

# MAISTERITASON AASIA-KURSSIT JA KOREAN KIELIKURSSI

## Master's level and Asian Studies and Language Course in Korean provided by the Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

### Introduction:

Master's level online courses offer advanced knowledge on Asia. They are aimed for students who have already acquired some knowledge about Asia or on the specialty of the particular course.

### Structure of the Studies:

You can apply to one or several Master's level courses. Completing an online course requires self-discipline and active learning.

If you want to complete a minor, you can combine Master's level courses with Bachelor level courses offered by the Asia Network to complete either the "Mini Minor in Asian Studies" (10-16 ECTS), or the "Asian Programme" (at least 25 ECTS).

The Master's level courses offered by the Asia Network do not constitute a study programme alone and therefore it is not possible to receive a minor degree by taking only Master's level courses.

Check the exact times and contents of each course, and the study guidelines at <http://www.asianet.fi>.

### Who can apply?

**1. University students** who hold a valid study right at one of the **University Network's member universities** can take these courses for free.

#### Member universities are:

Aalto University  
University of Helsinki  
University of Jyväskylä  
University of Tampere  
University of Turku  
University of Vaasa  
Åbo Akademi University

**2. Students at universities of applied sciences** can take Master's level courses for free as part of the "Mini Minor" or the "Asian Programme" if their school endorses the study fee. Asia Network's online language courses are not open for students from universities of applied sciences. For instructions, read carefully the Study Guide at <http://www.asianet.fi>

Discuss with the Head of your Degree Programme about the possibility of participation and inclusion of Asian studies into your degree. You have to get permission to take part in the Asian Studies Programme, before you apply for the courses. The educational department of

Oulu University of Applied Sciences where you are enrolled pays the participation fees to the University of Turku which is co-ordinating the Asian Studies Programme. No tuition fees will be charged from students. Even if a student does not complete the courses, his/her educational department has to pay the fees to the co-ordinating university. Therefore, students must keep in mind, that an accepted application means binding participation!

All students of universities of applied sciences need to submit a statement on acceptance (puoltokirje) from their own educational department in which the department endorses the student's studies in the Asian Programme.

**3. Self-paying students** (other individuals including students from non-member universities and students from universities of applied sciences whose school will not pay the study fee) cannot take individual Master's level courses, but they can take the courses as a part of the "Mini Minor". Asia Network's online language courses are not open for self-paying students. For instruction, read carefully the Study Guide at <http://www.asianet.fi>.

### How to apply to Master's level courses?

Read carefully the instructions in the Study Guide at <http://www.asianet.fi>.

### Application periods

Master's level courses provided during the **autumn term**: September 3-23, 2018.

Master's level courses provided during the **spring term**: November 5-25, 2018.

**Asian Programme, Mini Minor, and Bachelor level** courses: September 3-23, 2018.

## LIST OF COURSES OFFERED DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-2019

### Courses that can be taken throughout the academic year

- Introduction to Chinese History (5 ects)
- Introduction to Chinese Contemporary History (5 ects)
- Introduction to Mongolian Politics and Society (2 ects)

### Courses offered during the autumn term 2018

- US-China relations and Asian security (5 ects)
- Project Management in East Asia (3 ects)
- North Korea in the Heart of East Asian Tensions (5 ects)
- Korean for Beginners (ects)

## **Courses offered during the spring term 2019**

- Chinese Economy (5 ects)
- Chinese workplace cultures (5 ects)
- Health systems and health in developing Asia: India, China, Vietnam and North Korea (3-4 ects)

## **1. ONGOING COURSES**

### **Introduction to Chinese History (5 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Ongoing autumn 2018 – summer 2019

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application: Ongoing application period. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

#### Goals

Students will learn the general course of Chinese history from the beginning of the Chinese civilization to the present, its major phases, events, personages and developments. As transferable skills students will learn how to assimilate and understand large amounts of new information through following lectures and reading research literature, as well as academic English listening and writing skills.

#### Contents

The course introduces students to Chinese history from the Stone Age to the present. The focus is on the political development and change of the Chinese state, classical Chinese political philosophy and statecraft, dynastic political system, the dynamics of the interaction between 'barbarians' and the Chinese civilization as well as Western influence in China. Also the modern and contemporary histories of China are introduced and the historical roots of the modern Chinese society discussed during the course.

#### Taken as

Lectures and literature; exam (arranged once a month).

**Introduction to Chinese Contemporary History (5 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Ongoing autumn 2018 – summer 2019

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application: Ongoing application period. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

**Goals**

Students will learn in-depth the course of contemporary Chinese history (c. 1949 to present), its major events, personages, policies and contradictions as well as questions of its historiography. As transferable skills students will learn how to assimilate and understand large amounts of new information through following online lectures and reading research literature, as well as academic English listening and writing skills.

**Contents**

The course introduces students to Chinese contemporary history from the revolution to the present. The central theme in the course is to follow the folding and unfolding of the Communist experiment in China and the emergence of a new aspiring economic and political superpower by the early 21st century. Questions such as the nature of the communist revolution, Mao Zedong and his legacy, the Great Leap Forward, the Cultural Revolution, Deng Xiaoping and the reform era policies as well as developments in more recent past are discussed and analyzed during the course from the historical point of view. The course is essential for those who want to gain deeper understanding of the great social, economic and political transformation of China in contemporary history.

**Taken as**

Online lectures (18 h) and research literature, home exam (arranged once a month) with essay type of questions on lectures and literature.

**Introduction to Mongolian Politics and Society (2 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Ongoing autumn 2018 – summer 2019

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period: Ongoing application period. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

### Goals

By the end of this course, students will be able to understand significant political points/foci/events of Mongolian history since its establishment in 1206 as Great Mongol Empire to current political settings; describe the essential features of Mongolian politics, including constitutional system of government, elections and foreign political and economic interests; and understand significant keys to Mongolian traditional and contemporary culture and society. As transferable skills students will learn how to assimilate and understand large amounts of new information, as well as academic English listening and writing skills.

### Contents

This course is designed to help students understand the dynamics of Mongolian politics by exploring major points in Mongolian political history, Central Asian geo-political location in the 20th century, political democracy, changing political and economic interests towards East Asia since the 1990s democracy. Moreover, structure of Mongolian government, political institutions, and elections will be introduced in the lectures

### Taken as

Online lectures and a final exam (arranged once a month). You are recommended, but not required, to read the suggested literature.

## **2. COURSES IN AUTUMN TERM 2018**

### **US-China relations and Asian security (5 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Autumn term 2018

Organizer: University of Tampere / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period : September **3-23**, 2018. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

### Goals

After taking this course, students have basic understanding of the dynamics of Asian security, and how the China-US relations affect it.

## Contents

East Asia has for decades been a haven of stability. Despite the historical grievances affecting the intra-regional relations politically, the economic interdependencies have made the region's actors seek cooperation over conflict. However, there are signs of the situation changing. China's actions in the East and South China Seas have become more assertive, the presidency of Donald Trump has introduced a heightened level of tension in China–US relations, and the nuclear and missile tests by North Korea have actualised the risk of a military confrontation in the region in an unprecedented manner. The course addresses the changing geo-political dynamics of Asia, with special focus on China-US relations and their influence on East and South East Asia.

## Taken as

- Online lectures
- Course readings
- Small writing assignments
- Group discussions
- Essay

## **Project Management in East Asia (3 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Autumn term 2018

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period: September **3-23**, 2018. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

## Goals

This course is designed to train students in developing and 'selling' an idea, drafting a project proposal, writing in a concise manner etc. At the end of the course students will be familiar with central aspects of project cycle management. During the course students will be required to work, meet and interact with each other online. The group work assignment (drafting a final project proposal) will enhance their online teamwork skills, which are essential in today's working life. Course participants will exchange, discuss ideas and make decisions with other group members. By means of drafting projects for different environments students deepen their intercultural and institutional sensitivity, and learn how to transfer their theoretical knowledge into skills of practical implementation.

## Contents

This course introduces students to project management in general and in East Asia in particular. Students learn to design and plan a concrete (notional) project, organize and manage resources to achieve the specific project goals, outcomes and outputs. Lectures on project management are provided by practitioners working in various sectors in East Asia. Students are required to do the readings, watch all lectures and do small exercises. Based on the lectures students draft in groups a project proposal for a project that could be implemented in East Asia.

Lecturers will provide individual feedback to student assignments.

## Taken as

Online lectures, reading materials, exercises, final project proposal

## **North Korea in the Heart of East Asian Tensions (5 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Autumn term 2018

Organizer: University of Jyväskylä/ Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period: September **3-23**, 2018. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

## Goals

To understand the nature and methods of a particular international confrontation in East Asia, to learn to navigate in information fields imbued with war propoganda, and to acquire the necessary theoretical concepts with which to continue sensibly following the East Asian drama via the mass media and academic studies during the following years.

## Contents

The importance of East Asia in the world system has been growing continuously for decades - as everyone has certainly heard. An element of this importance is the military aspect and the possibilities for a major war breaking out in the region. Small and poor North Korea is in the heart of these tensions, both in its own right as a sovereign and in many ways a surprisingly skillful actor, but also as a cover under which other important regional powers, namely the United States, China, South Korea, Russia and Japan play their own political and military games. The course makes an interpretation on what kind of state North Korea is, in light of its surprising staying power over several decades in spite of domestic economic

mismanagement and international hostility. Part of the answer is surveillance and repression, but North Korea also has a viable legitimacy structure based on a home-made religion, and its leadership skillfully employs modern media and music in building up a religiously imbued strong nationalistic spirit. Combined with rapid advances in missile and nuclear technology, the North Korean system of organizing its state structure has turned it into a "small great power", able to stand against and threaten the United States, which is militarily, technologically, economically, politically etc. etc. tens of times bigger and stronger. Partly the explanation for the situation lies also outside of North Korea, in the gradual relative weakening of the United States, the equally gradual relative strengthening of China, and the way lesser powers like Japan, Russia and South Korea play their own games in the unsettled political playing field. The theoretical interpretative tools of the course are taken partly from cultural legitimacy theories and partly from very ugly realist theories, as the subject matter of the course is raw military and political competition.

Taken as  
Lecture diary

### **3. COURSES IN SPRING TERM 2019**

#### **Chinese Economy (5 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Spring term 2019

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period: November **5-25**, 2018. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

#### Goals

Upon the completion of the course, students have a good overview on the basics of Chinese economy. The course is essential for students in social sciences and business studies for understanding Chinese economic development and its challenges.

As for transferable skills, students learn to analyse complicated and often interrelated economic and political phenomena, read and use academic research and media texts, debate, form arguments and give feedback, write analytical pieces, give oral presentations, and conduct research with primary sources (such as policy documents and statistics). Students will also learn academic English skills.

## Contents

The course is divided into four modules (according to the course book):

- I. Legacies and Setting
- II. Rural and Urban Economy
- III. International Trade and FDI
- IV. Financial System

Each module consists of various topical issues, including growth and the legitimacy of the CCP, geographical inequality, regional development plans, the new Silk Road, the growing Chinese outward investments, Ali Baba stocks and shadow banks.

## Taken as

The course contains video lectures, course book, articles, weekly assignments and a final writing task.

## **Chinese workplace cultures (5 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Spring term 2019

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period: November **5-25**, 2018. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

## Goals

During this course, participants will learn 1) to understand the basic aspects of working in multicultural environments, and intercultural competence, and 2) to interpret specific features of Chinese working place cultures through practical examples. By gaining knowledge and understanding on these features, participants will know how to work more efficiently in a Chinese working environment.

## Contents

China possesses one of the fastest growing economies in the world and Chinese companies are becoming ever more important as merger and acquisition investors. Chinese organizations and working environments have many specific features which are also under rapid change due to globalization and digitalization. Without properly understanding the general aspects of work in global multi-cultural companies and the unique aspects of

Chinese working place cultures, misunderstandings, frustration, and other such problems may arise. The course is aimed at students who plan to work in China, or in Chinese-owned companies for example in Finland.

Taken as

- Online lectures, course readings and online materials
- Group discussions
- Small writing assignments
- Learning diary
- Essay

**Health systems and health in developing Asia: India, China, Vietnam and North Korea (3-4 ects)**

Level: Master's level

Language: English

Time: Spring term 2019

Organizer: University of Tampere and University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

Application period: November **5-25**, 2018. For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi>

Goals

After the course students will be familiar with the major health challenges facing Asia and they know different intervention options for addressing these challenges in Asian context, especially in India, China, Vietnam and North Korea.

Contents

Approximately 60% of the world's population lives in Asia. Many Asian countries are rapidly developing, bringing with them a host of opportunities and challenges. This course presents the main health challenges in Asia, that are also global issues - using different Asian countries as case examples. The countries focused on include India and China, with a special focus on North Korea. Among others, the issues introduced in this course include health professional training; water, sanitation and hygiene; pollution; and antibiotic resistance.

Taken as

The basic module of the course is 3 credits and it consists of online lectures, reading materials and a learning diary. An optional one-credit module focuses on health issues in North Korea, and it can be taken as an essay (ca 1500 words).

## 4. LANGUAGE COURSE IN KOREAN

### **Korean for Beginners (3 ects)**

Level: Basic level

Language: English

Time: Autumn term 2018

Organizer: University of Turku / Finnish University Network for Asian Studies

**Application period: September 3-23, 2018.** For more details, visit <http://www.asianet.fi> .

Only students from the member universities of the Asian Network can apply to this course.

#### Goals

After the course students should be able to read and write Hangeul and to use basic memorized phrases and vocabularies from the themes in order to communicate in simple everyday situations. Students should be able to respond to simple greetings and questions in a simple sentence according to Korean language culture.

#### Contents

This online course emphasizes on learning basic knowledge of Korean language as well as reading and writing Korean characters, Hangeul. Basic Korean communication skill will be introduced. Basic expressions about self-introduction, day, weather, and food will be introduced. Attention is also paid to basic grammar.

#### Taken as

Online lectures, Online seminars, Assignments, Written exams.

Completing an online course requires much self-discipline and active learning.