

PROPOSAL FOR AN AREA OF EMPHASIS

Date: 10/10/26

School/College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department/Division: Comparative Literature and Intercultural Studies

Program (Major and Degree): Asian Languages and Literature (A.B.)

Area of Emphasis Title: Society and Culture

CIP: _____

Which campus(es) will offer this program? _____

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2026

1. **Area of Emphasis Description:**

This emphasis foregrounds the interplay between language, literature, and the social spheres in which they are embedded. Students will acquire linguistic and literary competence in one or more Asian languages, and examine how texts, discourses, and language practices reflect cultural identities, social structures, and historical change across East Asia. Through courses in sociology, anthropology, history, media studies, and cultural theory, the emphasis fosters a holistic understanding of how language and literatures operate in real social contexts.

Objectives:

On completing of the major with this emphasis, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate advanced proficiency in an Asian language (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese).*
- Read and analyze literary, cultural, and media texts in the target language(s), engaging with both traditional and contemporary genres.*
- Articulate how language and literature are embedded in social, cultural, political, and historical contexts, and critically evaluate the relationship between linguistic practices and structures of power, identity, and community.*
- Integrate methods and theoretical perspectives drawn from the social sciences and cultural studies into language- and literature-based research.*
- Prepare for careers or further graduate work in fields where cultural, linguistic, and social literacy are essential, such as translation, cultural heritage, diplomacy, media, international development, and academia.*

2. **Area of Emphasis Requirements:**

Include prefixes, numbers, and titles of required courses, number of credit hours required, residency requirements (if any), and grade requirements (if any). Attach a list of requirements for the major which includes the new area of emphasis.

Area of Emphasis in Society and Culture (24 hours)

Choose 1 course(s) from the following:

- CHNS 3010, Advanced Chinese I (3 hours)
- CHNS 3020, Advanced Chinese II (3 hours)
- CHNS 4110/6110, Advanced Chinese III (3 hours)
- JPNS 3010, Advanced Japanese I (3 hours)
- JPNS 3020, Advanced Japanese II (3 hours)
- JPNS 4110, Advanced Japanese III (3 hours)
- KREN 3001, Advanced Korean I (3 hours)
- KREN 3002, Advanced Korean II (3 hours)
- KREN 4001, Business Korean (3 hours)
- KREN 4002, Business Korean (3 hours)
- VIET 3001, Advanced Vietnamese I (3 hours)
- VIET 3002, Advanced Vietnamese II (3 hours)

Choose 5 course(s) from the following:

- CHNS 4001/6001, Advanced Chinese III: China Today (3 hours)
- CHNS 4500/6500, Readings in Chinese Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 3130, Korean Culture through Film (3 hours)
- CMLT 3120, Love and Friendship in East Asia (3 hours)
- CMLT 3200, Contemporary World Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 3280, East Asian Thought (3 hours)
- CMLT 3600, Gods, Ghosts, and Demons in East Asian Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 3650, Literary Foundations of East Asian Civilization (3 hours)
- CMLT 4190/6190, Buddhism and Western Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 4220/6220, East Asian Cinema (3 hours)
- CMLT 4600/6600, Pre-Modern East Asian Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 4610/6610, Modern East Asian Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 4620/6620, East Asian Novel (3 hours)
- CMLT 4640/6640, War in East Asian Film and Literature (3 hours)
- CMLT 4680/6680, Law and Culture in East Asia (3 hours)
- CMLT 4690/6690, Markets, Merchants, and the World of Trade in China (3 hours)
- JPNS 4500/6500, Readings in Japanese Literature (3 hours)
- KREN 4000S, Internship in Korea (3 hours)
- KREN 4010, Special Topics in Korean Film (3 hours)
- VIET 3007, Introduction to Vietnamese Literature (3 hours)
- VIET 4191, Vietnamese Language and Literature (3 hours)

Choose 2 course(s) from the following:

- ARHI 3100, Asian Art and Architecture (3 hours)
- ARHI 4170/6170, Myth, Epic, and Edifying Tales in Asian Art (3 hours)
- CMLT 3120, Love and Friendship in East Asia (3 hours)
- CMLT 3180, Introduction to East Asian Cultures (3 hours)
- CMLT 3220, Women and Writing in East Asia (3 hours)

CMLT 3280, East Asian Thought (3 hours)
CMLT 3600, Gods, Ghosts, and Demons in East Asian Literature (3 hours)
CMLT 3650, Literary Foundations of East Asian Civilization (3 hours)
CMLT 4190/6190, Buddhism and Western Literature (3 hours)
CMLT 4680/6680, Law and Culture in East Asia (3 hours)
CMLT 4690/6690, Markets, Merchants, and the World of Trade in China (3 hours)
GEOG 4740/6740, Geography of East and Southeast Asia (3 hours)
HIST 3601, Premodern Japan: Foundations of Culture and State (3 hours)
HIST 3602, Modern Japan: From Shogun to Superpower (3 hours)
HIST 3610, Imperialism in East Asia (3 hours)
HIST 3661, China's Imperial Age (3 hours)
HIST 3662, The Chinese Renaissance (3 hours)
HIST 3663, Modern China (3 hours)
HIST 3670H, Introduction to Chinese Civilization (Honors) (3 hours)
HIST 3690, East Asian Cities: Urban Life in Premodern and Modern China and Japan (3 hours)
HIST 4600/6600, Studies in Asian History (3 hours)
HIST 4610/6610, The World of the Samurai (3 hours)
HIST 4620/6620, The Chinese Industrial Revolution (3 hours)
HIST 4625/6625, Everyday Life in Ming China (3 hours)
HIST 4630/6630, Japan: The Golden Age of the Imperial Court (3 hours)
HIST 4640/6640, Warriors and Warlords in Medieval Japan (3 hours)
INTL 4360, East Asian Politics (3 hours)
INTL 4361, Chinese Politics (3 hours)
INTL 4364, Politics of Japan (3 hours)
INTL 4366, Southeast Asian Politics (3 hours)
INTL 4875, Chinese Foreign Policy in Historical Perspective (3 hours)
KREN 4000S, Internship in Korea (3 hours)
KREN 4010, Special Topics in Korean Film (3 hours)
PHIL 3040, Asian Philosophies (3 hours)
PHIL 4045/6045, Chinese Philosophy (3 hours)
POLS(INTL) 4362, Government and Economy of China (3 hours)
POLS(INTL) 4363, Politics, Society, and Culture of China (3 hours)
RELI 3300, Introduction to East Asian Religions (3 hours)
RELI 4401/6401, The Buddhist Tradition (3 hours)
RELI 4402/6402, Confucianism and Chinese Tradition (3 hours)
RELI 4403/6403, The Taoist Tradition (3 hours)
RELI 4404/6404, Japanese Religion (3 hours)
RELI 4405/6405, Buddhist Ritual Practices (3 hours)
RELI 4406/6406, The Hindu Tradition (3 hours)
RELI 4407/6407, East Asian Buddhism (3 hours)
RELI 4910/6910, Topics and Problems in Religions of India, China, and Japan (3 hours)
THEA 4400/6400, Asian Theatre and Drama (3 hours)

Total: 24 hours

3. Approvals:



Department Head

Dean of School/College

Dean of Graduate School