

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

ASIAN STUDIES

ASIA 101: INTRODUCTION TO ASIAN STUDIES

TRIMESTER 3 2011

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 14 November to 16 December 2011

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: Dr Alistair Shaw
Office: 22KP 105
Phone: 463 6589
Email: alistair.shaw@vuw.ac.nz

School Administrators: Nina Cuccurullo ph: 463 5293 nina.cuccurullo@vuw.ac.nz
Sarah Walton ph: 463 5318 sarah.walton@vuw.ac.nz
Office: TBA Hours: 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday

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

Class times and locations

Lectures Monday, Wednesday and Friday 1.10pm-3.00pm MY (Murphy) LT102

Course delivery

Classes will consist of lectures and interactive discussions and presentations, 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 Prescription

An interdisciplinary introduction to the study of aspects of Asia. This course is thematic in structure and focuses on contacts and cultural interchange between Asia and the West.

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 200 hours across the course 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.**

In addition there are course notes that will be available from **Vicbooks in the Student Union building**. You are required to purchase both the textbook and the course notes. Additional reading will be provided via Blackboard.

All textbooks and student notes for Trimester 3 will be available from VicBooks on Level 4, Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus.

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 8.00am – 6.00pm, 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)	Journal	25%
2)	Restaurant Group Exercise and presentation	15%
3)	Course Essay	30%
4)	In class test	30%

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, vZ610, 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 (25%) – Media Representations of Asia in the Dominion Post (1200-1500 words)** **Due 12 noon Friday 25 November**

Collect articles and/or pictures that have Asia as their content matter from the Dominion Post. There should be **at least four** dated entries, all since the course began. 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. There will be discussion designed around giving you practice with the sort of analysis you will be expected to use for your journal.

2. Restaurant Group Exercise (15%) (600-800 words)

Due 1pm Monday 5 December

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 on your group's experience will be expected in the week three tutorial – the feedback associated with this presentation is expected to be incorporated into your submitted report, and will the presentation itself will contribute towards your mark.

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 12 noon Friday 9 December

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. Articles to get you going in your research will be available in Blackboard, these are required reading. As you can see in the tutorial schedule there are also time-tabled opportunities for you to discuss your essay progress with the Course Coordinator.

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

Question 2. Assess the main factors that contributed to the transformation of New Zealand's relationship with Asia during the twentieth century.

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

4. In Class Test (30%)

The final in class test 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 test mark. The second part of the test 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 test mark. The final test will be held on the final day of the course (Friday 16 December).

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>

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/avcacademic.

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: Monday and Wednesday 1.10pm-3.00pm MYLT102

Week 1

Lecture One

Lecture **Monday 14 November: *Introduction to the Course*
and *The Idea of Asia, The Idea of NZ***

Reading: Johnson & Moloughney, 'Introduction: Asia and the Making of Multicultural New Zealand', *Asia in the Making of New Zealand*, pp.1-10 [hereafter *AMNZ*].

WEEK ONE 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>.

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?

Lecture Two

Lecture **Wednesday 16 November: *Representing Asia***

Reading: Birch, Schirato and Shivastava, 'The Idea of Asia,' *Asia: Cultural Politics in a Global Age*, pp.1-24, in ASIA 101 Course Reader, pp.1-13 (hereafter CR).

and *Pre-Colonial & Colonial Encounters*

Reading: Tony Ballantyne, 'Teaching Māori About Asia,' *AMNZ*, pp.13-35 and Ballantyne & Moloughney, 'Asia in Murihiku', pp.65-92, CR pp.14-28.

Week 2

Lecture Three

Lecture **Monday 21 November: *Gold and Exclusion***

Reading: Moloughney, Ballantyne & Hood, 'After Gold,' *AMNZ*, pp.58-75.

and *Constructing the NZ-Korean Community (Stephen Epstein – Asian Studies)*

Reading: Stephen Epstein, 'Imagining the Community: Newspapers, Cyberspace and the (Non)-Construction of Korean-New Zealand Identity,' *AMNZ*, pp. 147-162.

Lecture Four

Lecture **Friday 18 March: *The Indian Diaspora (Sekhar Bandyopadhyay - History)***

Reading: Tony Ballantyne, "India in New Zealand: The Fault Lines of Colonial Culture", *India in New Zealand*, (pp. 21-44), CR pp.29-41.

and *Regional Transformation*

Reading: Tim Beal, 'Coming to Terms with Trade,' *AMNZ*, pp.94-121.

WEEK TWO 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?

We will also watch: *Our nation: a Korean punk rock community*, a documentary by Stephen J. Epstein and Timothy R. Tangherlini.

As optional background for this you might want to read " 'We are the Punx in Korea!' " in *Korean Pop Music: Riding the Wave*, ed. Keith Howard, Global Oriental Press: Kent, 2006, pp. 190-207. A link to this will be available on Blackboard.

Week Three

Lecture Five

Lecture Monday 28 November: *Globalisation & Asia*

Reading: Nick Knight, *Understanding Australia's Neighbours*, pp.165–183, CR pp.42-50.
and: *Food and Tradition*

Reading: Lizzie Collingham, 'Curry Travels the World', *Curry: A Tale of Cooks and Conquerors*, pp.245-257, CR pp.51-57.

Lecture Six

Lecture Wednesday 30 November: *Globalising Asian Spirituality (Paul Morris – Religious Studies)*

Reading: Kim Knott, *My Sweet Lord: The Hare Krishna Movement*, pp. 19-43, 93-95, & 105-110, CR pp.58-76.

and: *Lonely Planet Asia*

Reading: Pico Iyer, 'Love Match', *Video Night in Kathmandu*, pp.3-28, CR pp.77-90.

WEEK THREE 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.

The tutorial will consist of each group making a short presentation on their findings. You will get some feedback to enable you to complete the assignment, due on Monday.

Week 4

Lecture Seven

Lecture Monday 5 December: *Asia and New Zealand Literature*

Reading: Harry Ricketts, 'Asian Connections', *99 Ways into New Zealand Poetry*, pp. 480-491, CR pp.91-95.

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).

and: *Baxter and Asia*

Reading: Poems by James K. Baxter, CR pp.118-125.

Lecture Eight

Lecture **Wednesday 7 December: Robin Hyde**

Reading: Robin Hyde, *Dragon Rampant*, pp.147-162 and *Disputed Ground*, pp.363-387, CR pp.96-104 and CR pp.105-117.

and: Asia, the West & Popular Culture

Reading: Douglas McGray, 'Japan's Gross National Cool', *Foreign Policy* 130 (May/June 2002), pp.44-54, CR pp.126-132.

WEEK FOUR TUTORIAL

In Class Test Preparation: Multicultural New Zealand

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

(1) The Burqa Case

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 how you might be able to develop your engagement with his arguments into an examination essay.

(2) Asian Angst

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. We will help you think about how you might use this material in developing an essay in the test.

Week Five

Lecture Nine

Lecture **Monday 12 December: NZ and Asia – International Relations**

Reading: None.

and New Zealand and Japan

Reading: Ian McGibbon, "New Zealand Perceptions of Japan ", in *Japan and New Zealand: 150 Years*, pp. 122-143, CR pp.133-143.

Lecture Ten

Lecture **Wednesday 14 December: New Zealand and the DPRK (Paul Bellamy – Independent Scholar)**

Reading: Paul Bellamy, 'New Zealand and North Korea: limited ties, uncertain future', *New Zealand International Review*, 35, 4, pp. 2-5, CR pp.144-148.

and Course evaluations, Review and In Class Test Preparation

WEEK FIVE TUTORIAL

End of Course Test

Friday 16 December, 1 pm.

Two hours.

Content and format to be advised, but previous tests will be a guide.