



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies

COSM10 Asian Studies: Asian Studies, 6 credits
Autumn semester 2021, 30 August – 22 September
Course schedule (**Preliminary 2021-06-16**)

Course information

The course offers an introduction to critical, interdisciplinary Asian Studies, its historical origin, research history, and some cross-cutting issues in contemporary research. Included are also introductions to the different region-specific studies of China, Japan/Korea, and South-East Asia. Course assignments and seminars will allow you to train your academic writing skills. Instruction will take place through lectures and seminars. The seminars are mandatory, and absence must be compensated by completing additional course assignments. You will be writing one course paper and one exam paper, participate in seminar discussions and make a peer review. The readings must be course related. The language of instruction and examination is English.

Teachers

Sidsel Hansson Sidsel.Hansson@ace.lu.se (course coordinator)
Ann Kull Ann.Kull@stu.lu.se
Nicholas Loubere Nicholas.Loubere@ace.lu.se
Erik Mobrand Erik.Mobrand@gmail.com
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SI leaders

Joel Bäckman joel.backman.3851@student.lu.se
Lara Aina Franken lara_aina.franken.2884@student.lu.se
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Registration at the Centre Student lunch room (basement floor)

Nina Brand 30 August Group A: 10.00-10.30
Group B: 10.30-11.00
Group C: 11.00-11.30

For your registration please bring a photo identification (passport or EU ID card).
Nina Brand will inform you beforehand about which group you have been assigned to. In order to avoid crowding, please arrive and register during the time frame allotted to your group. Having completed your registration, proceed to the library on the ground floor (entrance from the Centre's hallway).

Introduction to and registration at the library Asia library (ground floor)

Mia Nilsson 30 August Group A: 10.15-10.45
Group B: 10.45-11.15
Group C: 11.15-11.45

You will be given a tour of the Asia library and receive information on how to apply for a university library account. Please keep within the time frame of your group.

Welcome and introduction to the Centre and the master's program Asia library

Astrid Norén-Nilsson 30 August 13.15-14.00
 Introduction to the Centre, information on the program, the study procedures, the courses, followed by a Q&A session. **Handout of instructions for the seminars and the seminar paper.** The instructions also will be posted in CANVAS > COSM10.

Introduction to the Asia library – its resources and services Room 111

Mia Nilsson 31 August Group A: 09.15-10.00
 Group B: 10.15-11.00
 Group C: 11.15-12.00

This introduction provides information on how to access Lund University's e-resources: How to use LUBcat (the library catalogue), LUBsearch (the discovery system), and the library guides. There will also be short information about the principles of academic integrity. For the A-C group lists see CANVAS > COSM10.

Introduction to the COSM10 Asian Studies course Asia library

Sidsel Hansson 31 August 13.15-15.00
 Joel Bäckman, Lara A Franken, Hung Muy
 Introduction to the course and handout of instructions for the seminars and the seminar paper (these instructions also can be found in the CANVAS course module), followed by an introduction to our collaborative learning program SI-PASS.

Seminar 1: Why Asian Studies? Asia library

Sidsel Hansson 1 September 13.15-15.00
 In this seminar we will discuss Asian Studies as part of the broader multidisciplinary field of Area Studies, with attention to the ongoing debates on its relevance, challenges, and new directions in research. For instructions see the seminar instructions handed out at the earlier introduction lecture or the CANVAS course module.

Required readings

Holbig, Heike. 2015. "The Placticity of Regions: A Social Sciences-Cultural Studies Dialogue on Asia-Related Area Studies." *GIGA Working Paper* no. 267. GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies. <https://www.giga-hamburg.de/de/publication/the-plasticity-of-regions> [34 pages]

Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. 2000. "Anti-Area Studies." *Communal / Plural: Journal of Transnational & Crosscultural Studies* 8(1):9–23. [15 pages]

Recommended reading

Sato, Jin. 2020. "Research at a Distance: Area Studies in the Post-Pandemic Era." *International Journal of Asian Studies* 17: 105-108.
https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/7FDB78C9AA895506B40338ED55003741/S1479591420000376a.pdf/research_at_a_distance_area_studies_in_the_postpandemic_era.pdf

Information retrieval, source criticism and referencing

Room 111

Mia Nilsson

2 September Group A: 09.15-10.00

Group B: 10.15-11.00

Group C: 11.15-12.00

A lecture on how to find information, how to evaluate it, and how to cite. If possible, bring your own electronic device. For the A-C group lists see CANVAS > COSM10.

Finding and organizing literature

ZOOM

Nicholas Loubere

3 September 10.15-12.00

Reviewing and keeping up to date with the academic literature is a necessary part of writing course papers and a Master's thesis, but also represents an organisational challenge. This lecture will demonstrate how open source software packages – including Zotero, Feedreader and QDA Miner – can be used to systematically navigate and organise large and rapidly developing bodies of literature.

Critical thinking, speaking and writing

Asia library

Ann Kull

3 September 13.15-15.00

This lecture focuses on how to argue like an academic, or how to build a solid argument. Here we bring up the bases for how to think, speak and write **critically**. We also discuss ethics in different situations: class room discussion, references and plagiarism in writing.

SI-PASS on critical thinking and source criticism

Room 005 / Zoom

Joel Bäckman, Hung Muy or Lara A Franken

6 September 10.30-12.00

Bring your questions and concerns about critical thinking and source criticism in your study work as your input to the agenda setting of this session. The SI leader then will organize some collaborative learning activities for you related to the agenda that you have set.

Japan studies

Asia library

Paul O'Shea

6 September 13.15-15.00

What is Japanese Studies? This lecture will consider this question. We may not reach a definitive answer, but by tracing the history and development of Japanese Studies within the context of Japan's rise from postwar ashes to economic giant, and more recent struggles with the 3/11 disaster, a super-aging society, and a rising China, we can at least come to an understanding of why it's an important question!

Required readings

Pempel, T.J. 2011. "The Legacy of Chalmers Johnson." *The Pacific Review* 24(1):9-14. [6 pages]

Reader, Ian. 1998. "Review: Studies of Japan, Area Studies, and the Challenges of Social Theory" *Monumenta Nipponica* 53(2):237-255. [20 pages]

Sugimoto, Yoshio. 2010. *An Introduction to Japanese Society*. 3rd ed. Cambridge University Press. Pp. 1-36. E-book. [36 pages]

Shirana, Masakazu and Ikeda, Teiichi. 2017. "Japan is Great." *The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus* 15(3)4. Available at: <http://apjff.org/2017/03/Shirana.html> [8 pages].

Research ethics and academic freedom

Asia library

Marina Svensson

7 September 10.15-13.00

This lecture will address basic issues related to the role of the university and the meaning and importance of academic freedom. The lecture also discusses how we can create a tolerant and open teaching environment, and the responsibilities of both teachers and students. In addition, principles related to integrity and research ethics will be discussed.

South-East Asian Studies

Asia library

Astrid Norén-Nilsson

7 September 14.15-16.00

The study of South-East Asia has produced a significant body of literature, which has contributed to our understanding of different societies and their transformations in the region and has contributed to the development of academic disciplines. This introduction serves to provide an overview of South-East Asian Studies by discussing the difficulties in defining South-East Asia as an area (geographically, culturally and politically). It will also discuss the diversity of approaches and perspectives in South-East Asian studies reflected in different disciplines and what possible consequences this have for the study of the region. In addition, the lecture addresses contemporary main research themes and methodologies that social scientists are exploring in South-East Asia. The learning outcomes are that students should:

- Become aware of the difficulties of defining South-East Asia.
- Obtain a general understanding of the diversity of South-East Asian studies.
- Obtain knowledge about significant themes in South-East Asian studies.

Required readings

King, Victor T. 2014. "Southeast Asian Studies: the Conundrum of Area and Method". In *Methodology and Research Practice in Southeast Asian Studies*, edited by Mikko

Huotai, Jürgen Rüländ and Judith Schlehe. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan. Pp.44-63. E-book available in LUBsearch. Price 1039 SEK (Bokus.com). [20 pages]

Kratoska, Paul H, Remco Raben and Henk Schulte Nordholt. 2005. *Locating Southeast Asia: Geographies of Knowledge and Politics of Space*. Singapore: Singapore University Press. Chapter 1. Price 369 SEK (Bokus.com). [19 pages]

Korean studies

ZOOM

Erik Mobernd

8 September 15.15-17.00

The modern history of the Korean peninsula is intertwined with divisions in the wider region. The two states on the peninsula are intimately tied to each other, as well as to regional configurations of power and economic exchange. The study of Korea is oriented not only to understanding that peninsula but also to shedding light on the connections that bind – and the divisions that separate – geographies in East and Southeast Asia. The goal of this seminar is to provide a conceptual basis for undertaking social inquiry related to Korea. After this seminar, students will have grasped three major concepts for thinking about the modern experience of Korea. They will also have

gained familiarity with frameworks for thinking about contemporary Korea, with a focus on South Korea. These frameworks help in understanding a wide range of social phenomena, from popular culture and regional ties to religion, business, and politics.

Required readings

Moon, Seungsook. *Militarized Modernity and Gendered Citizenship in South Korea*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2005. Introduction, Chpt. 1. In Asia library.

Chang Kyung-Sup. *South Korea under Compressed Modernity: Familial Political Economy in Transition*. London: Routledge, 2010. Chpt. 1. In Asia library.

Paik, Nak-Chung. South Korean Democracy and Korea's Division System. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies* 14, no. 1 (2013): 156-169.

China Studies

Asia library

Marina Svensson 9 September 13.15-15.00
 This lecture aims to give a brief overview of the development of the field of China studies. It will discuss developments from more classical Sinology to contemporary China studies, as well as the political, institutional, and academic reasons behind these developments. The lecture will discuss the contributions from different disciplines, and their respective development over time. In focus will also be an assessment of the current state of the field of China studies and different research trends.

Required readings

Barmé, Geremie R. 2005. "New Sinology." *Chinese Studies Association of Australia Newsletter* No. 31. Available at: http://ciw.anu.edu.au/new_sinology/index.php [12 p]

Kloet, Jeroen de. 2008. "Gendering China Studies Peripheral Perspectives, Central Questions." *China Information* 22(2):195-219. [24 pages]

Walder, Andrew G. 2004. "The Transformation of Contemporary China Studies, 1977-2002." In *The Politics of Knowledge: Area Studies and the Disciplines*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. Pp. 314-340. Available at: <http://www.ciaonet.org/resources.asiaportal.info/book/szd01/index.html> [27 pages]

Zurndorfer, Harriet T. 2018. "Waves of Publications on Chinese Women and Gender Studies." *NORA - Nordic Journal of Feminist and Gender Research* 26(4):357-366. [9 pages]

SI-PASS on region-specific Asian studies

Asia library

Joel Bäckman, Hung Muy or Lara A Franken 9 September 15.30-17.00
 Bring your questions and concerns about area studies and region-specific Asian studies as your input to the agenda setting of this session. The SI leader then will organize some collaborative learning activities for you related to the agenda that you have set.

Seminar 2 Exploring a complex issue in Asia in an interdisciplinary way Asia library

Astrid Norén-Nilsson 10 September 13.15-15.00
 In this seminar you will discuss the Rohingya crisis which started in Myanmar in 2017, as an example of a complex issue in Asia. You will prepare for the seminar by

reading and analyse a set of academic articles on the crisis written from the perspective of various disciplines. Taken together, they illustrate the advantages of taking an Asian studies approach, which integrates insights generated in a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary fashion. During the seminar we will discuss your analyses of the articles and their different approaches to the issue, and the insights to be gained from this exercise. You will find the articles in CANVAS > COSM10.

Deadline for the seminar paper

CANVAS

Submit the paper in CANVAS >COSM10 >Assignments no later than 13 Sept. 13.00

Postcolonial perspectives on Asia

Asia library

Nicholas Loubere 14 September 10.15-12.00
This lecture explores postcolonial perspectives for understanding contemporary culture, politics and economics in Asian societies. The lecture questions issues surrounding Orientalism and East-West power relations, and critically examines the production of knowledge on and about Asia. In particular it provides an introduction to postcolonial theory, which has the critique of Orientalism as its point of departure.

Required readings

McEwan, Cheryl. 2013. "Postcolonialism." In *The Companion to Development Studies*, edited by Vandana Desai and Rob Potter. London and New York: Routledge. Pp. 137–41. E-book. [5 pages]

Nair-Venugopal, Shanta. 2012. "Introduction." In *The gaze of the West and framings of the East*, edited by Shanta Nair-Venugopal. Palgrave Macmillan. Pp. 3-25. E-book. [23 pages]

Said, Edward W. 2003. *Orientalism*. London: Penguin. Pp. 1-28. Price 133 SEK (Bokus.com). [28 pages]

Recommended readings

Spivak, Gayatri C. (1988) 'Can the Subaltern Speak?', in Nelson, C. and Grossberg, L. (eds) *Marxism and the Interpretation of Culture*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, pp. 271–314.

Majumdar, Nivedita. 2017. "Silencing the Subaltern: Resistance and Gender in Postcolonial Theory." *Catalys* 1 (1). <https://catalyst-journal.com/vol1/no1/silencing-the-subaltern>.

SI-PASS on critical research perspectives in Asian studies

Asia library

Joel Bäckman, Hung Muy or Lara A Franken 14 September 13.00-14.30
Bring your questions and concerns about postcolonialism and other critical research perspectives in Asian studies as your input to the agenda setting of this session. The SI leader then will organize some collaborative learning activities for you related to the agenda that you have set.

Visualizing Asia – Documentary films

CANVAS media

Marina Svensson

14 September

Watch a short pre-recorded lecture uploaded in CANVAS > COSM10 outlining the following topics:

- What can film/visual productions bring to Asian studies?
- Visual forms of knowledge
- Documentary film (genre and forms)
- Anthropological/ethnographic films (film as a research tool)
- Films for social change (human rights films, activism and film).

Think about the questions raised there before the film screening.

From Border to Border (108 minutes).

Film synopsis: The film takes place in Calcutta's Chinatown, and addresses the history of the Chinese community in India. The film covers the arrival of Chinese in the 1800s, the effects of the 1962 Sino-Indian border conflict, cultural and economic struggles to survive and integrate in Indian society, and recent developments. The film gives voice to different generations who tell their own stories and discuss experiences of migration, ethnicity, religion, and inter-cultural relations.

Required readings

Magna Charta Universitatum. 1988. Available at : <http://www.magna-charta.org/resources/files/the-magna-charta/english> [2 pages]

Spannagel, Janika. 2019. "Judging universities by how free they are," Global Public Policy Institute. Available at : <https://www.gppi.net/2019/06/26/judging-universities-by-how-free-they-are> [5 pages]

Presenting and peer reviewing research

Asia library

Sidsel Hansson

15 September 13.15-14.00

This lecture provides basic information about academic presentation techniques and peer review procedures, and the criteria that apply to presentations and peer review work. In the seminar 3 on 16 September you will practice these skills.

SI-PASS on peer review

Asia library

Joel Bäckman, Hung Muy or Lara A Franken

15 September 14.15-15.45

Bring your questions and concerns about peer review and its practice as your input to the agenda setting of this session. The SI leader then will organize some collaborative learning activities for you related to the agenda that you have set.

Seminar 3: Presentations and peer review of seminar papers

Asia library

Sidsel Hansson

16 September 13.15-16.00

Here you will present your seminar papers and engage in a round of peer review using the criteria given in the seminar instructions (see CANVAS > COSM10 and the earlier handout). These criteria also were discussed in an earlier lecture on 15 September. Finally, the home exam instructions and course evaluation forms will be handed out, and posted in CANVAS > COSM10.

Deadline for the home exam paper

CANVAS

Submit the paper to the course module in CANVAS no later than 22 September 17.00

Grades and feedback comments

By email

Sidsel Hansson

13 October

Exam and course grades and feedback comments on the exam papers will be emailed to all students.

Re-exam

CANVAS

Sidsel Hansson

27 October

The re-exam will be posted in CANVAS > COSM10 > Assignments.