

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
College of Arts and Sciences

Asian Studies—Program Assessment Plan

Program Overview

The major in Asian Studies prepares students to meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century in the Pacific Rim region. The Asian Studies degree program, administered by the USF Center for the Pacific Rim, is offered in the College of Arts and sciences to all students. The degree advances understanding of the increasingly powerful countries of Asia by focusing not only on the structures of society--its histories, laws, economies, and governments--but also on the religious, philosophical, artistic, and intellectual foundations for these structures. The program also emphasizes the relationship between natural and man-made environments, as well as the University's commitment to social justice, ethics, and human rights.

The major's interdisciplinary emphasis provides a broad overview of Asia as well as an in-depth investigation of themes and topics that extend across a range of Asian societies. Aided by language study, the primary emphasis of the Asian Studies major is on a combination of courses that comprise an in-depth, integrated, and interdisciplinary program. Students may select from courses in Asian Languages and Cultures, Comparative Literature, Economics, Environmental Studies, History, Linguistics, Philosophy, Political Science, Religious Studies, Sociology, Women's Studies, and courses offered in the school of Business and Management.

Asian Studies majors choose either a focus that is regional or topical. The major requires one gateway course in History, one in Philosophy **or** Religious Studies, and one in Politics.

The program is overseen by the Director of the program, who communicates all decisions with affiliated faculty. Core faculty for the program are represented by the various departments and disciplines mentioned above.

The following program goals are drawn from the curriculum and learning outcomes submitted to the administration at the program's inception in 2004.

Program Goals

- Goal 1: To articulate fundamental issues and themes for the study and understanding of Asian cultures and societies
- Goal 2: To analyze both a specific region of Asia and an Asia-related topic using interdisciplinary perspectives and methods, including information in either Chinese, Japanese, or Tagalog
- Goal 3: Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of how topics related to social justice--such as human rights, environmental sustainability, and ethical considerations--impact both people and policy within Asian societies.

Learning Outcomes

Goal 1

- Students will be able to express in oral and written form an overview of key topics that promote understanding of Asian cultures, societies, and histories
- Students will utilize disciplinary approaches which represent the various academic approaches specific to the USF Asian Studies program (political science, economics, sociology, history, and so on).

Goal 2

- Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of both a region (or regions) of Asia (including history, political structures, and key intellectual and religious ideas) and a pan-Asian topic (such as nationalism, popular culture, or human rights) as it applies to that region.
- Students will be able to utilize information in either Chinese, Japanese, or Philippino as a part of their analysis.

Goal 3

- Students will be able to discuss in oral and written form (in coursework assignments) specific examples of the themes mentioned above as they influence their chosen area or topic of study.

Curriculum Mapping Worksheet	Asian Studies Course Numbers (PAGE 3)													
	Program/ Departmental goals/ Outcomes													
	PHIL 340	POL 213	POL 359	POL 360	PSYC 307		THRS 365	THRS 366	THRS 368	THRS 371	SOC 228			
Key: I = Introduced with minimal coverage M=Moderate Coverage C =Comprehensive Coverage														
Goal 1: Students will be able to articulate fundamental issues and themes for the study and understanding of Asian cultures and societies														
A. Students will be able to express in oral and written form an overview of key topics that promote understanding of Asian cultures, societies, and histories	C	M	C	M	M		C	C	M	I	I			
B. Students will utilize approaches which represent at least two of the various academic disciplines specific to the USF Asian Studies program (political science, economics, sociology, history, religious studies, etc.).		I	I	I			C	C	M	I	I			
Goal 2: Students will be able to analyze both a specific region of Asia and an Asia-related topic using interdisciplinary perspectives and methods, including information in either Chinese, Japanese, or Filipino.														
A. Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of both a region (or regions) of Asia (including history, political structures, and key intellectual and religious ideas) and a pan-Asian topic (such as nationalism, popular culture, or human rights) as it applies to that region.	C	M	M	M	M		C	C	C	I	I			
B. Students will be able to utilize information in either Chinese, Japanese, or Filipino as part of their analysis	I						I	I	I					
Goal 3: Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of how topics related to social justice--such as human rights, environmental sustainability, and ethical considerations--impact both people and policy within Asian societies.														
A. Students will be able to discuss in oral and written form specific examples of the themes mentioned above as they influence their chosen area or topic of study.	M	M	M	M	M		M	M	M	M	I			

Outcome Rubrics

Goal 1: To articulate fundamental issues and themes for the study and understanding of Asian cultures and societies

1.1 Students will be able to express in oral and written form an overview of key topics that promote understanding of Asian cultures, societies, and histories

- *Below expectations:* Students are able to identify but are unable to discuss topics of relevance for the academic study of Asia that have consequences for contemporary Asian peoples.
- *Minimally acceptable:* Students can identify key topics but have limited facility in expressing why they are important (both for Asian peoples and for scholars studying those topics) and how they are interrelated.
- *Exemplary:* Students can analyze critically key topics of timely and historical relevance, and draw upon a variety of scholarship to support their conclusions.

Assessment Methods: Coursework and Capstone Project

Time Frame: This assessment should be ongoing but will be particularly focused during the senior year when the Capstone project is evaluated.

Who Assesses: Program Director, individual professors, Capstone project supervisor

How data will be used to improve program or revise curricula:

The program's affiliated faculty in either the area of regional or topical focus chosen by the student will receive summaries of the student's project and the evaluation of it by the Program Director and Capstone project supervisor. This information will help to review course content and how it is delivered in the classroom.

1.2. Students will utilize disciplinary approaches which represent the various academic approaches specific to the USF Asian Studies program (political science, economics, sociology, history, and so on).

- *Below expectations:* Students are able to identify but are unable to discuss topics of relevance for the academic study of Asia that have consequences for contemporary Asian peoples.
- *Minimally acceptable:* Students can identify key topics but have limited facility in expressing why they are important (both for Asian peoples and for scholars studying those topics) and how they are interrelated.
- *Exemplary:* Students can analyze critically key topics of timely and historical relevance, and draw upon a variety of scholarship to support their conclusions.

Assessment Methods: Coursework and Capstone Project

Time Frame: This assessment should be ongoing but will be particularly focused during the senior year when the Capstone project is evaluated.

Who Assesses: Program Director, individual professors, Capstone project supervisor

How data will be used to improve program or revise curricula:

The program's affiliated faculty in either the area of regional or topical focus chosen by the student will receive summaries of the student's project and the evaluation of it by the Program Director and Capstone project supervisor.

Goal 2: To analyze both a specific region of Asia and an Asia-related topic using interdisciplinary perspectives and methods, including information in either Chinese, Japanese, or Tagalog

2.1. Students will be able to demonstrate their understanding of both a region (or regions) of Asia (including history, political structures, and key intellectual and religious ideas) and a pan-Asian topic (such as nationalism, popular culture, or human rights) as it applies to that region.

- *Below expectations:* Students cannot provide a basic analysis of a specific Asian region, nor can they identify key topics that are relevant to Asian societies generally.
- *Minimally acceptable:* Students are able to analyze a specific region in Asia as well as identify key topics that apply to all Asian societies.
- *Exemplary:* Students demonstrate advanced ability in their analysis, drawing upon scholarship, personal experience, and fieldwork.

Assessment Methods: Capstone Project and embedded test questions (in mid-terms and final exams) developed by the Asian Studies Steering Committee and in cooperation with individual faculty members.

Time Frame: This assessment is ongoing but will be particularly focused during the senior year when the Capstone project is evaluated.

Who Assesses: Program Director, individual professors, Capstone project supervisor

How data will be used to improve program or revise curricula:

The program's affiliated faculty will receive summaries of the student's project and the evaluation of it by the Program Director and Capstone project supervisor. The Asian Studies Steering Committee and director will meet to discuss how the embedded test questions have met this particular learning outcome.

2.2. Students will be able to utilize information in either Chinese, Japanese, or Philippino as a part of their analysis.

- *Below expectations:* Students exhibit little familiarity with the language they have studied.
- *Minimally acceptable:* Students are able to identify concepts in their target language and can integrate this information into their analysis.
- *Exemplary:* Students display advanced knowledge of their target language and are able to apply multiple references to their analysis of a particular issue.

Assessment Methods: Capstone Project and embedded test questions (in mid-terms and final exams) developed by the Asian Studies Steering Committee and in cooperation with individual faculty members.

Time Frame: This assessment is ongoing but will be particularly focused during the senior year when the Capstone project is evaluated.

Who Assesses: Program Director, individual professors, Capstone project supervisor

How data will be used to improve program or revise curricula

The program's affiliated faculty will receive summaries of the student's project and the evaluation of it by the Program Director and Capstone project supervisor. The Asian Studies Steering Committee and Director will meet to discuss how the embedded test questions have met this particular learning outcome.

Goal 3: Students will be able to demonstrate understanding of how topics related to social justice--such as human rights, environmental sustainability, and ethical considerations--impact both people and policy within Asian societies.

1. Students will be able to discuss in oral and written form (in coursework assignments) specific examples of the themes mentioned above as they influence their chosen area or topic of study.

- *Below expectations:* Students exhibit a very limited understanding of themes related to social justice in Asian contexts.
- *Minimally acceptable:* Students can discuss broadly issues related to social justice in Asian societies, and assess generally their influence on a particular topic.
- *Exemplary:* Students are able to provide in-depth analysis between social justice issues and specific incidents or situations in Asian societies.

Assessment Methods: Coursework and Capstone Project; Exit survey about student plans and attitudes upon graduation.

Time Frame: This assessment should be ongoing but be particularly focused during the senior year when the Capstone is evaluated.

Who Assesses: Program Director, individual professors, Capstone project supervisor; the program director will administer the exit survey.

How data will be used to improve program or revise curricula

The program's affiliated faculty will receive summaries of the student's project and the evaluation of it by the Program Director and Capstone project supervisor.