

ASIAN STUDIES U OF L NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2024 - VOL. 9



Taipei, Taiwan in springtime

Asian Studies is an interdisciplinary program at the University of Lethbridge which seeks to understand the human experience in Asia and the Asian diaspora. We create opportunities for students to learn about Asia through courses, presentations, exchange programs, and faculty and student research. Thanks to our colleagues, Admin Assistant Jenny Oseen, students, International Office, and Arts & Science Deans for your continued support!

Upcoming Presentation

Friday, March 8 1:00 pm B650

Research on Religion Colloquium Presents:

“Digital Darshan: Reimagining Divine Connection in the Age of Social Media: A Case Study of Harsiddhi Mata Temple”

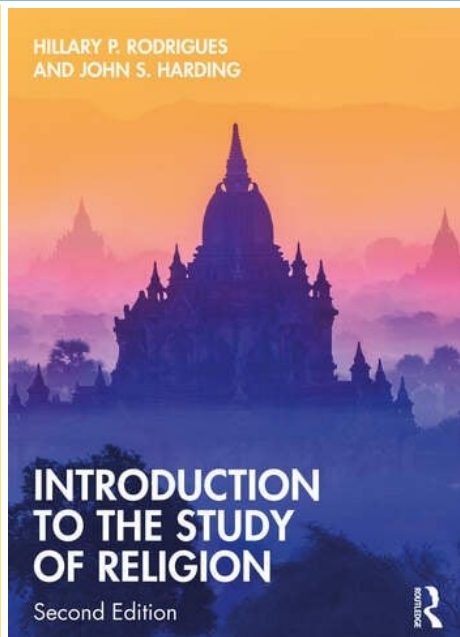
by Rutika Gandhi, PhD Candidate at University of British Columbia, Okanagan

[Digital Darshan: Reimagining Divine Connection in the Age of Social Media | Notice Board \(ulethbridge.ca\)](#)

Congratulations to Dr. John Harding and Dr. Hillary Rodrigues on the release of their co-authored book, *Introduction to the Study of Religion*, 2nd ed. (Routledge, Jan 2024)!! [Introduction to the Study of Religion - 2nd Edition - Hillary P. Rodri \(routledge.com\)](#)

“Rodrigues and Harding give an overview of the study of religion that is at once inclusive and accessible. This book will help orient undergraduates to the field of Religious Studies, and will be a handy reference for graduate students and scholars of religion.”

E. Ann Matter,
University of Pennsylvania



Asian Studies Courses: Summer/Fall 2024

Summer 2024

HIST/ASIA 3850 A Bandits and Pirates in China and South Asia CRN 20360 Online Jul 3-Aug 14 Weiting Guo TR 9:00-11:45

RELS 3850 A Bollywood: History, Culture, and Religion CRN 20377 Online Jul 3-Aug 14 Rutika Gandhi TR 13:00-15:45

Fall 2024

JPNS 1000 A Beginners' Japanese I & Lab 1 CRN 30768 Abigail McMeekin TRF 13:00-13:50 D631

JPNS 1000 B Beginners' Japanese I & Lab 1 CRN 30769 Tomoko Greenshields MTR 17:00-17:50 FA W550

JPNS 2010 A Intermediate Language I & Lab 1 CRN 30772 McMeekin TRF 15:00-15:50 W550

JPNS 3001 A Advanced Language & Lab 1 CRN 30774 McMeekin TRF 16:00-16:50 W550

ASIA 1000 A Introduction to Asia CRN 30144 Gideon Fujiwara MW 9:00-10:15 TH241

ASIA 2020 Japan, Asia, and the World & Tutorial CRN 30145 Chris Churchill Online MW 18:00-19:30/ From Nov, 17:00-18:30

RELS 2330 Chinese Religions CRN 31657 John Harding TR 13:30-14:45 L1170 A

HIST 3280 Imperial China CRN 30679 Fujiwara MW 13:30-14:45 C630

The **International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations** and **Dr. Bonnie Lee** and the **Faculty of Health Sciences** at the University of Lethbridge will host the Society's **53rd annual** international and interdisciplinary **conference on Health, Healing and Civilizations from May 21-24, 2024 at the U of L campus.**

Bringing together the themes of health, healing and civilizations, this big picture conference offers a departure from discipline-specific gatherings, fostering critical inquiry and new interpretation of issues pertaining to this pivotal moment in human history.

The program includes a panel on **"Japanese state reform, corporate museums and poetry as healing methods"** by **Dr. Robert Bedeski**, (Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria), **Prof. Aki Kinjo** (Gakushuin Women's College, Tokyo), and **Prof. Gideon Fujiwara** (U of L). For more details see the website:

[Home \(iscsc.org\)](https://iscsc.org)

Michael Chan Prize in Asian Studies

Value: \$1,000 Michael Wing-Cheung Chan (1952-2001) was a Chinese Canadian scientist and humanitarian known for his brilliance in mathematics and his passion in promoting Canada-Asia understanding. **Eligibility:** Continuing or graduating full-time undergraduate or graduate students in any degree program. Outstanding achievement in a course project or paper on an Asian topic. Submit your project to gideon.fujiwara@uleth.ca as an e-mail attachment accompanied by a cover letter.

Next submissions due Aug 20, 2024.

Learn more at [Scholarships | University of Lethbridge \(ulethbridge.ca\)](https://ulethbridge.ca/scholarships)

Do you have a paper that touches on religion or history that you're proud of? If so, consider presenting it at the **2024 History and Religion Students Conference** at the University of Lethbridge, **April 27 to 28** (Sat to Sun) in Anderson Hall, organized by Dr. Jim Linville. Proposals accepted to March 22. See details at [History and Religion Students Conference | University of Lethbridge \(ulethbridge.ca\)](https://ulethbridge.ca/history-and-religion-students-conference)

Dr. John Harding will be a visiting scholar at Aarhus University in Denmark in spring 2024. This is connected to his project on Buddhism in Europe with participation in a conference on that topic in Aarhus in April and a presentation for the Centre for Contemporary Religion at Aarhus University that month as well. Congratulations, John!

samtidreligion.au.dk/en

Prof. Ian MacLachlan is appointed Professor of Geography at Peking University Shenzhen Graduate School of Urban Planning and Design where he teaches "Human Geography for Planning Graduate Students". Ian is in Shenzhen for another semester, number 9 counting COVID by Zoom.

[Professor Ian MacLachlan \(ulethbridge.ca\)](https://ulethbridge.ca/professor-ian-maclachlan)

Coordinator's Desk: This edition highlights exciting courses offered in Summer and Fall 2024, upcoming events, and success stories. Thank you for reading! Gideon

More details on our website: [Asian Studies | University of Lethbridge \(ulethbridge.ca\)](https://ulethbridge.ca/asian-studies)

Questions can be directed to the Coordinator at gideon.fujiwara@uleth.ca

U of L Students, are you interested in learning about Asia's societies, cultures, and histories? Want to make your degree international? Considering traveling Asia or working with ties to Asia?

If so, declare your Minor in Asian Studies!

Required courses: ASIA 1000 Intro to Asia plus 5 courses with at least 1 at the 3000/4000 level.

Consider structuring the Asian Studies Minor into one of the following combinations:

Major/Minor; Major/Double Minor; or within a General Humanities/Social Science degree. Be creative! within a General Humanities/Social Science degree. Be creative!