

ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAMME
ASIA 302 SELECTED TOPIC: DIRECTED INDIVIDUAL STUDY

TRIMESTER 2 2011
11 July to 12 November 2011

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

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 11 July to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break: 22 August to 4 September 2011
Study week: 17–21 October 2011
Examination/Assessment period: 21 October to 12 November 2011

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

Course Coordinator and Lecturer: Dr Stephen Epstein
Office: vZ 717
Phone: 463 5703
Email: stephen.epstein@vuw.ac.nz

Staff are available for student consultation at times indicated on the doors of their offices.

School Administrator: Nina Cuccurullo
Office: vZ 610
Phone: 463 5293
Email: nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz
Reception Hours: 9.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday

**Contact Person for Maori
& Pacific Island Students &
Students with Disabilities** Dr Ross Woods
Office: vZ507
Phone: 463 5098
Email: ross.woods@vuw.ac.nz

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 prescription

A supervised programme of research and study on selected themes in Asian Studies. 100% internal assessment.

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 University Assessment Handbook 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.

Students will not be able to attain an aegrotat for this course as assessment is dependent on the successful completion of the assigned essay for independent study

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 21 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. Class reps will attend a meeting with the head of school to discuss how your courses are going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that you may have. Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how your courses are going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have.

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is Victoria's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting independent language learning and teaching.

At the LLC you can practise and extend your language learning. You can:

- select the materials or activities that you find interesting
- meet your needs: match your level and learning style
- study at a time that suits you

Access a variety of multimedia language resources at the LLC: everything from print, audio materials, foreign language TV and DVDs to comprehensive computer software.

The LLC provides access to your digital course material on a server: detailed instructions are in Blackboard on the LLC content page. Drop by the centre to find out more about our services, or check the website. LLC, Level 0 von Zedlitz Building, www.victoria.ac.nz/llc/

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>

Where to find more detailed information

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress.

Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic.