

How to Declare an (Arranged) Area of Concentration in Asian Studies Spring 2013

Under the auspices of a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Wabash began offering Chinese on a regular basis in the fall of 2010. Courses in Chinese history were added in 2011, in addition to the regularly offered Religion 104. Through an ambitious faculty development program, additional course content in Asia will be coming online over the next few years.

Although it is possible to take five or more Chinese classes here at Wabash, Chinese language is not offered as a minor. Students interested in Asian studies and who wish to credential their work should create what is known as an *(Arranged) Area of Concentration in Asian Studies*. Students who declare an AOC do not need to declare a minor. This document describes the procedure for creating and declaring an Asian Studies AOC.

An arranged area of concentration in Asian Studies consists of at least five courses across at least two departments, all outside the major (and the minor, if the student chooses to have a minor in addition to the AOC). The courses, however, may be used to satisfy distribution requirements. Regularly offered Wabash courses that would be eligible are listed below.

MLL 101, 102 (Elementary Chinese sequence)
MLL 201, 202 (Intermediate Chinese sequence)
MLL 376, MLL 387 (Special Topics and Independent Study in Chinese)
History 260, 262, 360, 387
Religion 104, 230, 330

The Modern Languages and Literatures Department recommends that at least three of the minimum five courses be in Asian language.

The student is advised to discuss his plan to declare an arranged AOC in Asian Studies with his advisor as well as consult Professor Kay Widdows, Coordinator of the Mellon Grant for Asian Studies. To obtain approval for his AOC, the student should prepare the relevant paperwork from the Registrar's office, which includes a rationale, a proposed three-person committee to oversee the AOC, and a course plan. In addition, the student is asked to propose a method of assessment of the AOC (in addition to the orals portion of the comprehensive exam). Examples of assessment methods include a portfolio of work, a reflective essay, or an upper-level independent study. It is recommended that the three AOC committee members include Dr. Qian Pullen, Dr. Widdows, and a third faculty member who has interest or expertise in Asian studies.

Area of Concentration forms can be found in the Registrar's Office as well as on the Registrar's webpage. The deadline for declaring an arranged area of concentration is mid-semester of the fall semester of the junior year. More information on areas of concentration can be found in the Academic Bulletin under the heading Curriculum.