The Asian Studies Program at Northern Arizona University continues to be an active participant in campus academic life. The number of undergraduate students minoring in Asian Studies doubled since last year, reaching 196 (including 94 Asian Studies, 74 Japanese language, and 28 Chinese language minors). In addition, 8 of NAU’s graduate students are working on various Asian Studies subjects at the Department of Politics and International Affairs. Bringing together 17 fulltime and 2 part time faculty from across the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Social and Behavioral Studies, we offer 74 courses, including classes in Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, and Sanskrit and courses in politics, religions, art history, anthropology, geography, and humanities. This year, we support a Turkish music performance, the screening of a documentary film on the early history of Chinese feminism, and host 7 academic lectures. Our programs are popular, attended by around 200 students on average.

– Zsuzsanna Gulacsi
Associate Professor, Art History & Religious Studies Coordinator, Asian Studies Program

Film on Chinese Feminism:
February 22, 2012 at 7:00pm in Liberal Arts 120
6:30pm introduction by Dr. Chia-lin Pao Tao

Dr. Chia-lin Pao Tao (Professor of East Asian Studies, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson) is a specialist of women’s history and Chinese feminism. She will give an introductory lecture prior to the screening of the award-winning documentary film on Qiu Jin (1875-1907). Qiu Jin was a women’s rights activist, who defied tradition to become the leader of a revolutionary army. She boldly challenged traditional gender roles and demanded equal rights and opportunities for women. She became the first female martyr for China’s 1911 Revolution and is celebrated as a national heroine today. Autumn Gem is the first documentary feature on Qiu Jin in the US. It incorporates interviews with scholars, archival materials, and dramatic recreations based on her original writings, to bring the story of Qiu Jin to life.
Asian Graduate Studies at NAU

**Sophia Barkat** is a first year Ph.D. student in Comparative Politics and International Relations. She received an M.A. degree from the Sustainable Communities Program (NAU), where she wrote her thesis on rice research and food security in Bangladesh. Her recent work, co-authored with Sayeed Ahmed, titled “Grameen Bank and Gender Justice in Bangladesh” has been published in *South Asian Journal* (2009). Currently, Sophia is working under the guidance of Dr. Geeta Chowdhry on the topic of Foreign Aid and Reproductive Health in Bangladesh.

**Hubing Luan** is a second year Ph.D. student in Comparative Politics and International Relations working on topics related to international political economy and development under the supervision of Dr. Geeta Chowdhry. Hubing’s ongoing project is a comparative study of the environmental costs of the various models of development in China. He finds that the so-called “China Model of Development” is too broad a term that ignores the varieties of developmental models in that vast country. Accordingly, he aims to introduce more depth and complexity to the popular "developmental state" model that explains China’s success, and rethinks China’s economic growth from the perspective of sustainability.

**Agus Wahyudi** is a third year Ph.D. student in Comparative Politics and International Relations. Under the guidance of Dr. Sheila Nair, Agus’ current research regards questions of “Extremism & Democracy: The Case of Indonesian Ethnic and Religious Based Fundamentalism.” In this project, he aims to examine whether particular forms of ethnic and religious based extremism in Indonesia expanded democratic participation fostering a plural public sphere. In addition, he also intends to assess the applicability of democratic theory in the understanding of separatist phenomena in Aceh and West Papua as well as religious fundamentalist organizations such as the Front Pembela Islam (FPI-Islamic Front Defender), Hizbur Tahir Indonesia (HTI) and Jama’ah Islamiyah.

From NAU to the Ivy League

**Karlie Knudtsen** graduated from NAU (2009) with a B.A. in religious studies & a minor in Asian studies. This year she is finishing her M.A. at Harvard Divinity School and has been admitted to the Ph.D. program in REL at UC Santa Barbara with full funding on the most prestigious Chancellor’s Fellowship.

**Teala Mackey** graduated from NAU (2011) with a B.A. in religious studies & a minor in Asian studies. She has finished the first year of her M.A. in Comparative Religious Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI.

**Anthony Raschke** completed a study abroad program in Dubai before graduating from NAU (2010) with a B.A. in religious studies & a minor in Asian studies. He is now finishing his M.A. degree at the University of Texas at Austin in Middle Eastern Studies, with an emphasis on Turkish studies. He is particularly interested in the roles of counter-culture and minority relations with mainstream Turkish society today. After obtaining this degree, he hopes to move straight into a doctorate program in Anthropology, or possibly do research inside Kurdistan.

**Shannon Trosper** graduated from NAU (2009) with a B.A. in religious studies & a minor in Asian studies. She is finishing her MA thesis on the politics of religious pluralism. She has been working on a project “Finding Religion in the Media” and will present her paper at the International Conference for Digital Religion. She launched a website for undergraduate research in religion (www.networkingreligiousmovements.org). Based on her fieldwork on UFO spirituality, she gave a paper at the American Academy of Religion (Atlanta 2010). Most recently, Shannon was offered two fellowships with full funding for her Ph.D. work and can choose to continue her studies between the University of North Carolina & Ohio State University.

**Sarai Lopez** is graduating this year with a B.A. in religious studies and a minor in Asian studies. She is admitted already to UC Santa Barbara for the M.A. & Ph.D. in religious studies with good funding.
Asian Studies at NAU’s 2010-11 Undergraduate Symposium

Jillian Bailey’s project “Japonisme: Bringing Japanese Visual Art to Europe During the 19th Century” examined Edgar Degas’ works in comparison to Kitagawa Utamaro’s prints of women, and found that European artists were fascinated by the unique formal elements of Edo-period Japanese art. Her paper drew attention to the rich culture that inspired the European artistic movement known as Japonisme.

Ian Olsen’s paper titled “Siva in the Mahabharata and the Path of Self-Destruction” focused on the identity and role of the supreme deity in the Indian epic Mahabharata. His analysis concluded that the epic identifies the highest spiritual practice as ascetic self-destruction, the ultimate sacrifice, and that ‘the Destroyer’, most frequently identified as “Kala”, or “Time”, is the deity who presides over the inevitable fate of all beings.

Renee Rideout’s talk titled “The Power of Urushi” examined the traditional use of urushi, or Japanese lacquer in the restoration of a Heian period wooden sculpture, Fudo Myo-o. This study proved both the dynamic efficiency and versatility of urushi in comparison to synthetic, modern lacquers as well as the cultural significance of the use of urushi.

Randi Ringnes’s paper “Techniques of Early Japanese Ceramics in Light of NAU Resources: The Anagama Kiln and Holdings of the Sackler Study Collection” explored the evolution of ceramic techniques in Japan.

Asian Studies Faculty News

Prof. Mohamed Mohamed (Instructor, Dept. of Comparative Cultural Studies, Religious Studies Program) graduated with an MA in Anthropology and Sociology at the American University in Cairo. Continuing his education in religious studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Prof. Mohamed wrote his Ph.D. dissertation on the Muslim Brotherhood Group in Egypt. During his first year at NAU, Prof. Mohamed is teaching courses on Islam, Modernity in Judaism and Islam, Mysticism of the West, and Religions of the World. Besides teaching, he is actively involved in interfaith dialogue organizations and founded the Egyptian Interfaith Organization, among others. He also worked for the United Religions Initiative as its Middle East and North African Coordinator. After his year, he hopes to continue teaching on Islam and globalization.

Prof. Mounia Mnouer (Lecturer, Dept. of Modern Languages) is teaching classes in Arabic (ARB 101-202). In addition, she is working on her MA degree in Teaching English as a Second Language (MATESL) at NAU. She holds an undergraduate degree in English Linguistics from Morocco. As a native of Morocco, she speaks Berber and Arabic (both official languages of the country), in addition to French and English. For her Ph.D. work in Middle Eastern Studies, she plans to research speech intonation. All in all, Prof. Mnouer’s interest lies in teaching an awareness of culture through language and to break stereotypes. She is accomplishing this by incorporating class talent shows, student documentary films, and Arabic folk dance in her teaching.

Dr. Zsuzsanna Gulacsi (Associate Professor, Dept. of Comparative Cultural Studies, Art History and Religious Studies) was invited by the École pratique des hautes Études, University of Paris (“Sorbonne”) to give a set of four lectures: “Contextualized Studies in the History of Manichaean Art across the Asian Continent” in November 2011. Her focus included Chinese Jesus iconography, the art of the first Syriac Gospel Harmony, West and Central Asian book art, and images used as illustrations of oral instructions in Asian religions. The invitation was initiated by Prof. Jean-Daniel Dubois (Syriac Studies) and Prof. Frantz Grenet (Central Asian Archeology).

(From left to right) Renee, Randi, Ian, Jillian, and other presenters at the student symposium, April 26, 2011
ASIAN STUDIES FACULTY ADVISORS (17)
Sanjay Ahluwalia, Associate Professor, History and Women's Studies. Comparative Study of Politics of Birth Control, Feminist Theory (Sanjay.Ahluwalia@nau.edu)
Jason BeDuhn, Professor, Religious Studies. Religions of West Asia, Early and Eastern Christianity, Persian Religions (Jason.Beduhn@nau.edu)
Geeta Chowdhry, Professor, Political Science. South Asian Politics, Politics of Gender in South Asia, Feminist and Postcolonial Theory (Geeta.Chowdhry@nau.edu)
Paul Donnelly, Associate Professor, Religious Studies. Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, Women in Asian religions, Religion and Film (Paul.Donnelly@nau.edu)
Zsuzsanna Gulacs, Associate Professor, Art History & Religious Studies, Arts of Asia, Pre-Islamic Central Asia, Buddhist Art, Illuminated Manuscripts (Zsuzsanna.Gulacs@nau.edu)
Chad Hamill, Assistant professor, Ethnomusicology. Music of India (Chad.Hamill@nau.edu)
Sanjay Joshi, Professor, History. History of South Asia, Modern India, Colonialism and Nationalism, Middle Class Formations (Sanjay.Joshi@nau.edu)
John Leung, Associate Professor, History. History of East Asia, Modern China and Japan, People’s Republic of China, Women’s Education (John.Leung@nau.edu)
Alan A. Lew, Professor, Professor, Geography, Planning & Recreation. World Geography East, Tourism in East & Southeast Asia, Sustainable Tourism (Alan.Lew@nau.edu)
Mohamed M. Abdel Aziz Mohamed, Instructor, Religious Studies, Islam, and Judaism, (Mohamed.Aziz@nau.edu)
Sheila Nair, Professor, Political Science. Asian Politics, Political Economy, Postcolonial Theory, Human Rights, Migration (Sheila.Nair@nau.edu)
Chie Okubo, Senior Lecturer, Modern Languages. Japanese language and Literature (Chie.Okubo@nau.edu)
Scott S. Reese, Associate Professor, History. Islamic Intellectual History, Sufism, Reformist Movements, Colonialism (Scott.Reese@nau.edu)
Krista Rodin, Professor, Humanities. Asian Humanities, Philosophy, and Literature. (Krista.Rodin@nau.edu)
Bruce M. Sullivan, Professor, Religious Studies. Hinduism, Buddhism, Religion in Asia (Bruce.Sullivan@nau.edu)
Jim Wilce, Professor, Anthropology. South Asian Anthropology, Language and Interaction, Gender, Health, Illness and Healing (Jim.Wilce@nau.edu)
Xiaoyi Liu, Lecturer, Modern Languages. Chinese, Chinese Literature (Xiaoyi.Liu@nau.edu)

VISITING AND PART TIME FACULTY (2)
Rajee Mohan, Instructor, Art History and Humanities. Asia and India (rm229@nau.edu)
Mounia Mnouer, Instructor, Modern Languages. Arabic, Arabic Literature (mm2432@nau.edu)

ASIAN STUDIES COURSES (74)
6 COURSES (18 crh, chosen from 3 disciplines) ARE NEEDED TO FULFILL THE ASIAN STUDIES MINOR

Asian Studies (6)
- ASN 108 Gateways to Asia (or ARH 143, HIS 249, HIS 250, HIS 251, HIS 297, REL 203–3 units required)
- ASN 199, 298, 299, 399, 497 (topics courses)

Updated as of Spring 2012

Anthropology (1)
- ANT 438 Social Life in South Asia

Art History (6)
- ARH 143 Arts of Asia*
- ARH 269 Arts of China*
- ARH 370 Buddhist Art*
- ARH 440C Capstone in Art History (When subject is Asian)

Comparative Cultural Studies (1)
- CCS 490C CCS Capstone (When subject is Asian)

Ethnic Studies (1)
- ES 378 Asian American Experience

Geography (2)
- GSP 241 World Geography East (Asia, The Pacific, & Africa)
- GGR 348 Geographic Area Studies: Asia

History (17)
- HIS 230 History of the Islamic World before 1500*
- HIS 231 History of the Islamic World since 1500*
- HIS 249 Pre-Modern India*
- HIS 250 Pre-Modern East Asia*
- HIS 251 The Making of Modern Asia*
- HIS 297 Women in Asia*
- HIS 312 Gandhi’s India* • HIS 314 Contemporary India*
- HIS 325 Modern China* • HIS 326 China Since 1945*
- HIS 331 Medieval Japan* • HIS 332 Modern Japan*
- HIS 378 The Asian American Experience
- HIS 434 Japan Since World War Two*
- HIS 460 Studies in World History (When Asian history)
- HIS 498C Capstone in History (When Subject is Asia)
- HIS 520 Readings in Asian History

Humanities (2)
- HUM 261 Perspectives on Asian Humanities
- HUM 362 Asian Images: India

Languages (21)
- ARB (Arabic) 101-102, 201-202
- ASN (Sanskrit) 199, 299, 399
- CHI (Chinese) 101-102, 201-202
- JPN (Japanese) 101-102, 201-202
- LAN (other) 101-102, 201-202 (transfer credit)
- WLLC 150 Intro to Chinese & Japanese Lang. & Literature
- WLLC 331 Chinese & Japanese Literature in Translation

Music (1)
- MUS 260 Introduction to World Music*

Political Science (3)
- POS 361 Politics of Developing Nations*
- POS 370 Asian Politics*
- POS 472 Politics of the Middle East*

Religious Studies (13)
- REL 150 Religions of the World*
- REL 203 Mysticism: Asia*
- REL 206 Women’s Roles & Experience in Asian Religions*
- REL 295 Islam & Judaism in Modernity
- REL 331 Islam
- REL 332 Islamic Art: Religious & Secular Arts of Islamic Asia*
- REL 341 Hinduism*
- REL 351 Buddhism*
- REL 352 Buddhist Art: Visual Lang. & Religious Context*
- REL 355 The Buddha*
- REL 441 Seminar in Hinduism
- REL 451 Seminar in Buddhism
- REL 491C Capstone in REL (Whenever subject is Asian)

Philosophy (1)
- PHI 150 Philosophies of the World*

(*) Course Fulfills NAU’s Global Diversity requirement

For further information on NAU’s Asian Studies Program, please visit our website http://www.cal.nau.edu/asian_studies/, or contact the program coordinator, Dr. Gulacs: Zsuzsanna.Gulacs@nau.edu, NAU Box 6031, Flagstaff, AZ 86011 (928) 523-0700