Asian-American Studies

The minor in Asian-American studies is designed to enrich critical understanding about both individual experiences and collective histories of Asian Americans in regional, national, and transnational contexts. As an inter- and multidisciplinary program, it underlines transnational contexts and comparative perspectives for the study of Asian-American experiences. Through promoting knowledge and understanding of a wide range of Asian-American individuals and groups in teaching and research, the minor provides new classroom opportunities for undergraduate students to explore Asian-American experiences; enhances communication and collaboration among various cultural, ethnic and racial groups; and facilitates intellectual exchanges and broadens academic inquiries on the subjects of migration, ethnicity and race across different disciplines and programs at Washington University, including American Culture Studies; East Asian Studies and South Asian Studies; African and African-American Studies; Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; and American Indian Studies.

The minor in Asian-American studies can nicely complement a major in American culture studies; East Asian studies/East Asian languages and cultures; English; history; international and area studies; sociology and other fields. Because the questions that animate Asian-American studies span disciplinary boundaries, the minor will inspire students to draw on the methods and insights of multiple disciplines to engage complex, real-world problems that necessitate interdisciplinary thinking. Situated in the larger context of the university’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, the minor in Asian-American studies is an integral part of diversity and inclusion initiatives at Washington University for nurturing a culturally inclusive and academically stimulating environment.

An independent minor, Asian-American studies is administered by International and Area Studies.

Contact: Linling Gao-Miles
Phone: 314-935-3163
Email: llxu@wustl.edu

Faculty Coordinator

Linling Gao-Miles (http://ias.wustl.edu/people/linling-xu)
Lecturer, International and Area Studies
PhD, Nagoya University, Japan

Affiliated Faculty

Iver Bernstein (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/iver_bernst)
Professor, Department of History
PhD, Yale University

Shefali Chandra (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/chandra)
Associate Professor, Department of History
PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Letty Chen (http://ealc.wustl.edu/people/chen_lingchei-letty)
Associate Professor, Modern Chinese Language and Literature
PhD, Columbia University

Jordache Ellapen
Postdoctoral Fellow, African and African-American Studies
PhD, Indiana University

Long Le-Khac (http://english.artsci.wustl.edu/people/long-le-khac)
Assistant Professor, Department of English
PhD, Stanford University

Linda Lindsey (http://amcs.wustl.edu/directory/profile.php?id=Linda%20Lindsey)
Lecturer, American Culture Studies
PhD, Case Western Reserve University

Steven Miles (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/steve_miles)
Associate Professor, Department of History
PhD, University of Washington

Librarian

Tony Chang (http://libguides.wustl.edu/prf.php?account_id=11281)
East Asian Librarian

Majors

There is no major in Asian-American studies.

Minors

The Minor in Asian-American Studies

Total units required: 18 (at least 12 units must be at the 300 level or above)

Requirements:
• 3 credits of Introductory course work
• 3 credits of Asian-American Focus course work
• 6 credits of Multiethnic and Transnational Focus course work
• 6 credits of Context course work

Regulations:
• In general, students should complete one introductory course prior to pursuing Asian-American Focus courses and Multiethnic and Transnational courses.
• All advanced units must be unique to the Asian-American studies minor (i.e., not counted toward any other major or minor).

**Introductory courses**

Choose one from this list; 3 credits, any level:

- Freedom, Citizenship and the Making of American Life (History 163) (annually)
- Freshman Seminar — Chinatown: Migration, Identity and Space (IAS 135) (annually)

**Asian-American Focus courses**

Choose one from this list; 3 credits, any level:

- Asian and Pacific Island America: Identity, Diversity, and Social Change (AMCS 250) (annually)
- “Model Minority”: The Asian-American Experience (IAS 3512) (annually)

**Multiethnic and Transnational Focus courses**

Choose any two from these two lists; 6 credits, any level:

(1) Asian Americans in a Multiethnic/Multiracial Perspective

- Topics in English Literature: Imagining Multi-Racial Coalitions (E Lit 423) (every 1 or 2 years)
- "Model Minority": The Asian-American Experience (IAS 3512) (annually)

(2) Asian Diasporas in a Transnational Perspective

- Writing from the Periphery: The Question of Chineseness (Comp Lit 449) (unpredictable)
- The Chinese Diaspora to 1949 (History 3165) (every 2 years)

**Context courses**

Choose one from each category; 6 credits total, any level:

(1) Immigration, Race and Ethnicity

- Rainbow Radicals!: Ethnic Nationalism(s), the 1960s and the Politics of the New Left (AFAS 401) (unpredictable)
- The Immigrant Experience (AMCS 202) (every 1 to 2 years)
- Race & Ethnic Relations in the United States (AMCS 3296) (annually)

- Visualizing Segregation: A History of St. Louis, Chicago and New Orleans (L22 History 306M, I50 InterD 306M) (unpredictable)
- The Long Civil Rights Movement (History 3670) (annually)
- Immigration Law (W74 Law 630) (every 1 to 2 years)
- Race and Ethnicity in American Politics (Pol Sci 3031) (unpredictable)
- The Roots of Ferguson: Understanding Racial Inequality in the Contemporary U.S. (SOC 2010) (every 1 to 2 years)
- Social Inequality in America (SOC 2110) (unpredictable)
- The Social Construction of Race (SOC 3212) (unpredictable)
- Sociology of Immigration (SOC 3710) (unpredictable)

(2) East Asian Studies and South Asian Studies

- Contemporary Chinese Culture and Society (Anthro 3055) (unpredictable)
- Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature (Chinese 342) (annually)
- Modern South Asia (History 3192) (every 2 years)
- Modern China: 1890s to the Present (L22 History 316C, U16 Hist 3100) (annually)
- Modern China: Violence and Transformation (History 331) (every 2 years)
- Modern South Asia (History 3192) (every 2 years)
- Modern China: 1890s to the Present (L22 History 316C, U16 Hist 3100) (annually)
- Modern South Asia (History 3192) (every 2 years)
- Japan Since 1868 (History 320C) (every 1 or 2 years)
- Globalization and its Discontents (History 270) (unpredictable)
- From McDonald's to K-Pop: New Movements in East Asia (IAS 3822) (annually)
- The Modern Voice in Japanese Literature (Japan 333C) (annually)
- Topics in Politics: Modern South Asian Politics (Pol Sci 3292) (unpredictable)

**Discontinued courses**

The following courses offered in 2015 were discontinued. Their credits are equivalent to Introductory courses.

- Ocean, Island, Ghetto, Globe: The Routes and Horizons of Asian-American Literature (L14 E Lit 461)
- Introduction to Asian-American History (L22 History 3059)

**Courses**

Please refer to the Minors section of this page.