ASIAN STUDIES, B.A.

**Begin Campus:** Altoona, Lehigh Valley, Erie, Berks, Beaver, Harrisburg, Brandywine, DuBois, Fayette, Hazleton, Mont Alto, Greater Allegheny, New Kensington, Abington, Schuylkill, Shenango, University Park, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, York

**End Campus:** University Park

**Program Description**

This is an interdisciplinary major, with a strong disciplinary core, for students who want a basic understanding of the background and contemporary aspect of East, Southeast, or South Asia. Students are expected to focus their coursework largely on one major Asian area.

**What is Asian Studies?**

Asian Studies focuses on the history, culture, and societies of Asia. It can include the study of the languages, societies, cultures, histories, economies, and politics of the countries and peoples of Asia. This is an interdisciplinary major, with a strong disciplinary core, for students who want a basic understanding of the background and contemporary aspect of East, Southeast, or South Asia.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ASIAN STUDIES (http://asian.la.psu.edu/undergraduate)

**You Might Like This Program If...**

- You are interested in the languages, cultures, histories, or societies of one or more of the countries of Asia.
- You are curious about other parts of the world.
- You want to think contextually about cultures, historical trends, social change, and political structures.
- You want to understand the history of the world as a group of systems and as a single system.

**Entrance to Major**

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/enrollment/semester-classification.cfm).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major)

**Degree Requirements**

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in Asian Studies, a minimum of 124 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Degree</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 of the 24 credits for Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Per Senate Policy 83-80.5, the college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of coursework in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. For more information, check the Recommended Academic Plan for your intended program.

**General Education**

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

**Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)**

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

**Knowledge Domains**

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

**Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)**

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

**University Degree Requirements**

**First Year Engagement**

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

**Cultures Requirement**

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits
Writing Across the Curriculum
3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits
A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements

Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/advising-planning-degree-program/course-placements/placement-policy-world-language-courses).

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

Requirements for the Major
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIA 405Y</td>
<td>Seminar in Asian Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Courses

Select 4 credits beyond the 12-credit level of proficiency in an Asian language from the following, or the equivalent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHNS 110</td>
<td>Level Two Chinese B</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HINDI 110</td>
<td>Intermediate Hindi</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Integrated Undergraduate-Graduate (IUG) Degree Program B.A. in Asian Studies and Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.)

The integrated undergraduate-graduate (IUG) degree program (B.A. in Asian Studies, Chinese, or Japanese/M.I.A. in International Affairs) provides an opportunity for strong students in these majors to complete a master’s degree with 5 total years of study.

An increasingly globalized economy is likely to escalate the demand for graduate training in international affairs. The career choices for graduates with this training will also expand sharply.

The integrated degree program prepares students for a variety of careers requiring an interdisciplinary background in Asian Studies or Asian languages and international affairs. Examples of types of entities hiring in these areas are federal, state, and local governments, international organizations, multinational corporations, international banking and financial institutions, media organizations and journalism, consulting firms, policy research centers, and development assistance programs and foundations. The School of International Affairs (SIA) Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.) represents a professional degree designed to prepare students to thrive in these increasingly global career paths.

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements listed here are in addition to requirements stated in the GENERAL INFORMATION (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies) section of the Graduate Bulletin.

The number of openings in the integrated B.A./M.I.A. program is limited. Admission will be selective based on specific criteria set by the School of International Affairs. Students shall be admitted to an IUG program no earlier than the beginning of the third semester of undergraduate study at Penn State (regardless of transfer or AP credits accumulated prior to
enrollment) and no later than the end of the second week of the semester preceding the semester of expected conferral of the undergraduate degree, as specified in the proposed IUG plan of study. Students must be admitted to the program prior to taking the first course they intend to count towards the graduate degree. Specific requirements:

1. Must be enrolled in the Asian Studies, Chinese, or Japanese B.A. program.
2. Must apply to and be accepted into The Graduate School and the M.I.A. program in the School of International Affairs.
3. Students must complete the Graduate School application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply). All applicants will submit GRE scores, two letters of recommendation, and a personal statement addressing their reasons for pursuing a graduate degree in international affairs and discussing their plans and goals.
4. Although the program has no fixed minimum grade point average, an applicant is generally expected to have a minimum overall GPA of 3.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in undergraduate coursework and a minimum GPA of 3.5 in all coursework completed for the major.
5. Must include a plan of study identifying undergraduate credits to be applied to the M.I.A. degree elective requirements. The plan should cover the entire time period of the integrated program, and it should be reviewed periodically with an adviser.
6. Must provide written endorsement from the head of Asian Studies.

**M.I.A. Requirements for the Integrated B.A./M.I.A.**

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements stated in the DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies) section of the Graduate Bulletin.

M.I.A. portion of the integrated B.A./M.I.A. will require the completion of a minimum of 42 graduate credits, at least 18 of which are from six core courses consisting of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 801</td>
<td>Actors, Institutions, and Legal Frameworks in International Affairs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 802</td>
<td>Foundations of Diplomacy and International Relations Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 803</td>
<td>Multi-sector and Quantitative Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 804</td>
<td>Global Cultures and Leadership</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 590</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The remaining credits are attained through completion of the approved elective courses. A minimum of 6 credits must be at the 500-level.

In addition to the core curriculum and elective courses, M.I.A. degree candidates must complete either:

1. a master's paper; or
2. a supervised internship placement.

If the first option is chosen and the candidate opts to complete a paper, he/she must complete 3 credits of INTAF 594. The master's paper will involve integrating and showing mastery of the subject matter of the student's curricular emphasis, and may also involve original research. If the second option is chosen, the candidate will complete 3 credits of INTAF 595. The student will participate in a supervised internship of sufficient depth and professionalism that will allow the student to experience the integration of his/her curricular studies in an actual professional environment. A reflective paper will be submitted as a part of this credit requirement.

In order to graduate, M.I.A. degree students also will need to demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English. Proficiency will be defined as follows:

1. four semesters of a Penn State language sequence or its equivalent (15 credits with a quality grade of B or better using a 4.0 scale);
2. native acquisition, as shown by the candidate's personal history and approved by the SIA faculty; or
3. performance on a proficiency evaluation sufficient to equal four semesters of language learning: for this purpose, either Penn State's proficiency certification process or another pre-approved proficiency assessment may be used. Language study does not provide credits towards the M.I.A. degree.

If students accepted into the IUG program are unable to complete the M.I.A. degree, they are still eligible to receive their undergraduate degree if all the undergraduate degree requirements have been satisfied.

**M.I.A. Degree Requirements**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 590</td>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>3</td>
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**Electives**

Course choices are from a pre-approved list in the SIA, or by SIA faculty-approved substitution.

**Capstone**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTAF 594</td>
<td>Research Topics (Master's Paper)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or INTAF 595</td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Integrated B.A./M.I.A. Degree Requirements**

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<td>Colloquium</td>
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</table>

**Electives**

A maximum of 12 credits may be double counted toward the B.A. and the M.I.A. degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIA 463</td>
<td>Government and Politics of China</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. From the list of approved courses (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies).
Asian Studies, B.A.

ASIA 465
ASIA 469 Government and Politics of South Asia
ASIA 401 Technology & Society in Modern Asia
ASIA 475Y The Making and Emergence of Modern India 3
ASIA 481 Modern Japan Since 1800
ASIA 486 China in Revolution
ASIA 400 International Culture in East Asia
ASIA 430 Japan in the World
ASIA 501 Proseminar in Asian Studies I
ASIA 502 Proseminar in Asian Studies II
ASIA 577 Critical Perspectives on Modern Chinese Literature

Capstone
INTAF 594 Research Topics (Master’s Paper) 2
or INTAF 595 Internship

1 No more than 6 of the double-counted credits may be at the 400-level.
2 The graduate thesis or other graduate culminating/capstone experience (including any associated credits and/or deliverables) may not be double counted towards any other degree.

Tuition Charges, Grant-in-Aid, and Assistantships
Students admitted to the School of International Affairs through the IUG with a B.A. in Asian Studies, Chinese, or Japanese may be considered to receive financial assistance. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits set forth in the Graduate Bulletin (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-500/gsad-501-credit-loads-graduate-assistants).

Academic Advising
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

University Park
Liberal Arts Academic Advising
814-865-2545
http://starfish.psu.edu
http://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors

Suggested Academic Plan
The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2019-20 academic year. To access previous years’ suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition (Note: the archive only contain suggested academic plans beginning with the 2018-19 edition of the Undergraduate Bulletin).

University Park Campus
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
ASIA 3, 100, 100Z, 101N, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106N, or 197 3 ASIA 3, 100, 100Z, 101N, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106N, or 197 3
ENGL 15, 30, ESL 15, ENGL 137H, or CAS 137H‡ 3 CAS 100, ENGL 138T, or CAS 138T 3
Asian Language Level 1 4 Asian Language Level 2 4
General Education Course 3 General Education Course 3
First-Year Seminar 3 General Education Quantification (GQ)‡ 3

16 16

Second Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
Major course from Supporting courses and Related Areas list† 3 Asian Language Level 110* 4
Asian Language Level 3 4 General Education Course 3
General Education Quantification (GQ)‡ 3 General Education Course 3
General Education Course 3 US Cultures Course 3
BA Knowledge Domain Course 3 BA Knowledge Domain Course 3

16 16

Third Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
ASIA 405Y* 3 Asian Language Level 402 4
General Education Course 3 4xx level major course from Supporting Courses and Related Areas List† 3
General Education Course 3 ENGL 202B‡ 3
BA Knowledge Domains Course 3 General Education Course 3
Asian Language Level 401 4 Elective 3

16 16

Fourth Year
Fall Credits Spring Credits
4xx level major course from Supporting Courses and Related Areas List† 3 Asian Language Level 404 4
Asian Language Level 403 4 4xx level major course from Supporting Courses and Related Areas List† 3
**General Health and Wellness (GHW)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>3</th>
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**Elective**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Total Credits 124**

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

**University Requirements and General Education Notes:**

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy University Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL/CAS 137 in the fall semester and ENGL/CAS 138 in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and replace both ENGL 30 and CAS 100. Each course is 3 credits.

**Career Paths**

A B.A. in Asian Studies can be the basis for careers in the public sector (diplomatic corps, armed forces, intelligence, etc.), international law, business, public relations, journalism, travel and hospitality, careers requiring foreign travel or living abroad in Asia, language specialist (translating, interpreting, teaching).

**Careers**

With an Asian Studies degree, you'll be prepared for a career in a wide range of industries and professions, including the public sector (diplomatic corps, armed forces, intelligence, etc.), international law, business, public relations, journalism, travel and hospitality, careers requiring foreign travel or living abroad in Asia, language specialist (translating, interpreting, teaching).

**Opportunities for Graduate Studies**

International Affairs programs, law, or the study of Asia in various disciplines, such as art history, literature, history, religion, philosophy, political science, and sociology.

**Professional Resources**

- Association of Asian Studies (http://www.asian-studies.org)

**Contact**

**University Park**

DEPARTMENT OF ASIAN STUDIES

102 Old Botany Building

University Park, PA 16802

814-867-3260

asianstudies@psu.edu

http://asian.la.psu.edu

**Bachelor of Arts Requirements:**

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures).

**Advising Note:**

All incoming freshmen must take a First-Year Seminar (FYS) during Fall or Spring of their first year. Academic advisers can provide a list of FYS being offered and help the student enroll. Most FYS in the College of the Liberal Arts are worth 3 cr. and count as a General Humanities (GH) or General Social Sciences (GS) course. For this reason, the FYS is not listed separately on this eight-semester plan; most students will be able to fulfill the FYS requirement while also fulfilling a GH or GS requirement.