STUDENT HANDBOOK 2026-2027

Interdisciplinary Master of Arts in East Asian Studies

The Ohio State University

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Introduction

This handbook is the primary faculty and student guide to the policies and procedures of the East Asian Studies MA Program at The Ohio State University. Additional important material about graduate study at The Ohio State University can be found in The Ohio State University *Graduate School Handbook* published by The Graduate School at **gradsch.osu.edu/handbook**. This handbook supplements and does not supersede Graduate School regulations and procedures.

The East Asian Studies MA program builds on the very broad and rich resources of The Ohio State University. Students have the opportunity to study with dozens of faculty in various disciplines. They also have access to an outstanding and ever-expanding library collection of East Asian language materials.

The MA in East Asian Studies

The East Asian Studies Master of Arts is designed to be a two-year interdisciplinary and terminal degree program to prepare students who desire concentrated training in East Asian language and culture (Chinese, Japanese, or Korean) either 1) before pursuing a non-academic career in government (including the U.S. Foreign Service) or the military; in pre-college and community college education; in administration of non-profit institutions with a related cultural mission; or in private-sector careers such as law, journalism, business, etc.; or 2) preparatory to continuing study of East Asia in a discipline-specific PhD program at Ohio State or elsewhere.

The program places heavy emphasis on 1) interdisciplinary study, and 2) development of appropriate language skills as a foundation for work in related professional and academic careers. The program also 3) introduces students to broad theoretical/methodological issues associated with area studies perspectives. To achieve the first goal, interdisciplinary work is required in at least two disciplines. In furtherance of the second goal, students in the regular track are encouraged in their study in non-native East Asian language courses or courses that make substantial use of East Asian languages in reading or research and must meet minimum skill levels. The final goal is served by the requirement that students take the one-credit "Introduction to Graduate Level East Asian Studies" course each semester. *(Note: Students interested in teaching an East Asian language or focusing only on a single discipline such as literature or linguistics should apply for an MA program offered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, not this interdisciplinary program.)*

Mid-Career Professional Track

In addition to the regular track, a specialized Mid-Career Professional Track is also available in the Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies MA Program. This is structured to meet the needs of applicants who already have significant career experience in East Asia and thus already possess substantial knowledge of the region and language skills. People with extensive prior language training, e.g., those who have successfully completed the Defense Language Institute intensive program, who have completed appropriate training at other intensive language training programs, and who have had substantial work experience in an East Asian country (typically a year or more) are encouraged to apply. (Applicants who do not have language training sufficient to place out of fourth-year language work should apply to the regular MA track.) This track is designed to be completed in three academic semesters or within one calendar year.

For further information on this specialized track, see **easc.osu.edu/mid-career-professional-track**.

Application For Admission to the MA Program

Candidates for admission to the MA program in East Asian Studies must hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university (before the MA program begins). The minimum Graduate School requirements for admission are a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) for all previous undergraduate work and 3.2 for all previous graduate work. In special cases, however, students with undergraduate GPAs less than 3.0 can be considered for admission. Applicant records of foreign language study should demonstrate either a) past success in non-native East Asian language work; or b) a high level of accomplishment in the study of one or more non-East Asian languages.

Successful applicants will have clearly demonstrated solid academic accomplishment, an ability to learn foreign languages, and a willingness/ability to interact both intellectually and personally with cultures very different from their own, all evidenced through a combination of a) the academic record presented through transcripts, b) letters of reference from people who have direct first-hand knowledge of applicants' intellectual capability and socio-cultural adaptability, and c) past activities (e.g., living abroad) reflected in the student's curriculum vitae.

Application Deadlines for Autumn 2027: *

Consideration:	Priority	Secondary
Deadline:	November 30, 2026	March 1, 2027

Applications received by the priority deadline of November 30 will be considered first. November 30 is also the deadline for applicants seeking funding, such as a University Fellowship. Applicants will typically receive a decision on their application within 6 weeks of the deadline. Successful priority applicants will have the opportunity to schedule a campus visit, including a guided tour of campus and meetings with faculty. (Such visits are often subsidized or fully covered). In general, applicants offered admission are required to accept such offers by May 15, 2027.

*Application deadlines above refer to the date by which applicants must have ALL elements of their application file complete and submitted to be considered for admission. In other words, simply submitting an online application by this date, without inclusion of some required documents or without completion of the letters of recommendation by recommenders, does not constitute a complete application file. To ensure that test scores and letters of reference are also received by the deadline, applications likely need to be submitted significantly in advance of the deadline. After completing the initial application form to the Graduate School, notices will be automatically sent to those listed as recommenders, asking them to submit recommendations on behalf of the applicant. Therefore, it is important for the applicant to complete this initial step well before November 30 to ensure enough time for their letters of recommendation to be received by the deadline.

Note: In considering the Interdisciplinary MA in East Asian Studies program at Ohio State, prospective students should also investigate related but administratively completely separate programs at the University, such as the Ohio State Advanced Chinese Language and Culture (Flagship) Program and/or department-based graduate programs. Because each program has its own emphases, prospective students should consider which best fits their own interests, backgrounds, and long-range plans.

Application Procedure:

The following materials are required and may be submitted to The Ohio State University Graduate and Professional Admissions Office online:

1. a completed Ohio State Graduate School Admission application for "East Asian Studies Interdisciplinary Program" (online at: **gpadmissions.osu.edu/programs/programs.aspx**);
2. electronic copy of official transcripts for all previous academic work (official hard copies will be requested upon conditional acceptance into the program);
3. current CV/resume (4 pages maximum)
4. writing sample (research paper or thesis, in English, no longer than 30 pages; this sample should reflect an applicant's ability to conduct research and include proper references and citations);
5. a two-part statement of purpose no more than three pages in length:

    a. Part I: two pages, double-spaced, explaining why the applicant wishes to pursue an interdisciplinary graduate program in East Asian Studies (which is not the same as programs offered by the departments of East Asian Languages and Literatures, History, etc.) at The Ohio State University, including career goals, research interests, and geographic area of study, and indicating the relationship of past experience to these goals and interests;

    b. Part II: one page, double-spaced, explaining both the applicant's previous East Asian language training and goals, indicating which language they will study at Ohio State. It is not required, but if the applicant has already contacted or hopes to work with a particular faculty member or in a specific discipline, they should mention this here;

6. three letters of recommendation from persons acquainted with the applicant's scholastic ability and ability to adapt to different cultures; at least one letter should be from a language teacher or speak to foreign language abilities;
7. For international applicants only: English proficiency scores (minimum scores: TOEFL-IBT: 4.0 (or 79 on old system); Duolingo: 120; IELTS: 6.5)

Please note that the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not a requirement for admission. Applicants may submit GRE scores on a voluntary basis.

Application for Admission to Specialized Tracks

Mid-Career Professional Track:

Application procedures for this track are identical to the ones described above for the regular track. When applying online for the "East Asian Studies Interdisciplinary Program" at **gpadmissions.osu.edu/programs/programs.aspx**, choose "Mid-Career Professional Track" as the sub-plan.

Note: In order to enter the Mid-Career Professional Track, students must place out of the fourth-year level of East Asian language study. Incoming students take a placement exam. Those who do not demonstrate the required level of proficiency must enter the regular MA track.

After Admission

The Graduate Studies Chair and program director of the EAS MA Program will aid new students in first-term registration and in the selection of their faculty advisory committee members. Students must designate a formal lead ("permanent") advisor and advisory committee within the first two terms of study (or within the first term of study for Mid-Career Professional Track students). Thereafter, course registration should always take place in close consultation with the student's lead advisor, who must meet with the student and sign off on the Course Approval Form (available here) each term. Refer to the Administrative Timeline (at the end of this Handbook) for further details about program requirements and timing.

The individual student's advisory committee will consist of at least three faculty members. It must include representatives from the major fields (disciplines) as determined in discussions between the student and the lead advisor or, for new students, between the student and the temporary advisor. The faculty members constituting the advisory committee must come from at least two different departments in the University. The student's lead advisor must be chosen from the list of East Asian Studies Center affiliated faculty (found here). You should confirm with the program director that the faculty member has appropriate status to serve as advisor. The remaining two committee members may be from the list of affiliated faculty or from another program, however at least one must hold membership at the category M level or higher, which allows them to advise master's students. One non-graduate faculty member may be appointed by approval of the graduate studies committee and by petition to the Graduate School. Although not required, some students find it helpful to include a member from the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures on their committee who is associated with the student's primary East Asian language. If no such faculty member is on the committee, the student's lead advisor should arrange to receive an annual progress report from the language program faculty or other formal evidence of language proficiency (e.g., coursework in advanced language study, extended use of East Asian language materials in research, etc.). Once the committee is formed, adjustments in the composition of the committee can occur later, but in that event, appropriate notification of changes must be pre-approved by either the student's lead advisor or the Graduate Studies Chair. The student's file with EASC must reflect any changes as they occur so that it is always current.

The student is required, at the beginning of each term, to obtain the signed approval of his/her lead advisor for his/her program of study for that term, using the EAS MA Program Course Approval Form. This plan of study must be formally submitted to EASC (program director) by the end of the first week of classes each term. Any thesis prospectus must also be approved by the advisory committee and filed with EASC. Failure to submit the proper forms in a timely manner may jeopardize the student's standing in the program.

By the end of the first academic year of study (or first term of study for Mid-Career Professional Track students), the student should also choose between a thesis and non-thesis track. The thesis track entails the production of a substantial research paper, to be defended in an oral examination upon completion; the non-thesis track requires the production of a seminar paper and a written comprehensive examination to be defended orally.

Students often choose to graduate in spring or summer. They must complete a series of procedures in order to take the examinations and graduate. Note that many faculty members travel during this period. It is particularly important for the graduating student on the thesis track to act early and ask the committee members about their availability for the thesis defense. The Graduate School specifies the deadlines for filing for graduation and submitting the final version of the thesis. The graduating student should plan to submit the thesis to the committee at least ten days before the oral defense. Usually, at the defense, the committee will ask the student to make some revision before officially filing the thesis with the Graduate School. This revision process will take some time. Students and lead advisors should work closely during the process to ensure they leave plenty of time for the defense and thesis submission.

Types Of Graduate Courses

5000-level courses (Dual Career Level Courses):

involve graduate and undergraduate students in a basic lecture/discussion format.

6000-level courses (Foundational Level Graduate and Professional Courses):

are generally reading courses which serve to acquaint students with important literature in specific fields of study. Such courses should give the student wide-ranging bibliographical knowledge and an introduction to the major interpretive issues and controversies which have characterized the development of scholarship in each particular field.

7000-level courses (Intermediate Level Graduate and Professional Courses):

are normally graduate seminars in which students conduct research in primary source materials, integrate the results of their research with pertinent secondary sources, and produce a paper of publishable quality. The designation "seminar" is taken to mean that students will usually submit their work to the constructive criticism of their peers as well as that of their instructor.

8000-level courses (Advanced Level Graduate and Professional Courses):

are normally graduate seminars in which students conduct research in primary source materials, integrate the results of their research with pertinent secondary sources, and produce a paper of publishable quality. The designation "seminar" is taken to mean that students will usually submit their work to the constructive criticism of their peers as well as that of their instructor.

Independent study:

"Independent Study" (or "Directed Reading" in some departments) is a flexible option for students. Each faculty member has his/her own course number for "Independent Study." This course could be used for the following purposes:

1) The student can take an undergraduate course with a faculty and conduct extra work in order to receive graduate credits. The student needs to discuss with the faculty and get permission before registering for an independent study.
2) Most faculty members do not offer graduate seminars every term. The student could ask a faculty to offer an independent study in order to explore a specific topic in depth or write a research paper.

Pros and cons: Independent Study offers flexibility, but students are encouraged to take regular graduate-level courses rather than independent study because a seminar exposes students to a diverse intellectual environment and provides a more structured learning experience. It is also beneficial to have substantive course titles appear in the official transcript, which helps show the student's training and intellectual trajectory.

For further information on types of graduate courses, visit **this** site.

Requirements for the MA Degree

Students are required to choose one geographical area of East Asia (China, Japan or Korea) to focus on by the end of their first term in the program. Though this area should provide the focus for the student's course of study, he/she will be required to take courses in other areas and multiple disciplines as well, in keeping with the interdisciplinary and area study nature of the program.

Credit Hour Requirements

Graduate credit hours required for degree: Graduate credit hours required for degree: At least 37 graduate credits (5000 level and above) are required of all students in the regular track (at least 32 graduate credits for Mid-Career Professional Track students). Non-language courses below the 5000 level may not count towards graduation. Language courses taken to fulfill the 12-credit language requirement may not be counted as part of the required graduate credit hours.

Language study credit hours required for degree: In addition to the required graduate credits discussed above, all non-native East Asian language speakers in the regular track are required to take at least 12 credit hours of East Asian language study. Language courses may not be counted as part of the required graduate credit hours discussed above. However, language courses at the graduate-level (5000 level and above) that are taken beyond the 12-credit language requirement can be counted toward the required graduate credit hours. Further expectations for language study are discussed below.

Regardless of which track is chosen (thesis/non-thesis), the following requirements must be fulfilled:

I. Language

Non-native East Asian language speaking students are required to have completed at least three levels (to the end of third year) of an East Asian language by the time the MA degree is awarded. All non-native speakers of an East Asian language who are regular track students are expected to take an East Asian language of their choice during each term they are enrolled in the program. It is common for students to take a language placement exam as soon as possible upon admittance to the program. Many language courses fill to capacity so early testing will provide the best opportunity to enroll in the appropriate course. Beginning and intermediate students are urged to take intensive language courses in the summer before their program starts and to continue language training through each subsequent summer when possible. Students should plan their language coursework in close consultation with their advisor and MA advisory committee members.

NOTE: Native speakers of an East Asian languages or students who enter the program with exceptional proficiency in both reading and speaking in one East Asian language are encouraged to focus on a second East Asian language. Moreover, non-native speakers of English must demonstrate sufficient English-language ability to participate in class discussions, perform well on an oral thesis or exam defense, and write effective papers.

The Ohio State Graduate School requires that students maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA in order to be considered in good academic standing. **Students in the EAS MA Program are additionally required to earn a grade of at least "B" (3.0) in all language courses. Language courses for which the student earns a "B-" or lower do not count toward satisfying degree requirements.**

Mid-Career Professional Track:

Students in the Mid-Career Professional Track must take a language placement exam upon entrance into the program and place out of fourth-year of East Asian language study. They must continue language study, however, through some combination of the following approaches:

(a) take a course in their target language (content-oriented 5th level and above), or
(b) make extensive use of their target language in reading and/or research for a non-language course (e.g., writing a scholarly article-length analysis of an historical issue by analyzing Chinese, Japanese, or Korean primary and secondary sources).

For Mid-Career Professional Track students, both options also count as part of the required area studies coursework.

II. Courses

Of the required graduate-level courses, at least 7 courses/21 credits (6 courses and 18 credits for Mid-Career Professional Track students) must be in the student's geographic area of concentration within East Asia, and 4 courses (12 credits) must be in geographic areas outside that concentration. Of these 12 credits, at least 9 must focus on another geographic area in East Asia outside the student's area of concentration. For example, a student focusing on Japan must take 21 credit hours of courses on Japan, and at least 12 credits focusing on geographic areas other than Japan, at least 9 of which must focus on another East Asian geographic area (e.g., Korea or China). Students are encouraged to check with their advisor or the program director to ensure courses meet these requirements. In addition, students in the regular track are required to take the one-credit foundation course, "Introduction to Graduate-level East Asian Studies" a total of 4 times, while Mid-Career Professional Track students are required to take the course twice. If a MCPT student remains enrolled in the program longer than one calendar year, they are expected to take the foundation course each semester (outside of summer) they are enrolled. If a regular track student finishes all degree requirements in less than 4 semesters, they may only take the "Introduction" course 3 times. This course, as well as courses devoted to thesis research and writing, as well as independent studies with faculty members are graded pass/fail; otherwise, no classroom-based courses may be taken pass/fail.

Both thesis and non-thesis track students are required to take at least two seminar courses (7000+ levels, depending on department; note that some departments may require a two-term seminar sequence in order to receive course credit) in which they can utilize East Asian language sources to write a seminar paper, employing that language at the level of the student's competence at the time the paper is submitted. Students with advanced language standing are expected to produce a paper of publishable quality; students in the early stages of language acquisition are expected to produce a research paper that indicates that they have mastered the skills of research, synthesis, and analysis required for publishable scholarship. Thesis-track students may use this paper as the basis for their thesis.

The Ohio State Graduate School requires that students maintain a cumulative 3.0 GPA in order to be considered in good academic standing. Students in the EAS MA Program are additionally required to earn a grade of at least "B" (3.0) in all non-language courses. Non-language courses for which the student earns a "B-" or lower do not count toward satisfying degree requirements.

NOTE 1: Several departments offer 3000 and 4000 level classes not available for graduate credit but that include courses many previous EAS MA students have opted to take to round out their background in East Asian Studies. There is a work-around for this issue: The student can register for a graduate independent study with the person teaching the course and participate fully in the course, but IN ADDITION, the student will arrange to do additional work for the course to make it commensurate with graduate level education. Typically, this is done by officially enrolling in the undergraduate course as an auditing student AND enrolling in the independent studies course. To audit an undergraduate course as a graduate student, you must receive written permission from the instructor and forward this, along with the course information, to the Registration Services department of the Graduate School.

NOTE 2: A number of applicants are interested in taking social science classes that are typically not titled in such a way as to seem to contribute to broader area studies education, e.g., "sociology of the family" for a

student interested in studying the PRC's one-child policy. The work-around for this issue is that the student contracts with the instructor to fulfill their research/project(s) for the class with study/research focused on some facet of East Asian society and culture. Students are encouraged to contact the faculty instructor of such a course and the MA program director prior to enrolling in the course to ensure it meets program requirements.

Thesis Option vs. Non-Thesis Option

All students are required, by the end of the first year of study (first semester of study for Mid-Career Professional Track students), to choose, in consultation with their MA advisory committee, either a thesis or non-thesis track. Thesis Track and Non-Thesis Track Planning Guides are available **here** to guide students through the process. It is possible to switch from a thesis to a non-thesis track (or vice versa), but students should consult with their advisor and the MA program coordinator before doing so. They will also be required to submit a formal change to their status with the Graduate School.

a. Thesis Track

If a student chooses the thesis track, he/she is expected to complete a substantial research paper (generally of 40-50 pages) in which they utilize an East Asian language as a research tool. The thesis is to be defended orally before the MA advisory committee in the last term of the program. The student must produce a written thesis prospectus by the end of the first term of his/her final year of study; a minimum of one-third of the student's time over the final term will be devoted to researching and writing of the thesis. The thesis should employ the student's East Asian language(s) at the level of the student's competence at the time the thesis is submitted. Students with advanced language standing are expected to achieve publishable quality; students in the early stages of language acquisition are expected to produce a research paper that indicates that they have mastered the skills of research, synthesis, and analysis required for publishable scholarship.

After submitting the thesis to his/her MA advisory committee, the student is also required to make a two-hour oral defense of the thesis. Thesis track students may register for up to two terms (total of 6 credit hours) of thesis-writing credit without special permission. However, the student must secure written permission from all members of their advisory committee to register for more thesis-writing course credit for it to count toward the minimum degree requirements. This request must be approved by the EAS Graduate Studies Committee.

It is strongly recommended that students planning to apply to a PhD program choose the thesis track because PhD programs typically ask students to submit research papers using the appropriate language with their application materials.

b. Non-thesis Track

Students choosing the non-thesis track must complete, first, one seminar in which they utilize their required, non-native East Asian language as a research tool and write a seminar paper (generally 25-35 pages in length) employing that language at the level of the student's competence at the time the paper is submitted.

Students with advanced language standing are expected to produce a paper of publishable quality; students in the early stages of language acquisition are expected to produce a research paper that indicates that they have mastered the skills of research, synthesis, and analysis required for publishable scholarship. Second, students must take a comprehensive written examination in fields determined by each student in consultation with his or her MA advisory committee. The exam structure is determined by the student's committee and must be a minimum of four hours of writing in some form. The exam must have sufficient number and variety of questions to address the major disciplinary and content fields of the student's

coursework. In addition, the student must participate in a one-hour oral defense of the exam with all three of their committee members participating. (In the case of a four-faculty-member committee, at least three must participate, but those three may not all come from the same department.) This examination and oral defense are intended to bring together the previous coursework in the student's program rather than to address a reading list of canonical works within established disciplinary boundaries.

Assessment

The Graduate School requires programs to establish desired learning outcomes and track student's progress toward those outcomes. The EAS MA Program has identified outcomes in five categories on which students will be assessed as follows:

a. Broad knowledge

Outcome: Students must demonstrate a broad knowledge of the society, culture, and histories of China, Japan, and/or Korea.

Assessment method: Review of transcripts by program staff.

Criteria: At least 9 credits of content courses in a geographic area within East Asia outside the primary geographic focus.

b. Specialization

Outcome: Students must demonstrate both a breadth and depth of knowledge in a specific geographic area.

Assessment method: Review of transcripts by program staff and committee members' evaluation of the student's thesis/comprehensive exam and oral presentation/defense based on a rubric.

Criteria: At least 21 credits of content courses in one specific geographic area; minimum of "meets expectations / average" in all substantive criteria of rubric.

c. Knowledge of Major Field

Outcome: Students must demonstrate a disciplinary focus and an ability to engage critically with the discourse and scholarship on their geographic area of specialization., For instance, a student may choose to focus on Korean literature, Chinese history, or Japanese economics, and should gain an understanding in these topics that include appropriate methods and theory.

Assessment method 1: Committee members' evaluation of the student's thesis/comprehensive exam and oral presentation/defense based on a rubric.

Criteria 1: Minimum of "meets expectations / average" in all substantive criteria of rubric.

Assessment method 2: Evaluation of student's oral presentation(s). Based on preparation of seminar papers and/or MA thesis work, students will be required to present their research in at least one of several venues: a professional association meeting (local, regional, national or international), campus workshops and forums (such as the Hayes Graduate Research Forum), or the "Introduction to Graduate-Level East Asian Studies" course. Students will request that a faculty member present at the presentation complete an evaluation rubric and submit it to the EASC office.

Criteria 2: Minimum of "meets expectations / average" in all substantive criteria of rubric.

d. Language Competency

Outcome: At minimum, and depending on the student's specialization, students must demonstrate third-year competence in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean language skills. (At least two of the following criteria should be met.)

Assessment method 1: Evaluation of language competence at program end will occur via standardized instruments for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean by three language specialists in charge of language placement and evaluation for the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, currently Prof. Danielle Pyun (Korean, pyun.7@osu.edu) and program specialists Steven Knicely (Chinese, knicely.1@osu.edu) and Yuko Kuwai (Japanese, kuwai.1@osu.edu). These faculty will evaluate language competence through the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview) or equivalent instruments.

Criteria 1: Minimum competency of Intermediate-Mid on the ACTFL OPI scale; aspirational competency of Intermediate-High or Advanced-Low on the ACTFL OPI scale.

Assessment method 2: Review of transcripts by program staff.

Criteria 2: Completion of Level 3 of Chinese, Japanese, or Korean; or, compared to language level at entry, advanced by at least 2 levels.

Assessment method 3: Examination of research papers.

Criteria 3: Demonstrated use of language of study in seminar papers and theses, appropriate to language level competency.

e. Scholarship

Outcome: Students must demonstrate the ability to engage in scholarship on a targeted subject and to substantiate and defend an original scholarly argument, both orally and in writing.

Assessment method: Assessment of either MA thesis and/or seminar paper.

Criteria: Thesis committee or MA examination committee assessment that at least one paper/thesis meets, within the language competence of the student, standards that make the work ready for submission to a journal.

Please note that assessment measures may change in the future.

Education Abroad

While not required, students without prior living and study experience in their country of primary study and research will be strongly encouraged to take advantage of one or more of our education abroad/internship opportunities. Ohio State sponsored programs can be found on the Office of International Affairs' website at: **oia.osu.edu/units/global-education/**.

Time Limitation

Students must meet all Ohio State University Graduate School requirements for completion of degree requirements in a timely manner. Refer to the Ohio State Graduate School Handbook at **gradsch.ohio-state.edu/graduate-school-handbook1.html.**

Financial Aid

Graduate School Fellowships

Each year the Ohio State Graduate School supports approximately 250 graduate students in all fields as Graduate Fellows, selected through a university-wide competition. Students applying to the Graduate School who wish to be considered for a Graduate School Fellowship must submit the Graduate Admissions Application and all supporting documentation prior to the priority application deadline.

Applicants for the EAS MA Program who meet minimum requirements for the University Fellowship (cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.6 on a 4.0 scale) may be nominated by the Graduate Studies Committee for consideration for the fellowships.

Please note that separate applications are **not** required for Graduate School Fellowships. For more information, visit the Graduate School's website at **www.gradsch.ohio-state.edu**.

Graduate Associateships

Graduate associateships are not available within the EAS MA Program itself. However, some students have been successful in finding associateships in other departments on campus. Graduate associateship positions include graduate teaching associates (GTAs), graduate research associates (GRAs), and graduate administrative associates (GAAs). GTAs may be asked to teach, assist with laboratory work, and/or perform other related activities. GRAs are assigned to research projects supervised by graduate professors. GAAs perform a variety of administrative and management duties. Most graduate associates work 20 hours per week for 9 months and receive a monthly stipend and a fee authorization for tuition. Ohio State offers stipends that are competitive with other universities of similar size and scope. Associateship positions generally begin in the Autumn semester and are renewable, depending upon the student's job performance, grades, and availability of funds. Students are encouraged to visit the Office of Student Financial Aid's website at **www.sfa.osu.edu/jobs/index.asp?tab=e#pagecontent** for a listing of available associateships and other student employment opportunities.

Federal Work Study Program

U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for the government-sponsored Federal Work Study Program which provides jobs for eligible students with financial need to earn money to help pay education expenses. Interested applicants should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), found at **studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa**. Further information can be found at **sfa.osu.edu/jobs/federal-work-study-program**.

EASC Scholarships

The East Asian Studies Center administers one scholarship to which students in the MA program can apply. The Louise Zung-Nyi Loh Memorial Scholarship awards $400-$1,600 to select graduate or undergraduate Ohio State students with an academic specialization or research interest in East Asia. This is a competitive scholarship open to current students throughout the university. More information on this scholarship can be found at **easc.osu.edu/funding/graduate-funding-opportunities/graduate-easc-scholarships**.

Office of International Affairs Scholarships and Grants

Ohio State's Office of International Affairs offers a number of research grants and scholarships for which students in the EAS MA program can apply. The Brian Chiou and Chiou Family Hope Scholarship is a need-based scholarship ($2,500) open to all international students with interests in Taiwanese culture. More

information about this scholarship is available at **oia.osu.edu/grants-and-scholarships/graduate/brian-chiou-and-chiou-family-hope-scholarship**. OIA also offers awards for international research and scholarship and a need-based grant for international students. The Fulbright US Student Program, also administered by OIA, is open to students who are planning to graduate from the EAS MA program and are interested in researching or teaching English in East Asia. Find more information on these awards, and others, at **oia.osu.edu/grants-and-scholarships/graduate**.

William D. Clark, Sr. Diplomatic Security Fellowship

Funded by the U.S. Department of State, the Clarke DS Fellowship is a two-year graduate fellowship program designed for individuals who want to pursue a master's degree and a career as a Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) Special Agent in the Foreign Service. DSS Special Agents are sworn federal law enforcement officers.

A high-profile State Department diversity recruitment program, the Clarke DS Fellowship aims to attract qualified candidates to the Diplomatic Security Service who represent ethnic, racial, gender, social, and geographic diversity. Women, members of minority groups underrepresented in the Foreign Service, and those with financial need, are encouraged to apply. **twc.edu/programs/ClarkeDSFellowship**

To learn more about the above programs as well as other opportunities for loans, please contact:
Office of Student Financial Aid, Email: finaid@fa.adm.ohio-state.edu; Website: **http://sfa.osu.edu**

Government Loans

U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for government-sponsored loans (which must be repaid). Examples include the subsidized Stafford Loan as well as many other unsubsidized loans. Interested applicants should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), found at **https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa**.

East Asian Studies Resources

I. East Asian Studies Center at Ohio State

The East Asian Studies Center was established at The Ohio State University in 1969. The mission of the East Asian Studies Center (EASC), **easc.osu.edu**, is to serve as a major hub and catalyst for original thought and action in the study of East Asia in Ohio, in the U.S., and around the world. Combining EASC's unique expertise with that of the extensive partnerships they've formed both domestically and internationally, the East Asian Studies Center: 1) sparks innovative inquiry and instruction on East Asia's past, present and future to further knowledge of East Asia and its impact on the world among students, faculty, educators, and the public; 2) forges interdisciplinary connections across fields and regions to spur collaborative approaches to East Asia with partners in academia, government, the arts, business, and media; and 3) initiates programs to inspire life-long learning about East Asia from K-12 onward to higher education and into the workforce. Designated a Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) and Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Center by the U.S. Department of Education, EASC collaborates with many units on campus, including the East Asian Library, the Center for Languages, Literatures and Cultures, the Humanities Institute, the Center for Folklore Studies, and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies.

The Institute for Chinese Studies (ICS), **easc.osu.edu/ics**, was established in 2001 and serves as a center for scholarly research, student training, and public programming about the Chinese-speaking world for Ohio State faculty, students, the K-12 community, business and government, and members of the general public. ICS focuses on the dissemination of knowledge about the cultures, languages, history, politics, economies, and the educational institutions of the Chinese-speaking world. Activities sponsored by the Institute not only focus on the People's Republic of China but encompass the Chinese societies of Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao, and Southeast Asia as well.

The Institute for Japanese Studies (IJS), **easc.osu.edu/ijs**, was created in 1985 through a gubernatorial initiative in recognition of Ohio's national status as the second largest state for Japanese manufacturing investment. The mission of IJS is to provide leadership for Japanese Studies at Ohio State and assist academic and administrative units of the university to advance and disseminate knowledge about Japan, including its people, language, art, culture, history, environment, government and politics, economy and business, and other aspects of its society. It is committed to maintaining and enhancing the national and international reputation of Japanese Studies at Ohio State in the areas of research, education, and professional service including outreach for K-12, business, the community, and the state.

Launched in 2005 as the Korean Studies Initiative, the Institute for Korean Studies (IKS), **easc.osu.edu/iks**, was officially established as an institute in 2011 to unify efforts and strengthen Korean programming for academic collaboration and outreach. The mission of IKS is to provide leadership for Korean Studies at Ohio State and assist academic and administrative units of the university to advance and disseminate knowledge about Korea. IKS is devoted to the study of all things Korean, including its people, language, art, culture, history, environment, government and politics, economy and business, and other aspects of its society. It is committed to maintaining and enhancing the national and international reputation of Korean Studies at Ohio State in all areas of research, education, and professional service including outreach for K-12 education, business, the community, the state, and the nation.

II. East Asian Library & Media Resources

Ohio State Libraries' (OSUL) nationally distinctive strength is the combination of expanding physical holdings with innovation in digital access to holdings elsewhere in the state, in the region and in the world, resulting in a virtual library exponentially greater than any physical collection could encompass. Ohio State's own East Asian holdings have increased substantially and currently amount to more than 425,000 items, including books (print/electronic/serials), microforms, and audio/visual materials, such as

cartographic materials and DVDs. To spearhead making online resources available anytime anywhere, OSUL has made 113 East Asian studies-related electronic full-text database and periodicals available (second largest amount in the country).

OSUL strategically builds a unique collection by acquiring valuable source materials not held by other libraries in the US. For example, to complement DEALL's strong East Asian language pedagogy program, OSUL has collected extensive Japanese-language pedagogy materials that are not widely held elsewhere. The Japanese collection also has the largest *manga* (Japanese comics) collection outside Japan and a near-complete run of *Kokka*, a rare periodical of Oriental art (first issued in 1889). Over the last 5 years, OSUL made strides to build the Korean collection with a growth rate of 16%. Its Korean performance materials are strong and complement Ohio State's Korean performance program well. Reflecting the strengths of Ohio State's China faculty, Chinese holdings are particularly strong in Chinese ethnic minority studies, print culture, and early Western-language sinology. Due to its strong and unique holdings, OSUL's East Asian collection received the 4th largest number of East Asian interlibrary loan requests nationwide (2016 Council on East Asian Libraries data).

III. Ohio State Education Abroad and Exchange Programs in East Asia

Education abroad programs are arranged through the Office of International Affairs (OIA). Detailed information about programs in East Asia can be found on the OIA website at **oia.osu.edu/units/global-education/** or by contacting:

Office of International Affairs Education Abroad, 140 Enarson Classroom Building, 2009 Millikin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210
Tel: (614) 292-6101

IV. East Asian Studies Language & Graduate Course Lists

The East Asian Studies Center compiles lists of East Asian language and area studies courses (including those with at least 25% East Asian content) to aid in the registration process each term. To access the courses offered by term, see **easc.osu.edu/courses/language/offerings and easc.osu.edu/courses/area-studies/offerings.**

Administrative Timeline

Beginning of each term:

- *EAS MA Program Course Approval Form:* Obtain signed approval by the advisor for that term's program of study and submit it to the EASC office

By the end of the first term of study:

- All students: Choose geographical area of concentration
- Mid-Career Professional Track students:
    - Choose the thesis or non-thesis track
        - Utilize the *Thesis Track Planning Guide* or *Non-Thesis Track Planning Guide*, available at **easc.osu.edu/degrees/eas-ma/handbook**, as a tool to ensure that all requirements are met
    - Designate a "permanent" advisor and committee
    - Meet with committee and plan structure of remaining course of study

By the end of first academic year of study:

- Regular track students:
    - Choose the thesis or non-thesis track:
        - Utilize the *Thesis Track Planning Guide* or *Non-Thesis Track Planning Guide*, available at **easc.osu.edu/degrees/eas-ma/handbook**, as a tool to ensure that all requirements are met
    - Designate a "permanent" advisor and committee
    - Meet with committee and plan structure of remaining course of study

By the end of the first term of the final year of study:

- *EAS MA Program Degree Requirement Checklist:* Meet with committee to assess progress toward degree and make necessary adjustments in course of study
- For thesis-track students, produce a written thesis prospectus and file it at the EASC office

Last term:

- *EAS MA Program Degree Requirement Checklist:* Submit final degree requirement checklist to EASC office
- Submit Application to Graduate form to the Graduate School by the published deadline: **gradsch.osu.edu/completing-your-degree/final-semester/final-semester-procedures-and-timelines**

- For non-thesis track students, complete the Master's Examination and oral defense of exam and submit report no later than the published deadline: **gradsch.osu.edu/completing-your-degree/final-semester/final-semester-procedures-and-timelines**

- For thesis track-students, turn in thesis and defend it orally

- Ensure completion of the Research Presentation Requirement

- Complete Language Proficiency Interview scheduled by the East Asian Studies Center

- DON'T FORGET – Due to Graduate School regulations, you must be enrolled in at least three credits during your final semester

Students should be familiar with and utilize the following forms, which are available here:

Course Approval Form
Degree Requirement Checklist (for either Regular Track or Mid-Career Professional Track)
Thesis Track Planning Guide
Non-Thesis Track Planning Guide
Research Presentation Form