



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Christopher Bothur '07

East Asian Studies, International Relations



Q: How did you choose your major?

A: When I came to Connecticut College, I was looking to study a new language. Chinese piqued my interest, as I saw that through the East Asian studies major, I could learn China's language, its history and its political and economic place in the world.

Q: Did you study in China?

A: I studied at the Capital University of Economics and Business in Beijing. I took courses there in Chinese culture and history for full credit in my major. There's a strict language pledge there, so we spoke only Chinese for seven months! Afterwards, I backpacked through western China into Tibet, and it was a spectacular experience.

Q: Did you have an internship related to your major?

A: Yes, I interned in Beijing for an arm of the United Nations that was creating websites for China's regions to promote international investment.

Q: What have you been doing since graduation?

A: After graduating, I joined an investment bank on Wall Street. So far I've been living and working in New York, London, Germany, Hong Kong and Shanghai — exactly the kind of international experiences I've wanted since that first trip to China.

East Asian Studies

Overview

The East Asian studies major at Connecticut College blends traditional concepts and ideas with the modern, much like its region of focus. As an EAS major, you will be able to achieve a broad perspective on the nations and peoples of East Asia, including their language, literature, history, government and rich cultural heritage. By drawing on all the resources Connecticut College has to offer, you'll gain an understanding of the contemporary economic and geopolitical realities of the region, the formation of ethnic and cultural identities and issues in contemporary society. From your vantage point, you, like the growing number of students who are choosing this major, will be able to see a vast number of career and academic possibilities after you leave Connecticut College.

Interdisciplinary Studies

East Asian studies is an increasingly popular major at Connecticut College. Besides the rigorous and intensive language classes in Chinese and Japanese, we offer a variety of courses that are contemporarily relevant and often cross-listed with other departments. We also add new classes yearly that build on the major's interdisciplinary approach and global viewpoint. The Department of East Asian Languages and cultures supports students who wish to combine their study of East Asia with a second major, such as international relations, economics, history, or gender and women's studies. Connecticut College houses a collection of Chinese art, the Chu-Griffis Art Collection, built in 1985 by the late Professor Emeritus Charles C. Chu, founder of the Chinese department. We also have many Japanese prints and woodcuts, including works by Hiroshige.

Special Opportunities

You'll have the opportunity to explore the Pacific Rim through a variety of student-led activities on campus, from the student advisory board for the department of East Asian languages and cultures to CCASA, the College's organization for Asian and Asian-American students. You may attend CCASA's series on Asian cinema or take part in a Lunar New Year celebration. You'll be able to experience a traditional Japanese tea ceremony and ceremonial taiko drumming.

Study Abroad and Internships

Beyond campus, there are ample opportunities for study and internships abroad, including study with the Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts (CISLA), course-related Travel Research and Immersion Programs (TRIPs) and others. You might find yourself researching the place of women in

corporate Japan, working in an elementary school in Yunnan Province or learning about traditional Chinese medicine in a Beijing hospital. We encourage our students to apply for international grant programs such as the Freeman-ASIA Awards, Fulbrights and Gilman International Scholarships.

Faculty

Amy Dooling, *Associate Professor of Chinese*
B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Columbia University
Modern and contemporary Chinese fiction;
Chinese women's writing; history of the
women's movement and feminism in
China

Yibing Huang, *Associate Professor of Chinese*
B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Beijing University;
Ph.D., University of California, Los
Angeles
Modern and contemporary Chinese
literature, cinema, popular culture;
comparative studies of modernism and
postmodernism in China and the West;
cultural translations between Chinese
poetry and modern American poetry

Tek-wah King, *Senior Lecturer in Chinese;*
Coordinator of the Chinese Language
Program
B.A., National Taiwan University; M.A.,
Yale University; Ph.D. in progress, Yale
University
Chinese syntax; Chinese language pedagogy

Hisae Kobayashi, *Senior Lecturer in*
Japanese; Chair of the East Asian Languages
and Cultures Department; Coordinator of
the Japanese Language Program
B.A., Tsuda College, Tokyo; M.A., The
University of Evansville, Ind.
Language pedagogy; Japanese language

Sayumi Takahashi, *Assistant Professor of*
Japanese
B.A., Princeton University; Ph.D.,
University of Pennsylvania
Modern Japanese literature; Japanese
film and visual culture in transnational
contexts; Asian-American literature;
gender studies; premodern poetics and
literati culture; multimedia and word/
image studies

Takeshi Watanabe, *Visiting Assistant*
Professor of Japanese
B.A., Ph.D., Yale University
Japanese literature and culture; literacy and
visual interpretations of history

ASSOCIATED FACULTY

Sarah A. Queen, Ph.D., *Professor of History*
Ann Marie Davis, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*
of History

Lindsey Harlan, Ph.D., *Professor of*
Religious Studies

John Qunjian Tian, Ph.D., *Associate*
Professor of Government

James Dale Wilson, Ph.D.,
Ethnomusicologist, Assistant Professor of
Music

Qiang Ning, Ph.D., *Chu-Niblack Associate*
Professor of Art History

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A MAJOR IN EAST ASIAN STUDIES?

Gregory Levin '00

Senior financial analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Attended the Hopkins-Nanjing Center and started a company in Shanghai that focused on marketing infrastructure projects to foreign investors. Earned an M.A. from The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, a division of The Johns Hopkins University.

Mary Ellen Kennedy '05

In her third year working for the Ichikawa Board of Education, in a town in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan.

Teaches English to Japanese elementary and junior high school students. Plans to return to America and pursue a career in teaching.

Edward Minevitz '07

Pursuing a career in international sales in China.

Studied advanced Chinese at Tsinghua University, Beijing, for a year after graduation and served as a Beijing tour guide during the 2008 Olympics.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.CONNOLL.EDU/ACADEMICS/

Selected Courses

Beyond "The Orient": Critical Approaches to East Asian Literature and Film; Introduction to Asian Art; Narratives of the East Asian Diaspora; The Fantastic Other: Travel, History, Utopia; Transnational Asia and the Post-Exotic; Peripheries and Differences: Re-Imagining Contemporary China; Chinese Poetry and its American Legacies; Modern Chinese Women's Writing in Translation; Confronting Images of Modern Japan; Afterlives and Apocalypses: Post-war Japanese Cinema; Transnational Asian Cinema

About Connecticut College

Connecticut College is a highly selective residential liberal arts college with 1,900 students from all over the country and the world. The academic program offers 43 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences, humanities and other interdisciplinary programs. Students engage with dedicated faculty and each other to create a vibrant social, cultural and intellectual community in which learning is valued for its own sake — and individuals' diverse perspectives enrich the experience of all.