

CATALOG INFORMATION

Dept and Nbr: HUMAN 20      Title: THE HUMANITIES IN ASIA  
Full Title: The Humanities in Asia: Arts, Ideas and Values  
Last Reviewed: 3/28/2016

Units		Course Hours per Week		Nbr of Weeks	Course Hours Total	
Maximum	3.00	Lecture Scheduled	3.00	17.5	Lecture Scheduled	52.50
Minimum	3.00	Lab Scheduled	0	17.5	Lab Scheduled	0
		Contact DHR	0		Contact DHR	0
		Contact Total	3.00		Contact Total	52.50
		Non-contact DHR	0		Non-contact DHR	0

Total Out of Class Hours: 105.00

Total Student Learning Hours: 157.50

Title 5 Category: AA Degree Applicable  
Grading: Grade or P/NP  
Repeatability: 00 - Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP  
Also Listed As:  
Formerly:

**Catalog Description:**  
An interdisciplinary exploration of the arts, ideas and values among the cultures of East, Southeast, South and/or Central Asia, with focus upon works of literature, film, visual art, music, theater and dance, philosophy and religion as pertaining to the various disciplines of the humanities in Asia.

**Prerequisites/Corequisites:**

**Recommended Preparation:**  
Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent

**Limits on Enrollment:**

**Schedule of Classes Information:**  
Description: An interdisciplinary exploration of the arts, ideas, and values among cultures of East, Southeast, South and/or Central Asia, with focus upon works of literature, film, visual art, music, music, theater and dance, philosophy and religion as pertaining to the various disciplines of the humanities in Asia. (Grade or P/NP)  
Prerequisites/Corequisites:

Recommended: Eligibility for ENGL 1A or equivalent  
 Limits on Enrollment:  
 Transfer Credit: CSU;UC.  
 Repeatability: Two Repeats if Grade was D, F, NC, or NP

## **ARTICULATION, MAJOR, and CERTIFICATION INFORMATION:**

<b>AS Degree:</b>	<b>Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
	E	Humanities		Fall 2007	
<b>CSU GE:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
	C2	Humanities		Fall 2007	
<b>IGETC:</b>	<b>Transfer Area</b>			Effective:	Inactive:
	3B	Humanities		Fall 2007	
<b>CSU Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2007	Inactive:	Fall 2024
<b>UC Transfer:</b>	Transferable	Effective:	Fall 2007	Inactive:	Fall 2024

### **CID:**

**Certificate/Major Applicable:**  
 Not Certificate/Major Applicable

## **COURSE CONTENT**

### **Outcomes and Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Analyze representative works from specific Asian cultures and describe their distinguishing characteristics within cultural contexts.
2. Discuss the ideas, beliefs, and values communicated in artistic expressions of at least three Asian cultures.
3. Compare and contrast specific Asian ideas, beliefs and values with specific Western ideas, beliefs, and values.
4. Analyze caste, class, gender and other sociopolitical concerns as reflected in literature and the arts.
5. Demonstrate an ability to compare, contrast, and link cultural expressions of the various disciplines of the humanities including mythology, literature; visual arts, film, theatre, music, and dance; religion and philosophy.

### **Topics and Scope:**

The course must cover at least three distinct geo-cultural areas.

The course may be arranged chronologically or by period, geographically or by region, thematically, and/or by major forms of expression including mythology, poetry, the novel; visual arts, film, theater, music, and dance; religion and philosophy:

Topics may include but are not limited to:

1. Traditional practices in the artistic life of Asian nations such as:  
 Effect of belief systems and worldviews on cultural production.  
 India: Impact of religious and folk idioms and folk art on courtly

art.

Classical dance forms, representing regional culture and ethos and religious roots based in Vedic or Hindu folk traditions.

Japan: samurai and geisha traditions, ceramics, sword making, architecture, calligraphy.

China: development of calligraphy and block printing, social stratification and the arts.

2. Tragedy and comedy in performing arts, music and film such as:

India: The tradition of folk theatre, puppet theatre in rural India.

Japan: Kabuki and Noh drama. China: Opera traditions both classical and contemporary. Contemporary Asian film genres such as Bollywood (Indian) contemporary film industry) or Kurosawa in Japan.

3. Central ideas and beliefs associated with the religious and philosophical practices in Asia and interactive with cultural production such as:

Principle religions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Judaism, Islam, and Shinto.

Japan: the influence of Zen Buddhism on arts such as the tea ceremony, haiku, and the Japanese garden.

India: the influence of animism and Hinduism on sculpture, temple art and architecture.

4. Styles of Asian visual arts such as:

Representative visual arts, including the beginnings of developed Japanese art, the art of the Kamakura, Muromachi, Momoyama, and Edo Periods. Castles and tea houses of the Japan shogunate, Japanese screens and the woodblock prints of Edo Japan.

Representative visual arts in India including Hindu arts and relation to Southeast Asia, including Cambodia and Champa (Vietnam).

Representative visual arts, including rise of painting and ceramics in China, the Song Dynasty, and/or later Chinese Art of the Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties. Art and architecture of the Forbidden City.

Caste systems and examination of the structures of the family in Asian culture via film.

5. Asian literature; myths, legends, and lore.

Representative Japanese literary and philosophical texts, such as The Tale of the Genji and the haiku of Matsuo Basho.

Representative Indian literary and philosophical texts, such as Upanishads, the Mahabharata, or Ramayana, classical Sanskrit lyrics, or devotional poetry.

Representative Chinese literary and philosophical texts, such as Confucianism and Daoism.

Representative Eastern philosophers, such as Lao Zi, Chuang Zi, Confucius, Mencius, The Buddha, Nagarjuna, Zhu Xi, Wang Yangming. Caste systems and examination of the structures of the family in Asian literature.

Contemporary Asian writers.

6. Cultural borrowings and interactions between Asia and the West such as:

Indus culture and the encroachment of the Aryans.

Impact of European Imperialism: ways in which Asia was changed by European

contacts, including decline, destruction, replacement, modification,

assimilation, and renewal.  
Interactive impact of the Silk Road.

### Assignment:

Assignments will include:

1. Reading and analysis of assigned primary texts and supplemental readings to establish cultural context (20-40 pp. per week).
2. Examinations, which may include quizzes, midterm exams, final exam, and/or take-home exams.
3. Written essays requiring students to analyze representative works of literature, visual art, music, and philosophical/religious thought. Students may be asked to compare and contrast, examine ideas, values and beliefs, and integrate materials from more than one discipline.
4. Participation in cultural activities, museum and field trips, creative projects (optional).

### Methods of Evaluation/Basis of Grade:

**Writing:** Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skills and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

Essays

Writing  
50 - 75%

**Problem Solving:** Assessment tools, other than exams, that demonstrate competence in computational or non-computational problem solving skills.

None

Problem solving  
0 - 0%

**Skill Demonstrations:** All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

None

Skill Demonstrations  
0 - 0%

**Exams:** All forms of formal testing, other than skill performance exams.

Multiple choice, True/false, Matching items, Completion, Essay exams

Exams  
5 - 45%

**Other:** Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

Activities, field trips, creative projects (optional)

Other Category  
0 - 20%

### Representative Textbooks and Materials:

REPRESENTATIVE GENERAL TEXTS:

A HISTORY OF FAR EASTERN ART, Sherman Lee, Prentice Hall, 1994.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHINESE AND JAPANESE CIVILIZATION, C. Schirokauer et al, Wadsworth, 2005.

ASIAN MYTHOLOGY: MYTHS & LEGENDS OF CHINA, JAPAN, THAILAND, MALAYSIA

Contemporary Asian Area Studies

TAIPEI PEOPLE (Hong Kong, China and Taiwan), Pai Hsien-yung, Columbia U Press, 2002.

INDIA:

RIG VEDA, Clamp, TOKYOPOP, 2005.

THE MAHABHARTA: A SHORTENED MODERN PROSE VERSION OF THE INDIAN EPIC, R.

K. Narayan, University of Chicago Press 2000.

THE RAMAYANA: A MODERN RETELLING OF THE GREAT INDIAN EPIC, Ramesh Menon,

Valmiki, North Point Press, 2004.

GANDHI AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY: THE STORY OF MY EXPERIMENTS WITH TRUTH, MK

Gandhi, Beacon Press, 1993.

Contemporary Indian Literature

THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS, Arundhati Roy, Harper Perennial, 1998.

NECTAR IN A SIEVE, Kamala Markandaya, Signet, 1998.

CHINA:

SOURCES OF CHINESE TRADITION, Vols I-II, Wm. de Bary et al, Columbia, 2001.

TAI TE CHING, LaoTzu (Laozi) M. Edwards, University CA Press, 2001.

LUN YU (ANALECTS), Confucius D.C. Lau, Penguin, 1973.

CONTEMPORARY CHINESE LITERATURE

WILL THE BOAT SINK: THE LIFE OF CHINESE PEASANTS, Chen Guidi, and Wu Chuntao, Westview Press, June 2006.

THE TRUE STORY OF AH LI, Lu Xun, Columbia U Press, 1981.

A PRIVATE LIFE, Ran Chen (2003) University Press

Contemporary Taiwanese Literature

WILD KIDS, Chang Ta-chun, Columbia U Press, 2002.

WINTRY NIGHT (MODERN CHINESE LITERATURE FROM TAIWAN), Li Qiao et al, Columbia University, 2002.

JAPAN:

ANTHOLOGY OF JAPANESE LITERATURE, Keene, D. Tuttle, 2004.

SELECTED POEMS OF MATSUO BASHO, Basho, M., State University of N.Y., 2004.

THE TALE OF GENJI, Murasaki Shikibu, Royall Tyler (Trans.), Penguin Classics, 2002.

DIARY OF LADY MURASAKI, Murasaki Shikibu, Richard Bowring (Trans.), Penguin Classics, 1999.

THE TALE OF THE HEIKE, Helen C. McCullough (Trans.), Stanford University Press, 1999.

Contemporary Japanese Literature

FIVE MODERN JAPANESE NOVELISTS, Donald Keene, Columbia University Press, 2003.

SNOW COUNTRY, Y. Kawabata, Knopf, 2000.

KOREA

Contemporary Korean Literature

A SHIJO POET AT THE COURT OF KING SONJO, Chong Ch'ol, Columbia University Press, 2005.

## VIETNAM

AN INTRODUCTION TO VIETNAMESE LITERATURE, Huan Nguyen, Trans., Maurice M. Durand, Columbia University Press, 1985.

BEHIND THE RED MIST: SHORT FICTION BY HO ANH THAI (Voices from Vietnam) by Ho Anh Thai, and Wayne Karline (editor), Curbstone Press, 1998.

## TIBET

THE SNOW LION'S TURQUOISE MANE: WISDOM TALES FROM TIBET, Surya Das, Harper Collins, 1992.

MY LAND AND MY PEOPLE: THE ORIGINAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF HIS HOLINESS THE

DALAI LAMA OF TIBET, HH Dalai Lama, Warnerbooks, 1997.

## NEPAL

FROM THE MANGO TREE AND OTHER FOLKTALES FROM NEPAL, Kavita Ram Shrestha

and Sarah Lamstein, Libraries Unlimited, 1997.

## THAILAND

VAPOUR TRAILS: TALES FROM RURAL THAILAND, Tarmo Rajasaari, Orchid Press, 2004.