





Director's Message

Dear Colleagues and Friends of the Asia Center,

I am writing to share highlights from an impactful year at the Asia Center.

Our focus was to provide a year-long online pedagogy training program for 100 higher education instructors in Myanmar. Following the 2021 military coup and the recent devastating earthquake, access to education remains a critical challenge for over a million displaced students. The participating instructors came from diverse disciplines, ethnic backgrounds, and regions urban and remote alike and many had joined the Civil Disobedience Movement in protest of the 2021 military takeover which led to their being locked out of state-run institutions.

Despite major hurdles, including the loss of federal funding midway through the project and the recent earthquake, we successfully completed the 9-month program. This was made possible by the expert leadership of Maw Maw Tun in education technology and the dedication of engineering graduate students Arpit Chandrakar and Kanak Tekwani. We also deeply appreciate the vital support from the Learning Enterprise Central and the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. Personally, I was inspired by the instructors' enthusiasm and gained a renewed appreciation for the transformative potential of digital learning in global education.

Thanks to your generous donations to our campaign, three displaced students in Myanmar are now enrolled in ASU's Universal Learner Course, each earning an entire year's worth of academic credits that will empower them to continue their university studies.

The A.T. Steele endowment made a significant impact this year by supporting five ASU faculty awards for reach to be undertaken in Korea, Bangladesh, Nepal, Indonesia, and Vietnam. In the spring, we hosted a series of lecture featuring the research of past A. T. Steele recipients and highlighting the depth and richness of ASU's scholarship on Chinese literature, Japanese history, human rights in Korea, ethnicity in Thailand, and gendered citizenship in India. Additional Asia Center programs included an exhibit and conference on Jain temples and rituals, as well as lectures on South Asian art, history, and religion through our Global Asia series.

Looking ahead, I am pleased to welcome two new affiliates to the Center. Dr. Tanvir Ahmed is a historian specializing in the Mongol Empire and the connected histories of Central, South, and West Asia from 1200–1900. Dr. Shan Chuah is an anthropologist focusing on dance, ritual, and masks in Nepal and northern India; she also curates dance resources at ASU's Herberger Institute.

After 14 years, I will be stepping down as Director and taking sabbatical leave this fall. It has been an honor to serve, and I leave with deep gratitude for your continued support and with great optimism for the future of Asian Studies at ASU.

Warmly,
Juliane Schober

Meet Our Team



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 Conjectures in Myanmar* (2011, University of Hawai'i Press) and numerous essays, including three edited volumes.



Maw Maw Tun is a Ph.D. candidate in Instructional Technology at Northern Illinois University and works as a Research Professional with the Myanmar Teachers' Training Program (ASU). She serves as the lead instructor and organizes all the Friday synchronous sessions to facilitate discussions and enhance participants' understanding of the course modules during Phase I. She regularly monitored learners' progress in completing the modules and provided assistance with both technical issues and content comprehension.



Arpit Chandrakar is a Graduate Student in Computer Science at Arizona State University. With three years of prior professional experience in India, he has contributed significantly to the Asia Center during the 2024–2025 academic year, supporting both technical operations and marketing initiatives.



Kanak Tekwani is a Graduate Student in Computer Science at Arizona State University. Drawing on prior industry experience from India, he has actively supported the Asia Center's technical and marketing efforts throughout the 2024–2025 academic year. He has been a consistent contributor to the Center's outreach and event initiatives, helping enhance its visibility and student engagement.

New Faculty Affiliates

Tanvir Ahmed is a historian of medieval and early modern Islam, with a particular interest in the Mongol Empire and its afterimages. His research centers on cultural history and "history from below," as well as historiography, the philosophy of history, and the interconnected histories of Central Asia, South Asia, and West Asia from 1200 to 1900. His current book project examines Muslim popular uprisings against the Mongol Empire during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. His body of scholarship includes work on the graveyards of fifteenth-century Herat (History & Theory), tales of the miraculous and strange during the 1709 uprising in Kandahar (Afghanistan), sainthood and identity in the medieval Sulayman Mountains (Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies), and accusations of nonhuman origins leveled against Muslims on imperial peripheries (Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient), among other topics.



Shan Chuah is a dance anthropologist from Penang, Malaysia, whose research explores ancient movement practices in diasporic contexts, focusing on Taijiquan and 'cham, a sacred masked dance of Vajrayana Buddhism. Through ethnographic fieldwork and embodied inquiry, her work examines how movement sustains memory, transmits knowledge, and preserves intangible cultural heritage, with field sites in Canada, India, and Nepal. Currently based at Arizona State University, Shan curates the Cross-Cultural Dance Resources Collections, a rare archive of global dance traditions. She is dedicated to creating accessible digital archives and connecting dance research with health sciences, immersive media, and AI. Shan is also the editor of Dance Central and founder of the Choreo Dance Film Festival. A Choreomundus alumna and gold-medalist Taijiquan instructor, she has performed internationally and serves as Director of the International Tristar Taiji Association. Her work bridges academic and artistic worlds, redefining how dance is studied, shared, and experienced across cultures.

Shan Chuah



Sage Family Scholarship

The Sage Family Southeast Asian Studies scholarship is to support travel and study abroad in Laos and/or any of the following countries: Thailand, Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, and 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 application were quite competitive. Students in any major 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 full-time, undergraduate students who have completed at least 56 credit hours.

The Asia center awarded Minh (Lily) Dang, an undergraduate student in MicroBiology, with the Sage Family Scholarship for 2025.

Lily writes:

“ Hello everyone! My name is Lily Dang, and I'm a second-year microbiology major hoping to become an infectious disease physician one day. I was born in Vietnam and immigrated to Arizona at 7 years old. Through the SAGE Scholarship, I'll be conducting research at Hué University of Medicine & Pharmacy in the microbiology and immunology departments. My work will include bacterial culturing and antibiograms, PCR detection of sexually transmitted diseases, and carbapenemase phenotyping and genotyping. I'll also be interning in the trauma surgery and internal medicine clinical departments.



Outside of research, I've helped assemble 300 dental hygiene kits, which will be donated to underprivileged schools and communities in Vietnam and Laos. Lastly, I'll be interviewing local dentists to better understand systemic barriers to care, and will help educate children on proper dental hygiene. I am beyond excited to culturally immerse myself within communities to strengthen my perspective on global health and better serve the underrepresented!”

Sage Scholarship at ASU has provided the students with opportunities for fieldwork and research while also contributing a chance to work on understudied topics in Southeast Asia.

Collecting Devotion: Temples to Jinas

Exhibition and symposium at Gallery 100, Arizona State University (Sep 27-Oct 11, 2024)

Curatorial Team: Nandita Punj, Claudia Brown, Colin Pearson, Huixian Dong

Consultant: Robert Del Bontà



Collecting Devotion: Temples to Jinas was a photo exhibition of Jain temples in South Asia with a small space dedicated to global diasporic expressions. It was accompanied by a three-part symposium with scholars from across the US and Canada gathering to present their latest research. The exhibition documented the evolving morphology, form, and function of sacred spaces of the Jains, highlighting the importance of ritual and pilgrimage in this visual and material tradition. Starting with ayagapatas (devotional stone plaques) and carved sacred spaces, the exhibition used a combination of historical photographs and contemporary images to showcase the richness and diversity of Jain temple architecture within a regional as well as chronological framework. The exhibition was generously funded by grants from the Humanities Institute; Herger Institute for the Design and Arts, School of Historical Philosophical and Religious Studies, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, the South Asia Council and, the Asia Center at ASU. It was also supported by the Jain Center of Greater Phoenix, with some members lending artworks from their collection for display in the exhibition.





The exhibition and accompanying conference and special tours were very well attended by ASU faculty and members of the Jain community as well. It will continue to live digitally as the team received a grant from the Uberoi Foundation for Religious Studies to digitize the exhibition. We hope for it to be ready and accessible to the public by December 2025.



Symposium participants from left to right: Tamara Sears, Huixian Dong, Miki Chase, Nandita Punj, Lisa Owen, Leslie Orr, Robert J. Del Bontà, Shivani Bothra, John E. Cort, Richard Eaton, Colin Pearson, Sherry Harlacher



A.T. Steele Faculty Grant

Congratulations to the 2025 A.T. Steele Faculty Grant Recipients



Shan Chuah

*Fine Arts Specialist,
School of Music, Dance
and Theatre*



Hue-Tam Jamme

*Assistant Professor,
School of Geographical Sciences
and Urban Planning*



Matthew Libassi

*Assistant Professor,
School of Politics and
Global Studies*



Areum Jeong

*Assistant Professor,
Korean Studies,
School of International Letters
and Cultures*



Faheem Hussain

*Assistant Professor,
School for the Future of Innovation
in Society*

Asia Center Events

ASU The Asia Center
Arizona State University

EXPLORE Southeast Asia

SAGE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP TALK & INFORMATION

Join us for an engaging conversation with our Sage Scholar, **Jonathan Phan**, as he shares his experience in Vietnam during their trip funded by the Sage scholarship. This will be followed by a short information session on the up-coming scholarship cycle that is due in February.

**THUR, FEB 4, 2025
4 PM
DURHAM 240
& ZOOM**

Light refreshments will be served in-person to those who RSVP.

RSVP HERE

ZOOM LINK

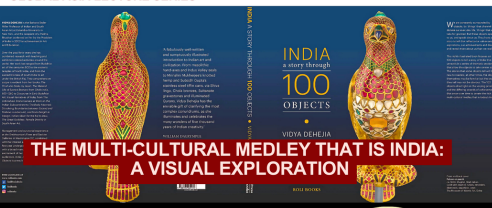


240 Durham Hall, Tempe
480-727-0968

www.AsianStudies.asu.edu

2024-2025 GLOBAL ASIA LECTURE SERIES

ASU The Asia Center
Arizona State University



THE MULTI-CULTURAL MEDLEY THAT IS INDIA: A VISUAL EXPLORATION

We are constantly surrounded by objects, by 'things' that channel and dictate our everyday life, 'things' that we take for granted. But these objects speak to us, they speak for us. They have a story to tell that reflects our values and aspirations, our achievements and our dreams, and they reveal more about us than we realize! This talk draws on my book, *A STORY OF INDIA THROUGH 100 OBJECTS*, to present a picture of the varying priorities and differing strands of achievement that arose over time to create the multi-cultural medley that is today's India.

Speaker Bio

Vidya Dehejia is Barbara Stoler Miller Professor Emerita of Indian Art at Columbia University in New York, and author of a wide range of books on the history of Indian art. As a museum professional between 1994-2002, she served as Chief Curator, Deputy Director, and Acting Director of the Smithsonian's Freer & Sackler Galleries in Washington DC. In 2012, the President of India awarded her a Padma Bhushan for "Outstanding Contribution to Art & Education." Her two most recent books are *The Thief Who Stole my Heart: The Material Life of Sacred Bronzes from Chola India, 855-1280* (Princeton University Press, 2021), and *India: A Story through 100 Objects* (Roli Books, 2021).



VIDYA DEHEJIA
Barbara Stoler Miller Professor Emerita
Indian & South Asian Art
Columbia University
Padma Bhushan

**Thursday,
Nov 14, 2024
at 5:00 PM**

Durham 240



MORE INFO & REGISTRATION VISIT ASIANSTUDIES.ASU.EDU

ASU The Asia Center
Arizona State University

GOVERNING THE UNSEEN: WITCHES AND LANDED POWER IN EARLY MODERN INDIA

Histories of the occult sciences and their relationship to courtly power in the early modern world are today burgeoning areas of scholarship. How did this investment in managing the occult play out beyond courts and in the villages of South Asia before the colonial period? Focusing on the eighteenth century and on the western Indian kingdom of Marwar, this paper will home in on one aspect of this question: the specific associations made in this time and place between women and certain forms of malevolent supernatural power. What were the regimes of power that both generated the specter of the malevolent woman—a dākan (loosely, witch)—and rested upon the construction of her ubiquity? How did the customs of place and caste interact with kingly law to condition her fate? Most centrally, how did a woman who found herself faced with the allegation of being a witch navigate this grave danger in the eighteenth century? What does this history tell us about locality as a political resource in early modern South Asia?



Divya Cherian
Assoc. Professor
Department of History
Princeton University

**Thursday, Feb 20, 2025
5:00 pm AZ
Durham 240 & Zoom**

Register



Image Credit: Selection from *Abhinav Nayanika*, c.1820, Madhya Pradesh, San Diego Museum of Art

Arizona State University



Prof. Annette Hornbacher
Head of Department of
Anthropology,
University of Heidelberg/
Germany

"Possession" by gods, demons, ancestors, ghosts, etc. is a perennial object of fascination for anthropologists. This is because it calls into question many of our basic assumptions about human identity. In this paper, two anthropologists evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various approaches to the topic, based on their long-term research in North India and Bali, respectively. What are the similarities and differences in "possession" amongst Hindus in North India and in Bali, and how can we best account for them? In answering this question, we shall have something to say about animism and polytheism, about mental health and ecstatic religion, and about the fraught relationship between possession and "modernity"



Prof. William Bo Sax
Head of Department of
Anthropology,
South Asia Institute,
University of Heidelberg/
Germany



Scan to Register

**THU, FEB 27TH,
2025
11AM - 12PM
DURHAM HALL
240**

Contact Us

asia@asu.edu



For More Info

2024-2025 Global Asia Lecture Series

ASU The Asia Center
Arizona State University

CLANDESTINE RESEARCH AS "TOURISM" IN TIMOR-LESTE, 1988-1999



Chris Lundry
Professor-Investigador
Centro de Estudios de Asia y África
El Colegio de México

Timor-Leste – then under brutal military occupation by Indonesia – was opened to tourism in 1988, a year prior to a visit by Pope John Paul II. Activists, journalists, and academics were banned from the territory, but many went under the guise of tourism in order to conduct clandestine research and solidarity work. This lecture is based on a forthcoming article in an issue of the *Australian Journal of Anthropology* dedicated to tourism in Timor-Leste, which discusses these clandestine visits and their impacts as well as placing it within anthropological literature on similar kinds of tourism ("solidarity tourism," "justice tourism," and "war tourism").



Scan to Register

**THU, NOV 7TH,
2024
11AM - 12PM
DURHAM HALL
243**

MORE INFO & REGISTRATION VISIT ASIANSTUDIES.ASU.EDU

2024-25 A.T. Steele Lecture Series



“Punitive Precarity and Lucrative Death: Legal Violence as a Performative Technology of Punishment in Neoliberal South Korea”

Dr. Heewon Kim, Associate Professor at the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication, examined how neoliberal governance in South Korea has weaponized legal systems to target labor unions, protestors, and social movement organizers. Through an analysis of lawsuits from the past two decades, Dr. Kim introduced the concept of punitive precarity to explain how legal violence functions as a means of dispossession and control under neoliberalism.



“Caste-ing Citizenship: Understanding Indian Democracy Through the Racialization of Citizenship”

Dr. Natasha Behl, Associate Professor in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, explored how the category of Dalit citizenship is racialized in contemporary India. Drawing from interviews with members of the Sikh community in Punjab, she discussed the systemic exclusion and informal barriers that prevent Dalits from achieving full democratic participation, despite their formal recognition as citizens.



“The Fictions of National Diversity in Thailand”

Dr. Hjorleifur Jonsson, Professor in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change, analyzed Thai-language novels and ethnographies to explore shifting national narratives in Thailand. His talk illuminated how representations of class, ethnicity, and identity from the 1930s to 1990s challenged fixed notions of Thai diversity, offering a deeper understanding of social complexity and state control.



“Reimagining Tradition: The Nikko Toshogu Shrine in Postwar Japan and Beyond (1953–Present)”

Dr. Daniele Lauro, Assistant Teaching Professor in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, traced the postwar transformation of the Nikko Toshogu Shrine from a symbol of Tokugawa authority to a tool of cultural diplomacy. By examining rituals such as yabusame and initiatives to foster Japanese-Korean relations, Dr. Lauro highlighted how tradition was reshaped to serve contemporary national and international agendas.



“Ordaining Twenty-One Monks: A Forgotten Legacy of the Lotus Sutra in Medieval Chinese Religions”

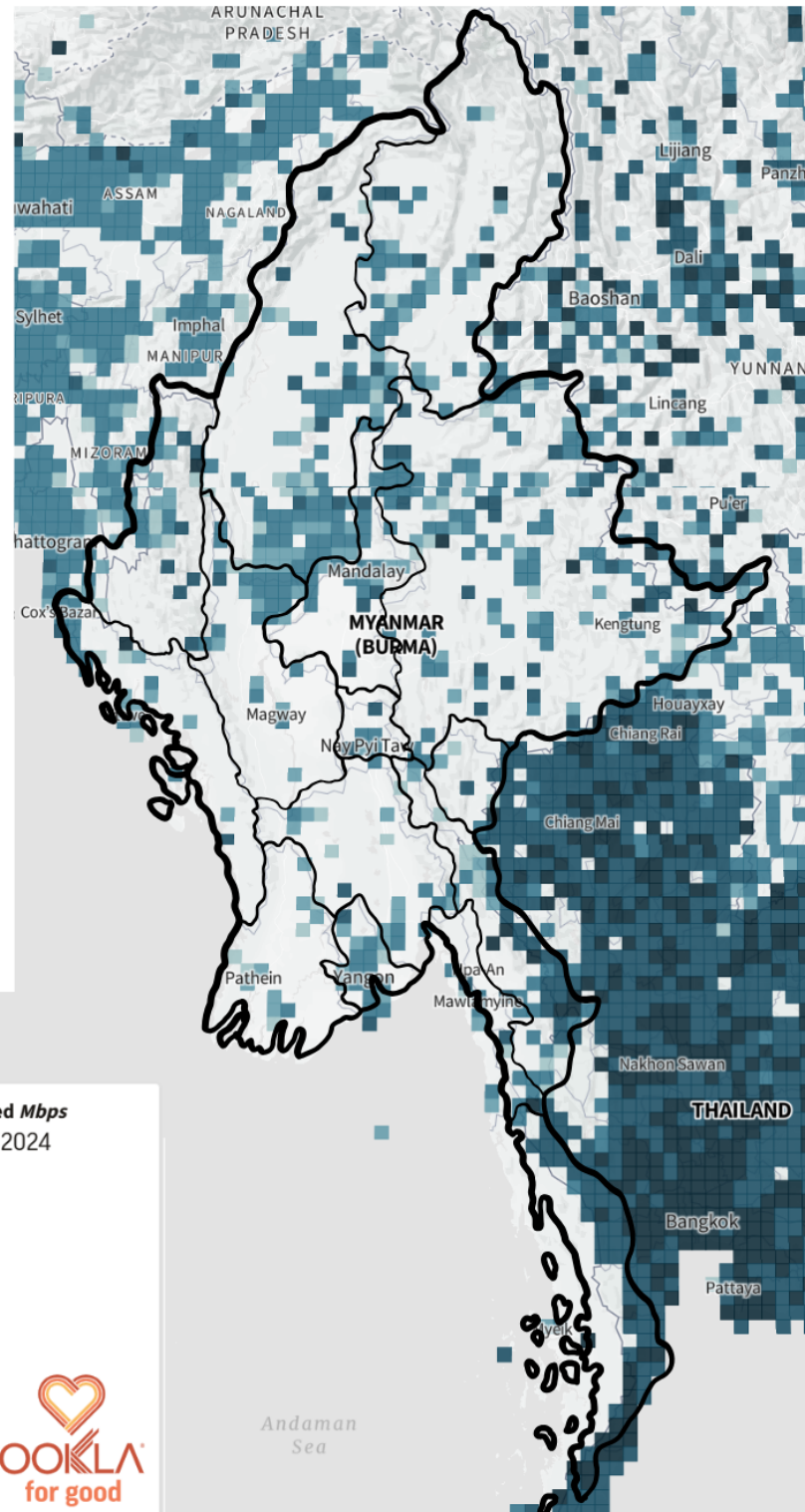
Dr. Huaiyu Chen, Professor in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies, discussed the narrative of the twenty-one great arhats mentioned in the Lotus Sutra and their significance in medieval Chinese Buddhism. His talk shed light on how these figures became a recurring trope in monastic texts, symbolizing religious legitimacy and order in both Buddhist and early Christian contexts in China.

Myanmar Program

Myanmar Teachers' Training Project (ASU) provides online pedagogical training for displaced educators in Myanmar, expanding access to digital education for marginalized communities transitioning to online education due to the current political situation. The program was launched on August 1 and is led by Juliane Schober as the Principal Investigator (PI), with Maw Maw Tun as the lead instructor and two graduate students providing technical support.

Participants were recruited through an open call, receiving over 200 applications in just three weeks. The program admitted 100 participants, with over 60% from ethnic minorities, 80% women, and a significant proportion from LGBTQI+ and disabled communities. More than 40% of participants spoke a primary language other than Burmese, and over 50% resided in rural or border areas, including refugee camps in Bangladesh and Thailand.

This map illustrates fixed network download speeds across Myanmar in Q4 2024, revealing significant regional disparities. Many rural areas experience speeds below 10 Mbps, highlighting connectivity challenges for online learning access.





The program consists of two phases. During Phase I, half of the 100 participants followed a blended learning pathway, while the other half took an online learning pathway. All participants completed six synchronous courses from ASU based on their chosen pathway. Participants engaged in weekly Canvas modules asynchronously, with optional office hours for support. In addition to studying the courses, Saturday Zoom seminars were held weekly to review materials, facilitate discussions, and include breakout sessions on how to localize the techniques provided in the courses to the Myanmar context, considering limited resources and frequent internet disruptions. Attendance remained high, averaging 90-95 participants per session.

To enhance learner support and engagement, a Telegram support group was created to facilitate peer collaboration and provide technical assistance. This initiative helped participants build confidence in navigating the Learning Management System (LMS) and ensured a supportive learning environment.

During Phase II, participants developed Technology-Integrated Lesson Plans as Open Educational Resources (OER). The OER materials included four components: an introduction to the topic, the lesson plan, detailed implementation steps, and a demonstration. While developing the OER, participants received feedback from Maw Maw Tun, the lead instructor, and made adjustments as necessary.



Myanmar Students Enrolled in ASU's Universal Learner Courses

Last year, the Asia Center raised \$6,000 to support the university education of three students in Myanmar whose studies had been disrupted by civil war. We are deeply grateful to our donors—especially to Mr. Richard Fincher—for their generous contributions to this fundraising effort. The students are now enrolled in ASU's Universal Learner Courses, earning academic credits toward their degrees. We asked each of them to share how this online learning experience has impacted them. Their stories are below, with names changed to protect their identities.

Kaung writes:

“Having decided to gain expertise in the field of technology before joining ASU, I was thrilled to discover the Career Mastery Certificates offered by ASU. I chose two programs—Google IT Support and AWS Cloud Computing. Although I initially faced some confusion as I learned to navigate the processes and interface, the ASU Universal Learner Courses have truly been a game changer for my education. These self-paced courses allow me to manage my time flexibly, which is a major benefit. I'll receive accredited credits upon completion, giving me access to a world-class education right from my home in Myanmar.”

Shar shares this account:

“I am currently taking online business courses at Arizona State University through the Asia Center's program. This opportunity has been incredibly valuable, helping me deepen my knowledge in areas such as management, entrepreneurship, and marketing. The courses are well-structured, practical, and flexible, which allows me to balance my studies with other responsibilities. ASU's learning portal also sends helpful reminders before each assignment deadline, making it easier for me to stay organized and submit tasks on time. I am truly grateful for this opportunity—it has broadened both my academic and career horizons.”

Su explains:

“Learning through ASU helped me become familiar with using the Duo Mobile step to access the learning portal. It took some time to adjust to the platform and complete assignments on time. Due to technical issues, logging in sometimes took me around 10 minutes. I haven't yet completed my first course, Exploration of Education, because I had a tight schedule finishing my Diploma of Community Leadership and Research in April. However, I plan to complete the course in the next term. The knowledge and skills I'm gaining at ASU will enhance my experience in my bachelor's program in International Elementary Teaching Education.”

Dr. Alexander Henn & Work in Asia



Dr. Alexander Henn
Professor,
School of Historical,
Philosophical and
Religious Studies

Professor Alexander Henn is a distinguished scholar and educator whose work bridges the disciplines of religion, language, and cultural exchange in South Asia. At the heart of his academic contributions is his leadership as Coordinator of the Global Asia Studies Major in the School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies. In this role, he has been instrumental in developing and coordinating interdisciplinary programs and courses in collaboration with other units on campus, including Thunderbird School of International Management, the School of Politics and Global Studies, and the School of International Letters and Cultures. His efforts have significantly shaped the Global Asia curriculum, fostering cross-cultural and transnational perspectives for students.

In addition to his administrative leadership, Professor Henn maintains an active research agenda. His forthcoming contribution to Brill's Encyclopedia of Hinduism is a revised article on Hindu traditions in Goa, and he is currently preparing an article titled Hermeneutics and Encounter: Religion and Language Between Hindus and Catholics, which investigates the dynamics of interreligious dialogue. His recent publication, Roberto de Nobili and the Myth of the Modern Conceptualization of Religion in Seventeenth-Century India, published in *Histories of Religions* (Chicago, November 2022), has received significant scholarly engagement. Professor Henn is also a committed teacher, offering courses on Hinduism, Religions of India and ritual. Through his scholarship, teaching, and program leadership, Professor Henn plays a vital role in advancing the study of religion and Asia in global contexts.



Asian Studies

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's largest population, the world's faster growing economy, and world's oldest civilizations.

Asia is extremely important to the U.S.'s economy, politics, environment, tech industry, healthcare, tourism, popular culture and more.

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 Asian cultures, languages and histories. For inspiration, please see below for some suggested courses for Fall 2025.

ARS 498 – Modern and Contemporary Art of India and South Asia

Professor: Ralph Gabbard, PhD

Explore diverse artistic forms in painting, sculpture, performance, installation, public art, and video across India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, and Bhutan, spotlighting regional artists and curators.

ARS 394 – Modern and Contemporary Art of China

Professor: Ralph Gabbard, PhD

Covers Chinese modern and contemporary art from 1911 to present, examining painting, sculpture, installation, performance, and video.

ARS/REL 394/598 – Illustrated Manuscripts & Related Objects from Asia

Professors: Claudia Brown and Nandita Punj

Traces the evolution of manuscript culture in Asia, examining materials, techniques, and functions through historical and digital resources.

REL 350 – Hinduism

Professor: Nandita Punj

Offers a compact introduction to Hindu beliefs, iconography, rituals, gender roles, and modern issues from ancient to contemporary times.



REL/HST 260 – Introduction to Islam

Professor: Han Hsien Liew, PhD

Surveys Islamic history, beliefs, and practices across Africa and Asia, exploring key themes like Qur'an, law, Shi'ism, and gender.

REL/HST/POS/SGS 396 – Islam and Politics

Professor: Han Hsien Liew, PhD

Examines Islamic political thought across eras, focusing on issues such as jihad, democracy, and political Islam through primary texts.

CHI/SLC 434 – Buddhist Poetry

Professor: Nick Williams

Introduces Buddhist teachings through poetry from India, Tibet, and Japan, including works by Indian nuns and Japanese haiku masters.

HST 598 – Readings in Asian History

Professor: Yasmin Saikia, PhD

A graduate seminar exploring South Asian historiography through postcolonial and subaltern lenses, emphasizing decolonial methodologies.

HST/REL 111 – Introduction to Asia

Professor: Sungik Yang

A broad survey of Asia's history, religions, cultures, and politics, covering China, Japan, Korea, India, and Southeast Asia.

HST 303 – Film and Politics in Asia

Professor: Sungik Yang

Explores modern Korean history through cinema, analyzing films as historical texts and cultural reflections of Korea's transformation.

WST 378 (85387) – Global Feminist Theory

Professor: Lila Sharif

Examines feminist theories from the Global South, engaging with gender, race, class, and nation in global social movements.



WST 501 (65024) – Foundational Feminist Thought

Professor: Indulata Prasad

Introduces key feminist theories and research foundations in women's and gender studies, with global and intersectional perspectives.

GTD 511 – Global Development Policy and Practices

Professor: Netra Chhetri, PhD

Investigates global development issues—health, education, food security—through case studies, policy critique, and alternative models.

GTD 598 (88528) – Technology and Development in Southeast Asia

Professor: Itty Abraham

Explores the relationship between technology and socio-economic development in Southeast Asia; full description in progress.

TGM 515 – Navigating Global and Regional Business Environments (Asia)

Professor: Doug Guthrie


Examines Asia's rise as a global economic power, analyzing historical and cultural contexts behind regional political and economic transformations.

ARS 574 – Art of Japan

Professor: Claudia Brown

Examines Asia's rise as a global economic power, analyzing historical and cultural contexts behind regional political and economic transformations.

**DID
YOU
KNOW!**

 Asia is home to both the highest and the lowest points on Earth's land surface.

Mount Everest (Nepal/China border) is the highest point at 8,848.86 meters (29,031.7 feet) above sea level.

The Dead Sea (bordering Jordan and Israel, considered part of Western Asia) is the lowest point on Earth's land at approximately 430 meters (1,410 feet) below sea level.



Somnath Temple (India)



Hang Múa Pagoda (Vietnam)



Angkor Wat (Cambodia)



Phra Pathommachedi (Thailand)



The Royal Shwezigon Pagoda (Myanmar)



Trần Quốc Pagoda (Vietnam)



The Asia Center remains committed to promoting scholarly research and dialogue in the field of Asian Studies. In addition to organizing lectures and events, the Center offers a range of opportunities for students and members of the ASU community to engage, explore, and participate in this dynamic area of study. To join our mailing list and stay informed about upcoming activities, please follow the link below or scan the QR code provided.



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