

EAST ASIAN STUDIES
2015-2016

Dickinson

Statue of Tatsuko, Lake Tazawa, Akita, Japan

From the Chair

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Neil Diamant

Greetings again from Stern Center!

At the risk of sounding immodest, I would say that 2015-6 was a banner year for East Asian Studies at Dickinson. Thanks to new faculty in Chinese language and literature (Prof. Nan Ma), Asian History (Prof. Evan Young), Asian Art History (Prof. Ren Wei) and Korean Studies (Prof. Jina Kim) and our veteran stalwarts (Profs. Bates, Yang, Bender, Meguro, Hill and myself), our students have been able to select from incredibly diverse line up of courses—many never before taught in the history of the college. Ranging from K-Pop and the history of medicine to dance, literature, women, reproduction, politics, film in Japan and North Korea, and art/design, EAS course offerings now capture the rich culture of the region. Having a large group of scholars has also meant that our students were able to sample from a bumper crop of co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

In October, we hosted Prof. John Lie, a sociologist from the University of California Berkeley, who gave a talk on “K-pop, J-pop, and the Divergent Trajectories of South Korea and Japan.” Later in the year we were treated to a talk on “Disability in Global Perspective” by Prof. Karen Nakamura (Anthropology, UC Berkeley) and a Q&A with a film maker who worked extensively in North Korea. During November, twenty-four students and several faculty members

went on a field trip to the Philadelphia Museum of Art and our department co-sponsored a workshop by Tibetan monks. Music was not left out: we hosted a Peking Opera Troupe, which performed in front of a standing-room only crowd at the Mathers Theatre, as well as a performance by the Kenny Endo Ensemble at the Weiss Center. And what would East Asian Studies be without some culinary activities? We made history by organizing the first ever Pasta vs. Noodle Cook Off, pitting East Asian Studies against Italian Studies. With the help of the faculty, students created an original recipe, bought specialized ingredients from Asian food stores in Washington DC and Harrisburg, made noodles and cooked them “live” in front of a large audience and a panel of judges. The winning recipe, which went to EAS by a hair, was turned into a dish served to the entire student body. In yet another first—this time non-culinary—we were able to support a Korean Language Table, which we hope will become a departmental staple. All this came on top of our regular cultural activities: language tables in Chinese and Japanese, film showings (we sponsored *The Assassin* at the Carlisle Theatre in addition to several film series (Chinese, Japanese and Korean)), cookouts, and New Year’s festivities. I am very grateful to everyone who invested their valuable time making this year a huge success, as well as to our departmental benefactors Kellie Newton, the late Norman Jacobs, and Woody and Susan Goldberg, without whom we could not punch so dramatically above our small size.

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Lectures and Events

September

- Moon festival (9/27)

October

- Flaherty lecture on K-Pop, Prof. John Lie (10/30)
- Sushi making class, Satsuki Swisher (10/30)

November

- Field trip to Penn Museum in Philadelphia by Chinese language classes (11/7)
- Film showing of *Assassin* at Carlisle Theatre (11/11)



- Kenny Endo Taiko Ensemble Performance (3/22)
- Peking Opera performance by Philadelphia Chinese Opera Society (3/26)

April

- Flaherty lecture, "Disability in Global Perspective," Karen Nakamura (4/19)
- Documentary on North Korea "People are the Sky," Dai Sil Kim-Gibson (4/14).
- Bonsai classes, Jim Doyle of Nature's Way Nursery (4/20)
- EAS Majors Mixer (4/21)
- *Culture of the Quake* book signing (4/28)

May

- EAS Senior Thesis Presentations (5/11)
- EAS Senior Dinner (5/18)



- Lecture: "Inviting Green Tara," Drepung Monastery Monks of Tibet (11/17)

December

- Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki, EAS Faculty Panel, Clarke Forum (12/2)

February

- Asian New Year celebration (2/07)
- Japanese cooking with Tohoku University interns and students (2/19)

March

- Pasta vs Noodle Cook Off (3/03)
- Taiko Workshop, Kenny Endo (3/21)



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The diversity in extra and co-curricular activities was matched by EAS students' senior theses' topics. Our graduating majors researched the environmental movement in Taiwan, Japanese art, celebrity culture in China in the 1920s and 1930s, Japan-India relations, and same-sex marriage in China. We were pleased to award departmental honors to Anya Aboud and Brianna McFarland, and the first "Newton Prize in East Asian Studies" to Ms. McFarland. The award is given to a graduating senior with at least a 3.33 overall GPA and Departmental GPA, strong departmental citizenship, and achieved excellence in a capstone project. We are grateful to Kellie Newton for providing the funding for this award.

Next year will usher in several temporary personnel changes in the department. Prof. Yang will be going to China for her sabbatical semester. Prof. Bender, who won a highly competitive writing grant, will spend a year at Harvard University in 2017-8 after his spring semester sabbatical. Prof. Bates, whose book *The Culture of the Quake* was published this year (kudos!), will also be on sabbatical in spring. And Prof. Young will take leave in spring as well for 8 months of research in Japan supported by a grant from the Social Science Research Council/Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

We would all like to hear about our students' post-college lives! If you have a spare moment please send a brief update to Etsuko Nichols, our administrative assistant, or myself. We look forward to another "Alumni Update" section in the newsletter next year!

Best wishes for 2016-7,

Neil Diamant

LIASE Report

In 2012, Dickinson College was awarded a \$400,000 Luce Initiative in Asian Studies and the Environment (LIASE) grant. This grant is awarded to liberal arts colleges that aspire "to encourage innovative approaches to Asian studies teaching and research at the undergraduate level through the lens of the environment and sustainable development." The grant will run over four years, and the College intends to use it to build a broader awareness of both East Asian and Environmental studies among the faculty and student body. Dr. Ann Hill, professor of anthropology and East Asian Studies and LIASE project director, provides an update on LIASE activities over the past year.

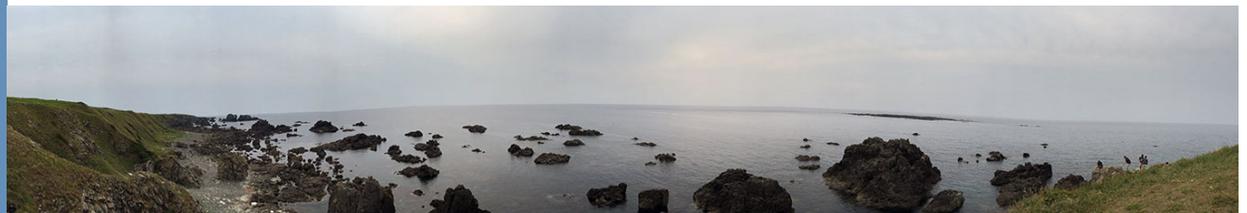
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As in the previous year, the Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment, a 4-year grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, continued its support of events and classes to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration in the study of Asia. The popular bonsai classes were again offered, including one for students in Professor Tom Arnold's plant physiology class. Plans were approved for an Asian-style garden in an area adjacent to Stern, a project supported by LIASE and other sources. During April, the College was delighted to host two visitors from the Henry Luce Foundation, Helena Kolenda, Director of the Asia Program, and Michael Gilligan, the foundation's president. During a busy day, they spoke with many faculty and students who participated in LIASE-funded projects.

In the fall of 2015, Tibetan monks spent a five-day residency on our campus in conjunction with a course on Buddhism and the environment taught by Professor Cozort. Also in the fall, the Trout Gallery presented the Vase Project, 101 blue and white vases collected by Professor Barbara Diduk in the Art and Art His-

tory Department. The vases, individually produced by artists employed in China's ceramics factories in the town of Jingdezhen, feature vistas of modern industry in China. The exhibit was coordinated with a course on arts and the environment led by Professor Diduk in Beijing and Jingdezhen the summer of 2015.

The Luce faculty colloquia hosted several speakers on Asian environments, including Professor Gillen D'Arcy Wood on the impact of the 1815 Tambora volcano, Captain Matthew Feely (U.S. Navy) on Japan-U.S. coordination during the tsunami disaster in 2011, Professor Julie Sze on the desire for ecologically sound development among Pacific Rim communities, and Professor Wei Ren from the College's Art and Art History Department on Asian environments as shown in prints from the Trout Gallery collections. And this summer, Profs. Alex Bates (EAS) and Marcus Key (Earth Sciences) are taking students to sites in the U.S. and Japan to study the environmental impact of Hurricane Sandy, Hurricane Katrina, and the Japanese tsunami of 2011 on a program called "Melt-downs and Waves."



Visiting Faculty



Jina Kim
*Visiting assistant
professor of East
Asian Studies*

Even after years of college level teaching, I still find teaching to be one of the most exciting, challenging, and unpredictable part of my work. No two students, classes or semesters are ever alike even though I might be teaching the same class or have the same students. I think this is largely due to the vast diversity of the students, the assorted dynamics they bring to the classroom, and the constant exchange of ideas that often become strongly challenged or reified. My first year at Dickinson College did not disappoint in these aspects.

I met a wonderful diverse group of students (whom I consider to be my colleagues and teachers as well) who enriched not only my teaching and research on modern Korea but more importantly who left an enduring impression on shaping my personal history during this specific time (AY 2015-16) and space (Dickinson College, Carlisle PA). Interactions with Dickinson students allowed me to become more excited about the importance of the study of Korea within the East Asian region and the world. I also derived inspiration from the ways that students aspired to integrate knowledge about Korea into their world perspective and also into their own individual academic interests (their majors and other courses). And lastly, I was amazed once again about the power of everyday human interactions and relationships as one of those unpredictable forces that help us move a step closer to understanding our self, the other, and society.

I am not sure if I will ever reach a moment when I can confidently announce that I have mastered being a scholar and teacher. For one, it doesn't seem to me that scholar-teachers are self-crafted but can only come into being through extraordinary interactions with others—students, colleagues, teachers, collaborators, etc in a mutually respectful partnership. In this respect, I can confidently say that I am a few steps closer. And all due to the extraordinary students, colleagues, and teachers whom I have met during this past year at Dickinson College who demonstrated exceptional curiosity for Korea, who generously supported Korean Studies, and who graciously advised me. I am looking forward to another exciting, challenging and unpredictable year of collaborating with Dickinson Students and building common interests in Korea and East Asia.



Aiba Ibuki
*Visiting professor of
Japanese*

I still remember the day when I first encountered Dickinson College. It was in Fall 2013 at Akita International University. After the first class of the semester, I found a student cleaning a white board for me. I thanked him and asked where he was from. He replied "Dickinson College," with apparent confidence and pride. A few months later, by a curious turn of fate, I would be invited to Dickinson College as an International Visiting Scholar. Since the fall of 2014, I have been having a wonderful time here.

"A good environment creates a good person" – this phrase always occurs to me when I walk on the Dickinson campus. The beautiful flowers, trees and buildings have encouraged me to pursue better teaching. Along with its long history and tradition, Dickinson College has an ideal educational environment, one that I believe has fostered a number of amazing students. Now I feel it is truly fortunate for me to be given another year to spend at Dickinson College. In the future, I will certainly be as proud of my time here as the student I first met three years ago.

My first two years passed so quickly, with deep appreciation for diligent students and dedicated faculty and staff. In my third year, I would like to have more opportunities for interaction, exchanging ideas and intellectual stimulation. As the first small step, I will open my office door widely, and prepare beautiful flowers and fine teas to welcome you!



New Faculty

Three new faculty members share their thoughts on a first year at Dickinson



Nan Ma
Assistant professor of East Asian Studies

I had a great first year at Dickinson. With the help of Professor Yang, I was able to quickly familiarize myself with our Chinese program, which has a time-tested curriculum and high standards. I benefited a lot from co-teaching with Ms. Junlian Yao from the Chinese Confucius Institute. Working closely together, we created a bundle of teaching materials for the elementary Chinese course and also formed a deep friendship.

Chinese is a hard language to learn. I was very impressed by my students' commitment and hard work, which ensures a solid foundation. Teaching "Modern Chinese Performance Arts" was also an unforgettable experience. As part of the course, I helped Peking Opera to campus. I was happy to see the community enjoy the show and my students learn directly from the Peking Opera artists. With Prof. Yang, I led a field trip to the Penn Museum, and helped organize the Moon Festival and the Chinese New Year. I also relished working with them in the Pasta v. Noodle Cook Off.

Transcultural learning and communication characterized all these occasions, which deepened my understandings of the community. What my colleagues generously offered me were warm support, helpful teaching advice, and precious friendship. As role models, they inspire my intellectual work and encourage me to overcome difficulties. I feel lucky and proud to be part of this incredible team. I look forward to a joyful and productive new year!



W. Evan Young
Assistant professor of History

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year at Dickinson. Having attended a small liberal arts college myself, joining the Dickinson faculty has felt a lot like returning home. It is hard to imagine a better place to begin my career. I am grateful to be a part of a lively academic community, join the ranks of such erudite colleagues, and have the pleasure of working with such bright and engaged students. The first year on a new job can often be a challenging experience, but I found that my students' energy and curiosity fuelled my own teaching and research, and, truth be told, I had an all around great time.

One of the pleasures of teaching at Dickinson has been discovering just how much our students are willing to explore topics far removed from their daily lives. I was initially hesitant to offer "Medicine and the Body in East Asia," a course closely related to my own research, because I worried it was too specialized a topic. I was therefore pleasantly surprised when it turned out to be my most popular course. Our discussions in the classroom were so lively and fruitful that many of the key points of debate have inspired my research aims over the summer as a visiting research fellow at the University of Tokyo. I look forward to tackling many more challenging topics with my students in the coming years.



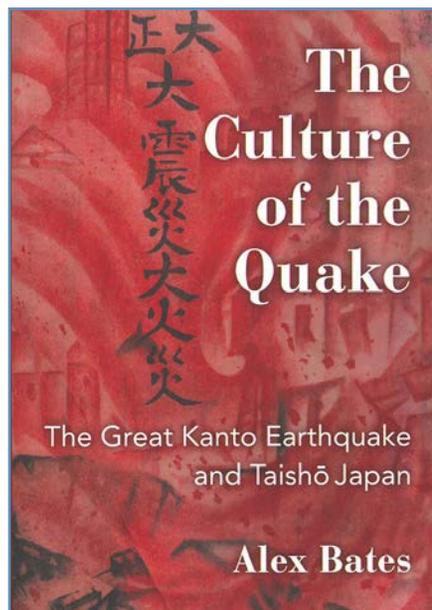
Ren Wei
Assistant Professor of Art and Art History; Tamar and Emil '53 Weiss Chair in Asian Art

I really enjoyed my first year at Dickinson. I was struck by the profound interest in East Asian art among Dickinson students. My classes attracted students ranging across class years and majors, and it was extremely rewarding to work with such a diverse group. I took my students on fieldtrips to museums in Washington D.C. and New York City, while also conducting many viewing sessions in the Trout Gallery where the students could directly engage with works of art. Seeing students succeed in areas they have a passion for and discover new passions was immensely satisfying.

Throughout the year, I was impressed by the numerous cultural activities and social events which allowed me to better interact with the students beyond the classroom. I was also fortunate to receive guidance and mentorship from both the Art & Art History department and the East Asian Studies department. From pedagogical tips to research grants, my colleagues have given generous support to me and I look forward to more intellectually stimulating exchanges in the coming years.

Faculty News

This past academic year was a productive one for **Alex Bates**. His book, *The Culture of the Quake*, came out in November. He was pleased to present some selections from it at a well-attended book signing at the Whistlestop Bookstore in Carlisle. He also continued his work on ecocriticism and presented at the American Comparative Literature Annual Conference in Boston. This is an exciting new direction in his research and he is looking forward to continuing in this vein of scholarship. In addition to second year Japanese, he taught "Japanese Literature Into Film," which explores the cinematic genre of literary adaptation while reading some of Japan's most famous novels, and co-taught "Introduction to Asia" with Prof. Neil Diamant. This summer he will take students to Japan for the second time in two years. Co-taught with Prof. Marcus Key from the Earth Sciences department, "Meltdowns and Waves" is a comparative look at disasters in the US and Japan with a focus on Hurricane Sandy, the Three Mile Island nuclear accident (only



miles from Dickinson), the Tōhoku tsunami, and the Fukushima nuclear accident. A tour to see the Three Mile Island control room, a visit to the former exclusion zone, and speaking with affected residents should be some highlights.

In addition to teaching courses on Japanese society and demographic change in East Asia this year, **Shawn Bender** also ran the senior thesis seminar and, together with his colleague in International Business and Management Prof. David Sarcone, taught a new globally integrated course in Health Studies called "National Futures: Reproductive Health Policy and Practice in the US, Japan, and Israel." The course builds on his research, teaching, and summer study-abroad experiences with students on issues of aging and demographic change. Following commencement, Profs. Bender and Sarcone and students from the course will spend two weeks in Israel visiting sites related to reproductive health in Israel and meeting experts knowledgeable in Israeli health policy and practice. In addition to his teaching duties, Prof. Bender also completed his final year as Treasurer of the Mid-Atlantic Region Association for Asian studies and his third year editing the EAS departmental newsletter(!).

Next year, Prof. Bender looks forward to teaching in the fall and to a semester-length sabbatical in spring semester. The following year he will travel to Boston to take up residence at Harvard University's Edwin O. Reischauer Center for Japanese studies as an **ACLS Frederick H. Burkhardt Fellow**. At Harvard, Prof. Bender plans to complete a book manuscript based on his research into robotics and elder care in Japan and Europe.

In addition to his administrative duties as chair, **Neil Diamant** taught "Introduction to East Asia" with Prof. Bates, "China's Foreign Relations," "Chinese Politics," as well as a new course called "Veterans in Politics, Society and Culture," which deals with military veterans in comparative perspective (US, Israel, UK, Germany, Australia, Russia, Bolivia, China). In spring, he attended the meetings of the Association for Asian Studies in Seattle in the spring, which, as a

member of the program committee, he helped organize. In summer he heads to Australia to give two talks at the Australian National University in Canberra. He also hopes to make progress on a book he is co-authoring with two Australian experts on veteran affairs.

Thanks to a sabbatical leave in fall 2015, **Ann Hill** had time to co-author, with Kelin Zhuang, an article on water and the environment in the town of Fengyu in Southwest China. Dr. Zhuang was the teaching fellow postdoc on the College's grant from the Luce Foundation. This year Hill continued as director of this grant, the **Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment**, now in its fourth year.

Jina Kim co-edited a special issue of the Journal of Korean Studies on "Intermedial Aesthetics: Korean Literature, Film, and Art," which was published in December 2015. In June 2016, she will travel to Kyoto, Japan to present a paper on the political aesthetics of colonial period Korean radio novels. She is continuing her work on the cultural history of Korean radio, extending it to the 1970s during Park Chung Hee's regime. She has an article forthcoming on the subject in the journal *positions: east asia critique*. Professor Kim taught a variety of courses on Korea this year including "Soap, Sparkle, and Pop: Contemporary Korea and Soft Power," "Modern Girls and Marxist Boys: Gender and Modernity in East Asia," and "North Korea: Beyond the Visible." Next year, she will be offer a new course on the Korean War that places the war in a transnational context.

This year **Nan Ma** taught elementary-level Chinese and trained a volunteer Chinese teacher from the Confucius Institute, with whom Prof. Ma created a bundle of new teaching materials. In spring 2016, she taught the course "Modern Chinese

[Performance Culture](#),” which covers the cultural history of traditional Chinese drama, dance, avant-garde theater, and popular performances from 1900 to the 21st century.

Together with Prof. Yang, Prof. Ma brought live Peking Opera performance to campus in March 2016. She also helped organize celebrations for the Moon Festival and the Chinese New Year, a field trip to the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Pasta vs. Noodle Cook Off. Working closely with the students and her colleagues in these events, she developed a deeper understanding of the Dickinson community she has begun to love.

In spring 2016, Prof. Ma published an article on early Chinese modern dance of the 1930s in the journal *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture* and presented her working projects at the Mid-atlantic Region Association for Asian Studies conference and at the Association for Asian Studies conference. In fall 2016, Prof. Ma will teach a new course [“Tales of Two Cities: Beijing and Shanghai in Literature and Film,”](#) which, with the support of LIASE, incorporates environmental perspectives. Generously supported by the Dickinson R&D scholarly research fund, she will focus on writing her manuscript on modern Chinese dance and its intricate relation to literature and other arts in this summer.

During the 2015-2016 academic year, **Akiko Meguro** taught Elementary Japanese and Advanced Japanese courses. She mentored two interns from Tohoku University again this year. As part of this partnership, a Dickinson student has been awarded a scholarship to participate in a six-week Japan Foundation summer program in Osaka. She also continued to oversee the Dickinson study-abroad programs in Nagoya and Akita, and organized cultural activities for Japanese courses. In summer 2016, she will work to incorporate environmental issues into Intermediate Japanese instruction. This will involve research on the Fukushima nuclear disaster and the recovery in the Fukushima prefecture.

Dave Strand is away from campus during the 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years while he serves as director of the Dickinson in England Humanities Program at the University of East Anglia in Norwich. In the spring of 2016 Prof. Strand completed his three-year stint as external examiner of Hong Kong University’s China Studies Programme with a ten-day on-site visit to Hong Kong. While at HKU Dave gave two public lectures. One, [“Chinese Suffragette: Tang Qunying and a ‘Women’s Republic’,”](#) was given to the Arts Faculty and was based on his most recent book, [An Unfinished Republic: Leading through Word and Deed in Modern China](#). A second, delivered to HKU’s Social Science Faculty, was entitled [“Graying Rusting, Greening and Innovating: Endless Growth Meets Limited Space in the Development of Asian Green Space: The Case of Singapore’s Green Corridor”](#) and drew from his new research project on “The Politics of Parks in Comparative and Global Perspective.

Ren Wei taught five new courses on East Asian art that enriched both the East Asian Studies and the Art History curriculum at Dickinson. Her first-time, intro-level course offerings [“Arts of East Asia”](#) and [“The Japanese Woodblock Print”](#) proved popular with students and will be offered annually. Since November, she has been a research associate at the Freer and Sackler Galleries in Washington, D.C. where she works on her book project on the modern Chinese history of design. This summer her research will take her to the archives and museums in China and Japan. She will also present her paper entitled [“From Ancient Bronze to Modern Design: The Book Design Project between Lu Xun and Tao Yuanqing”](#) at the Asian Studies in Asia Conference in Kyoto this June.

Last summer **Rae Yang** took Dickinson students who studied at Peking University to Taiwan for a field trip. This is the first time she made it to Taiwan, where she met old friends and one student met

family members he had never met before. Everybody loved the trip. Last winter, the Dickinson group went to Yunnan, the province in southwest China next to Vietnam. The group went to Kunming, Dali and Lijiang. At Kunming, Prof. Yang met with people from Yunnan University to explore the possibility of an additional exchange program, because the air quality there is much better than Beijing (it’s even better than Carlisle) and the culture is really unique. At Lashi Hai, the group went on an ecological trip along the famous Tea-Horse Ancient Road. During the fall semester, she worked with Prof. Ma to bring live Peking Opera performance to Dickinson for the first time. This summer and fall, she will be in China working on an oral history project. She will be on sabbatical until January 2017.

During his first year at Dickinson, **W. Evan Young** taught courses on the history of East Asia, the histories of modern Japan and modern China, medicine in East Asia, and women and society in modern Japan. Following an invigorating year of teaching, Prof. Young will spend the summer as a visiting research fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at the University of Tokyo. During his time in Japan, he will give several talks on his current research regarding the importance of diaries as repositories of medical knowledge and the roles of women as healers in early modern Japan.

This coming fall, in addition to courses on modern Japanese history and medicine in East Asia, he will teach a first-year learning community with Alex Bates exploring the subject of war and memory in East Asia. In the spring, Prof. Young will be on research leave, taking advantage of a grant from the [Social Science Research Council and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science](#) to conduct archival research for his developing book manuscript, [Family Matters: Managing Illness in Early Modern Japan](#).

Senior Theses



Top row, from left: Shawn Bender, Neil Diamant, Alex Bates, Ren Wei; Middle row, from left: Nan Ma, Rae Yang, Ann Hill, Jina Kim; Front row, from left: Brianna McFarland, David Foster, Briana Brown, Desmond Carpenter, Anya Aboud, Nicholas Rayder

CHINA AREA

1. *Anya Aboud, "The Performance of a Lifetime: Tongzhi Marriages in Mainland China"
2. Desmond Carpenter, "Taiwan's Struggle: The Journey Towards Ecological Modernization"
3. *★Brianna McFarland, "Understated Strength: Celebrity Agency in Republican China"

KOREA AREA

4. Briana Brown, "Korean Hip-Hop: *It G Ma*"

JAPAN AREA

5. David Foster, "Sesshū's Art, Shaped by the World"
6. Nicholas Rayder, "Japan's Economic Shift Away From China: Fact of Fiction?"

* Departmental honors

★ Newton Prize in East Asian Studies

The Newton Prize in East Asian Studies

The department of East Asian Studies is proud to award the first-ever Newton Prize in East Asian Studies. Generously funded by alumna and trustee Kellie Newton '81, the Newton Prize is awarded to a graduating senior with at least a 3.33 overall GPA and major GPA, strong departmental citizenship, excellence in our capstone project, and a senior thesis graded A- or higher.

This year's awardee is Brianna McFarland. Congratulations Brianna on a job well done!

Upcoming Courses 2016-2017

FALL 2016

EASN205-01 Tales of Two Cities: Beijing and Shanghai in Literature and Film

Prof. Nan Ma

This course examines twentieth and twenty-first century Chinese culture through the lens of performance. It uses significant works as case studies to examine a range of genres in modern Chinese performance history: global mass mediated performances, avant-garde theater, modern Chinese dance, music, and intercultural Chinese opera and film. Students will learn to examine these works critically and creatively from the historical and theoretical perspectives.

EASN 205-02 Soap, Sparkle, and Pop: Contemporary Korea and Soft Power

Prof. Jina Kim

This course investigates and evaluates contemporary Korean popular culture, and more specifically the 21st century South Korean cultural phenomenon called *hal-lyu* (Korean Wave)—its promises and limitations as well as its popularity and backlash against it. We study television, *manhwa* (comic books), and music and ask how they participate in the transnational production and circulation of culture, identity, modernity, tradition, ideology, and politics both regionally and globally.

EASN205-03 War and Peace: Korean War in Transnational Context

Prof. Jina Kim

Although the Korean War continues to shape both East Asian and American foreign policy and culture, it is also commonly known as “the forgotten war.” This course will attempt to move beyond nationalist historiography and international relations paradigms that have dominated existing studies and turn to representations of the war in transnational texts and contexts. We will examine fiction, memoirs, photographs, art, and films produced by Koreans (North and South), Japanese, resident Koreans in Japan, African and Asian Americans, as well as veterans of the war in China and the U.S. Through these diverse texts, the course will explore the complex and far-reach-

ing impact of the war not only on the two Koreas, but around the globe from China to Turkey. The aim of the course is to trace historical and aesthetic connections that situate the Korean War that extend far beyond the boundaries of the nation and the immediate war years.

EASN205-04 Visual Cultures in Modern China

Prof. Ren Wei

The course introduces students to the many facets of Chinese visual culture from the First Opium War to the eve of the People’s Republic. The course explores issues persistent during the late Qing and Republican period in a thematic fashion. Each week is devoted to an organizing concept in Chinese visual art. The selection of themes serves to exemplify the conceptual interest in Chinese visual art during one of the most transformative periods in Chinese history.

EASN205-05 The Japanese Woodblock Print

Prof. Ren Wei

This course provides a thorough introduction to the woodblock print—Japan’s most celebrated artistic medium—from its emergence in the mid-17th century to the modern era. Technical developments, major genres, and master designers are explored within the context of the print’s relationship to the urban culture of early modern and modern Japan. Topics including censorship, theatricality, the representation of war, nationalism, and Japonisme. Special emphasis is placed on an examination of habits of pictorial representation and protocols of viewing unique to the Japanese print medium.

EASN205-06 Introduction to Arts of East Asia

Prof. Ren Wei

An introduction to a selection of objects and sites that elicit new modes of cultural perception and insight into the artistic cultures of China, Korea, and Japan. The diverse media (sculpture, ceramics, metalwork, lacquer, prints, painting, calligraphy, photography, performance, and architecture) and the long historical span (300 BCE to contemporary) covered in class charts how culture traveled within East Asia, and later, globally, as well as each culture’s distinctive methods of adaptation over

time.

EASN206-01 History of Modern Japan

Prof. W Evan Young

This course explores two centuries of successive transformations that have restructured Japanese society. Key topics include Japan’s transition from a feudal to a capitalist regime, the expansion of the Japanese empire, the Second World War, the post-war “economic miracle,” and recent political and economic anxieties as well as hope for the future. We examine a range of engrossing primary sources and thought-provoking secondary scholarship to understand how geopolitical strategies and economic booms and busts have affected the daily lives of people in Japan, East Asia, and the rest of the modern world.

EASN206-02 Babies and Boomers: Asian Societies in Transition

Prof. Shawn Bender

The rapid economic growth of Asia in the past several decades has led to equally rapid social transformation. This course takes the family as a lens through which to understand this social change. It explores shifts and continuities in both conceptions of family life and the composition of families themselves. The causes and effects of lowered fertility and increased longevity in Asia, particularly in China and Japan, receive special emphasis. Course materials draw from social science and historical accounts.

EASN206-03 Samurai and Geisha: Fact and Fiction

Prof. Shawn Bender

There are perhaps no more iconic figures in Japanese culture than the samurai and geisha. Popular as they are, many misconceptions remain about their roles throughout Japanese history. This course explores the lived experiences of samurai and geisha in Japan as well as the myths that have developed around them. Course materials draw on historical texts, ethnographic studies, and fictional depictions of samurai and geisha in film.

Upcoming Courses 2016-2017

EASN206-04 Medicine and The Body in East Asia

Prof. Evan Young

This course is an introduction to the history of medicine in East Asia. We begin by exploring the theoretical and practical underpinnings of classical Chinese medicine, which was the foundation of healing practices in pre-modern China, Korea, and Japan. We then move on to trace the introduction of modern bio-medicine and the eventual reemergence of "Traditional Chinese Medicine" as an alternative style of therapy in the 20th century, among other topics.

EASN236-01 Japanese Society

Prof. Shawn Bender

This course is an introduction to contemporary Japanese society. The course examines what everyday life is like in Japan from anthropological and historical perspectives. It explores such major social institutions as families, gender, communities, workplaces, and belief systems. The course focuses as well on the ways in which modernization has affected these institutions and the identities of Japanese people.

EASN310 Interpreting the Chinese Revolution

Prof. Neil Diamant

This seminar examines the varying approaches and methodologies scholars have adopted in studying the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution in China (1966-1976), one of the most important political events in modern Chinese history. While the course does cover some history, its approach is mainly analytical to formulate effective research results. The goal is to teach students about what happened during the Cultural Revolution and how scholars have studied it.

SPRING 2017

EASN204-01 Screening Korea: Films and Historical Understanding

Prof. Jina Kim

This course investigates South Korean and North Korean films with the aim of gaining a rich and textured understanding of these nations' past and present. Using films as our primary sources, we study the politics, economy, and social relations of key time periods in the past.

EASN 205-01 Soap, Sparkle, and Pop: Contemporary Korea and Soft Power

Prof. Jina Kim

This course investigates and evaluates contemporary Korean popular culture, and more specifically the 21st century South Korean cultural phenomenon called *hal-lyu* (Korean Wave)—its promises and limitations as well as its popularity and backlash against it. We study television, *manhwa* (comic books), and music and ask how they participate in the transnational production and circulation of culture, identity, modernity, tradition, ideology, and politics both regionally and globally.

EASN205-02 North Korea: Beyond the Visible

Prof. Jina Kim

This course examines how literature, film, and media produced within and about North Korea (the Democratic People's Republic of Korea) construct "North Korea." By studying North Korea's history, literature, and visual culture since its establishment in 1948, this course attempts to understand North Korea beyond the immediately visible.

EASN205-03 Japanese Architecture

Prof. Ren Wei

This course is intended to introduce students to the scholarly study of Japanese architecture and urbanism, covering both the premodern and modern eras. Students will be introduced to each of the major typologies of Japanese architecture, as well as the two of the most historically significant city forms in the archipelago, the imperial grid city and the castle town. The sites and issues chosen for study are intended to provide students with a broad knowledge base with which to pursue further studies in architectural history, design history, environmental history, and East Asian history. A fieldtrip

to the Shofuso House and Garden in Philadelphia is required for the class.

EASN206-01 State & Ethnicity Upland Asia

Prof. Ann Hill

This course examines the borderlands shared by states in upland Southeast Asia, such as Thailand, Burma and Laos, with China. It looks at dimensions of contemporary migrations and transnationalism among populations historically marginalized, such as the Hmong, and among populations that have a strong identification with states. Linked to political economies and global markets, nationalism and other ideologies defining peoples and their cultures are explored with an eye toward understanding how ideas about race and the other take shape.

EASN259-01 Law, Politics, and Society in Asia

Prof. Neil Diamant

This course examines the interaction between law, legal institutions and citizens in China, Japan and India. Covering history and the contemporary scene, the course focuses on how law works in practice and is understood and used by ordinary people in Asia. It covers areas such as marriage and divorce, the legal profession, lost property, civil rights, the environment, sexuality, mediation, land development and property, among others. Comparisons between the United States and Asia, as well as between Asian countries, will be emphasized.

ARTH 305-01 Modern Design in East Asia

Prof. Ren Wei

Traditional Chinese and Japanese art and design served as an important source of inspiration for European modernism. But what happened to art and design within China and Japan during the modern period? This class offers a multidisciplinary approach to the study of modern East Asian design and examines how the concept of design emerged and developed in Japan and China in relation to both fine arts and industry in a broad cross-cultural nexus.



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