

Stanford University

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Want to understand the world of tomorrow? Focus on East Asia.

After the United States, China and Japan represent the largest economies on the planet. These nations, as well as Korea, influence global society, politics, and security. The key to knowing these countries is to study their languages, histories, and cultures.

At one time, East Asia may have seemed exotic, distant. Now, it's part of everyday life.

We read Japanese comics, watch Chinese cinema, and listen to Korean pop music. Beyond its growing cultural clout, Asia is a new center of global power. Learning about this diverse continent opens doors—and opportunities—to one of the most dynamic regions of the world today.

Start with Language

Studying Chinese, Japanese, or Korean is a smart investment in your future.

One-fifth of the world's population speaks Mandarin Chinese. Japanese is one of the most popular languages on the web. And, with the explosion of K-pop, Korean seems to be everywhere.

With native instructors and small classes, Stanford's Language Center teaches you to speak, listen, read, and write these languages. Mastering effective communication skills helps you understand how language influences society and enables you to reflect on your own culture in new ways.



Build a broad framework

Our top-ranked department offers courses ranging from ancient Chinese poetry and prehistoric archaeology to contemporary Japanese manga and Kangnam Style Korean culture. Study these topics as part of a major or minor in Chinese, Japanese, or East Asian Studies.

Students can also expand their interests to include subjects ranging from history, economics, political science, art, and religious studies to law, business, medicine, and engineering.

Take courses in:

East Asian Studies

- Movies and Empire in East Asia
- The Two Koreas
- Childhood and Children: Culture in East Asia

Japanese Studies

- Romance, Desire, and Sexuality in Japanese Literature
- Modern Japanese History: From Samurai to Pokémon
- Japan in Asia, Asia in Japan

Chinese Studies

- How to Be Modern in China: A Gateway to the World
- Marvelous Creatures: Animals and Humans in Chinese Literature
- Emergence of Chinese Civilization from Caves to Palaces

Broaden your horizons

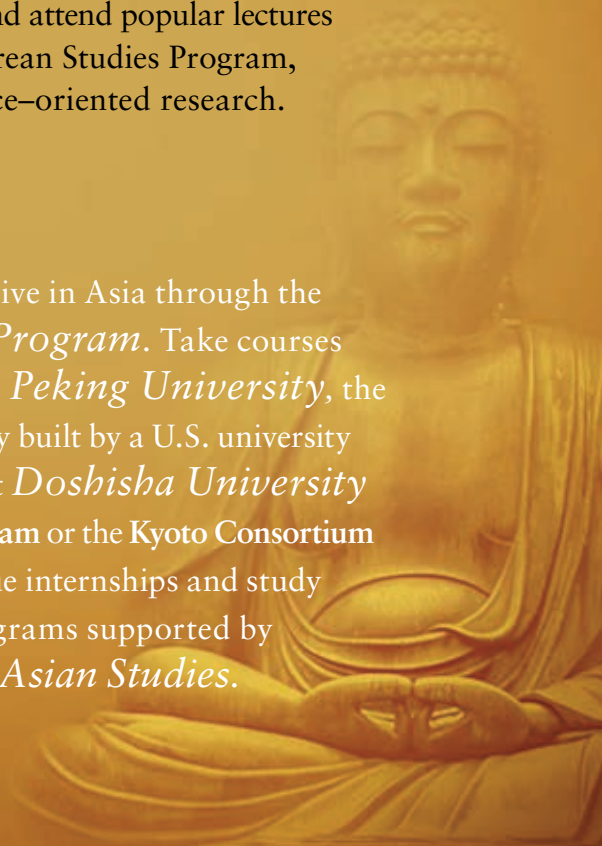
Join FACES, the Forum for American-Chinese Exchange at Stanford, which brings together students from top U.S. and Chinese universities for weeklong summits on campus and in China. For more than a decade, this student-led organization has helped build trust and understanding among future leaders of both nations.

Write for the *Stanford Journal of East Asian Affairs*, a student-run publication featuring original articles by undergraduates and graduates from leading universities around the world.

Learn about contemporary Korea through new literature and culture courses and attend popular lectures sponsored by the Stanford Korean Studies Program, which focuses on social science-oriented research.

Go East!

Want hands-on experience? Live in Asia through the *Bing Overseas Studies Program*. Take courses at the *Stanford Center at Peking University*, the first dedicated academic facility built by a U.S. university on a Chinese campus. Study at *Doshisha University* in Japan through the Bing Program or the Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies. Or pursue internships and study Korean in Seoul through programs supported by Stanford's *Center for East Asian Studies*.



A Successful Future

Cultural awareness. Nuanced judgment.
Clear analysis.

This century is defined by the rise of Asia. Prepare yourself for emerging opportunities around the globe and to thrive in fields ranging from business and law to government and the arts. Our alumni are entrepreneurs, journalists, military officers, artists, politicians, teachers, diplomats, and more.

“My East Asian Studies degree provided the cultural, historical, and political background of a region that still remains a mystery to many of us in the West. Not a day goes by when I haven't used some facet of my studies in my daily interactions with fellow colleagues and partners in China, South Korea, and Japan.”

Tim Liu, '04 East Asian Studies

Business Development Director for Tencent, China's largest internet company



“ Becoming an East Asian Studies major was a total surprise that changed my life. As a freshman, I planned to major in mathematics. However, walking into a class on Chinese art opened my mind in new and exciting ways. Today, my major continues to provide me with a critical lens to understand the world in which we live. ”

Connie Wolf, '81 East Asian Studies
Director of the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford

“ My studies have helped me immensely in understanding not only the intricacies of Japanese, but also the mechanics of how languages broadly shape the human experience. In my work for a Japanese mobile game company, I've used this knowledge in both expected and entirely surprising ways. ”

Chieze Okoye, '03 Japanese and
Computer Science, MA '06 East Asian Studies
Producer, first-party games at DeNA West

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