

ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAMME
ASIA 302 SELECTED TOPIC: DIRECTED INDIVIDUAL STUDY

TRIMESTER 2 2010
12 July to 14 November 2010

Please read through this material very carefully in the first week of the course, and refer to it regularly.

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 12 July to 15 October 2010
Mid-trimester break: 23 August to 5 September 2010

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

Teaching staff:

Dr Stephen Epstein (Course Coordinator)
stephen.epstein@vuw.ac.nz Office: VZ 717 Phone: 463-5703
Staff are available for student consultation at times indicated on the doors of their offices.

School Administrators:

Nina Cuccurullo	nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz	Office: VZ 610	Phone: 463-5293
Lancy Knott	lancy.knott@vuw.ac.nz	Office: VZ 610	Phone: 463-5318
Tessa Seemann	tessa.seemann@vuw.ac.nz	Office: VZ 610	Phone: 463-5635

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Disability Liaison Person/Maori & Pacific Islands Students Liaison:

Dr Ross Woods ross.woods@vuw.ac.nz Office: VZ 507 Phone: 463-5098

Class times and locations

Students enrolled in this paper must establish with their individual supervisors a mutually agreed schedule of meetings to discuss their progress.

Course delivery

As a directed individual study, students are expected to work independently for the most part but to attend regular meetings with their supervisors at times to be mutually determined.

Communication of additional information

The Asian Studies notice board is in the corridor between rooms VZ 717 and VZ 718. Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students either via class, notice boards, Blackboard, or email.

Course content

The general aims of the teaching programme of the Asian Studies Institute are to teach students about Asian life and thought within the context of the University and about "our own culture(s)" in the light of Asian life and thought, to integrate these knowledges and practices, and to incorporate these integrated knowledges and practices into university education. In keeping with these aims, ASIA 302 provides students with the opportunity to undertake a supervised programme of individual research and study on a theme agreed upon between the student and an appropriate supervisor.

Learning objectives

By the end of this course, students should:

- i. have honed their research skills generally, and more specifically within the context of Asian Studies
- ii. have a deepened critical understanding of a particular area of research within Asian Studies
- iii. be further equipped to consider issues in Asian Studies from at least one or more disciplinary perspectives

Expected workload

The Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty Committee on Workloads and Assessment has laid down guidelines as to the number of hours per week which students are expected to devote to a course in order to maintain satisfactory progress. Students enrolling in a 300-level one-trimester 20-point course should work on average 13 hours per week including contact hours.

Readings

As this paper is based on individual research topic, there is no textbook or course reader as such. Students may find it useful to purchase texts that have a specific relevance to their area of focus. Appropriate readings will be determined in conjunction with the student's supervisor.

Assessment requirements

This paper is entirely internally assessed. The assessment, which is designed to test how well you have responded to the objectives of the course, requires written work equalling at least 5,000 words.

Students have one of two options, to be agreed upon with their supervisor:

- i. a single 5000 word essay (100%);
- ii. or, if warranted by the topic, two essays of 2500 words each on a related topic (50% each);

Due dates are to be agreed upon with the individual supervisor, but no later than the last day of the trimester's lecture period. As a paper of directed individual research, there is no exam in ASIA302.

All assignments must be handed in at the deadlines arranged with the supervisor to avoid penalties.

Penalties

The due dates for the assignments given in the Course Programme must be adhered to. Although work may be accepted late in special circumstances, the Course Co-ordinator should always be contacted on or before the due dates if there is a problem. The penalty for work presented late without prior approval is a 5% deduction per day (counting an individual piece of work as 100%). In addition, please note that up to a maximum of 5% may be deducted for poorly presented assignments. Please note that no work for assessment will be accepted after 22 October.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no attendance requirements as such, but it is fully expected that students will attend all

scheduled meetings with their supervisors on a regular basis, and contact them beforehand if for some reason they cannot make an arranged appointment. Students must hand in all written work in order to pass this course.

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/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>