Degree Requirements

Courses: The completion of 30 credits (a minimum of 10 courses) is required of all students pursuing a master’s degree in East Asian Languages and Cultures.

- All incoming students will take Pro-seminar I: Critical Approaches to East Asian Studies. This methodology course will familiarize students with the critical approaches and theoretical paradigms useful to analyzing East Asian history, religion, literature, and/or linguistics in a comparative framework.

- All students will take during their second semester of study Pro-seminar II: Research Methodology, a course designed to aid students in learning to utilize both traditional and newer research resources (e.g. electronic databases) and in developing strategies for writing their master’s paper. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss their research work and comment on each other’s work in a dynamic, interactive setting.

- Students will take at least one course outside of their primary East Asian country of specialization.

- Students may take courses related to their academic interests outside of the Department’s program.

Language Requirements: Students will develop proficiency in their primary East Asian language. Proficiency is determined by the ability to use effectively primary sources in the original language (typically gained through three years of training, or the equivalent, in the targeted language). Students who plan on pursuing a Ph.D. degree upon graduation are encouraged to take a second East Asian language.

Master’s Examination: Upon the completion of all required coursework, each student will take a final examination, which consists of a set of take-home essays based on the materials from a reading list compiled in consultation with the student’s advisor.

Admissions

Admission Requirements

Applicants to the master’s degree in East Asian Languages and Cultures should have a GPA of at least 3.0 and solid verbal and reading scores on the GRE exams. International students for whom English is a foreign language will need TOEFL or IELTS scores demonstrating English proficiency.

Application Procedures

Application materials should include:

- A completed online application form
- Official transcripts from the colleges and universities the applicant has attended
- GRE scores
- Two letters of recommendation
- A personal statement (2 pages maximum)
- A writing sample (15-20 pages)
- The application fee

Deadline for fall admission: May 1
Deadline for spring admission: November 1

For more information, contact:
Professor Wendy Swartz
Director of Graduate Studies
wendy.swartz@rutgers.edu

Department of Asian Languages and Cultures
Rutgers University
43 College Avenue
Scott Hall, Room 330
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-1164

Online Applications

Applications can be submitted online at:
http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu

Master’s Degree in East Asian Languages & Cultures
The East Asian Languages and Cultures Master’s Degree Program at Rutgers—The State University of New Jersey offers an intensive immersion in the civilizations of China, Japan, and/or Korea. Students may choose courses from a wide and coherent curriculum including the following humanities disciplines: literature, visual culture, history, religion, language and linguistics. Rutgers has long been a national leader in the humanities, ranked as #9 by Times Higher Education (U.K.) in 2012.

This program is designed for:

- Students preparing for professional careers in East Asia, in the government, non-profit organizations, or the culture industry
- Students interested in eventually pursuing a Ph.D. degree
- Current and prospective teachers
- Students seeking to develop an interest in East Asian cultures and languages

Additional information about the program can be found at:

http://asianlanguages.rutgers.edu

Program Features

Centered at the New Brunswick campus of Rutgers University, this master’s degree draws on the strengths of a faculty with nearly twenty members working on various aspects of East Asian studies who have made major scholarly contributions to the field.

- **Strength of Scholarship.** Faculty members have a strong research profile and have published widely in their fields.
- **Commitment of Scholarship.** Courses are taught by full-time faculty members committed to teaching and advising.
- **Small classes.** Enable extensive and personal interaction between students and faculty.
- **Research Resources.** As a major state university, Rutgers offers extensive resources to support graduate research. Rutgers is a member of the Association of American Universities—the nationwide consortium of leading research universities—as well as the prestigious Committee on Institutional Cooperation, whose membership includes all Big Ten institutions and the University of Chicago.
- **Accessibility.** Close to the Turnpike and NJ Transit, the program is available to students throughout New Jersey and beyond.
- **Educational Value.** As the State University of New Jersey, a Rutgers education offers tremendous value.

Courses

The program offers courses on various disciplines and areas of East Asian cultures and civilization. Course offerings include:

- The Silk Road: A History of Cultural and Material Exchanges
- Classical Chinese Poetry and Poetics
- Modern Chinese Literature and Film
- Chinese Dialects and Sociolinguistics
- The Japanese Novel
- Japanese Popular Culture
- North Korea in the Socialist World
- Social Movements and Civil Society in South Korea
- Critical Approaches to East Asian Studies
- Asian Cultural Exchange

Core and Affiliate Faculty

Young-mee Cho—Korean Linguistics
Jessey Choo—Chinese History and Religion
Jae Won Chung—Korean Literature
Tao Jiang—Chinese Religion
Suzy Kim—Korean History
Sukhee Lee—Chinese History
Xun Liu—Chinese History
Senko Maynard—Japanese Linguistics
Satoru Saito—Japanese Literature
Paul G. Schalow—Japanese Literature
Louisa Schein—Anthropology
Richard V. Simmons—Chinese Linguistics
Weijie Song—Chinese Literature
Wendy Swartz—Chinese Literature
Bingxiao Wu—Economics