

# East Asian Studies

## Master of Arts



The master's in East Asian Studies combines an exceptional range of courses with advanced language training and outstanding resources and expertise. The programme offers focused study of either China, Japan or Korea from an expansive number of disciplinary perspectives including history, literature, art, sociology, anthropology, media, religious studies, philosophy, economics, linguistics, or politics and international relations.

### Why study East Asian Studies at Leiden University?

- Expertise on Asia at Leiden University is internationally renowned. Learn from some of Europe's best scholars in the field, many of whom are at the leading edge of Asia-related research.
- Tailor your qualification to reflect your interests or career ambitions. You can choose from a broad range of electives and select a your MA thesis. Choose to focus on language and a single country, or on a specific discipline and region.
- Develop your fluency in an East Asian language.
- All Asian Studies programmes make the most of Leiden University's world-class resources, including its famous and unique collections of Asian artifacts.



**Universiteit  
Leiden**  
The Netherlands

**Develop your language skills**

A key focus of this programme is on language training and developing your fluency in an East Asian language. We have experts in language training who are skilled in facilitating this learning process and about one-third of the programme consists of advanced language classes in modern and/or classical Chinese, Japanese or Korean. You will be expected to apply your language skills when writing your MA thesis by using primary materials written in Chinese, Japanese or Korean.

**An academic career**

If you wish to pursue an academic career, the two-year research MA in Asian Studies is an excellent preparation for a PhD programme

**Career prospects**

As a graduate of the MA in Asian Studies, you are qualified to work within a variety of fields where there is demand for expertise in Asia, including journalism and publishing, international trade, marketing, business, public relations, education, development aid, and in government, non-profit and international organisations.

Some of the occupations of our graduates include:

- Curator at a museum
- Collections manager at a natural history museum
- Project officer for heritage at a governmental agency
- Art teacher at a secondary school
- Auctioneer at an online auction house
- Research consultant at a recruitment company
- Teacher of art and theory at an art school
- Freelance artist and illustrator
- PhD candidate

**Study programme**

Semester 1	Semester 2
<p><a href="#">Core course: Introduction to Asian Studies</a> (5 EC)  <a href="#">Thesis &amp; Methods Classes</a> (5 EC)</p>	<p>MA Thesis Asian Studies (60 EC)</p>
<p><b>Electives (10 EC)</b>                      You may choose from a wide range of electives                      Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› <a href="#">The Politics of Digital East Asia</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Chinese Linguistics: The State of the Art</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Modern Chinese Literature and Exile</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">The Politics of North Korea(n) Culture</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Contemporary Japan’s Economy in Global Economic Crises</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Trends in Japanese Linguistics</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Electives (10 EC)</b>                      You may choose from a wide range of electives.                      Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› <a href="#">Crime and Criminal Justice: East Asian Perspectives</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Word and Image in Premodern Japanese Culture: Reworking the Classics</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Asia through Consumption</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Colonial Modernity and Gender in Korean Literature and Film</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">China and Global Cyberspace</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Language courses (10 EC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Advanced Modern Chinese: <a href="#">Listening &amp; Speaking</a> and <a href="#">Reading &amp; Writing</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Advanced Reading &amp; Writing in Japanese 1</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Advanced Korean Reading</a></li> </ul>	<p><b>Language Courses (10 EC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Advanced Modern Chinese: <a href="#">Listening &amp; Speaking</a> and <a href="#">Reading &amp; Writing</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Advanced Reading &amp; Writing in Japanese 2</a></li> <li>› <a href="#">Topical Readings in Korean</a></li> </ul>

## Facts and figures

### Degree

Asian Studies (MA)  
Asian Studies (Research MA)

### Duration

1 year (MA)  
2 years (research MA)

### Start

September, February

### Language

English

### Application deadlines

*For September entry:*

- › 1 April (students from non-EU countries)
- › 15 June (students from EU countries)

*For February entry:*

- › 15 October (students from non-EU countries)
- › 1 December (students from EU countries)

### Tuition fee

€2,060 EU / €16,800 non-EU per year

## Entry requirements

Detailed information about the entry requirements and admission is available on the [website](#)

## More information

For more information about the programme, please visit our [website](#).

If you have any questions about the content of the programme or entry requirements you can get in touch with the Coordinator of Studies:

Dr. Guita Winkel  
stucoMAAS@hum.leidenuniv.nl  
+31 (0)71 527 2547

## A word from our staff members

**“I try to encourage my students to think critically by pushing them to interrogate the categories through which we think and by which we describe the world: where they came from, what forces constructed them, and for what purposes.”**

*Ethan Mark, Research and University Lecturer*



## What our alumni say

**“In my current position as management trainee at TU Delft, I benefit every day from having followed the MA East Asian Studies. I owe it to this programme that I have a unique outlook on the world, which makes a great difference when making decisions or doing business.”**

*Robbert Beers, Graduated in Asian Studies*

