

History, Arts and Culture of Asia

Master of Arts

The master's in History, Arts and Culture of Asia is designed for students interested in taking a humanities-related approach to the study of countries or regions in pre-modern, modern or contemporary Asia. This one-year master's gives you the opportunity to delve deep into a specific disciplinary area of interest within the field of Asian Studies and to explore the countries of your choice from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives

Why study History, Arts and Culture of Asia 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 subject for your MA thesis. Choose to focus on a single country, or on a specific discipline and region.
- 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

Earn a dual degree

You have the opportunity to earn a dual degree by following the focus [Critical Heritage Studies of Asia and Europe](#) at one of Leiden University's partner universities in Asia, earning you an additional master's degree in Heritage Studies on top of your master's in Asian Studies.

Learn a language

Knowledge of an Asian language is not required for this master's programme, but you have the option of taking intensive language courses in a modern-day language including Japanese, Indonesian, Chinese, Korean or Hindi.

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

Graduates of the MA in History, Arts and Culture of Asia can offer expertise that is highly relevant to many organisations today. A selection of roles in which expertise on Asia is desirable include professions in journalism, publishing, international trade, marketing, business, public relations, education, development aid, and in government, multinationals and NGOs.

Some of the occupations of our graduates include:

- Account manager at a translation agency
- Project manager at a trading and consultancy company in India
- Owner of a consultancy firm
- Consultant at a defence and security company
- Communications officer at an animation studio in Japan
- Relations management officer at an organisation promoting internationalisation in education
- Editor at an academic publishing house
- Content editor at a booking website

Study programme

Semester 1	Semester 2
<p>Core courses (10 EC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Introduction to Asian Studies › Thesis & Methods Classes <p>Core electives (10-20 EC), options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › The Literature of Mature Indian Esoteric Buddhism › Religious Themes in Asian Art › Material Culture, Memory and Commemoration along the Silk Roads in Central Asia › Masters of Chinese Philosophy › Hindi Literature › Sacred Journeys: Pilgrimage and Holy Places › Sociology of Japan › Trends in Japanese Linguistics › The Politics of North Korea(n) Culture 	<p>Electives (15 EC)</p> <p>You may choose from a wide range of electives, options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Language courses › Hands-on Research Experience in Museum Volkenkunde › Democratizing Histories › Colonial Modernity and Gender in Korean Literature and Film › Creativity and Culture in Contemporary China › Confucianism, Idealism and Power in East Asia's Past and Present › Austronesian and Papuan Linguistics › Reading Buddhist Scriptures
<p>Electives (up to 10 EC)</p> <p>You may choose from a wide range of electives, options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Language courses › Asia through Consumption › China's International Political Economy 	<p>MA Thesis Asian Studies (15 EC)</p>

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:

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+31 (0)71 527 2547

A word from our Staff Members

“I challenge my students to take responsibility for their own choices, by letting them select their own objects of study from museum collections, and providing them with hands-on experiences in museums and storerooms.”

Anne Gerritsen, Professor in History, Arts and Culture of Asia



What our alumni say

“The MA Asian Studies helped me to further develop and deepen various skills such as written and oral communication and presenting research results. Creativity and an open mind were a necessity when it came to creating a critical and analytical view during the process. I used these skills during my activities as a writer for tender applications. Of course they will be of great use for my future career. As a very recent graduate of the Master’s program Asian Studies, I immediately began my search for a job opportunity that formed a connection between my passions and my skills.”

Roshny Kohabir, Graduated in History, Arts and Culture of Asia

