

VASSAR COLLEGE

Application for the Major Program in Asian Studies

Please complete this application, the application essay, the plan of study worksheet, and a plan of study card and return them to the Director of Asian Studies, Program Office Room 203, New England Building, 2nd floor. The Director will need to sign a copy of the Registrar's Declaration of Major form (available in the Asian Studies Program Office).

Name _____

Year _____

Email _____

Box _____

Phone _____

Application Essay. Please write a 2 page essay answering the questions below.

Why are you interested in majoring in Asian Studies?

Regional Interests. Which areas of Asia are you most interested in studying and why?

Disciplinary Interests. Please discuss the one or two disciplinary approaches to Asia you will specialize in as you study Asia (for example, anthropology, art, economics, geography, history, language and literature, philosophy, politics, religion, or sociology). While you may be interested in taking courses in all these areas, it is important that in your answer you highlight one or two approaches that appeal to you the most. You will be expected to take courses and develop a theoretical or methodological sophistication in one or two disciplines, particularly for use in your senior thesis. Please explain your interest in these approaches.

Related to this section, are you considering (or doing) a correlate, or double majoring in any other discipline?

Special Topics/Issues. Are there particular issues or topics which interest you (broadly or specifically) that you would like to have a chance to study further in the context of your Asian Studies major (e.g. ecological issues, gender studies, globalization, media studies, war and peace studies, economic policy issues etc.)?

Language. What language do you intend to use to fulfill the Asian Studies Language Requirement and how do you intend to fulfill it (by course work, proficiency test, etc.)? What Asian languages are you currently proficient in (please indicate level of reading, writing and speaking skills).

Asian Field Experience. Briefly describe any time you have spent in Asian countries, length of stay, etc. Do you plan to go JYA or to pursue summer study or research or travel in Asia? Where do you plan to go and for how long? What do you intend to do while there? If you do not plan to study, research or travel in Asia during your undergraduate career, please explain why not.

Senior Thesis Topic. Briefly describe your possible senior thesis topic. Stating the topic now does not commit you to writing on this topic, but it will be useful to have a general topic in mind as you plan your courses for the major. What regional and disciplinary study background will you need, what courses will you need to take to write the thesis you propose? If your possible thesis topic changes, please make sure to discuss the change with your advisor or the director, so that we can give advice about changes in your course plan.

Future Career Plans. Briefly describe how you see Asian Studies as fitting into your future career plans:

Signature _____

Date _____

Student's Name _____

Date_____

Asian Studies Plan of Study Worksheet

Please list course name and when you plan to take it. 12 units are required; on this form you may list some courses twice, since some fulfill more than one requirement for the major. The Asian Studies Director and/or your faculty advisor will be happy to answer any questions you may have as you fill this out.

2 100 Level Courses?.....(i) _____

(ii)_____

3 units at 200-level (in at least two disciplines)?..... (i)_____

(ii)_____

(iii)_____

Asian Studies Senior Seminar?..... _____

Thesis (Asian Studies 300-301 or 302)?..... _____

One other 300-level seminar?..... _____

Asian language studied at Intermediate level ? _____

(Normally 100-level language work does not count toward the major, and a maximum of 4 units of Asian language study will be counted toward the 12 units for the major.)

Additional courses needed to bring total units to 12? (i)_____

(ii) _____

Other Recommendations:

JYA?..... _____

Depth in one or two disciplines?..... (i)_____

(ii)_____

Three or four courses on geographical area of specialization? (i)_____

(ii)_____

(iii)_____

(iv)_____

Two courses outside region of focus? (i)_____ (ii)_____

