



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 Web sites 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*  
Ph.D., M.A., B.A., 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,  
Chair of the East Asian Languages and  
Cultures Department, Coordinator of the  
Chinese Language Program*  
Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles;  
Ph.D., M.A., B.A., Beijing University  
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*  
Ph.D. in progress, Yale University; M.A.,  
Yale University; B.A., National Taiwan  
University  
Chinese syntax; Chinese language pedagogy

**Hisae Kobayashi**, *Senior Lecturer in Japanese,  
Coordinator of the Japanese language program*  
M.A., The University of Evansville, Ind.; B.A.,  
Tsuda College, Tokyo  
Language pedagogy; Japanese language

**Sayumi Takahashi**, *Assistant Professor of  
Japanese*  
Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania; B.A.,  
Princeton University  
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

## Associated Faculty

**Sarah A. Queen, Ph.D.**, *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*

## Selected Courses

Beyond "The Orient": Critical Approaches to East Asian Literature and Film; Chinese Politics; Introduction to Asian Art; Narratives of the East Asian Diaspora; The Fantastic Other: Travel, History, Utopia; Transnational Asia and the Post-Exotic; Art and Archaeology Along the Silk Road; Peripheries and Differences: Re-Imagining Contemporary China; Chinese Poetry and its American Legacies; States and Markets in East Asia; China: Music and Politics in the Twentieth Century; Modern Chinese Women's Writing in Translation; Confronting Images of Modern Japan; Afterlives and Apocalypses: Post-war Japanese 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 more than 50 majors in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities as well as innovative 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.

## What can you do with a major in East Asian studies?

### Gregory Levin '00

East Asian Studies

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

East Asian Studies

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

East Asian Studies

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.conncoll.edu/academics/](http://www.conncoll.edu/academics/)