

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

EP.10.39

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



RECEIVED

FEB 25 2010

February 25, 2010

OFFICE OF THE SENATE

Abbas Aminmansour, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to restructure the M.A. in Asian Studies Program. The proposal creates a distinct M.A. in East Asian Studies and a distinct M.A. in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

This proposal has been approved by the Graduate College and the Dean's Cabinet on behalf of the Executive Committee and the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Kristi A. Kuntz  
Assistant Provost

KAK/dkk

Enclosures

c: D. Dutta  
A. Elli  
H. Esfahani  
A. Golato  
D. Kibbee  
C. Livingstone  
A. Mester  
B. Ruppert

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN



Graduate College  
204 Coble Hall, MC-322  
801 South Wright Street  
Champaign, IL 61820-6210  
[www.grad.illinois.edu](http://www.grad.illinois.edu)

February 3, 2010

Kristi Kuntz  
Assistant Provost  
Office of the Provost  
207 Swanlund, MC-304

Dear Kristi:

Enclosed is the proposal entitled "Restructuring the Existing MA in Asian Studies Program (10KS0284MA) into Two Distinct MA Programs: MA in East Asian Studies and MA in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies." The Graduate College Executive Committee did vote unanimously to approve it.

I send it to you now for further review.

Sincerely,

Andrea Golato  
Associate Dean, Graduate College

Enclosure

cc: H. Esfahani  
D. Kibbee  
A. Mester  
B. Ruppert

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Dean

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
294 Lincoln Hall  
702 South Wright Street  
Urbana, IL 61801-3631



RECEIVED  
NOV 19 2009  
GRADUATE COLLEGE

November 18, 2009

Andrea Golato  
Associate Dean  
Graduate College  
204 Coble Hall MC-322

Dear Dean Golato:

The Dean's Cabinet on behalf of the Executive Committee and the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has administratively approved the following proposal:

**Restructuring the Existing MA in Asian Studies Program (10KS0284MA) into Two Distinct MA Programs:**  
**MA in East Asian Studies**  
**MA in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies**

Please address all correspondence concerning this proposal to me. This proposal is now ready for review by the Graduate College for proposed implementation upon approval.

Sincerely,

Ann M. Mester  
Associate Dean

enclosure

C: Professor Brian Ruppert  
Professor Douglas Kibbee  
Professor Hadi Esfahani

## **Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee**

**PROPOSAL TITLE:** Restructuring the Existing MA in Asian Studies Program (10KS0284MA) Into Two Distinct MA Programs, A) MA in East Asian Studies and B) MA in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

**SPONSORS:** Brian Ruppert, Head, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, School of Literature, Culture, and Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 4-1432; [ruppert@illinois.edu](mailto:ruppert@illinois.edu)

Hadi Esfahani, Director, Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 4-7331; [esfahani@illinois.edu](mailto:esfahani@illinois.edu)

**COLLEGE CONTACT:** Ann Mester, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 3-1350; [mester@illinois.edu](mailto:mester@illinois.edu)

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION:** The Current MA in Asian Studies (10KS0284MA) has evolved to serve two distinct populations 1) students entering graduate work in East Asian Studies, for whom the MA program serves as the ONLY entry point into the PHD in East Asian Languages and Cultures; and 2) students who wish to do masters level work in South Asian and/or Middle Eastern Studies. This proposal seeks to separate out these two populations into distinct masters programs, which will allow us to respond to differences in the disciplines, to advertise the programs more effectively, and to serve our students better and more efficiently. The MA in East Asian Languages and Cultures will be administered by the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the MA in South Asian and/or Middle Eastern Studies will be administered by the Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

**JUSTIFICATION:** The Illinois Board of Higher Education approved the degree of Master of Arts in Asian Studies for the Urbana campus on June 1, 1971. In the description of the program approved at that point, sponsored by the Center for Asian Studies it states (paragraph IV) that "Areas of concentration will be offered in East Asia (China and/or Japan), South-West Asia (Near and Middle East, and/or South Asia) and Southeast Asia." The establishment of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) effected the transfer of the masters degree to the department. In August 2000, EALC and the (then Program) in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (CSAMES) agreed to

Signature Division for the MA program, such that EALC had signature authority for students in the concentration on East Asian Studies, and CSAMES had signature authority for students in the concentration on Middle Eastern and/or South Asian studies. CSAMES was to be responsible for the admission, advising, and overall evaluation of student progress as well as certification for degree in the Middle Eastern and/or South Asian concentration.

It is time to formally sever this artificial connection of the East Asian degree program to the South Asian and Middle Eastern degree program. In particular, students interested in South Asian or Middle Eastern studies have had a hard time identifying that the University of Illinois offers a Masters Program in these areas. We expect that enrollments in these two critical world areas will increase once the MA in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies becomes more visible.

There is also a difference in the disciplines covered by the two programs. The East Asian Program is self-identified as a program in the languages and the humanistic cultures of East Asia, whereas the South Asian and Middle Eastern program is oriented toward the social sciences, particularly economics, political science, and anthropology and sociology, as well as the humanities fields.

*Appendix IV Levels of Governance for Program and Curricular Changes, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign* provides guidelines for proposals like this under the category Creating and Eliminating Degree Programs, Item 6 (<http://provost.illinois.edu/programs/cps/understandingLOG.html>):

“Creation or elimination of a program that results from the reorganization or restructuring of the curricular elements of an existing program that have over time evolved into separate and distinct programs (e.g., split into two or options have evolved into separate programs).”

Proposals like this will require Action by the Senate and Board of Trustees and then a request for “Reasonable and Moderate Extension” to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. An RME request consists of a brief description of the proposed changes submitted to IBHE by the Office of the Provost via the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. Based on criteria related to program objectives, clientele, and resources, the IBHE staff will determine whether the proposed changes are a reasonable and moderate extension of existing program authority.

#### **BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:**

Additional staff and dollars needed: None--both programs are already administered separately.

Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.): None---both programs already offer independent courses with different faculty. Increases in the South Asian/Middle Eastern area can be accommodated with existing course offerings.

Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments: Again, there should be no effect on other departments as this is merely a reorganization of an existing program.

Impact on the University Library: The library should not be impacted by this change in administration of two extant programs.

Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.: Again, there should be no impact on instructional computing facilities

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Fall 2010



## STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

There will need to be TWO listings in the Programs of Study Catalog.

## **East Asian Languages and Cultures**

[www.ealc.uiuc.edu](http://www.ealc.uiuc.edu)

Head of Department: Brian Ruppert

Director of Graduate Studies: David Goodman

2090 Foreign Languages Building

707 South Mathews Avenue

Urbana, IL 61801

(217) 244-1432

E-mail: [ealc@illinois.edu](mailto:ealc@illinois.edu)

**Major:** East Asian Studies

**Degrees Offered:** M.A.

**Major:** East Asian Languages and Cultures

**Degrees Offered:** Ph.D.

**Medical Scholars Program:** [Doctor of Philosophy \(Ph.D.\) in East Asian Languages and Cultures and Doctor of Medicine \(M.D.\) through the Medical Scholars Program](#)

## **Graduate Degree Programs**

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures offers academic programs in the languages and the humanistic cultures of China, Japan, and Korea, and of the East Asian region, leading to the Master of Arts in East Asian Studies and the Doctor of Philosophy in East Asian Languages and Cultures.

[www.ealc.uiuc.edu/ealc/program/graduate.htm](http://www.ealc.uiuc.edu/ealc/program/graduate.htm)

## **Admission**

Applicants are expected to have a strong background in at least one East Asian language; normally, this means a minimum of two years of formal study. Applicants to the graduate program must submit an application for admission online ([www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply](http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply)) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of reference completed by teachers, advisers, or recent employers, and a 10-20 page writing sample. Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should be sent to SLCL Graduate

Student Services, 3070 Foreign Languages Bldg., 707 S. Mathews Ave., Urbana, IL 61801. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required and should be submitted to institution code 1836. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 103 on the internet-based test (iBT) for admission with full standing; they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see [www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c.cfm](http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c.cfm)). Students with a B.A. or B.S. only should apply to the M.A. Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services at [slclgradservices@illinois.edu](mailto:slclgradservices@illinois.edu).

## Degree Requirements

\*For additional details and requirements refer to the department's guide to [Graduate Programs](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).

## Master of Arts

Required Courses:	Required Hours
Two 500-level courses in the major field including one course designated as a research seminar in which the student produces a research paper using Asian language sources.	8
EALC 500	4
Distribution requirements. a minimum of two (8 hours) 400- or 500-level courses that are: 1. outside the major field of interest. 2. in an East Asian culture other than the major areas of interest. 3. in a Second Period (modern or premodern)	8
Elective hours	12
<b>Language Requirement:</b> Candidates must demonstrate a knowledge of one East Asian language at the fourth-year level by satisfactory completion of appropriate (400-level) coursework or examination and passage of a written examination in the language covering material studied while in residence.	
<b>Total Hours</b>	32
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	12
<b>Other Requirements:*</b>	
<b>Minimum GPA:</b>	2.75

## Financial Aid

The Department makes every effort to assist graduate students in securing financial aid. Financial aid packages usually combine some form of fellowship support with teaching or research assistantships in a manner that allows for both teaching experience and



timely completion of the degree. In recent years, the vast majority of EALC graduate students have received some form of financial support. Financial aid for graduate students in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures may include: University Fellowships, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships, University Dissertation Completion Fellowships, Minority Academic Partnership Plan (MAPP) Fellowships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships. All awards of financial aid are made following competitive application.

[www.ealc.uiuc.edu/ealc/program/gradgrants.htm](http://www.ealc.uiuc.edu/ealc/program/gradgrants.htm)

[www.ealc.uiuc.edu/ealc/program/gradfinaid.htm](http://www.ealc.uiuc.edu/ealc/program/gradfinaid.htm)

<https://www.grad.illinois.edu/fellowship/>

## **South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies**

www.csames.illinois.edu

Director: Hadi Esfahani

Associate Director: Ritu Saksena

221 International Studies Building

Telephone: 244-7331

E-mail: csames@illinois.edu

**Major:** South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

**Degrees Offered:** M.A.

### **Graduate Degree Programs**

The Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies offers academic language and area training in the humanities and social sciences pertinent to South Asia and/or the Middle East, leading to a Master of Arts in South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

### **Admission**

Applicants to the graduate program must submit an application for admission online ([www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply](http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply)) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of reference completed by teachers, advisers, or recent employers, and a 10-20 page writing sample. Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed. Applicants are expected to have a strong background in at least one South Asian or Middle Eastern Language; normally, this means a minimum of two years of formal study. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required and should be submitted to institution code 1836. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 103 on the internet-based test (iBT) for admission with full standing; they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see [www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c.cfm](http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c.cfm)). Students with a B.A. or B.S. only should apply to the M.A. Applications are accepted for fall admission only.

### **Degree Requirements**

\*For additional details and requirements refer to the department's guide to [Graduate Programs](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).

## Master of Arts

Required Courses:	Required Hours
Three 500-level courses in the major field in area related courses.	12
Elective hours	12
<b>Language Requirement:</b> Candidates must demonstrate knowledge of one South Asian language or Middle Eastern language at the fourth-year level by satisfactory completion of appropriate (400-level) coursework or examination and passage of a written examination in the language covering material studied while in residence.	8
<b>Total Hours</b>	32
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	12
<b>Other Requirements:</b> On completion of their coursework, candidates must pass a written examination covering the coursework on area studies and complete two satisfactory research/seminar papers.	
<b>Minimum GPA:</b>	3.25

## Financial Aid

The Center makes every effort to assist graduate students in securing financial aid. Financial aid packages usually combine some form of fellowship support with teaching or research assistantships in a manner that allows for both teaching experience and timely completion of the degree. Financial aid may include: University Fellowships, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships, Minority Academic Partnership Plan (MAPP) Fellowships, teaching assistantships, and research assistantships. All awards of financial aid are made following competitive application.

<http://www.csames.illinois.edu/program/ma/funding/>  
<http://www.csames.illinois.edu/program/ma/funding/flas/>

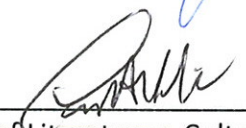
**CLEARANCES:**

  
Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures


10/20/09  
Date

  
Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

10/21/09  
Date

  
School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics

10/30/09  
Date

  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

11/18/09  
Date

  
Graduate College  
Date

02/03/10

Office of the Provost

Date