



Dear Friends, Colleagues and Students,

I write to welcome you back to a new academic year and want to bring to your attention our most recent Annual Report on the Asia Center's accomplishments. Last year has been a busy year and this year promises to be just as exciting. If you have looked at our updated website, you will have noticed that the Center has been formally renamed as **The Asia Center at ASU**, signaling our commitment to both faculty and students as well as to supporting research and learning about Asia and its global linkages. I invite you to browse the pages of our website periodically as up-to-date information is continually added.

ASU welcomes several new faculty members who research and teach about Asian topics in a variety of fields and I invite you to take a look at their profiles. In addition to **Doug Guthrie** and **Sophal Ear** in the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Itty Abraham in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society, **Kristy Kang** in the Herberger Institute, and **Nandita Punj** in the School of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, we are delighted to welcome this fall two scholars in Korean studies, namely **Areum Jeong** in the School of International Letters and Cultures and **Sungik Yang** in History.

Our **Global Asia** lecture series continues now in its fourth year and we look forward to more innovative and insightful presentations during this academic year and we invite you to register via our website or by responding to email announcements and attend these timely and interesting presentations as they are announced. In these pages, you will find information on past lectures that remain available for asynchronous viewing. Also available for viewing is Albert Park's **Inaugural Aaron Moore Lecture** supported by the Aaron Moore Fund.

As Covid-related travel restrictions have been lifted in many Asian countries, the Asia Center has resumed awarding **A.T. Steele Travel Grants** to ASU faculty. In 2023, the Center's ad hoc committee awarded eight grants in support of ASU faculty research projects described in this report. Be on the look-out for research presentations resulting from their work.

The 2023 **Sage Family Scholarship** for study in Southeast Asia supported a project on fisheries and coral reefs in maritime Indonesia. Two **summer FLAS awards** to students studying Vietnamese and Japanese this summer completed a total of 110 Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships awarded to ASU students since 2018. I want to remind our students to stay tuned to forthcoming announcements about student support. In addition to some of the new courses on Asia featured in this report, a more complete list of courses offerings in Asian studies is found each semester on the Asia Center's website.

I want to conclude by thanking our donors who are actively supporting the Center's activities. If you find what we do worthy of your attention, please make a donation through the ASU Foundation or by following one of several QR codes throughout this publication. Whether you choose to support Friends of Asia, the Aaron Moore Fund or the tuition fund for displaced Myanmar students, your contribution recognizes the many cultural, economic and social connections Arizona has to all of Asia's regions. Feel free to contact us at <u>Asia@asu.edu</u> for information.

With best wishes for a productive year, Juliane Schober





Juliane Schober is Director of the Asia Center at ASU and Professor of Religious Studies in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. She is an anthropologist of religions and scholar of Theravada Buddhist formations in Southeast Asia, especially Burma/Myanmar. She is the author of Modern Buddhist Conjunctures in Myanmar (2011, University of Hawai'i Press) and numerous essays, including three edited volumes.



William C. Hedberg is Associate Director of the Asia Center at ASU, and an Associate Professor of Japanese Literature in the School of International Letters and Cultures. His research centers on literary and cultural relations between China and Japan during the 18th-20th centuries, and his monograph, The Japanese Discovery of Chinese Fiction, was published by Columbia University Press in 2019.



Alexander Henn is Director of ASU's BA program for Asian Studies, and a Professor of Religious Studies in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. He is the author of Hindu-Catholic Encounters in Goa: Religion, Colonialism, and Modernity (Indiana, 2014).



Itty Abraham is an Executive Committee member of the Asia Center at ASU, and a Professor in the School for the Future of Innovation in Society, and a senior global futures scholar. His expertise joins international relations and science and technology studies, with a special interest in nuclear studies. He has written two single authored scholarly books and edited and co-edited three volumes and two journal collections.



Han Hsien Liew is an Executive Committee Member of the Asia Center at ASU, and an Assistant Professor of the premodern Islamic world at the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. His research interests include the history of Islamic political thought, Islamic scholarly and intellectual culture, and Islamic historical and biographical writings.



Chan Lwin is Senior Program Coordinator for the Asia Center at ASU, and a Burmese Lecturer at ASU & the Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) at UW-Madison. Lwin graduated from the University of Arizona with an MPH in the Health Services Administration. Currently, she is working on a second master's degree in Bioethics, Law and Policy at ASU with a focus on biological nationalism in Asia.





Itty Abraham
Professor
Global Futures, SFIS



Kristy Kang
Associate Professor
School of Arts, Media
and Engineering, The
Design School



Natasha Behl
Associate Professor
School of Social and
Behavioral Sciences



Daniele Lauro
Asst Teaching Professor
School of School of
Historical, Philosophical,
and Religious Studies



Lena Booth
Deputy Dean & Professor
Thunderbird School of
Global Management



Andrew Le
Assistant Professor
School of Social and
Family Dynamics



Sophal Ear
Sr. Associate Dean
Thunderbird School of
Global Management



Nandita Punj
Postdoctoral Scholar
School of Historical,
Philosophical, and
Religious Studies



Hue-Tam Jamme
Assistant Professor
School of Geographical
Science & Urban Planning



Areum Jeong
Assistant Professor
School of International
Letters and Cultures



Congratulations to the A.T. Steele Faculty Grant Recipients

The Asia Center at ASU awarded eight ASU faculty with A.T. Steele Travel Grants to conduct research abroad. Covid travel restrictions forced a hiatus in making these awards in recent years and we are pleased to be able to resume this decades-long tradition of awarding travel funds for research in Asia supported by the A.T. Steele Endowment.

Here are this year's recipients:



Natasha Behl
Associate Professor
School of Social & Behavioral
Sciences



Hjorleifur Jonsson
Professor
School of Human Evolution
and Social Change



Huaiyu Chen
Associate Professor
School of Historical,
Philosophical & Religious
Studies



Daniele Lauro
Assistant Teaching Professor
School of Historical,
Philosophical & Religious
Studies



Sookja Cho
Associate Professor
School of International Letters
& Cultures



Andrew Le
Assistant Professor
School of Social & Family
Dynamics



Hue-Tam Jamme

Assistant Professor

School of Geographical
Science & Urban Planning



Linh Vu
Associate Professor
School of Historical,
Philosophical & Religious
Studies



As part of ASU's commitment to global engagement, sustainability, and future-oriented knowledge and research, the Asia Center at the Arizona State University organized a series of virtual lectures for the 2022-2023 academic year on the theme of "Global Asia in a Multipolar World." This virtual lecture series highlights research from prominent scholars in disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and beyond. Presentations center on Inter-Asian networks and flows of ideas, peoples, and things across national and linguistic borders.



Natasha Behl, Assoc. Professor, Social & Behavior Sciences, ASU

• India's Farmers' Protest: An Inclusive Vision of Indian Democracy



Tianlong You, Assoc. Professor, Sociology, Yunnan University

• The Whole-of-Society Approach: The Immigration Integration in Yiwu, China in a Multi-Level Governance Perspective



Nick Cheesman, Professor of Democracy, University of Birmingham

Myanmar's Revolutionary Situation & Political Theory



Miriam Kingsberg Kadia, Assoc. Professor, History, UC - Boulder

• The Making of the "Nikkei": Human Scientists & Japanese Settlers in Postwar Brazil



Chris Lundry, Professor, Centro de Estudios de Asia y Africa, El Colegio de Mexico

 Papuan Lives Matter: Race and Justice in Indonesia & the Connections to the Global Black Community



Daniele Lauro, Lecturer, Asian History, ASU

• The Malleable Nature of Early Modern Japanese Rituals: the Case of the Shogunal Pilgrimage to Nikko (Nikkō shasan)



Hue-Tam Jamme, Asst. Professor, Urban Planning, ASU

 Home-based Work Opportunities on Online Platforms and Gender Equity in Cambodia and Thailand



Sophal Ear, Assoc. Professor, Global Management, ASU

• The Political Economy of Diseases in Southeast Asia

Nyanmar Education Rund

This spring, the Asia Center initiated a pilot program for 60 university students in Myanmar to take online University Learner Courses at ASU. This curriculum provides a bridge to higher education for displaced Myanmar students whose education has been disrupted by the military coup in 2021.

The pilot project comprises an ethnically and religiously diverse group of students from urban as well as rural areas. They are performing well in their online curriculum, with an average grade of 84%. The Universal Leaner program allows students to earn admission to ASU or transfer credit hours to other institutions.

To read more about this story on ASU News, please scan the QR code below or click on the title below.

Online courses help Myanmar students continue their university education



"Students like me who are currently living in developing countries can complete coursework and participate in discussions from anywhere with a stable internet connection, making it easier to balance their studies with other daily tasks."





To donate to the Myanmar Education Funds, please scan the QR code or click the button on the right.

Donate

Dr. Zaw Wai Soe, Minister of Health and Education (NUG Myanmar) Visits ASU

In early June 2023, Dr. Zaw Wai Soe visited with ASU experts and representatives of several Myanmar communities on the Tempe campus.

After the meeting with the Asia
Center and members of the
University Design Institute, the
minister met with the Burmese
community members from
Phoenix, Arizona and the
surrounding areas. Being able to
host the minister and participate in
the community meeting, the Center
was able to make deeper
connection with the Myanmar
communities in Phoenix area and
beyond.



The Minister meeting with the members of the Myanmar community



Dr. Zaw Wai Soe, the Union Minister of Education and Health of NUG Myanmar with Asia Center and University Design Institute

The Asia Center at ASU has a long history of collaboration with Myanmar. In 2014, the Center along with the University Libraries and ASU Global hosted librarians from Myanmar's Universities Central Library and Yangon University Library as part the collaborative exchange program. This collaboration was extended until 2018 with support from the Henry Luce Foundation.

A decade later, as Myanmar faces political and educational crisis, the Center is collaborating with National Unity Government's Ministry of Education to assist displaced Myanmar students to continue their education. To date, the Center has supported 60 students taking Universal Leaner Courses online through which they can also earn admission. To read more about this story on ASU News, please click here.

YSBALI Fellows Visit to ASU

This spring semester, ASU had the pleasure of hosting two groups of Southeast Asian change-makers visiting the United States as a part of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Civic Engagement Institute. The YSEALI initiative seeks to provide young leaders with the opportunity to strengthen international ties to solve regional and global challenges.

The Asia Center at ASU experienced first-hand the generosity of this group of individuals. One of the fellows, Grant Lu, from the Bangsamoro region of the Philippines kindly gifted to the Asia Center a scarf from his home region made of a beautiful Inaul fabric.



Grant Lu, YSEALI fellow, presents Dr. Juliane Schober, Director of the Asia Center, with a traditional Inaul scarf.

"As a status symbol, it is reserved as an object of "barabangsa" which means dignity." ~ Grant Lu

Grant explains the history of the fabric:

"Inaul means 'woven.' It is a hand-woven fabric with geometric patterns from Maguindanaon, a Muslim region in the southernmost part of the Philippines". As a status symbol, it is reserved as an object of "barabangsa" which means dignity.

The *inaul* is commonly used as the *malong*, a tubular fabric used for different kinds of purpose. However, in the present time, *inaul* is used as a scarf, clothing, and as an accessory together with other

Maguindanaon symbols."

The Asia Center is proud to add this item to our Asian Textile display case. To get a closer look, visit the second floor of Durham Hall, Our Asian Textiles display case features items from China, Burma, Brunei, Philippines, Thailand, India, Korea, Japan, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Laos. If you would like to donate a textile from an Asian country not listed above. please contact the center at asia@asu.edu.



Our newest addition to the Asian textile display

Written by Zainab Nazir Barrett Honors Student Asia Center Intern April 3, 2023

Foreign Language & Area Studies (ELAS) Summer 2023

This summer, the Asia Center awarded two Foreign
Language & Area Studies
(FLAS) Summer Fellowships
to students who are studying
Japanese and Vietnamese.
Since 2018, the Center has
awarded 109 Title VI Foreign
Language and Area Studies
Fellowships to ASU students
studying Asian languages for a
total of \$1.1 million with 45%
of these fellowships going to
members of underrepresented
groups.

Samuel Watson, an undergraduate student majoring in the study of Global Asia with a minor in Economics was awarded a stipend and tuition fees to study Vietnamese at the University of Foreign Languages - Hanoi National University. Watson's stay in Vietnam also provides excellent opportunities to study and conduct research for his honor thesis on the reconstruction period of Vietnam after the war and the U.S. and the success of reunification of North and South Vietnam.

FLAS 2023
Summer Fellow,
Payton
Calderon, in
Kyoto, Japan.
Calderon is a
graduate student
studying
Japanese at
Arizona State
University.
Photo Credit:
Payton Calderon



Payton Calderon is a graduate student in East Asian Languages and Civilizations (Japanese) program. This summer, Calderon is studying Japanese at the Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan. She will also conduct research on Geisha, using anthropological and cultural perspectives. Calderon notes that "Receiving such a prestigious award is a great honor and contributes significantly to my studies."

Many FLAS fellows used the FLAS opportunities to achieve research and career goals.
Regarding her futures plans,
Calderon added,

"My life goal is to make a positive impact on the world by spreading the beauty of Japanese culture and arts. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity."

After graduation, some fellows from the Asia Center continued their education by joining advanced degree programs while others joined the workforce.

Sage Family Southeast Asian Studies Scholarship

The Asia Center awarded **Zachary Whaley**, an undergraduate student in Biological Sciences with a Sage Family Scholarship for 2023.

The scholarship supports travel and study in Laos, Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, and/or the Philippines. It is uniquely available to undergraduate students at Arizona State University. The Sage Family Southeast Asian Studies Scholarship is a tribute to William W. Sage's interest in and lifelong work in Laos and Southeast Asia and is provided in loving memory and honor of his parents, Lloyd G. and Twyla M. Sage.

This year's scholarship applications were competitive. Students in any majors were invited to apply. While some prior study of Southeast Asia courses at ASU is preferred, it is not a requirement to be eligible for the fellowship. Applicants must be enrolled as full-time, undergraduate student, with at least 56 semester hours completed.



The Sage scholarship provides recipients with opportunities to explore the Southeast Asian region with flexible travel plans. This year's scholar, Zachary Whaley, plans to travel to Laos and Indonesia. Whaley's interest and research project on coral reefs in Southeast Asia goes beyond the existing ecological system to socioeconomical and politico-ecological entanglements. Whaley planned to use his time in Southeast Asia to complete field research for his honor thesis.

Whaley writes:

"As many rural and impoverished populations in Southeast Asia rely heavily on subsistence practices of fishing and farming, collaborative management of natural resources by local communities and central government authorities is an extremely important and understudied topic."

Sage scholarship at ASU provides the students with opportunities for fieldwork and research. In addition, it also contributes to the understudied topics in Southeast Asia to further their fields.



To watch the experiences of Brynn Szukala, a previous Sage scholar, please click on the picture or scan the QR code.

Humanities Vyeek 2022

Humanities Week is a celebration of the human adventure across time, history, culture and place. During this week, the schools and centers in the Division of Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences host various events to highlight how studying the humanities can be fulfilling and lead to a more just world.

For the Humanities Week 2022, the Asia Center sponsored/co-sponsored four different events to promote the studies of humanities and Asian Studies. To enhance the students and community experience, the Center handed out Mochi Ice cream balls to those who came to our booth during the Open House at Armstrong Hall Courtyard on Monday, October 17th.



Dean of Humanities Jeffrey Cohen learns how to make onigiri from Japanese faculty Kumiko Gahan and Aya McDaniel



Flyer for the Humanities Week event: Anime, Manga, and Japanese Popular Culture.

On Tuesday, October 18th, the Center hosted "Onigiri Action", where faculty and students were able to make their own onigiri (Japanese rice balls) and, enjoy delicious onigiri, raise money to deliver school meals for children in needs. At the same time as the Onigiri Action, the Center also hosted "Mastering Life in Late Choson: A Women's Guidebooks to Everyday Life." This talk examined how upper status women in Korea lived during the 18th century.

As the main event, the center hosted "Anime, Manga, and Japanese Pop Culture," a very popular interactive lecture that explores the global reception and history of manga and anime.

The Center looks forward to participating in the 2023 Humanities Week, October 16-20. Please stay tuned.

Survey & Aaron Moore Fund

During the spring semester, Zainab Nazir, Barrett Honors student and the Asia Center intern, developed a survey designed to collect students' input on language courses offered at ASU. As global citizens, we would like to understand the types of language courses that students are taking or wish to take in the future. If you would like to voice your input, please scan or click the QR code on the right to take the survey. It should take less than 5 minutes of your time to complete the survey. Thank you, and we look forward to hearing your voices.





The Aaron Stephen Moore Fund was established to provide grants and awards in the study of Asia to undergraduate and graduate students at ASU, as well as to faculty members. The fund is intended to honor the memory of Dr. Aaron Stephen Moore and his scholarly career and multiple contributions to the study of Asia and to the intellectual life of ASU where he taught for eleven years. The Center hosted the Inaugural Aaron Moore Lecture during the spring. For more information, click on the flyer.



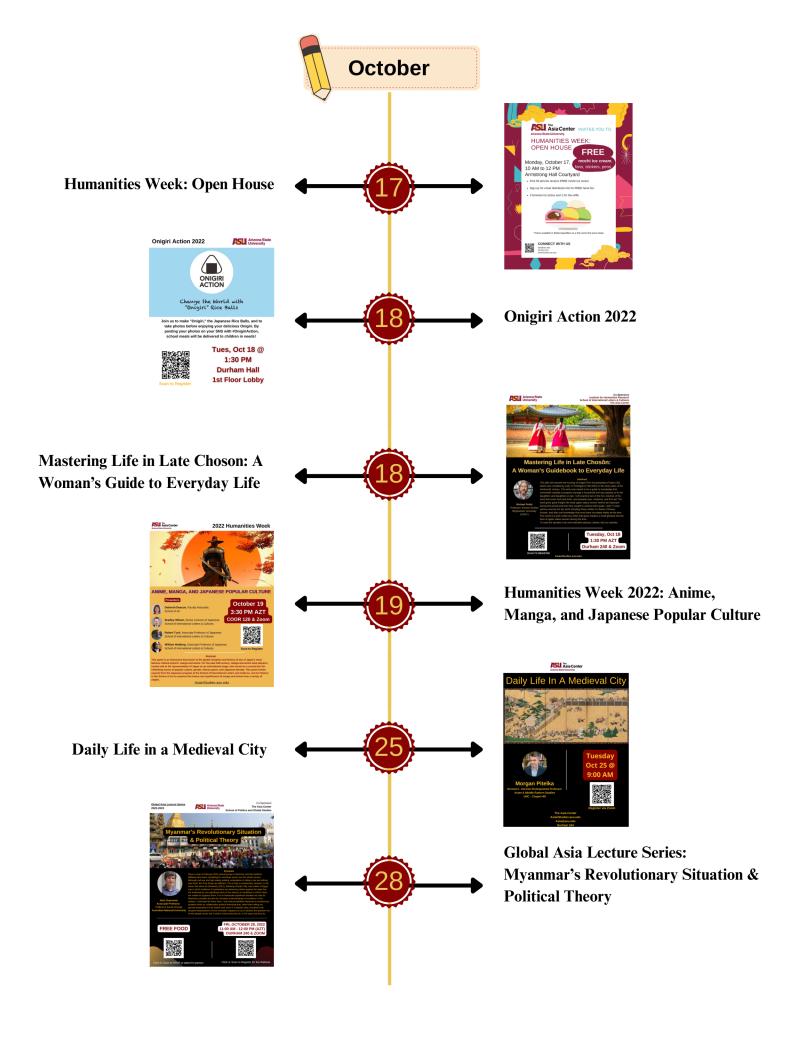
If you would like to contribute to the Aaron Moore Fund, please scan or click the QR code to the left.



Please find below the events that the Asia Center has hosted or co-hosted during the 2022-2023 academic year. For many events, recorded lectures can be accessed via the digital version of this report and by visiting the Asia Center webpage.

Click on the posters for additional information.





Global Asia Lecture Series: The Making of the Nikkei: Human Scientists & Japanese Settlers in Postwar Brazil

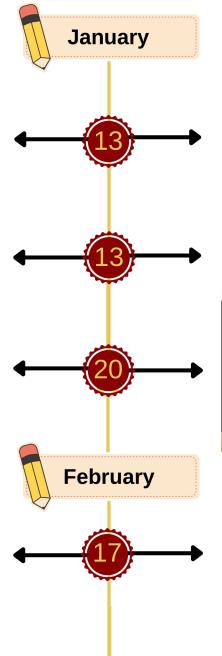


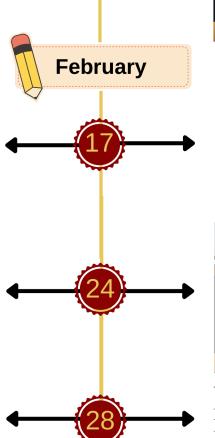
Global Asia Lecture Series: Papuan Lives Matter: Race and Justice in Indonesia and the Connections to the **Global Black Community**



Global Asia Lecture Series: Homebased Work Opportunities on Online Platforms & Gender Equity in Cambodia and Thailand









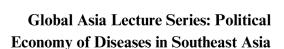
East Asian Studies Graduate Students Conference Program

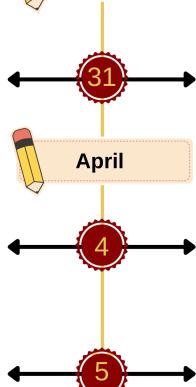


Global Asia Lecture Series: The Malleable Nature of Early Modern Japanese Rituals: the Case of the Shogunal Pilgrimage to Nikko



Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Meeting with the **Fellow Event**





March



In Search of the Stomach: Digestion and Interiority in Early Modern Japanese Comic Fiction



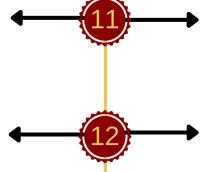
Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Meeting with the Fellow Event (second cohort)



The Politics of Culinary Masculinity in Contemporary South Korea: Focusing on Mukbang





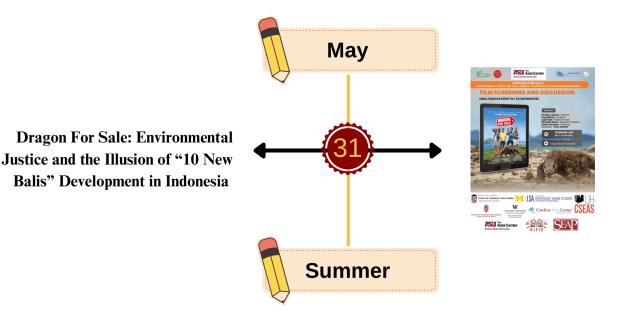




Inaugural Aaron Moore Lecture: Managing Flows: Techno-Utopianism in the Age of Empire



The 18th Annual Robert C. Staley Distinguished Lectures in East Asian Studies



Faculty Members Win National Endowment for the Humanities Grant



Congratulations to William Hedberg and Robert Tuck of the School of International Letters and Cultures for winning a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for Higher Education Faculty Grant. The \$174,862 grant will allow Dr. Hedberg and Dr. Tuck to host a two-week residential Summer Institute for 25 higher education faculty members and advanced graduate students at ASU in June, 2024. The title of the Summer Institute is "Translation and Traveling Texts: East Asian National Literatures in an Age Without Borders" and will explore issues of translation and cultural exchange in East Asia from the seventeenth century to the present.



Major, minor, or certificate in Asian Studies?

Here are some reasons to consider adding a major, minor, or certificate in Asian Studies:

- Asia is home to the world largest population, the world's fastest growing economy, and the world's oldest civilizations.
- Asia is extremely important to the U.S.'s economy, politics, environment, tech industry, health industry, tourism, popular culture and more.
- Knowing Asia will be an essential asset to your career and to be a literate citizen of the world.

You don't have to be an Asian major or minor to be cultured. You can take one of many courses that introduce you to the Asian cultures, languages and histories. For inspiration, please see below for some suggested courses for Fall 2023.

Explore the traditional cultures of China by enrolling in **CHI 394**.



Ever curious about how Japanese express identity? Take JPN 115.



Need to get some movements?
Try out Chinese traditional
dance with **DCE 194**.



Squid Game? K-drama? Engage with South Korean film, literature, & culture in



Did you know that a
Taiwanese
semiconductor
company is
investing \$40 billion
in Arizona?

Play in the Gamelan, a traditional Indonesian music ensemble, in MUP 589.



Do you want to dive deeper into the anime culture? Why not take **ARS 349**?



A fan of the Age of Empire? Come learn the rise and fall of Asian empires in **HST 303.**



How do the rituals and politics intersect with each other in India? Come find out in **REL 347**.

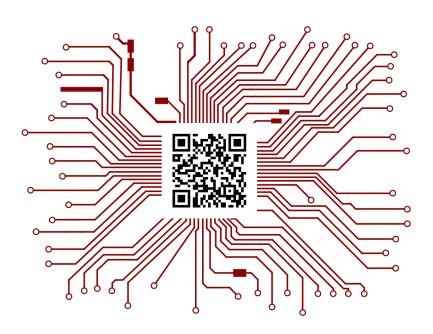


Many famous artists, such as
Gustav Klimt ("The Kiss" painter)
studied Asian art and
experimented with it in their work.
Study Asian art in ARS 201.



To explore additional courses, please visit our website.

The Asia Center will continue our efforts to highlight upcoming scholarly research topics in the field of Asian Studies. In addition to lectures and events, the Center provides many opportunities for the students and ASU community to connect, explore, and participate in this fascinating field of study. If you would like to be added to our **mailing list**, please click on the link below, or scan the QR code.



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