In order to educate students to be competitive in the “Pacific Century,” a term some use to describe the 21st century in recognition of the growing economic and geopolitical influence of the Asian-Pacific region, Montana State University offers an interdisciplinary Asian studies major and minor. This interdisciplinary program meets student demand to learn the languages and study the cultures of China, Japan and other Asian countries.

**Program Description**

In order to provide students with the skills needed in a globalized world that increasingly pivots on Asia, Montana State University offers an interdisciplinary Asian studies major and minor. This program draws upon an array of MSU departments, including History and Philosophy, Modern Languages and Literatures, Sociology and Anthropology, and Earth Sciences.

The program appeals to students within the College of Letters and Science, as well as other colleges such as engineering and business. Besides taking core Asian studies courses, students can choose between a Japan Focus and China Focus. These options reflect shifting U.S. strategic concerns in the Asia-Pacific region in recent years, as well as significant geopolitical and economic changes in Asia, changes that have resulted in students’ desires to learn the languages and to study the cultures of China, Japan and other Asian countries.

The program enables students not merely to learn about single nations within Asia, but also to gain some basic knowledge of Asia as a whole, and to understand how these nations’ histories, cultures, politics and environments have been and are increasingly intertwined. In addition, the Asian studies options at MSU reflect the interdisciplinary culture of Montana’s land-grant institution, and better prepare MSU students for employment in a host of international fields and occupations.

**Why Major or Minor in Asian Studies?**

- Develop proficiency in one of the Asian languages that the U.S. State Department says are critical to the future of America;
- Excel in your preparation for a career in the growing areas of business and government;
- Combine your Asian studies degree with a minor or second major to exponentially expand your value to employers of all kinds;
- Embrace the world’s most populous and diverse continent, and enjoy the ample rewards of domestic and international employment opportunities.
OUR COURSES
Examples of course offerings include:
· Japanese and Chinese language courses from first-year through third-year levels
· Japanese culture and civilization
· Chinese culture and civilization
· Contemporary Japan
· Modern China
· Modern Asia
· Sex, gender and sexuality in Japan
· Chinese Cinema and Literature
· Japanese text and cinema

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM
Study abroad in China or Japan:
For long-term study abroad programs in China and Japan, please contact the advisor for more information. Japan: Short-term summer study abroad program at Ritsumeikan University China: Short-term summer study abroad program on full scholarships either at Lanzhou University or Beijing International Chinese College

Student Clubs:
Japan Club
Chinese Culture Club

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Meet us online at:
twitter.com/msuasianstudies
www.facebook.com/pages/Asian-Studies-at-MSU-Bozeman

What can I do with a major or minor in Asian Studies?
Asian studies options prepare students for several career areas, including international trade and industry, teaching and academic research, as well as careers with the diplomatic Foreign Service, development agencies, and immigration and social services.

Here are some examples of job titles:
Government
· Consular Services
· Cultural Affairs Specialist
· Customs Inspector/Officer
· Diplomat
· Foreign Correspondent
· Foreign Service Officer
· Immigration Officer
· Immigration Services Worker
· Intelligence Service
· International Public Health Worker
· Interpreter
· National Security Agency
· Overseas Agency
· Public Affairs Officer
· Legal Aid Worker
· Public Liaison Officer
· Social Worker
· Special Agent

Research
· Academic Researcher
· Cultural Artifact Specialist
· Ethnic/Cultural Research
· Government Research Analyst
· Historian
· Political Analyst
· Social Science Analyst
· Survey Researcher

Education
· Admissions Officer
· College Placement Officer
· Educational Administrator
· Exchange Student Program Coordinator
· Instructor
· International Education Specialist
· International Student Advisor
· Language School Teacher
· Professor
· School Counselor

Justice System
· Arbitrator
· Court Administrator

MSU Chinese Culture Club students and their faculty advisor, Dr. Hua Li, at the Bozeman Children’s Festival in Fall 2015.

Todd Beckman plays a Japanese drum while studying in Japan.

Nicholas Evans makes pottery while studying in Japan.

Amanda Gibson in a yukata while studying in Japan.