ASIAN STUDIES MAJOR, B.A.–SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES CONCENTRATION

Contact Information
Department of Asian Studies
http://asianstudies.unc.edu
New West 113, CB# 3267
(919) 962-4294

Pamela Lothspeich, South Asia Program Advisor
ploth@email.unc.edu

Nadia Yaqub, Chair
yaqub@email.unc.edu

Li-ling Hsiao, Associate Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies
hsiaoll@email.unc.edu

Lori Harris, Department Manager
lori@email.unc.edu

The Department of Asian Studies offers five major concentrations, seven minors, and instruction in Asian and Middle Eastern languages. Students pursuing the B.A. degree in Asian Studies can complete the interdisciplinary major in Asian Studies, or concentrate in Arab Cultures, Chinese, Japanese, or South Asian Studies.

Department Programs

Majors

• Asian Studies Major, B.A.–Interdisciplinary Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/asian-studies-major-ba-general-concentration)
• Asian Studies Major, B.A.–Arab Cultures Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/asian-studies-major-ba-arab-cultures-concentration)
• Asian Studies Major, B.A.–Chinese Concentration (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/asian-studies-major-ba-chinese-concentration)
• Asian Studies Major, B.A.–South Asian Studies Concentration (p. 1)

Minors

• Arabic Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/arabic-minor)
• Asian Studies Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/asian-studies-minor)
• Chinese Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/chinese-minor)
• Modern Hebrew Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/modern-hebrew-minor)
• Hindi-Urdu Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/hindi-urdu-minor)
• Japanese Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/japanese-minor)
• Korean Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/korean-minor)
• Middle Eastern Languages Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/middle-eastern-languages-minor)
• Persian Minor (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/persian-minor)

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the Asian studies program, students should be able to:

• Identify significant aspects of the target culture, history, and society in interpreting and analyzing literary and other texts and media
• Identify and analyze cultural and historical trends across regional and national boundaries within Asia and the Asian diaspora
• Actively use listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the target language for interpersonal communication and personal and academic enrichment within and beyond the university setting
• Demonstrate awareness of global citizenship and affirm cultural diversity through academic and experiential learning

Requirements
In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must

• attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
• complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC–Chapel Hill courses
• take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC–Chapel Hill
• earn a minimum of 18 hours of C or better in the major core requirements (some majors require 21 hours).

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext).

Core Requirements

Two Hindi-Urdu courses beyond HNUR 204.  
One of the following introductory courses:  
• ASIA 59 First-Year Seminar: Media Masala: Popular Music, TV, and the Internet in Modern India and Pakistan
• ASIA 61 First-Year Seminar: India through the Lens of Master Filmmakers
• ASIA 152 Survey of South Asian Cultural History
• ASIA/GEOG 267 South Asia
• ASIA/HIST 135 History of the Indian Subcontinent to 1750
• ASIA/HIST 136 History of India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh: South Asia since 1750
Five courses, including at least three numbered 200 or above, from either the list of introductory courses above or the course list below

Additional Requirements

HNUR through level 4  
HNUR 220 Introduction to the Hindi Script (Devanagari) (not required if the student has taken HNUR 101)
Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HNUR 221</td>
<td>Introduction to the Urdu Script (Nastaliq)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Students whose initial language placement is above HNUR 305 should consult the department.
2. It is recommended that students take this course either prior to or concurrent with upper-level South Asian literature and culture classes.
3. The first three levels of Hindi-Urdu (HNUR) can count toward the General Education Foundations requirement and have not been included as additional hours for the major.

Honors in Asian Studies

A candidate for honors in Asian studies will write a substantial paper under the guidance of a faculty member. While researching and writing the honors paper, the student will enroll in ASIA 691H and ASIA 692H. ASIA 692H may count as one of the interdisciplinary courses for the major; ASIA 691H will count for elective credit only. In the case of the concentrations in Arab cultures, Chinese, Japanese, and South Asian studies, ASIA 692H may count toward the major in the concentration.

A committee composed of at least two faculty members will examine the candidate. To be accepted as an honors candidate, a student must meet the University's requirement of a minimum overall grade point average of 3.3, secure the consent of a faculty member in the Asian studies field, and GPA restrictions may apply.

Placement credit (PL) may not be used to meet core requirements for the concentration. However, the additional requirements may be met by placement.

Approved courses taken in UNC-Chapel Hill-sponsored study abroad programs may count in the concentration. No more than one first-year seminar may be counted among the eight major courses.

With the approval of the associate chair of Asian studies, a student may count a course in directed readings (ASIA 496 or HNUR 496) in the concentration in South Asian studies. To register for ASIA 496 or HNUR 496, a student must obtain the approval of the associate chair and the faculty member who will supervise the project.

Of the eight courses in the concentration in South Asian studies, at least six must be passed with a grade of C (not C-) or better. No course in the department may be declared Pass/Fail.

Special Opportunities in Asian Studies

A candidate for honors in Asian studies will write a substantial paper under the guidance of a faculty member. While researching and writing the honors paper, the student will enroll in ASIA 691H and ASIA 692H. ASIA 692H may count as one of the interdisciplinary courses for the major; ASIA 691H will count for elective credit only. In the case of the concentrations in Arab cultures, Chinese, Japanese, and South Asian studies, ASIA 692H may count toward the major in the concentration.

A committee composed of at least two faculty members will examine the candidate. To be accepted as an honors candidate, a student must meet the University’s requirement of a minimum overall grade point average of 3.3, secure the consent of a faculty member in the Asian studies field, and GPA restrictions may apply.

Placement credit (PL) may not be used to meet core requirements for the concentration. However, the additional requirements may be met by placement.

Approved courses taken in UNC-Chapel Hill-sponsored study abroad programs may count in the concentration. No more than one first-year seminar may be counted among the eight major courses.

With the approval of the associate chair of Asian studies, a student may count a course in directed readings (ASIA 496 or HNUR 496) in the concentration in South Asian studies. To register for ASIA 496 or HNUR 496, a student must obtain the approval of the associate chair and the faculty member who will supervise the project.

Of the eight courses in the concentration in South Asian studies, at least six must be passed with a grade of C (not C-) or better. No course in the department may be declared Pass/Fail.
to act as advisor for the project, and submit a proposal to the associate
chair of Asian studies for approval.

**Departmental Involvement**

The department sponsors a variety of cultural events — lectures, film
series, performances, and more — as well as social and informational
events where students can get to know each other and faculty members
in an informal setting. Faculty members in the department serve as
advisors to some of the many Asia-related student organizations on
campus, such as the Japan Club, Chinese Conversation Club, Hebrew
Table, and more.

**Languages across the Curriculum**

The department participates in the Languages across the Curriculum
(LAC) program, offering a one-credit-hour discussion section that is
conducted in Arabic but associated with a variety of courses offered in
English, both in Asian studies and in such other departments as history
or religious studies. This LAC recitation section offers students the
opportunity to use their Arabic language skills in a broader intellectual
context.

Additional LAC offerings are being developed in Chinese and Hindi-Urdu.

**Libraries**

The University has rich collections of books and periodicals on Asia in
the relevant Asian languages, as well as in English and other Western
languages. Experts in the collection development department for Davis
Library are available to help students locate the materials they need. The
University also has an outstanding collection of Asian films and other
audiovisual materials, housed in the Media Resource Center at House
Library.

**Speaker Series**

The department sponsors an annual speaker series. These events
include lectures by prominent artists, scholars, and writers and are often
cosponsored by other units on campus.

**Study Abroad**

UNC–Chapel Hill sponsors several study programs (summer, semester,
and yearlong) in China, Egypt, India, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Korea,
Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey,
and Vietnam. Asian studies majors are strongly encouraged to take
advantage of these opportunities to live and study in an Asian setting;
UNC-approved study abroad programs also satisfy the experiential
education requirement. For further information on these programs and
other study abroad opportunities in Asia, contact the UNC Study Abroad
Office.

**Undergraduate Research**

The department actively encourages undergraduate student research.
Through classes, advising, and office hours, faculty members guide
students toward defining areas of interest, conceptualizing research
questions, identifying sources, and writing academic papers. Students
may pursue research through independent studies, the senior honors
thesis, and study abroad research opportunities such as the Burch
Fellowship. Asian studies students have received a variety of competitive
research support and travel awards, won regional contests for
undergraduate papers, published papers in academic journals, and
presented their work at such events as the Senior Colloquium in Asian
Studies and the campuswide Annual Celebration of Undergraduate
Research in the spring.