

GLOBAL ASIA SECOND MAJOR

Global Asia is an area-focused, interdisciplinary second major committed to humanities scholarship that studies Asia within a global context. It is ideal for SMU students from all backgrounds who want supplement their undergraduate studies with specialised knowledge about Asia.

The last few decades have witnessed Asia's dramatic rise in the global stage as key countries like China, India, Japan, South Korea, and Singapore emerge as major economic and geopolitical powerhouses. At the same time, industrialising countries such as Indonesia, the Philippines and Pakistan are set to grow rapidly with a dynamism that has led many observers to dub the 21st Century as 'the Asian Century.' However, while Asia is re-emerging as a major centre of economic growth, innovation, and world history, it also faces enormous problems related to inequality, poverty, environmental degradation, migration, geo-political tensions, and social and personal upheaval.

Within these changing regional and global landscapes, the Global Asia second major strives to meet the rising demand for knowledge about Asian societies, cultures, and contemporary politics. Courses within the programme integrate knowledge from various disciplines in order to give students a holistic approach to the study of Asia.

Embedded within the program are enriched activities that include a course taught in collaboration with partner organisations, a humanities-based study mission to an Asian country, special internships with international organizations and NGOs, and joint programs/partnership arrangements with leading universities in East and Southeast Asia. Making use of Singapore's strategic location as a regional hub for arts and culture, the programme also employs interactive teaching methodologies that involve visits to museums, seasonal arts exhibitions, civil society groups, as well as other relevant events around our vibrant city.

Learning outcomes

The Global Asia second major aims to produce globally-minded students with in-depth knowledge of their own region of Asia. Designed to accommodate students from diverse degree programs across SMU's Schools, this second major will equip students with the necessary skills to navigate their way through Asia's changing social, economic, and geopolitical terrains.

By the end of this course, students would have acquired:

- Understanding of the great diversity of cultures and societies in Asia
- Specialised knowledge about the complex history and political economy of Asia
- Knowledge of humanities-based analytical methods and theories to critically analyse contemporary issues in Asia
- Opportunities to apply skills in solving real-life problems faced by Asia-based institutions, organisations, and communities through experiential learning (SMU-X courses, study missions, and specialised internship programs)

Programme structure

To fulfil the requirements of the Global Asia second major, students must complete:

Core (2 CUs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. COR-GA2634 Exploring Asian Identities 2. COR-GA2635 Contemporary Asia: Power, Diversity & Change
Electives (5 CUs)	<p>GA students who wish to take a language course can only count one from the language courses below as a GA elective.</p> <p>ACM213 Cultural Relations and Diplomacy in Asia ACM306 Arts, Culture and the Global City COR2602 Film in Southeast Asia COR2603 Singapore: Imagining the Next Fifty Years COR2613 Screening Asia: History, Society, and Politics in Film COR-JPAN2401 Japanese (language) COR-KREA2402 Korean (language) COR-MAND2404 Mandarin (language) COR-MLAY2405 Bahasa Melayu (language) COR-POSC2604 Politics of South East Asia COR-SOCG2607 Contemporary South Asian Societies COR-SOCG2608 Understanding China's Economic Miracle: Social Origins and Social Impact COR-THAI2403 Thai (language) ECON118 Economic Development in Asia GA201 Popular Culture in Asia GA203 History of Southeast Asia COR-GA2636 Managing Diversity in Asia GA206 Overseas Project Experience (Managing Diversity in Asia) GA303 Special Topics in Global Asia * LAW.469 Introduction to Chinese History, Culture, Economy, Politics and Law LAW4009 China's Belt and Road Initiative: Practical Legal and Commercial Aspect of Cross-Border Projects on the New Silk Route LGST235 China's Belt and Road Initiative: Challenges and Opportunities MGMT.312 Asia Pacific Business MGMT320 Innovations for Asia's Smart Cities PHIL207 Introduction to Classical Chinese Philosophy POSC210 Political Economy of East Asia POSC220 International Relations of East Asia POSC222 Chinese Foreign Policy POSC223 Political Economy of Inequality in Singapore PPPM205 Religion and Policy in Asia COR-SOCG2637 Deconstructing Singapore Society SOCG222 Nation Building in Asia SOCG227 InterAsian Mobilities</p> <p>* Special Topics courses are conducted by visiting expert academics and may not be available every Academic Year.</p>
Engaging the Field (1 CU)	ACCT001 Accounting Study Mission (Asian Studies) ACCT009 Overseas Project Experience (Accounting in Asia) COR-ACM2633 Overseas Project Experience (Arts Management and Cultural Exchange in Asia) GA305 GA Study Mission GA306 Special Project (in partnership with other institutions) ^ GA307 Independent Project ^ GA308 Overseas Project Experience: Applied Social Sciences in Globalised Asia LAW.438 Law Study Mission to Asia MGMT.325 Entrepreneurship Study Mission (Asia)

	<p>MGMT301 Business Study Mission (Asia) MGMT337 Sustainability Study Mission (Asian Studies) POSC307 Political Science Study Mission PSYC308 Overseas Project Experience (Applied Psychology in Asia) SMT401 Social Technopreneurship Study Mission (Asia) SOCG228 Social Entrepreneurship Challenge in the Indo-Pacific SOCG311 Overseas Project Experience (Applied Sociology in Asia)</p> <p><i>^ Special and Independent Project courses are only available upon special arrangement with the GA programme coordinator.</i></p>
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Note:

[Only applicable to Cohort 2021 and earlier] BSocSc students are not allowed to double count any of the Social Science electives cross-listed under the GA second major to their first major. For example, a BSocSc student may take POSC220 as a GA elective or as a Political Science elective, but not both.

Course codes may change; current students should also refer to the Handbook on OASIS and BOSS for the most updated information.