

Asian Studies Program Newsletter

University of Louisville
College of Arts & Sciences

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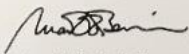
AST Faculty and Students Celebrating the 2019 Asian New Year.



Third year Political Science major Nick Parker studying abroad in Kyoto, Japan. Picture taken in Kinkakuji, Kyoto



Chinese New Year at Kentucky Governor's Mansion | February 5th 2019


Matthew C. Bevin | Governor

UofL Provost Beth Boehm at Governor Bevin's Reception celebrating Asian New Year on February 5th, 2019.



Dean Kimberly Leonard with Faculty at the Asian New Year Dinner.

Asian Studies Faculty Update



Dr. Shiping Hua, political science/Asian studies, has published his single-authored book “Chinese Legal Culture and Constitutional Order” with Routledge. This is his third published monograph on Chinese political and legal thought/culture after “Chinese Utopianism” and “Scientism and Humanism.” Earlier in 2018, he had published his edited volume “Routledge Handbook of Politics in Asia,” with over 300,000 words and 40 chapters written by scholars from 13 different countries in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia.



Dr. John McLeod has submitted the manuscript for his next book, a thematic encyclopedia entitled *Modern India* which will be published by ABC-CLIO. He is now returning to his delayed project of studying the life and career of Sir Mancherjee Merwanjee Bhownaggee, who in 1895 became only the second person from India to be elected to the British parliament. In 2019, Dr. McLeod and Dr. Margaret D'Silva plan to lead a study abroad course in India.”

Asian Studies Program Statistics & Surveys

AST Majors, AST Minors, Chinese Studies Minors admitted:

- 96 AST Majors admitted from 2013 when B.A. was established through 2018.
- 70 AST Minors admitted from 2011 when AST was established through 2018.
- 71 Chinese Studies Minors admitted from 2011 when AST was established through 2018.

(Based on data from Office of Institutional Research and Planning Nov. 30, 2018 and AST data that was verified through the A&S Advising Center Dec. 4, 2018. The proposal that was approved by the University and the KY Council on Postsecondary Education targeted at admitting 34 majors in the first four years.)

Key evaluation items from graduating seniors in the BA program (Based on data from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness provided in Spring 2018):

100% of graduating seniors in Asian Studies BA program:

- Would recommend the academic program BA to other students. (Strongly Agree)
- Believe that the program provides adequate opportunities for program-related fieldwork/internship/practicum experiences. (Strongly agree)
- Believe that the text materials are useful. (Satisfied)
- Believe that “the quality of the courses in Asian studies are good.” (Strongly agree).

Results of survey done in August 2018 by Office of Institutional Effectiveness (Asian Studies)

- *Study Abroad Program:*
 - Excellent, or did not have the chance to participate.
- *Academic program maintains strong academic standard:*
 - Agree or strongly agree.
- *Recommend the academic program to other students:*
 - Strongly agree or neutral.
- *Overall Experience of the academic program:*
 - Above average or excellent.

Asian Studies Program Exchange Student Interview

Interview with AST undergraduate exchange student Luo Zhongmin

Q: Where are you from originally?

A: I'm originally from China and my hometown is Changsha which is also the capital of Hunan province.

Q: Is this your first time in the United States?

A: It's my second time in the U.S and it's the longest one. In 2018, I went to Texas also as an exchange student.

Q: What do you think everybody knows about your country?

A: Most people around me know China but they don't know too much about it. They like Chinese food a lot. And they know China plays a great role in international community and has some competition with U.S in some areas.

Q: How did you end up studying at UofL?

A: I have to finish up all my courses and get good grades.

Q: What's your favorite aspect of studying at UofL?

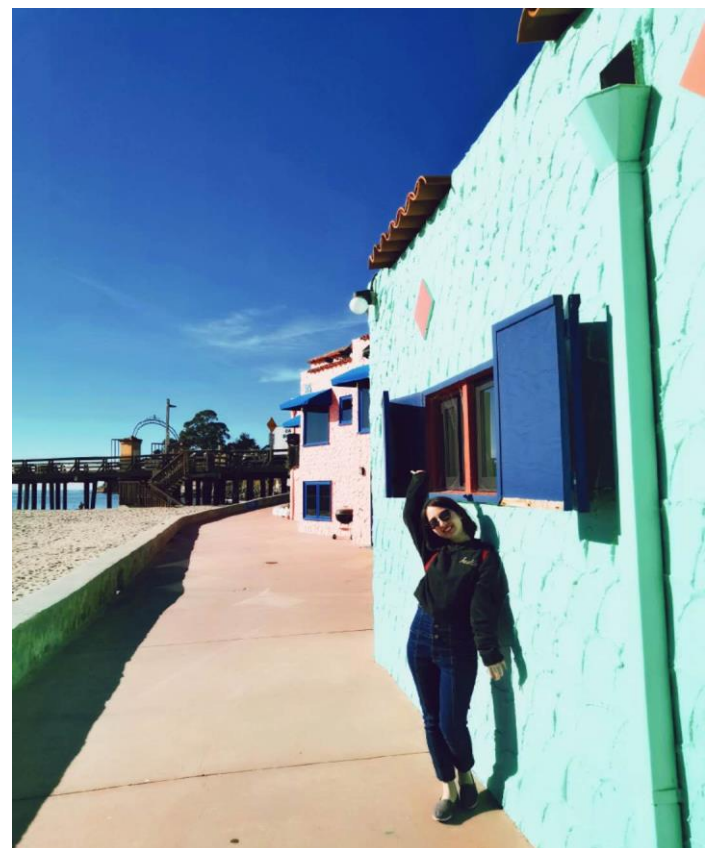
A: The studying resources and facilities are really colorful and accessible in UofL. And faculty members in UofL are really friendly to me. They give me a lot of helps and expand my horizons of my major.

Q: How has your exchange experience been overall?

A: Overall, it's a memorable experience. There are plenty of meaningful things I have done here.



"I'm a student from Xi'an International Study University. My major is International Politics and I really love it. I also enjoy reading about political philosophy and traveling. I've already been to India, Thailand, Turkey, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and so on."



Asian Studies Program

Study Abroad Student Interview

Interview with AST undergraduate Nick Parker

Q: What country in Asia did you study in?

A: I studied abroad in Osaka, Japan.

Q: Was it your first time going to that country?

A: It was actually my second time going to Japan. My first time I went to Tokyo.

Q: What made you choose this country?

A: For the past three years I have been avidly studying Japanese. I plan on becoming completely fluent in the language and studying abroad for an entire year was a huge boost in my progress towards fluency. I also have an interest in the Religions of Japan, particularly Buddhism.

Q: What was your biggest take away from this experience?

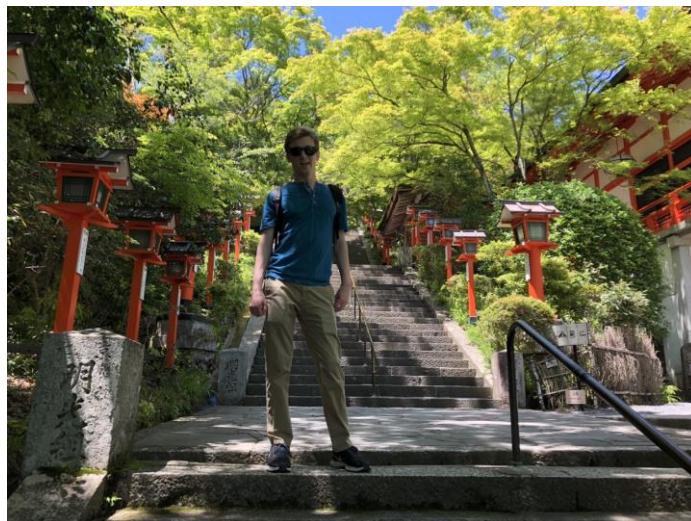
A: There is so much to the world, and so many ways in which people can live that are different from our own. I also experienced how different languages can shape how we experience the world.

Q: What aspect of their culture did you enjoy the most?

A: The food culture is absolutely amazing in Japan. Especially in Osaka where I was living. The Japanese carry a greater respect for what they eat, and the quality of food is overall remarkably high, not to mention inexpensive.

Q: How did this experience help you with your knowledge of Asian Studies?

A: Experiencing an Asian culture like Japan firsthand gave me great insight into how a society so different from our own views the world. For example, what values they carry and what customs they hold. I also took a course in pottery, which has given me a greater appreciation for Japanese art.



"I studied abroad in Osaka, Japan for the fall semester of 2017 and the spring semester of 2018. I was an exchange student at Kansai Gaidai University, which is located just halfway between Osaka and Kyoto. I also did a short teaching internship at a middle school during summer 2018 in Japan, before returning home to America. Studying in Japan was a great experience, and I can't wait to go back."



Asian Studies Program Fulbright Scholar

My name is Ethan Connor Libby Pelletier, I am a graduating senior and Political Science/Asian Studies double major with a Chinese Language minor.

My year in China was a complete immersive experience. I studied, worked and lived in a Chinese-only environment at a school where I was the only native English speaker. I studied with the University of Louisville/Xi'an International Studies University exchange program. I was in Xi'an, capital of 11 Dynasties and home to the Terracotta Warriors. Xi'an is a city renowned for its strong cultural roots and famous monuments, architecture and museums. In Xi'an, I learned more about both urban and rural Chinese environments and the differences between them, as well as how to conduct myself appropriately in Chinese society. In addition, working in an international office environment, my Russian and Italian coworkers taught me some of their understanding of China as well as conversational Russian and Italian.

In addition to my previous international experience, I was recently awarded the Fulbright Scholarship to go to Taiwan for a year on a cultural exchange/educational program. During my time, I intend to once again immerse myself in the local culture and learn what I can regarding US/Taiwan relations, Taiwan/China relations and the local system of government and how it affects the local people. From my experience, I hope to glean valuable insight into how our worlds interact and complement each other. I hope to work in law/government in an international capacity.



Asian Studies Fall 2019 Courses

- **AST 270 – Chinese Contributions (AHD2)**
- **AST 290 – Survey Asian Art (HON, AHD2)**
- **AST 310 – Intro to Asian Studies**
- **AST 317 – Anthropology of China (SBD2)**
- **AST 340 – Asian Religion and Culture (AHD2)**
- **AST 366 – Politics of East Asia**
- **AST 390-01 – Eastern Mysticism**
- **AST 390-02 – Asian Philosophy**
- **AST 391 – Japanese Families**
- **AST 398 – Modern China**
- **AST 495-01 – Fiction of Ming and Qing (CUE)**
- **AST 495-02 – Japan and Asian Security (CU)**
- **AST 495-03 – Modern Cities and Architecture in Asia**
- **AST 531 – Modern Cities and Architecture in Asia**

Happy New Year!

