

Asian Studies Program Newsletter

University of Louisville

College of Arts & Sciences

Spring 2015. Issue 4.



AST is Growing!

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Our B.A. has enrolled 31 majors since its start in January 2013. Our original target for the first two years was 10.

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The Chinese Studies Minor has been transferred to from Modern Languages Department to Asian Studies Program.

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Three new faculty members have joined Asian Studies Program as Faculty Affiliates:

Nan-ting Chou,
Economics;
Kristopher Grady,
Political science;
Michael Losavio,
Justice Administration



Professor Delin Lai (left) has been awarded the 2015 College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Faculty Award in Outstanding



Scholarship, Research, and Creative Activity in the Humanities. Professor Charles Ziegler (right) has won the College of Arts and Sciences' Award for Career in Service!

UofL A&S Dean Kimberly Kempf-Leonard with Dr. Ma, Dr. Sun, and Professor Baik at Asian New Year Celebration with AICH.



Getting to Know Asian Studies

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Additionally, the Asian Studies Minor has recorded 18 students since February 2014.

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Three new courses have been added to Graduate Certificate requirement:

AST/POLS 641:

Clash of Civilizations

ARTH531/631:

Nationalism and Modern Art&Architecture in China and Japan

ARTH 631/531:

Modern Cities and Arch in Asia

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Seven new courses have been added to Chinese Studies Minor:

Anthropology 317:

Anthropology of China

Art History 335:

20th Century Chinese Artists

Art History 337:

Eastern Asia Landscape Art

Art History 339:

Cities, Architecture & Gardens in East Asia

Art History 342/542:

Chinese Calligraphy

Art History 531/631:

Nationalism and Modern Art & Architecture in China & Japan

Art History 631/531:

Modern Cities & Architecture in Asia

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East Asian Development Model an edited book based on the first three annual Lang Seminars was published by Routledge in January 2015. This is the second book dedicated to Helen Lang by Asian Studies Program.

Interview with AST Graduate Certificate recipient Kendra Sheehan

Q: Where did you do your undergraduate studies and in what did you major?

A: I got my bachelors and Masters at UofL and I am currently a PhD candidate in Humanities there as well. All of my degrees were in Humanities and Religion & Literature, a Minor in Asian Studies when the minor first was offered.

Q: What brought you to the UofL AST Grad Program?

A: I just finished my Asian Studies Graduate Certificate program last year. I had always had an interest in Japan and when they began offering the minor I already had all the credits except the intro to Asian Studies because I really liked Japanese culture and Chinese culture was available too. So when UofL began offering Asian Studies programs I thought that it was a great opportunity, because if I want to become a professor I'll be able to teach things that I like i.e. Japan.

Q: Specifically, what brings about your interest in Asia?

A: I've always loved Japan, probably since I was in first grade. Being at UofL getting more into East Asian Religions taking the course, when we got into Shinto I remember liking it even more. I wanted to learn more and how it connected to the culture. Really, I had never thought of it being a career path until I had these courses and realizing I would love to teach about all of these religions and cultures.



Q: What are your research interests regarding Asia?

A: Even though I am a PhD candidate for Humanities I focus on Japanese pop culture and the intersections of religion and cult fandoms. Pop-culture in Japan, how it functions, and feminism in Japan. Fandom studies is a newer thing for me, moving away from how the Western world approaches fandoms toward how these function in Japan. Like pop idols and anime fandoms.

Q: What are you hoping to do in the future, beyond your graduate studies?

A: Right now I'm a part-time lecturer but hopefully in the future I can become a full-time professor somewhere. Definitely would love to teach in an Asian studies job.

Q: Are you currently teaching any courses at UofL?

A: I teach Japanese studies and also the Japan through Film course.



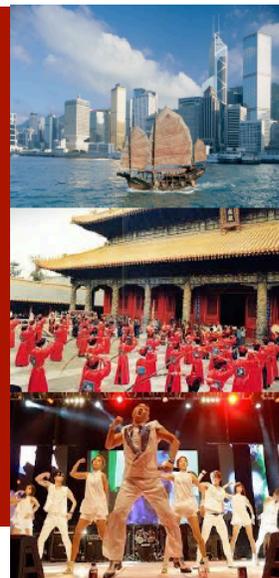
Asian Studies majors at Dr. Hua's Asian New Year Celebration.

On Saturday, February 28th, University of Louisville students, faculty, and friends gathered at the home of Dr. Shiping Hua to celebrate the Asian New Year, the year of the sheep. The New Year, also known as the Spring Festival began on February 19th and officially ended on March 5th. The biggest holiday of the year in China, the Spring Festival is traditionally a time for family to celebrate and enjoy the company of friends and family. This year in Louisville, Kentucky, friends enjoyed the company of each other as they ate dumplings, duck, fruit, and enjoyed libations. For some students, this was a brand new experience, one filled with learning about Chinese and Asian culture. For others, this Lunar New Year celebration was nothing new, but definitely a wonderful night of eating and good company!

By Anna Webber - AST Major

Interview with Student Outreach Coordinator Noah House

While working with Asia Institute - Crane House he has been exposed to and worked with Asian communities in the region as well as the communities that host and participate in events like the Dragon Boat Festival, the Asian Showcase, and the Annual Asian New Year Gala. All of these events as well as Crane House's exhibitions work closely with members of the surrounding Asian communities and offer opportunities to expand knowledge of Asian art, culture and heritage. Each event and exhibition offers service opportunities for students in the Asian Studies program. As the Student Outreach Coordinator he has assisted Asian Studies faculty in preparing for conferences, lectures, and the Lang Symposium. His responsibilities include accommodating AST Majors with their requests and assisting them in finding opportunities to engage in contact with the Asian Community. Noah has also lived and studied abroad in China and hopes to return to Asia and continue his higher education.



The student exchange programs are based on agreements that UofL maintains with academic institutions in Asia. Participants will be enrolled as regular students at UofL and will pay their regular tuition to UofL. The student exchange model provides an enriching cultural experience and is highly recommended for students who are interested and prepared to engage independently in their host institutions abroad.

CHINA

Hong Kong Baptist University

Shandong University

Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

KOREA

Dongguk University

University of Seoul

Interview with Dr. Sun on the College of Arts and Sciences Study Abroad Program

Q: How would you describe your position at UofL within the Asian Studies Program?

A: I serve as the point of communication between international schools in Asia and UofL. I supervise agreements between our university and schools abroad to ensure both ends are upheld. I advise faculty chairs and departments on hosting international visiting scholars and professors. And also advise students coming into the US as well as those studying abroad, everything from the application process, to the visa, and anything in between.

Q: Which locations do UofL students have to choose from within Asia and what does the typical Study Abroad Program look like?

A: Currently we offer programs to partnered universities in South Korea, Japan, China, and Hong Kong. We offer programs ranging from summer to semester and some even longer. These programs in the summer offer the opportunity to earn 6 university credits and an unparalleled opportunity for cultural exchange.

Q: How would you describe your mission?

A: To provide UofL students with a variety of opportunities to have international education experiences. Study abroad, exchange, short-term and long-term programs. I want UofL to provide the best service possible to international students learning on our campus. And to make sure everyone has integrated and intercultural experience at UofL.

Asian Studies - Fall 2015 offered courses:

- AST 290 - Survey of Asian Art
- AST 335 - China Through Film
- AST 340 - South Asian Religious Thought and Culture
- AST 366 - Politics of East Asia
- AST 390 - Japanese Pop Culture
- AST 389 - Modern China
- AST 531 - Modern Cities & Architecture in Asia
- AST 641 - Clash of Civilizations in the 21st Century
- CHNS 101 - Elementary Chinese I
- CHNS 201 - Intermediate Chinese I
- CHNS 301 - Advanced Intermediate Chinese I
- JAPN 101 - Basic Japanese I
- JAPN 201 - Intermediate Japanese I
- JAPN 301 - Advanced Japanese I

Program for the 5th Annual Lang Symposium on Asian Studies:

Calvin and Helen Lang Symposium on Asian Studies

9:30-10:00 am
Continental Breakfast

Morning Session:

10:00-10:05 am
Opening Remarks: Charles Ziegler, University of Louisville

10:10-10:50 am
Mariya Omelicheva, University of Kansas
"Ideological Factors of Authoritarian Persistence in Central Asia"

10:50-11:00am
Discussant: Charles Ziegler, University of Louisville

11:00-11:15 am
Q/A

11:15am-11:25 am
Break

11:25am-12:05 pm
Reuel Hanks, Oklahoma State University
"Of Myths and Mullahs: Narratives of Authoritarianism and Islam in Central Asia"

12:05-12:15 pm
Discussant: David Buckley, University of Louisville

12:15-12:30 pm
Q/A

Authoritarian Persistence in Central Asia

12:30-1:20 pm
Lunch (provided)

Afternoon Session:

1:20-2:00 pm
Erica Marat, National Defense University
"The Politics of Police Reform: Society Against the State in Central Asian Countries"

2:00-2:10 pm
Discussant: Stacy Closson, University of Kentucky

2:10-2:25 pm
Q/A

2:25-2:35 pm
Break

2:35-3:15 pm
Lawrence Markowitz, Rowan University
"Bequeathability Problems and Authoritarian Durability in Central Asia"

3:15-3:25 pm
Discussant: Jason Gainous, University of Louisville

3:25pm-4:40 pm
Q/A

4:40 pm
Closing Remarks: Charles Ziegler, University of Louisville