Listen

Understanding Asia - Syllabus

Professor John Wagner Givens

ASIA 3001/01 – Prerequisite: English 1102

Offered Online – 3 Credit Hours

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WHAT IS THIS COURSE ABOUT?
This is the introductory course to KSU's Asian Studies Program. The course uses an interdisciplinary approach to understand Asia's ever-changing contexts. With an emphasis on greater East, Central, South, and Southeast Asia, the course provides the foundation for further studies of Asia including an overview of the region, connecting past influences to the present. Students examine the origins and development of Asian civilizations from the aspects of geography, people, society, history, philosophy, religion, politics, economy, literature, and arts.

CLASS POLICIES: KEYS FOR SUCCESS

1. **Attendance:** Regularly checking in on the class through D2L is vital.

2. **Do All the Work:** Students are expected to have completed all the work as laid out in each module during the dates for that module. BUT if you get behind finishing late is still much better than not finishing at all.

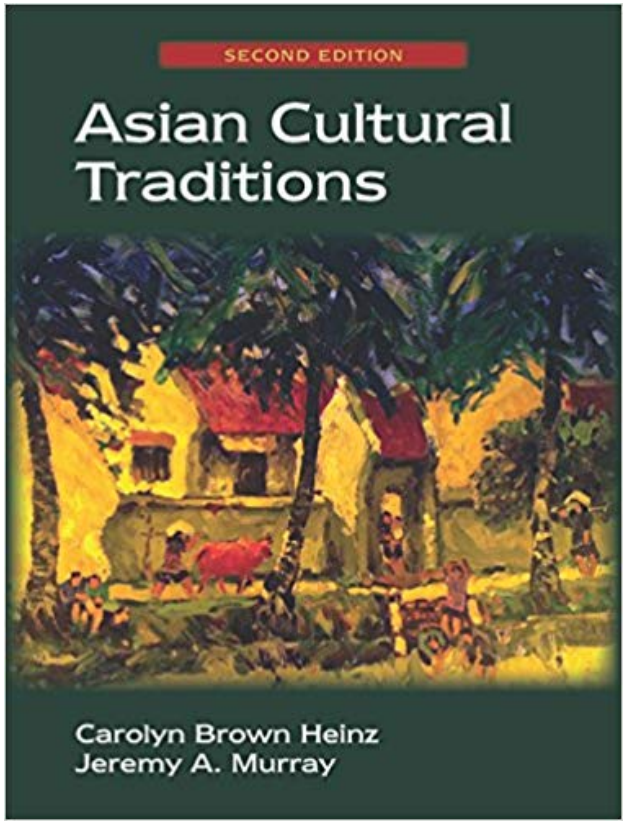
3. **Check your university e-mail:** Important information will come through e-mail.

4. **Turn in your assignments on time:** Late work will lose 2.5% per day.

5. **Communicate with the professor:** Office hours and e-mail are preferred, e-mail will be responded to within 36 hours.

6. **Do your own work:** Do your own work and avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism takes many forms and includes the failure to appropriately cite material that is taken from other sources, copying someone else's work, turning in the same work you did in another course (self plagiarism), or too closely paraphrasing from another original text (patch writing). If plagiarism is detected, you will earn at the least a 0 on the assignment in question and your name will be reported to KSU's SCAI office. In the most serious cases, you will fail the course and be dismissed from KSU. See me if you ever have a question about plagiarism.

If all else fails! Officially drop the course before July 6: Nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.



REQUIRED TEXT *Asian Cultural Traditions, 2nd ed.*

by Carolyn Brown Heinz and Jeremy A. Murray, 2018 Waveland Press

All other readings will be available through D2L, all material in the D2L environment is required unless it is clearly marked as "optional" in the title/description.

ASSIGNMENTS
Grades will be posted to the gradebook in Desire2Learn. Detailed assignment guides for each of these projects are located in the Important Documents module. A grading rubric is also available for each assignment. ***I will return all assignments within 2 weeks (14 calendar days) of its original submission. This includes discussion posts and written assignments for which you are responsible.***

1. Reading and Lecture Quizzes (20%) (3 lowest grades dropped): A reading quiz will be available on D2L most weeks (except the first) until class on Thursday. It may be retaken 10 times and only the highest score kept.

2. Online Discussion (10%): Students are expected to regularly participate in discussions and will be periodically evaluated on how they are doing throughout the semester.

3. Map Quiz (10%): A map quiz of countries, major cities, and a few geographic features will be given on D2L. Students are welcome to take and retake the quiz as many times as they like until it closes.

4. 6-Page Research Paper and Presentation (25%): On any topic related to East Asian Politics cleared with the professor. This grade also reflects the constituent assignments that will help the student create a successful paper, specifically:
    1. Annotated Bibliography
    2. Presentation

5. Midterm Exam (15%): Open-book take-home essay exam turned through D2L.

6. Final Exam (20%): Open-book take-home essay exam turned in through D2L.

Key Dates and Weekly Schedule

For the weekly schedule, consult the checklist for each week on D2L.

- Drop/Add Ends (11:45 pm on August 20)
- Midterm Due (October 2)
- Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty (11:45 pm on October 7)
- Annotated Bibliography for Research Paper (October 30)
- Presentation on Research Paper due (November 13)
- Research Paper Due (November 20)
- Final Due (December 7)

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND OTHER THINGS YOU NEED

You will need basic computer skills. Can you find a website if you are given a web address? Can you send and receive an email? Can you attach files and open attachments? If you can, then you will probably have few problems with the technology in this course. You will also need regular access to a computer and Internet service. You can use the labs on campus if you buy a set of headphones. Right now, write down two backup places that you will go if your preferred email access point fails. For example, if your internet at home won't work, where will you go? Then, if during the class you have trouble, you can go to your backup place. Can you go to the local library? To your Aunt's house? If your internet fails, it may severely hinder your progress in this class.

Email failures, like internet failures, can severely hinder your progress in this course.

For this course, you will also need the ability to record and upload video (cell phone cameras are fine) for your presentations.

You will turn in all assignments in the D2L area unless otherwise assigned. Except for the video assignment, acceptable formats for turning materials into the Assignments folders are: Microsoft Word (.doc, .docx). No other formats are accepted. If you turn in documents in other formats, your work will be counted late until you turn in the assignment in the correct format.

STUDENT RESOURCES

Your tuition and fees pay for these resources, please take advantage of them.

- Writing Center: writingcenter.kennesaw.edu
- Academic Support Services: kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/msrs/academic.html
- Student Disability Services: kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/welcome.html
- ESL Study and Tutorial Center: uc.kennesaw.edu/academicinitiatives/docs/Guide_to_the_ESL_Center.pdf
- Counseling and Psychological Services: kennesaw.edu/studentsuccessservices/cps/services.php

CAMPUS POLICIES

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information & Resources: https://coronavirus.kennesaw.edu/

- Confidentiality and Privacy Statement: web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct
- Students Rights Statement: enrollmentservices.kennesaw.edu/training/ferpa.php
- Sexual Harassment Statement: catalog.kennesaw.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=2263
- Course Accessibility Statement (ADA statement): scai.kennesaw.edu/codes.php
- Concealed Carry of Firearms: sss.kennesaw.edu/sds/institutional-policies.php

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, especially Academic Integrity:

web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct

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Professor's Introduction
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Web Page

Important Documents

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Discussion Assignments
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Midterm and Final
Web Page

Student Resources: Tech Support, Advising, Accessibility, KSU Policies & Privacy Statements

Tech Help

Need Technical Support? Click here!
Link

Accessibility & Disability Services

Adobe Accessibility Policy
Link

Apple Accessibility Policies (for Safari & Chrome browsers)
Link

Blackboard Collaborate Accessibility
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D2L Accessibility Statement
Link

Firefox Accessibility
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Google (YouTube's parent company) Accessibility Policy
Link

Internet Explorer Accessibility
Link

KSU Student Disability Services
Link

Microsoft Office Accessibility Policy (for PowerPoints and other Office tools)
Link

YouTube and Accessibility
Link

KSU and Other Student Resources

KSU Codes of Conduct/Code of Academic Integrity
Link

KSU Netiquette Guidelines
Link

KSU Online Student Resource Guide
Link

KSU Policy & Info on Plagiarism
Link

Other KSU Policies & Procedures
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KSU Writing Center
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Privacy Statements

D2L Privacy Statement
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Adobe Privacy Statement
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Apple Privacy Policy
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Blackboard Collaborate Privacy Policy
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Firefox Privacy Policy
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Google Privacy Policy
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Internet Explorer Privacy Statement
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Microsoft Privacy Statement
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YouTube Privacy Policy
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Module 1: What is Asia?

Due Aug 20, 2020 11:30 PM

Introduce Yourself
Discussion Topic

Please you this space to introduce your classmates. In particular tell us about your knowledge of, experience with, and interest in Asia.

Read: The Idea of Asia
PDF document

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions - Chapter 1: Asia as a Cultured Space
Link

Review: The Syllabus
Link

Watch: Where Are The Asian Borders? (part 1)
Link

Watch: Where Are The Asian Borders? (part 2)
Link

Watch: Where Are The Asian Borders? (part 3)
Link

Review: 1 - What is Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

Contribute: Is Asia a Useful Category?

Discussion Topic

Due Aug 20, 2020 11:30 PM

Use this topic to answer the question I posed in the first class's lecture: Is Asia a useful category? And if so, does it include:

Russia (or part of Russia) and/or the former Soviet Union?
The Middle East?
Australia?
Polynesia and/or other parts of the South Pacific?

You are also expected to read and comment on your classmates' responses.

Module 2: Languages in Asia

Due Aug 27, 2020 11:30 PM

Review: Map of Major Language Families in Asia Pacific

PDF document

Read: The Economist's article on how a dialect differs from a language

PDF document

Watch: How Different are Mandarin and Cantonese?

Link

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions - Chapter 2: Tongues, Texts, and Scripts

Link

Watch: Example Languages Video

Link

Read: Do You Dare Try the Devil-Language_ China's 10 Hardest Dialects - China Real Time Report - WSJ
PDF document

2 - Languages In Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

Module 3: Ethnicity and Orientalism

Due Sep 3, 2020 11:30 PM

A Short Guide to Understanding Orientalism
Link

Watch: Orientalism
Link

Read: Said on Orientalism - Introduction and Chapter 1
PDF document

Watch: Edward Said On Orientalism
Link

Read: Minear on Orientalism & Japan
PDF document

3 -Orientalism and Ethnicity
PowerPoint Presentation

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions - Chapter 4: Tribal People
Link

Research Paper Topic
Discussion Topic

Due Sep 3, 2020 11:30 PM

What are you going to write about for your research paper about this? Please be as specific as possible, ideally a thesis sentence and a further clarifying sentence. If you are not possible, however, give as much detail as you can. Also, please respond to your classmates' postings, especially where you can provide useful suggestions.

Module 4: South Asia

Due Sep 10, 2020 11:30 PM

Watch: Prof. Danforth's History Of The Indian Subcontinent
Link

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions - Chapter 5: India
Link

Watch: Al Jazeera's video on the creation of modern India and Pakistan
Link

Read: Windows into a revolution- ethnographies of Maoism in South Asia
PDF document

South Asia Quiz
Quiz

Due Sep 10, 2020 11:30 PM

This Quiz covers the materials for week 4

Watch: John Oliver on India's Prime Minister, Narendra Modi
Link

Module 5: Central Asia

Due Sep 17, 2020 11:30 PM

Prof. Rotnem Central Asian Overview
PDF document

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions - Chapter 3; Central Asia, Xinjiang, and Tibet
Link

Watch: Kazakhstan's Post-Soviet Struggle Explained
Link

Read: Central Asian Elections
PDF document

Watch: What Are 'The Stans' and How Powerful Are They?
Link

Central Asia Quiz- Requires Respondus LockDown Browser
Quiz

Due Sep 17, 2020 11:30 PM

Module 6: Religion

Due Sep 24, 2020 11:30 PM

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions Chapter 6
Link

Watch: The Nomadic Professor's video on Why Buddhism mostly disappeared from India
Link

Watch: Professor Galindo's video on types of Buddhism
Link

Read: Prof. Madsen's Article on Religion in China
PDF document

Religions of Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

Watch: Prof. Peng talk about Confucianism as a religious and philosophical tradition (long)
Link

Module 7: East Asia

Due Oct 1, 2020 11:30 PM

Watch: Prof. Kang on An Overview of Korea (long but worth it)
Link

Watch: The History of Japan
Link

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions Chapters 7-9
Link

Watch: History of Korea
Link

Watch: Rana Mitter's Google Talk on Modern China (Long)
Link

Watch: History of Vietnam (In Vietnamese with English subtitles)
Link

East Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

East Asia Quiz- Requires Respondus LockDown Browser
Quiz

Due Oct 1, 2020 11:30 PM

This quiz covers the readings and viewings on East Asia

Module 8: Southeast Asia

Due Oct 8, 2020 11:30 PM

Watch: Prof. Noor talk about Inventing Southeast Asia
Link

Read: Asia Culture Traditions Chapter 10-11
Link

Watch: Prof. Williams explain indonesia history and Java culture
Link

Watch: Who are the Thai?
Link

Southeast Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

Contribute: Influences on Southeast Asia
Discussion Topic

Due Oct 8, 2020 11:30 PM

The story of Southeast Asia is, more than anything, a story of waves of religious, economic, cultural, and political influence from other parts of the world. Indian culture and Buddhism, Chinese traders, Islam, as well as European and, briefly, Japanese colonizers all had significant impacts on the region. From what you have learned, what was the greatest influence on Southeast Asia in terms of how it looks today. Please post your own response first and then respond to at least two of your classmates' posts.

Module 9: Colonialism and Imperialism

Due Oct 15, 2020 11:30 PM

Watch: Dr. Long explain 19th Century Imperialism in Asia
Link

Read: Asian Cultural Traditions Chapter 12
Link

Watch: Martin Thomas discusses how the processes of decolonisation dominated the 20th century
Link

Read: Scott on the Erosion of Patron-Client Bonds and Social Change in Rural Southeast Asia
PDF document

CAMBODIA KSU
PowerPoint Presentation

Watch: Professor McGranahan explain Empire Without Colonialism: Tibet and the CIA in Postcolonial India
Link

Colonization and Decolonization
PowerPoint Presentation

Module 10: Globalization vs. Nationalism

Due Oct 22, 2020 11:30 PM

Read: Eriksen on Nationalism
PDF document

Read: What Is Globalization?
Link

Read: Vail on Muay Thai Nationalism
PDF document

Read: Weddings in Hong Kong McDonalds
PDF document

Read: Park on Globalization and Nationalism in Korea
Link

Read: The NBA and controlling Chinese Nationalism
Link

Module 11: Economics and Development

Due Oct 29, 2020 11:30 PM

East Asian Model
PowerPoint Presentation

Watch: Korean development in the east asian context
Link

Inequality and Economic Growth in Asia
PDF document

Watch: East Asia Development Strategies
Link

East Asian Model of Development
PDF document

Module 12: Political Systems in Asia

Due Nov 5, 2020 11:30 PM

Non-Democracy
PowerPoint Presentation

Read: Culture is Destiny - Fareed Zakaria and Lee Kuan Yew
PDF document

Watch: Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong commenting on democracy and human rights in Southeast Asia
Link

Read: Whatever Happened to Asian Values
PDF document

Read: Strengthening Constitutionalism in Asia
PDF document

Read: Korea After Impeachment
PDF document

Democracy in Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

Watch: Professor Don Emmerson discusses the concept of democracy and how it has fared in Southeast Asian
Link

Module 13: International Relations

Due Nov 12, 2020 11:30 PM

Watch: Rana Mitter on the legacy of the Sino-Japanese war
Link

Read: East Asian Alternatives to Westphalia
PDF document

Watch: The Council on Foreign Relations' video on Japan-China Relations
Link

Read: What Does East Asia Tell Us About International Relations Theory
PDF document

International Relations in East Asia
PowerPoint Presentation

Watch: David Kang's The Essential Stability of East Asia
Link

Module 14: Gender and Sexuality

Due Nov 19, 2020 11:30 PM

Watch: BBC News - Close-up on Japan's amazing lunchboxes
Link

Read: Prof. Allison's chapter about Japanese Mothers & Obentōs
PDF document

Watch: Al Jazeera on South Korea's Gender Wars: Trolls, Threats and Anger Online
Link

Read: Prof. Lowie's chapter on Asian Masculinities
PDF document

Watch: Professor Bina Agarwal speaks on women's land rights in Asia-Pacific
Link

Module 15: Popular Culture

Due Dec 3, 2020 11:30 PM

Read: Jin on the Korean Wave
PDF document

Watch: Prof. Tsutsui on Japanese Popular Culture and Globalization (long)
Link

Read: Anime and Fandom
PDF document

Watch: Professor Bestor talk about Pokemon
Link

Popular Culture Quiz
Quiz

Due Dec 3, 2020 11:30 PM

Contribute: Anime, K-Pop, K-Drama, and China
Discussion Topic

The rise of Anime to the world stage was relatively slow and gradual. By contrast, the rise of the Korean wave, the rapid spread of the popularity of Korean culture (especially Korean Dramas and Music), was not. Will Anime, as well as Korean dramas and music, remain as important a feature of global culture for decades, as Hollywood movies have, or will they fade from GLOBAL popularity? Also, is there any chance of Chinese cultural products catching up with those of its East Asian neighbors.

Please post your thoughts and respond to at least two of your classmates.

Watch: The Korea wave and Korean Economic Development
Link

Watch: Professor Bestor talk about Anime
Link