



Asian Studies Opportunities at Alabama

November 2, 2011

November has a great range of opportunities for students interested in Asia to engage the academic study and cultural expressions of Asia! In addition to the fascinating Vietnamese Visual Exhibition and the Chinese film series, we will also be hosting two illustrious speakers over the month of November in a series of talks entitled *Stories from Unexpected Sources: Exploring Alternative Archives for Global Histories*. Also, don't miss the opportunities to meet Tibetan scholar Kurtis Schaeffer for student-oriented discussions (with free food).

Also keep in mind the Asian Studies Research Award as you complete papers and projects this semester. Don't forget about the new courses related to Asian Studies as you register for Spring! For more information on becoming an Asian Studies minor or any other questions, contact Steven Ramey: sramey@bama.ua.edu. To keep updated on all of our events, join the Facebook group: Alabama Students Interested in Asia or follow us on Twitter @AsianStudiesUA, in addition to our website: www.as.ua.edu/asianstudies.

OPPORTUNITIES AT UA

- Global Histories Lecture on Vietnam – **THIS FRIDAY**
- Tibetan Buddhism Lecturer on Campus
- Meet Tibetan Buddhism scholar Kurtis Schaeffer
- *Stories from Unexpected Sources: Exploring Alternative Archives for Global Histories*
- Vietnamese Art Exhibition
- Modern China in Cinema
- Asian Studies Research Award
- Asian Studies Courses for Spring 2012

OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE TUSCALOOSA

- Study Abroad Scholarships for Asia Upcoming Deadlines
- Chinese Film Series in Birmingham

OPPORTUNITIES AT UA

Global Histories Lecture on Vietnam

“Viewing Vietnamese History through Art from Colonialism to the Present” by Professor Nora Taylor, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Friday **November 4**, 7:30 pm Smith Hall 205

This talk will present a survey of Vietnamese painting from the establishment of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts d'Indochine in Hanoi in 1925, through decades of Vietnamese history up to the 21st century. Prof. Taylor will present the work of artists who have made a significant contribution to the nation's art history and discuss how historical, political and social circumstances have shaped artistic practices in that country over the past 100 years. Nora Taylor is a Chicago-based art historian of modern and contemporary Vietnamese art and professor of Southeast Asian Art History at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is author of *Painters in Hanoi* (Hawaii 2004 and NUS 2009) as well as numerous articles on Vietnamese art.

Tibetan Buddhism Lecturer on Campus

“Stories of the Buddha: Ancient, Medieval, Modern” by Professor Kurtis Schaeffer, University of Virginia (and former UA Religious Studies professor), Tuesday **November 8**, 7:30 pm, Gorgas 205

Stories of the Buddha's life are as old as the Buddhist tradition, and continue to be told today. Kurtis Schaeffer will highlight surprising continuities and profound changes in the life stories of the Buddha as they have been told in ancient India, medieval Tibet, and contemporary Europe and North America.

Meet Tibetan Buddhism scholar Kurtis Schaeffer

Students will also have two opportunities to converse with Kurtis Schaeffer, in addition to his lecture in the Global Histories series. All students interested in Tibet, Buddhist studies, Asian history, or issues in the study of religion and history are welcome to attend an informal Q and A session. Monday, **November 7** from 4.30-5.30pm in 115 Woods Hall with food! This session is sponsored by Honors College, Department of History and the Asian Studies program.

A Religion in Culture lunch Discussion with Dr. Schaeffer will begin with one of his articles. The lunch is Tuesday, **November 8** at 12:30 pm in 115 Woods Hall. To reserve a spot for lunch and receive access to the article, please sign up by emailing asianstudies@as.ua.edu.

Stories from Unexpected Sources: Exploring Alternative Archives for Global Histories

The Vietnam and Tibetan Buddhism lectures are a part of a four part series on Global History. The final lecture in this series is “Television as Archive: What Can We Learn About American Politics from Watching Old Cop Shows?” by Professor Rebecca Hill, Kennesaw State University, Wednesday **November 16**, 7:30 pm, Gorgas 205.

Vietnamese Art Exhibition

Visualizing War and Change: Untold Stories of Daily Life from Vietnam through Visual Materials (1945-2011)

Gorgas Library is hosting an exhibit which features twenty-two North Vietnamese post-World War II period propaganda posters, together with everyday objects, including books, veterans' diaries, postcards, movies and films, name tags from social organizations, stamp and money collections, and medals from fallen soldiers. These items express different narratives of the wars, from the government's official version to the personal inclusion of propaganda items in a child's life. Although generally silent, these narratives convey powerful messages about the memory of war as shared by generations of Vietnamese. The exhibit will be displayed **until December 16**.

Modern China in Cinema

THE EVOLUTION OF THE FIFTH GENERATION THROUGH THE FILMS OF CHEN KAIGE AND ZHANG YIMOU will consist of four films shown in November at 8 pm in Riverside Community Center Media Room. The films are

Wed. **9th Nov.** – **Yellow Earth** (1984), dir. Chen Kaige

A film lauded for beginning a new style of cinema in China, set in the 1930's, tells the haunting story of a peasant girl on the banks of the Yellow River who dreams for a life beyond poverty.

Tues. **15th Nov.** – **Red Sorghum** (1987), dir. Zhang Yimou

A class tale of revenge, banditry and passion set in the Chinese countryside in the midst of the Sino-Japanese war that features the legendary Gong Li in her first role.

Tues. **22nd Nov.** – **Sacrifice** (2010), dir. Chen Kaige

Chan Kaige's most recent film is a historic epic of tragedy, betrayal and revenge.

Mon. **28th Nov.** – **Under the Hawthorn Tree** (2010), dir. Zhang Yimou

A moving tale of Forbidden love during the Cultural Revolution that was the most recent hit for Zhang Yimou.

For more information, visit the Asian Studies website (www.as.ua.edu/asianstudies) or contact Dr. Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa at aholmes12@bama.ua.edu.

Asian Studies Research Award

The Research Award in Asian Studies (including a \$150 prize) is given to a UA undergraduate who has conducted research or a creative project related to Asia, either as an independent study or as a part of a class, that the faculty has deemed exemplary. Submissions for the award must have a substantial engagement with some aspect of Asia. A faculty committee will determine the recipient. All students submitting research or projects are encouraged to submit them for presentation at the UA Undergraduate Research Symposium in the spring.

Students must submit their research or creative project by **January 30, 2012**, to asianstudies@as.ua.edu. All submissions must include a cover page with the student's name, CWID, email address, and a paragraph summary of the paper or project. For creative projects that are not in a paper format,

students should submit a 1-2 page description of the project and its academic basis along with appropriate documentation of the project (e.g., photos, video, audio files).

Asian Studies Courses for Spring 2012

As you prepare for the Spring 2012 semester, consider these courses that emphasize the history and cultures of Asia and count towards the Asian Studies minor. You can contact asianstudies@as.ua.edu to set an appointment to sign up for the minor.

ARH 254 Asian Art History
Cathy Pagani, TR 9:30-10:45

CHI 302 Intermediate Chinese
Xiang Zhang, MWF 10-10:50

EN 411.002 Islam in/and American Literature
Nikhil Bilwakesh, TR 8-9:15

HY 243 Asian Civilization to 1500
Kalzang Bhutia, TR 12:30-1:45

HY 300.002 History of East Asia
Ian Chapman, TR 5-6:15

HY 300.003 Modern South Asia
Kalzang Bhutia, TR 3:30-4:45

HY 400.001 History of Buddhism
Kalzang Bhutia, TR 9:30-10:45

HY 400.004 History of the Silk Road
Ian Chapman, TR 2-3:15

HY 404 Modern China after 1400
Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa, MWF 10-10:50

HY 430.002 Contours of Cosmopolitan
Modernities in Asia (Research seminar)
Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa, M 3-5:30

JA 302 Third Year Japanese II
Koji Arizumi, MWF 3-3:50

JA 357 Japanese Literature and Film
Koji Arizumi, TR 3-4:15

JA 411 Fourth Year Spoken Japanese
Koji Arizumi, TR 12:30-1:45

KOR 301 Third Year Korean
Independent Study

PSC 438 Gov. and Politics of South Asia
Simanti Lahiri, MW 2-3:15

REL 220 Survey of Asian Religions
Kalzang Bhutia, MW 5-6:15

REL 236 Islam
Steven Ramey, TR 11-12:15

REL 483 Texts and Retellings: Myths from Asia in
Film and Popular Culture
Steven Ramey, T 3:30-5:50

Language courses fulfilling Asian Studies minor ancillary requirement:

CHI 101	JA 102
CHI 102	JA 201
CHI 201	JA 202
CHI 202	KOR 101
HIN 101	KOR 102
HIN 102	KOR 201
JA 101	KOR 202

OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE UA

Study Abroad Scholarships for Asia Upcoming Deadlines

Numerous scholarship awards are available for students planning to study abroad in Asia. Keep updated on the deadlines and requirements for each:

- Asia Learn Program Scholarships- **November 30**
http://www.asialearn.org/programs/semester_or_year_abroad/fees_and_finances/scholarships/asialearn_scholarships/
- Boren Scholarship (Dr. Fran Oneal serves as the representative for the Boren- **February 9**
foneal@ua.edu or 348---5554) http://www.borenawards.org/boren_scholarship
- Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship 2012-13 year: **March 1**
<http://www.rotary.org/en/studentsandyouth/educationalprograms/ambassadorialscholarships/pages/howtoapply.aspx>
- JET Program (for graduates wanting to teach in Japan)-**Late November**
<http://www.jetprogramme.org/e/aspiring/index.html>

Birmingham Chinese Film Festival

The Alabama Asian Cultures Foundation continues its year-long Chinese film series, presenting a different film ***every second Sunday of each month***, with the exception of December, 2011, ***at 2:00 p.m.*** at the Vestavia Hills Library in The Forest, 1221 Montgomery Highway (across from the Vestavia Civic Center swimming pool and ballpark). Further information will be posted on the Foundation website: www.AlabamaAsianCultures.org; the Foundation's Facebook page, www.facebook.org/asiancultures; and Birmingham365.org.



The Asian Studies Program at UA produces this newsletter to highlight events and opportunities at UA and in the area. If you have questions about the newsletter or opportunities that you want included in a future edition, contact Steven Ramey, Director of Asian Studies, at sramey@as.ua.edu. For more information, you can also visit <http://www.as.ua.edu/asianstudies>. To add a name or remove yourself from the mailing list, email asianstudies@as.ua.edu.