



SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

ASIAN STUDIES

ASIA 101: INTRODUCTION TO ASIAN STUDIES

TRIMESTER 1 2010

1 March to 4 July 2010

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 1 March 2010 to 4 June 2010

Mid-trimester break: 5 April to 18 April 2010

Study week: 7 June to 11 June 2010

Examination/Assessment period: 11 June to 4 July 2010

Please note students should be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

Names and contact details

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Tutor:	Alistair Shaw Tel: 463 6589	Room 105, 22 Kelburn Parade Email: alistair.shaw@vuw.ac.nz
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Contact Person for: Students with Disabilities; Maori and Pacific Students

Dr Richard Millington vZ 613 Tel 463 5976 Richard.Millington@vuw.ac.nz

Class times and locations

Lectures	Tuesday and Friday	11-11.50 am	HU (Hunter) LT220
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You are expected to attend lectures and your weekly tutorial. A sign-up list for tutorials is posted on the Asian Studies Notice Board (7th Floor, von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade, next to vZ717 on the right side). You should place your name in a tutorial of your choice, noting the time and place you will need to attend. The tutorials will start in the second week.

Tutorials – choose one from either:

Monday	9-10am	vZ108
Monday	1-2pm	HU317
Monday	2-3pm	vZ107
Tuesday	12-1pm	OK301
Tuesday	2–3pm	vZ108

Course delivery

Classes will consist of lectures and tutorials, supplemented by reading materials and self-directed study. Students are expected to take an active part in tutorial discussions and to contribute their own background knowledge on the topic under discussion.

Communication of additional information

Students are encouraged to consult Blackboard regularly for information on course and programme changes. Some course material is available on-line and quick links will be provided for you in Blackboard. We have also set up a special YouTube channel for Asian Studies at VUW with a playlist of material geared to ASIA101. Please see: <http://www.youtube.com/asianstudiesvuw>.

Course content

This is an introductory course examining Asia from a New Zealand perspective. We give particular attention to the theme of intercultural contact and how 'Asia' has been variously constructed within the context of a 'Western' society like New Zealand. We are also interested in how these constructions shape New Zealand's engagement with Asia and the place of Asia and Asian peoples within New Zealand.

As an introductory course, ASIA 101 is necessarily broad; it samples a range of historical, cultural, political, religious, and artistic issues rather than exhaustively analysing them. The course takes Asia to be not so much a place or region, distinct from other places or regions, but a sphere of activity within and against which people(s) of diverse background came into contact with one another in a variety of ways, and for various purposes over many, many years.

One objective of this course, therefore, is to help you understand numerous processes of contact. We begin with a broad introduction to the themes that we will be returning to frequently throughout the course. We then proceed to explore some of the early constructions of Asia in the Western imaginary. Many of the ideas generated in the early periods of contact continue to shape the interactions that occur today. We then move to look at some of the many facets of New Zealand's Asia.

Learning objectives

By the end of this course, students should be:

1. able to analyse critically different representations of Asia;
2. able to discuss with knowledge a variety of topics related to Asia and its place in New Zealand;
3. prepared to extend their study of Asia in upper-level university courses; and
4. prepared for life as a more informed citizen of the greater Asia-Pacific region.

Expected workload

The university anticipates that you should be able to devote about 13 hours per week to a 20 point course including class contact time, background reading, research, and work on assessments. **Please note that this is a rough guideline only.** Some students will find they need to do more, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

Readings

Required Text: Henry Johnson and Brian Moloughney eds., *Asia in the Making of New Zealand* (Auckland: Auckland University Press, 2006). This book is **available from Vicbooks, Victoria University's on-campus bookstore**. Additional reading will be available via electronic course reserve or provided via Blackboard.

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of Vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from Vicbooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

The breakdown of the assessment, which is designed to test how well you have understood the aims and objectives of the course, is as follows:

1)	Restaurant Group Exercise	10%
2)	Journal	20%
3)	Course Essay	30%
4)	Final Exam	40%

All assignments must include a cover sheet available from the Course Documents section of Blackboard or from the School of Languages and Cultures (SLC) Reception area. Assignments are to be handed in to the Asian Studies assignment box. This is located to the left of the SLC Reception area, vz 610, opposite the lifts on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz.

No responsibility will be taken for essays placed in open staff mailboxes, pushed under doors, etc. You should never destroy notes or rough drafts until your marked essay is returned to you.

Adequate advance preparation through reading, research, informed participation and presentation in tutorials is very important. In order to get the most out of the course, you should complete the assigned reading **before** each lecture.

Assessment Breakdown

1. Journal (20%) – Media Representations of Asia in the Dominion Post (1200-1500 words) Due 4pm Friday 26 March

Collect articles and/or pictures that have Asia as their content matter from the Dominion Post (it is distributed freely on campus for students). There should be **at least six** dated entries, covering the first four weeks of the trimester (1 – 26 March). In your analysis, comment on your collection, paying particular attention to how the author, photographer, etc attends to, or **represents Asia** in the articles, photographs, etc you have chosen. Comments should be clear, relevant, cogent and comprehensible. Do **NOT** merely summarise the article itself; the deeper your analysis, the better your grade will be.

Your journal as a whole should be between 1,200 and 1,500 words.

Be sure to provide complete bibliographic references for each piece. One of the tutorials will be designed around giving you practice with the sort of analysis you will be expected to use for your journal.

2. Restaurant Group Exercise (10%) (600-800 words) Due 4pm Tuesday 20 April

At some point in the weeks proceeding, collect yourself into a group of three to five people and visit a local restaurant that specialises in some form of Asian cuisine. Collectively write a report that discusses your restaurant experience in terms of the restaurant's 'Asian-ness'. You may determine for yourselves how to distribute the work involved in writing the piece however note that each member of the group will receive the same grade. Note also that a short presentation (non-assessed) on your group's experience will be expected in the week five tutorial – the feedback associated with this presentation is expected to be incorporated into your submitted report.

Focus on a number of aspects of the restaurant and show how they reflect forces of globalisation in New Zealand's relationship with Asia. Possible features you might consider include decor, menu items, seating arrangements, music, restaurant name, 'authenticity', clientele, and so on. Think about the issues that came up in the lecture and the readings on the globalisation of food.

3. Essay (30%) (1500 – 2000 words) Due 4pm Tuesday 18 May

Write an essay that responds to one of the questions listed below. The essay should be no less than 1,500 words and no more than 2,000 words (double-spaced typed; please include the word count as well). Be sure to focus on answering the question, and use carefully chosen examples to reinforce the argument of the essay. Do not pad your bibliography; it should contain references only to those books and articles you have *actually read* in preparation for your essay.

Question 1. How have the Chinese and Indian immigrant experiences in New Zealand differed?
What are the crucial factors involved?

Question 2. In what key ways has New Zealand's relationship with Asia changed during the twentieth century. Why?

Question 3. How has the transformation in the Asian population of New Zealand since 1987 influenced the construction of 'national' identity?

Question 4. Assess the role of culture in the construction of community amongst any *one* group of Asian New Zealanders.

Question 5. Identify a social institution or association in or near Wellington that has an Asian component. How does this institution or association foster New Zealand's relationship with Asia? What larger social factors must this institution take into account?

Question 6. Write an essay assessing the significance of any one individual's contribution towards developing an understanding of Asia in New Zealand.

Question 7. Construct and answer your own question relevant to the themes of the course. If you choose this option, you must have the tutor or course co-ordinator's approval.

4. Final Exam (40%)

The final exam is of 2 hours duration. It will consist of two parts. The first will be a series of questions based on the lectures delivered in the course and the tutorial discussions. This part is worth 20% of the exam mark. The second part of the exam will require answering two essay questions (you will have a number of options to choose from). These essay questions are designed to examine themes raised throughout the course. This part is worth 80% of the exam mark. The final exam will be held during the examination period (11 June – 30 June 2010).

Penalties

Essays must be handed in at the deadlines specified to avoid penalties. **5% per day (counting an individual piece of work as 100%) will be deducted from work submitted after the assigned date** without prior permission or without a necessary and demonstrable reason such as illness. While extensions will usually be granted on request, work that comes in after the original deadline will receive only minimal comments from your marker.

Please keep to the word counts; essays that fall below or go over the limit can expect to lose marks.

Mandatory course requirements

In order to pass this course each student must:

- a) Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to provisions stated for late submission of work).
- b) Attend at least 7 of 10 tutorials.

Although roll call is not taken in lecture, attendance is expected, and your success and enjoyment of the course will be directly proportional to your participation.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcademic/Publications.aspx>

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

Course Programme

Lectures: Tuesday and Friday 11-11.50am HULT220

Week One

- Lecture** **Tuesday 2 March: *Introduction to the Course (Stephen Epstein - Asian Studies)***
- Reading:** None
- Lecture** **Friday 5 March: *The Idea of Asia, The Idea of NZ (Stephen Epstein - Asian Studies)***
- Reading:** Johnson & Moloughney, 'Introduction: Asia and the Making of Multicultural New Zealand,' *Asia in the Making of New Zealand*, pp.1-10 [hereafter AMNZ].

NO TUTORIALS THIS WEEK

Week Two

- Lecture** **Tuesday 9 March: *Pre-Colonial & Colonial Encounters (Brian Moloughney - SLC)***
- Reading:** Tony Ballantyne, 'Teaching Māori About Asia,' *AMNZ*, pp.13-35 and Ballantyne & Moloughney, 'Asia in Murihiku', pp.65-92, on Electronic Course Reserve [hereafter ECR].
- Lecture** **Friday 12 March: *Gold and Exclusion (Brian Moloughney - SLC)***
- Reading:** Moloughney, Ballantyne & Hood, 'After Gold,' *AMNZ*, pp.58-75.

WEEK TWO TUTORIAL Constructing and Deconstructing Asia & Map Quiz

Try to think about what 'Asia' means to different people. How is NZ's 'Asia' different from Australia's? Why? Bring to the tutorial a list of 10 words that you think are descriptive of 'Asia'. There will be a brief non-assessed quiz, in which you will be given a blank map of Asia (akin to that found on <http://www.asianz.org.nz/countries-asia>) and asked to identify selected countries and capitals. What counts as Asia? This is a difficult question, which we will discuss in class. As preparation for the tutorial, do a web search for 'map of Asia' and see what you discover. If you need to find out the capital of any particular country, you may find the Countries of Asia section of the Asia:NZ Foundation website useful: <http://www.asianz.org.nz/countries-asia>.

Week Three

- Lecture** **Tuesday 16 March: *The Indian Diaspora (Sekhar Bandyopadhyay - History)***
- Reading:** Jackie Leckie, 'Gumboots and Saris,' in *AMNZ*, pp.76-93.
- Lecture** **Friday 19 March: *Regional Transformation (Brian Moloughney - SLC)***
- Reading:** Tim Beal, 'Coming to Terms with Trade,' *AMNZ*, pp.94-121.

WEEK THREE TUTORIAL Journal Entry Discussion

Come to class with at least one article that you have selected for your journal and be prepared to discuss how you have analysed it.
You might want to think about:

1. How is Asia represented in the article?
2. How does it reinforce or challenge dominant representations of Asia?
3. Who wrote it, for whom, and how is this significant?

Week Four

Lecture **Tuesday 23 March: *Globalisation & Asia* (Alistair Shaw - Asian Studies)**

Reading: Nick Knight, *Understanding Australia's Neighbours*, pp.165–183, ECR.

Lecture **Friday 26 March: *Food and Tradition* (Alistair Shaw - Asian Studies)**

Reading: Lizzie Collingham, *Curry: A Tale of Cooks and Conquerors*, pp.187-193, & 245-257, ECR.

WEEK FOUR TUTORIAL Illustrious Energy

In this tutorial we will watch an excerpt from the film *Illustrious Energy*, and then discuss some of the issues that this raises. There is no preparation necessary for this tutorial. A copy of the film is held in the audio-video suite on the ninth floor of the main library (Vis 4181), and your local video store may also have it.

When watching the film, think about the following:

1. What image of New Zealand does the film create and how?
2. How does the film challenge or reinforce dominant images of Chinese?

Week Five

Lecture **Tuesday 30 March: *Lonely Planet Asia* (Brian Moloughney - SLC)**

Reading: Pico Iyer, *Video Night in Kathmandu*, pp.3-28, ECR.

There is no lecture on Friday this week.

WEEK FIVE TUTORIAL Constructing and Deconstructing Asian Restaurants

At some point prior to this tutorial, collect yourself into a group (of three, four or five) and visit a local restaurant that specialises in some form of Asian cuisine. Focus on a number of aspects of this restaurant and show how they reflect forces of globalisation in New Zealand's relationship with Asia. Possible features you might consider include decor, menu items, seating arrangements, music, restaurant name, 'authenticity', clientele, and so on. Think about the issues that came up in the lecture and the readings on the globalisation of food.

MID-SEMESTER BREAK

Week Six

Lecture **Tuesday 20 April: *Wellington Chinese Community* (Lynette Shum - Asian Studies)**

Reading: Lynette Shum 'Remembering Chinatown,' ECR.

Lecture **Friday 23 April: *Reinventing Indian Identity* (Sekhar Bandyopadhyay - History)**

Reading: Sekhar Bandyopadhyay 'Reinventing Indian Identity,' in *AMNZ*, 125-146.

WEEK SIX TUTORIAL**Essays**

This tutorial is designed to help you think about the construction and development of an essay. You will have the opportunity to discuss what is required for the Essay, as well as how you should go about researching and writing it. To prepare for the tutorial, please read the essay questions and think about which topic you would like to undertake. The essay is due on Tuesday 18 May.

Week Seven

Lecture Tuesday 27 April: *Korean-NZ Identity (Stephen Epstein – Asian Studies)*

Reading: Stephen Epstein, 'Imagining the Community' in *AMNZ*, pp.147-162.

Lecture Friday 30 April: *Robin Hyde (Lydia Wevers – Stout Research Centre)*

Reading: Robin Hyde, *Dragon Rampant*, pp.147-162 and *Disputed Ground*, pp.363-387, ECR.

WEEK SEVEN TUTORIAL**Consultations**

There is no tutorial this week, but during your regular tutorial time your tutor will be available in his office for consultations about the essay, which is due on Tuesday 5 May.

Week Eight

Lecture Tuesday 4 May: *NZ Poets and Asia (Mark Williams - English)*

Reading: Poems by Robin Hyde, Ruth Dallas and James K. Baxter, ECR.

Lecture Friday 7 May: *The Asia:NZ Foundation (Andrew Butcher – Asia: NZ Foundation)*

Reading: Familiarize yourself with <http://www.asianz.org.nz/>

WEEK EIGHT TUTORIAL**NZ Cultural Products and Asia**

In this week's tutorial we move from a consideration of NZ media representations of Asia more generally to look more closely at how cultural texts specifically treat such representations. We will consider various forms from poetry to film to television comedy. How do these representations differ from more journalistic media? What strategies do they use to comment on cross-cultural encounters? Consider the writing of Robin Hyde and the poetry of Ruth Dallas and James K. Baxter: what do they tell us about New Zealand's relationship with Asia?

In a very different vein, before coming to class, look at the excerpts from the series *A Thousand Apologies* on the ASIA101 YouTube playlist. The creators of *A Thousand Apologies* describe it as 'a television sketch comedy series that addresses the diversity of the pan-Asian experience in contemporary New Zealand. Edgy, irreverent, and occasionally rude, *A Thousand Apologies* lampoons stereotypes and situations that are familiar to many New Zealanders.' How is humour used to address social issues? Do you regard this strategy as effective? Why or why not?

We will also watch an excerpt from the film *Banana in a Nutshell*, and then discuss some of the issues that are raised and how they are turned into documentary style entertainment. There is a clip of the film on the course playlist and a copy of the film is held in the audio-video suite on the ninth floor of the main library (DVD 2979).

Week Nine

Lecture **Tuesday 11 May: *Asia, the West & Popular Culture* (Stephen Epstein – Asian Studies)**

Reading: Douglas McGray, “Japan’s Gross National Cool” *Foreign Policy* 130 (May/June 2002), pp.44-54 available at <http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~ikalmar/illustex/japfpmcgray.htm>

Lecture **Friday 14 May: *Musical Flows, Asia and NZ* (Jack Body – NZ School of Music)**

Reading: Henry Johnson, ‘Striking Accord!’ *AMNZ*, 185-203.

WEEK NINE TUTORIAL Asian Popular Culture in New Zealand

In this tutorial we will discuss how contemporary Asian pop culture has crossed boundaries and moved into the West. What forms of Asian popular culture are present in New Zealand? Why do you think New Zealand and global audiences have responded with increasing enthusiasm to Asian pop culture? Do you have any specific forms that you are a particular fan? If so, how would you explain their attraction? What impressions and stereotypes of Asia are conveyed by pop culture products? How does a nation achieve “soft power” if its products are popular elsewhere? Be sure to read the Douglas McGray article as preparation for tutorial and to look at the associated YouTube clips from the course playlist.

Week Ten

Lecture **Tuesday 18 May: *The Burqa Case* (Paul Morris - Religious Studies)**

Reading: Erich Kolig, ‘Muslim Traditions and Islamic Law in NZ,’ *AMNZ*, pp.204-224.

Lecture **Friday 21 May: *'Ethnic Buddhism'?* (Hugh Kemp - Religious Studies)**

Reading: Hugh Kemp, ‘How the Dharma Landed,’ available at <http://www.globalbuddhism.org/toc.html>.

WEEK TEN TUTORIAL The Burqa Case

In this tutorial, we will help you to begin to think about how you might prepare for the examination. The examination will be based around issues raised in lectures and tutorials, and questions will be drawn from your textbook.

Prior to the tutorial read Erich Kolig’s chapter (in your textbook) on the Burqa case. Think about what Kolig is arguing in this chapter, and about your response to his arguments. Do you find them convincing? If so, why? If not, why not? Think also about you might be able to develop your engagement with his arguments into an examination essay.

Week Eleven

Lecture **Tuesday 25 May: *Documentary - New Faces, Old Fears* (Stephen Epstein – Asian Studies)**

Reading: None

Lecture **Friday 28 May: *Documentary - Our Nation: A Korean Punk Rock Community Fears* (Stephen Epstein – Asian Studies)**

Reading: Stephen Epstein, "Anarchy in the UK, Solidarity in the ROK", online reading. (A quick link will be provided on Blackboard.)

WEEK ELEVEN TUTORIAL Asian Angst

In this tutorial we will continue to prepare for the examination. This time we will focus on issues raised by the Asian Angst article. You can access the article and related material at the following site: http://www.tzemingmok.com/asian_angst/asianangst_archives.html. As preparation for the tutorial you should read the article and think about the issues it raises. If you have time then look at any of the other related material archived at this site. In the tutorial we help you think about how you might use this material in developing an essay in the examination.

Week Twelve

Lecture Tuesday 1 June: *Biculturalism/Multiculturalism (Brian Moloughney - SLC)*

Reading: None

Lecture Friday 4 June: *Course Evaluations, Review & Exam Prep (Stephen Epstein - Asian Studies)*

Reading: None