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered occasionally.*

225 Visualized Fiction: Cinematic Adaptations of Traditional Chinese Literature Classical Chinese literature has contributed the inspiration and source materials for a host of modern cultural products. This course is designed to help students develop an awareness of the importance, uses and the significance of classical Chinese literature in modern cultural production. In this course, students study classical texts in English translation and their modern and contemporary film adaptations. In the process, students try to understand what about the original classics appeals to modern cultural producers, and what cultural, social, and political purposes they might serve in different modern contexts. The goals of this course are 1) to develop an overall understanding of major Chinese literary genres; 2) to examine why traditional Chinese literature still matters to us today and why literary works from the past have been used by the West and recycled in our modern cultural production; 3) to demonstrate critical thinking through written and oral expression; and 4) to retrieve and use written information critically and effectively. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

310 Death and Desire in Premodern Japanese Literature One of the most prominent themes of early Japanese literature is a longing for and deep appreciation of beauty coupled with a poignant understanding of its perishability. In this class students read classical Japanese literature from the mid-eighth to the mid-eighteenth century and analyze the works in the context of these major themes of desire and death. In such varied works as *The Tale of the Genji*, *Chūshingura* (the story of the 47 ronin), and the memoirs of Medieval recluses, students explore the different shapes that desire and death take, and how the treatment of these themes changes alongside developments in Japanese culture. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

320 Self and Society in Modern Japanese Literature This course is a survey of modern Japanese literature with an emphasis on Japanese writers in the late nineteenth through the twentieth centuries who struggled with questions of identity. The course is organized chronologically and focuses on some of the major authors of the modern period, including Natsume Sôseki, Tanizaki Jun'ichiro, Kawabata Yasunari, and Mishima Yukio. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

325 Chinese Cinema: Ideology and the Box Office Chinese cinema is a global powerhouse, winning major international awards and capturing remarkable box office receipts. However, like most Chinese stories, that of Chinese film is a long and intricate one. In this course, students will be exposed to the broad historical scope of Chinese cinema from the earliest silent films of the 1920s to some of the most recent critical productions. Through films by Zhang Yimou, Ang Lee, Stephen Chow and Bruce Lee, among many others, students will explore the fundamental tensions between artistic expression and the political context of the day in addition to commercial pressures. Students will also approach issues of identity, gender, ethnicity, and modernity while developing basic film analysis techniques. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered occasionally.*

330 Writing the Margins in Contemporary Japanese Literature This course surveys contemporary and post-modern literature in the post-war period. The examination of the self and its representation that has dominated Japanese literature since the Meiji period (1868-1912) took on a new urgency and tone in Japan's post-war period, with many authors exploring identities that challenged the established order. For some, that challenge was expressed through transgression and violence; for others, it was embodied in characters who lived outside of the boundaries of social acceptance. During a post-war period of general economic prosperity in which the Japanese government has famously taken pride in being a "homogenous" society, the country's contemporary literature is consistently and remarkably populated by characters who live on the margins of that homogenous identity. This course will explore the dominant themes of the most important modern and post-modern authors of Japan, including Ôe Kenzaburo, Haruki Murakami, and Yoshimoto Banana, with particular emphasis on these marginalized characters and what they say about the "center" and the self. *Satisfies the Humanistic Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.*

345 Revenge and Retribution in Chinese Literature Since antiquity, many cultures have turned to retribution as a means of restoring justice. Stories about getting even through revenge abound in both highbrow and popular Chinese literature. The themes of revenge and retribution have lent themselves effectively to various literary genres throughout Chinese history, from historical biographies and classical tales to vernacular short stories and plays, extending all the way into twentieth-century ballet and film. Literature has served as an important site of inquiry into the morality and mechanisms of revenge and retribution, sometimes offering conclusions that are a good deal more ambiguous than legal and philosophical discourses about the same question. This course works through four organizing themes: The Collective (assassination and self-destruction for a larger cause); The Individual (revenge and redemption in interpersonal relationships); Modern Man and Nation Building (from the Republican Period to Socialism); and Transnational Interpretations of "China's Hamlet". By the end of the course students should be able to identify the relevant genres, produce effective oral and written analyses of the material, and critically and cogently reflect on how Chinese conceptions of revenge and retribution might help them think through their own beliefs about revenge, justice, forgiveness, and identity. *Satisfies the Humanistic*

Approaches core requirement. Offered frequently.

Chinese

101/102 First Year Chinese Introduction to the fundamentals of Mandarin Chinese in four basic skills: comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is on the development of communicative skills, in both oral and written language. *Prerequisite: 101 and 102 are sequential courses; 101 or permission of the instructor required for 102. 101 offered Fall term only; 102 offered Spring term only.*

201/202 Second Year Chinese Development of oral and written fluency at the intermediate level. Emphasis is on the acquisition of basic sentence patterns and their application in day-to-day situations. Oral and written assignments on a variety of topics are included to enhance students' control of grammatical forms and communicative skills. *Prerequisite: 201 and 202 are sequential courses: 201 or permission of instructor required for 202. 201 offered Fall term only; 202 offered Spring term only.*

216 Chinese Corner: Conversation 0.25 activity unit Chinese Corner is an opportunity for Chinese language learners of intermediate level or above to practice Mandarin on a weekly basis in a non-classroom setting. The goals of this activity course are for learners to increase their oral communication skills and comprehension, get help with homework, acquire a deeper understanding of Chinese culture, and interact with other speakers. *Pre-requisite: Chinese 202 or equivalent. Pass or Fail only.*

230 Grammar and Articulation This course focuses on patterns, translation, and the use of linguistic structures to articulate ideas in public speaking and composition writing. Course material includes a multimedia component and a grammar review. *Students who have completed 300-level courses may enroll for credit. Prerequisite: CHIN 202 or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

250 Culture and Communication This course aims to develop increased accuracy in communication skills utilizing Mandarin Chinese in a cultural context. Emphasis is on oral fluency, comprehension, and the language used in daily life. Course material includes study of films and songs with class activities and discussions geared toward further understanding of the society in which the language is spoken. *Prerequisite: CHIN 202 or permission of instructor. Students who have completed 300-level courses may enroll for credit. Offered every two years.*

260 Situational Oral Expression This course integrates linguistic functions and structures with culture via listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities. Course materials are derived from contemporary Chinese film, TV plays, and other media sources. The course focuses on oral fluency in Chinese through class discussions utilizing topics presented in the original media materials and their illustration of language in a cultural context. *Prerequisite: CHIN 202 or permission of instructor. Students who have completed 300-level courses may enroll for credit. Offered frequently.*

301 Across the Strait: Cultures in China and Taiwan Chinese language studies with specific concerns on issues related to popular culture as well as contemporary social and political conditions. This course includes a grammar review and a multimedia component, and aims for development of oral and written fluency at the advanced level with emphasis on reading, writing, and group discussion. *Prerequisite: CHIN 230, 250, or 260, or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

303 Greater China: Commerce and the Media Chinese language studies in the world of business and media. Areas of exploration include

China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and their transpacific Chinese-speaking network. This course includes a grammar review and a multimedia component, and aims for development of oral and written fluency at the advanced level with emphasis on reading, writing, and group discussion. *Prerequisite: CHIN 230, 250, or 260, or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

305 From Bamboo Grove to Cyberspace: Chinese Literary Texts Now and Then Chinese language studies focusing on classical and contemporary literary texts that are available in either traditional or electronic format. This course includes a grammar review and a multimedia component, and aims for development of oral and written fluency at the advanced level with emphasis on reading, writing, and group discussion. *Prerequisite: CHIN 230, 250, or 260 or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

307 Through the Cinematic Lens: Old and New China through Film This Chinese language studies course explores traditional values and contemporary issues via film produced in China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. The course includes a grammar review and a multimedia component, and aims for development of oral and written fluency at the advanced level with emphasis on reading, writing, and group discussions. *Prerequisite: CHIN 230, 250, or 260 or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

309 Phoenix Claws and Lion's Head: Food and Chinese Culture Chinese language studies explores topics related to food in Chinese culture. This course includes a grammar review and a multimedia component, and aims for development of oral and written fluency at the advanced level with emphasis on reading, writing, and group discussion. *Prerequisite: CHIN 230, 250, or 260, or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

311 Chinese Thought: From the Dao to Mao In this modern Chinese language course students improve reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through an exploration of sources related to Chinese thought. Sources are drawn from Confucian, Daoist, and Buddhist texts as well as those produced by modern political and intellectual movements. This course includes a grammar review and a multimedia component, and aims for development of oral and written fluency at the advanced level with emphasis on reading, writing, and group discussion. *Prerequisite: CHIN 230, 250, or 260, or permission of instructor. Offered every two years.*

Japanese

101/102 First Year Japanese Introduction and development of the four basic language skills: comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Acquisition of two native scripts, Hiragana and Katakana, is emphasized in 101. Emphasis is on basic sentence patterns with basic vocabulary and development of communicative skills in everyday situations. *Prerequisite: 101 and 102 are sequential courses; 101 or permission of the instructor required for 102. 101 offered Fall term only; 102 offered Spring term only.*

201/202 Second Year Japanese Development and practical communication skills by enhancement of oral and written skills at the intermediate level. Previously studied grammatical patterns are consolidated and expanded upon, while new ones are introduced. *Prerequisite: 201 and 202 are sequential courses; 201 or permission of the instructor required for 202. 201 offered Fall term only; 202 offered Spring term only.*

230 Kanji in Context In this course, students develop an understanding of Kanji and Kanji-based vocabulary and its role in Japanese

daily life. Special emphasis is on accuracy in Kanji usage in writing and reading. Calligraphy is used to improve Kanji stroke orders and formation. *Prerequisite: JAPN 201 or permission of instructor. The course may include some grammar review. Offered occasionally.*

250 Popular Culture and Society This course examines popular culture and society through sources such as manga, animated films, and feature films. These form the basis for reading, writing, and discussion. Special emphasis is placed on speech levels, male/female speech, formal/informal speech levels, informal speech, slang, and regional dialects. *Prerequisite: JAPN 202. Offered occasionally.*

301 Third Year Japanese Previously studied grammatical patterns are consolidated and expanded upon, while new ones are introduced. Development of oral and written fluency and reading at the third-year level. Lesson topics focus on current as well as traditional uses. *Prerequisite: JAPN 202 or permission of instructor. Offered Fall term only.*

311 Communicative Japanese: The Harmony of Writing and Speaking This course is designed for students who wish to further improve their language skills in all areas: oral, aural, reading, and writing. The first half of the semester places special emphasis on writing and the second half of the semester on speaking, so that students will further develop their proficiency in these two areas as a preparation for advanced level courses. The course goal is to enable students to obtain intermediate to high intermediate level communication skills in both written and spoken Japanese. Students will be trained to write letters, messages, resumes, 2-4 pages long compositions, reports, speeches, and to carry on longer and more natural conversations and participate in group discussion in Japanese. *Prerequisite: JAPN 301 or equivalent. Offered each Spring.*

325 Shibuya Scramble Crossing: Developing Listening Skill Through TV Drama This course is designed to further advance high intermediate Japanese learners' listening skills and to improve their vocabulary, sentence patterns and expressions as well as deepen their understanding of Japanese culture. Students explore contemporary Japanese usage and culture through Japanese TV dramas including animation and everyday listening materials. Although the focus is on listening, exposure to authentic Japanese materials will enhance students' communicative competence in their four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). *Prerequisite: JAPN 311 with a minimum course grade of C- or equivalent. Offered every other year.*

360 Japanese through Fiction and Film Students strengthen all four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking by using original Japanese materials that appear in both written form and as films. Students first read an original novel or short story, building vocabulary and kanji. Later they view the film made of the story, working on listening comprehension. Activities include weekly writing assignments on readings, kanji and vocabulary quizzes, class discussion of the books and films, and writing English subtitles for the movies. *Prerequisite: JAPN 311 with a minimum grade of C- or equivalent. Offered every other year.*

380 Reading Modern Japanese Prose Students strengthen reading and writing skills by reading a wide variety of Japanese prose, including newspaper articles and editorials, nonfiction and fiction. Activities include writing assignments and class discussion of the readings, and a significant final research paper and presentation. The final weeks of the class are devoted to peer review of completed work on the research paper, and student presentations of research. *Prerequisite: Japanese 311 or equivalent. Offered every other year.*

385 Not Lost in Translation: English to Japanese Translation This

course is designed to develop high intermediate level translation skills from English to Japanese. Students have an overview of the considerations that the translator should take into account when approaching texts. Particular attention is paid to understanding the sentence structural differences between English and Japanese, cross-cultural differences in stylistics, making the appropriate choice of words and phrases, and further advancing students' expressions in the Japanese language. Although the focus is on acquiring translation skills, exposure to authentic Japanese materials enhances students' communicative competence in their four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing) as well as deepen their understanding of Japanese culture. *Prerequisite: JAPN 311 with a minimum course grade of C- or equivalent. Offered every other year.*