"I went to seven open days and was drawn to Sheffield, and this course, more than any other from the word go. Sheffield seemed like a really vibrant city and the course intrigued me."

Sovra Whitcroft
BA Japanese Studies and History

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East Asia’s rich history, vast populations and diverse cultures make it a fascinating area of study. Its growing economic power and influence also make it an important pathway to employment. Study China, Japan or Korea and you’ll start to open up these avenues.

China is the world’s most populous country and has emerged over recent decades as an economic superpower. Chinese is truly a world language, being spoken also by many millions of people in the Chinese Diaspora. As China plays an ever more important role in the world, studying China and the Chinese language will open up windows of opportunity to you as you embark on your career.

Japan is the world’s third largest economy and is the source of fascinating cultural traditions and technological innovations. Japan will remain key to the long-term prosperity of the Asian region and is likely to redefine its political role in line with this reality.

Recent political developments on the Korean Peninsula make this a fascinating region to understand. In a little under four decades, the Republic of Korea has been transformed from a war-ravaged, agricultural country into one of the leading trading nations and economies of the world.

Studying East Asia will prepare you for a career in the world’s most exciting region – one which accounts for around £69 billion of the United Kingdom’s foreign trade. By studying an East Asian language, together with one or more East Asian societies you will gain a clear advantage in a competitive job market.

Studying East Asia is more than just a career option; it is a chance for you to understand over 30% of the world’s population and cultural traditions that are thousands of years old. By considering how people in China, Japan or Korea see the world, you will develop comparative skills of analysis that will contribute to your development as an individual.

"Attending the G20 summit was amazing. We were able to see what the life of a journalist and an academic researcher would be like, as well as develop our research, writing and teamwork skills. The entire experience of being a policy analyst was incredible. The University of Sheffield is the only university in the entire world to have a fully-funded program like this which allows students to attend global summits! It is an incredible opportunity which I will never forget."

Melissa Pilgrim
BA Chinese Studies
The University of Sheffield School of East Asian Studies

Undergraduate Degrees

Our undergraduate programmes offer you a chance to become an expert on the East Asia region whilst gaining fluent language skills and the transferable skills you need for a successful career. We offer single honours courses in the subjects listed below, plus a variety of dual honours courses combining an East Asian language with Business Management, History, Linguistics, Music or a European language.

- Chinese Studies (see page 16)
- East Asian Studies (see page 18)
- Japanese Studies (see page 20)
- Korean Studies (see page 22)

Studying East Asia at Sheffield

The School of East Asian Studies at Sheffield has been teaching and researching contemporary East Asia for over 50 years and has a long tradition of pioneering methods for the teaching of East Asian languages, namely Chinese, Japanese and Korean. Our research and teaching focuses mainly on the business, politics, societies, cultures, economies, history and languages of modern and contemporary East Asia.

The key features of our curriculum
Skills Development

Each year of your degree has a specific skills development focus, from basic academic and transferable skills in the first year, through to research skills in your final year.

Year 1
Core academic and transferable skills such as
- Critical thinking
- Information and digital literacy
- Academic research
- Time management
- Visual literacy

Year 2
Discipline specific skills tailored towards your chosen country of study, which may include;
- Understanding economic and business models
- Analysing policy and writing policy briefs
- Critiquing visual art such as film
- Forming and debating a coherent argument
- Reading and interpreting maps and data sources

Final Year
Research skills such as
- Project management
- Analysis
- Data mining
- Report writing
- Problem solving
- Team work
During the length of your degree you will spend 50% of your time in language classes to ensure that you graduate with a high level of language proficiency.

Classes are taught in small groups allowing you plenty of chances to practice with your classmates and gain feedback from your tutors. You will start by focusing on reading, writing, listening and speaking, working with qualified native-speaker language teachers in preparation for your year abroad.

As you develop through your course you will also be taught by non-native speakers who have been through the same process of learning the language and have special insights into the challenges you might face. You will also be introduced to advanced topics such as translation, interpretation and workplace language skills such as C.V writing, presenting and report writing.

We have a long tradition of pioneering innovative methods for the teaching of East Asian languages that support learning from absolute beginner to the most advanced levels. This often results in our students successfully competing at the high level language proficiency competitions and our staff being recognised for their expertise through awards.

Find out more about our staff and student achievements at: www.sheffield.ac.uk/seas/teaching-excellence

Non-specialist options
If you decide to focus your degree on East Asian culture and society, instead of language, through one of our East Asian studies courses you can still take non-specialist language modules which allow you to learn Chinese, Japanese or Korean at a less intensive pace.

"I love the interactive way that we study Korean. The dedicated teaching team always make sure to use a wide variety of sources to enrich our learning experience. Whether it be group discussions, presentations or watching videos, every class is different, and it has made learning a challenging language such as Korean so much more enjoyable."

Yasmin Parsons
BA Korean Studies and Business Management
The key features of our curriculum
A period of study in East Asia

All our degrees include a period of study in China, Japan or Korea allowing you to immerse yourself in the country you are studying.

Our Chinese/Japanese/Korean Studies courses include a full academic year in country studying at a highly ranked university in China, Japan or Korea. The year abroad offers you an unrivalled opportunity to improve your language skills; in particular, your spoken skills. It will also give you valuable insights into the country and its people. On top of developing language skills and learning more about the country, the year abroad has helped students to grow their confidence and self-reliance and helped them build skills in adapting to new situations and taking on new challenges. These are all attributes which are highly sought after by employers. Chinese and Korean Studies students take their year abroad in their second year of their degree and those studying Japanese Studies take their year abroad in Japan in their third year.

— Chinese Studies students will spend their year abroad at Nanjing University, one of China’s best universities located in one of the country’s former capital cities.
— Japanese Studies students will spend their year abroad at one of our numerous partner universities across Japan including Tokyo, Kyoto, Hokkaido and Waseda University.
— Korean Studies students will spend their year abroad at one of our six partner institutions in the country’s capital, Seoul.

Our East Asian Studies programme involves a fully-funded field trip to East Asia in the second year of the degree. The field trip could be in China, Japan or Korea and will give you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the country whilst undertaking some in-country research. All trips will be accompanied by members of academic staff and whilst in East Asia you will be hosted by one of our partner institutions.

"The year abroad expands your perception of the world and culture itself; what makes us different from other people and how much you can learn just from being in a country that’s not your own. Korea is a beautiful country; the food is amazing, the scenery is beautiful and the things to do are endless. I felt so settled and at home there."

Luke Bill
BA Korean Studies, year abroad at Yonsei University

"The year abroad was the best way for me to develop my speaking and listening skills. Outside of language skills, my year in Japan helped me develop my independent survival skills, adapting to new places or situations. I studied at Kanazawa University and the city itself was amazing with all the staples a student could need. From bars and karaoke to bowling and specialist shopping, Kanazawa has it all."

James Keenan
BA Japanese and History, year abroad at Kanazawa University
The flexibility of our courses means you can tailor your degree with a social science or humanities focus depending on your interests, whilst developing a high level of language proficiency in your chosen East Asian Language.

The wide variety of world leading academic scholarship within our school means we are well equipped to teach East Asian History, Culture, Politics, International Relations, Society, Business and Economics at every stage of your undergraduate degree.

The opportunity to begin tailoring your degree towards a specific discipline will be available from your second year, after you have gained foundation knowledge in your first year and experienced which subjects you enjoy most.

**Humanities subjects**
- History
- Cultural Studies
- Literature
- Media Studies
- Anthropology

**Social Science subjects**
- Politics and International Relations
- Business and Economics
- Social Geography
- Urban Studies
- Law

(This list is an example only and could change year upon year as we review our curriculum)

We have developed our courses to ensure that you are provided with essential knowledge of the East Asia region. This will give you a greater understanding of your chosen country of study, what shaped it and how it may develop in the future.

Our first year module ‘Exploring East Asia’ will be taken by all our undergraduate students enabling you to interact and work with students from across the School, learning from each other and developing your understanding of the East Asia region.

“My favourite thing about my course is that the modules build upon one another - something that you learned about Korea in your first year could be relevant to Japan or China in your final year because East Asian countries are so intertwined with each other.”

Isadora Cassidy da Silva
BA East Asian Studies
Our Courses

Our degree courses are either four years long if you are learning an East Asian language, or three years if you are focusing your studies on the social sciences and humanities aspects of the East Asian region in one of our East Asian Studies programmes.

A key choice facing you when coming to SEAS will be whether to study a Single Honours or a Dual Honours degree. Both have their advantages, depending on your interests and career plans.

Single Honours

- A single honours degree gives you the opportunity to go into greater depth in studying the country and language you have chosen. Unlike a student taking dual honours, you will have room to study more modules on your chosen country in addition to the language.
- A single honours degree allows you more unrestricted modules which you can use freely to follow your own interests, such as another language, politics or history modules.

Dual Honours

The breadth of scope in dual and major/minor degrees means that you’ll need to develop good communication and organisational skills. These will help you whether you choose to enter the job market or continue your studies at the end of your course.

When you graduate you’ll also have greater freedom of choice if you do decide to carry on your studies beyond degree level. You’ll be able to choose between further study in either one of your original subject areas or conducting research on a topic that combines both.

The difference between ‘and’ degrees and ‘with’ degrees.

- ‘And’ degrees involve roughly equal study of each subject. On the SEAS side your studies will involve the intensive language course including the Language Year Abroad.
- ‘With’ degrees have more of a ‘major/minor’ pattern, meaning you will spend around 60% of your time in one subject and 40% of your time on the other. For example, if you chose BA Modern Languages with Japanese you would spend 40% of your time studying Japanese with a less intensive language programme, without the extra year spent in Japan.

“The course has lived up to my expectation and exceeded it. The classes are small in size, so you get to know your course mates well and the teaching quality is great. I’ve always had an interest in history, therefore I love being able to pick the modules on Japanese history as well as other cultural modules.”

Simona Pakutinskaitė
BA Japanese Studies
BA Chinese Studies

UCAS Code – T110
Entry Requirements (A Level) – ABB
Duration – 4 years (including a year in China)

Why study China?

China is one of the world’s great powers and one of the world’s largest and fastest growing economies. It is also home to one of the world’s great cultural traditions and most complex and rapidly changing societies.

The study of China and the Chinese language will open windows of opportunity for you to take advantage of careers with the many domestic and international companies and institutions that are doing business or working with China, in manufacturing, services and cultural or educational exchange. China today faces both the global challenges of the twenty-first century – climate change, population change – and the local challenges that arise from dramatic social change and the legacies of the turbulent twentieth century.

Year 1

You will spend 50% of your time in Chinese Language classes, covering grammar, writing, speaking and other skills.

To complement your language training, you will take core modules in: Exploring East Asia, to establish China in its regional context and clarify its geographical, historical, cultural, social and political links with other East Asian States; and, Understanding China, which will focus on a core text such as a book or a collection of articles, which has played a significant role in developing an intricate understanding of China. There will be an option to focus on either a social sciences discipline such as politics or economics, or a humanities discipline such as history or culture.

Your year in China

Your second year is spent studying at the University of Nanjing, one of China’s top universities. Many students feel that this year of their degree is absolutely key to their development as an expert in the country and its language; it is a fantastic opportunity that should not be missed!

Year 3

In language classes, you will work on a range of contemporary social, political and economic topics through a wide variety of sources including newspapers, literature, government documents, films and TV.

In the studies programme you will be able to choose from a range of modules with a focus on the disciplinary study of China. Modules may cover topics such as Chinese business and management practices, Chinese history or Chinese politics.

Year 4

You will begin to work on advanced language skills including language skills for employment such as C.V writing, presentation techniques, quick translation and report writing in Chinese.

Your studies modules will have a research focus which will enable you to work in groups and directly with academic staff within the school on active research questions and experience what it is like to be part of our research community. This will support an important component of your degree; a dissertation on a topic of your choice relating to China.

Dual honours degrees with Chinese Studies:

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<td>ABB</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Chinese Studies and Business Management</td>
<td>TN12</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Chinese Studies with Japanese</td>
<td>T1T2</td>
<td>ABB</td>
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BA East Asian Studies

UCAS Code – T300
Entry Requirements (A levels) – AAB
Duration – 3 years

Why study East Asia?
East Asia is one of the most dynamic areas of the world and is set to become the world’s dominant economic region in the 21st century. Britain and Europe will be left behind if they don’t strengthen their expertise on this vital area. In addition to its economic importance, the East Asian region is home to some of the world’s greatest cultural traditions. Studying East Asia will help you to find jobs and pursue careers relating to this region.

Year 1
In your first year, you will take a core module in Exploring East Asia to enable you to understand the regional context and the links - geographical, historical, cultural, social and political - between the East Asian states; and a choice of modules on Understanding East Asia. These modules will focus on a specific East Asian Country (China/Japan/Korea) and will be centred around a core text such as a book or a collection of articles, which has played a significant role in developing an intricate understanding of the chosen country.

Year 2
A core component of your second year will be an East Asian Field Trip. This fully funded field trip could be in China, Japan or Korea and will give you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the country whilst undertaking some in-country research. To compliment your field trip, you will be able to choose from a range of modules covering politics, cultural studies, business, history and society with a focus on East Asia.

Year 3
In your final year, your studies modules will have a research focus which will enable you to work in groups and directly with academic staff within the school on active research questions and experience what it is like to be part of our research community. This will support an important component of your degree; a dissertation on a topic of your choice relating to one or more East Asian countries. You will work on the dissertation over the course of the year with a supervisor from the department, using the analytical skills you have developed through your studies in earlier years to produce a high-quality piece of research.

Whilst this degree does not have a core language component you will have the option to take non-specialist language modules in Chinese, Japanese or Korean if you wish throughout the degree.

“I chose East Asian Studies because I’ve had an interest in East Asian history for as long as I can remember. It began with an interest in ancient China, but as I grew older this expanded to Japan and Korea and was fuelled by a trip to Japan and a passion for Korean cinema.”

Melissa Webb
BA East Asian Studies
Why study Japan?

It is now easier than ever for foreign businesses to enter Japanese markets, a fact reflected in the growing numbers of Western business men and women (including many Sheffield graduates) based in Tokyo and Osaka. In addition, many Japanese companies are now actively acquiring foreign companies across the world and are increasingly recruiting foreigners with good Japanese-language skills.

Rich in culture and history, Japan has a complex, dynamic and fascinating society that contrasts high-tech cityscapes with temples, mountains and forests. The samurai heritage lives on in the films of Kurosawa and in the martial arts, while Japanese popular culture continues to have a significant global influence, with manga-based shades and tones being used by international fashion designers, and anime character design impacting on animation industries worldwide.

Year 1

You will spend 50% of your time in Japanese Language classes, covering grammar, writing, speaking and other skills.

In your first year you will take core modules in: Exploring East Asia, to establish Japan in its regional context and clarify its geographical, historical, cultural, social and political links with other East Asian States; and, Understanding Japan, which will focus on a core text such as a book or a collection of articles, which has played a significant role in developing an intricate understanding of Japan. There will be an option to focus on either a social sciences discipline such as politics or economics, or a humanities discipline such as history or culture.

Year 2

You will begin to apply your language skills in practical situations and deal with real Japanese texts written for native speakers, not students, learning how to read, interpret and translate them. Your spoken and written skills will be developed with an emphasis on preparing you for your year studying in Japan.

In the studies programme, you will be able to choose from a range of modules with a focus on the disciplinary study of Japan. Modules may cover topics such as Japanese popular culture, Japanese history or Japanese politics.

Your year in Japan

You will spend your third year at one of our partner universities in Japan. Whilst there you will continue to take intensive courses in Japanese language, building on the skills you have learned during your first two years in Sheffield. You will also have the opportunity to take a range of Japanese studies modules. As well as studying, this is a great opportunity to immerse yourself in Japanese culture and explore the country.

Year 4

In language classes you will focus on the most likely use of your Japanese post-graduation, such as rapidly absorbing the content of Japanese texts, summarisation skills and unseen translation under time constraints, formal oral communication and C.V writing in Japanese.

Your studies modules will have a research focus which will enable you to work in groups and directly with academic staff within the school on active research questions and experience what it is like to be part of our research community.

This will support an important component of your degree in this final year; a dissertation on a topic relating to Japan. You will use both your Japanese language skills as well as the analytical skills you have gained through your studies modules in earlier years, to produce a high-quality piece of research relating to any aspect of Japan.

Dual honours degrees with Japanese Studies

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>BA Business Management and Japanese Studies</td>
<td>NT22</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Linguistics and Japanese Studies</td>
<td>QT22</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Japanese Studies and History</td>
<td>TV21</td>
<td>ABB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BA Korean Studies

UCAS Code – 7415
Entry Requirements (A level) – ABB
Duration – 4 years (including a year in Korea)

Why study Korea?

In a little under four decades, the Republic of Korea has been transformed from a war-ravaged, agricultural country into one of the leading trading nations and economies of the world. Korean goods are exported to developing and industrialised countries, and Korean companies have set up sales networks and built factories all over the world.

A centuries-old struggle against more powerful neighbours, the painful division of the country into communist north and democratic south in 1948, and the lasting influence of Confucian ways of thinking have all played an important part in Korea’s modern history. In addition, the Koreans have a cultural heritage of which they are justifiably proud. Surprisingly, Korea remains something of an unknown quantity in the West, but its rapid rise to join the ranks of the world’s industrialised nations will create a demand for people who understand this fascinating country.

Year 1

You will spend 50% of your time in Korean language classes, covering grammar, writing, speaking and other skills.

To compliment your language training, you will also take core modules in: Exploring East Asia, to establish Korea in its regional context and clarify its geographical, historical, cultural, social and political links with other East Asian States; and, Understanding Korea, which will focus on a core text such as a book or a collection of articles, which has played a significant role in developing an intricate understanding of Korea. There will be an option to focus on either a social sciences discipline such as politics or economics, or a humanities discipline such as history or culture.

Your year in Korea

You will spend your second year at one of our partner universities in Seoul. In Seoul, you will continue to take intensive courses in Korean language, building on the skills you learned during your first year.
Where will your degree take you?

A degree in Chinese, Japanese, Korean or East Asian Studies is flexible enough to allow you to pursue a range of different career options, but specialised enough to set you apart in a highly competitive job market.

SEAS graduates are recognised around the world for their unique combination of language skills and social science training. While many have made the most of their knowledge of East Asia by returning to the region to work, others have made use of their skills here in the UK, in Europe or elsewhere around the world.

Over the past 40 years, SEAS graduates have embarked on a wide variety of rewarding careers in fields such as government, diplomacy and international organisations, with graduates going on to work at the United Nations, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office or international think tanks such as the Carnegie Foundation for International Peace. Others have gone on to lead careers in education, the arts and the media, ranging, for example, from the BBC to China Daily. Many have entered the world of business, finance and management, and are working for some of the world’s top companies, including Mitsubishi, British Airways, Shell and Ernst & Young.

“I currently work for Intralink as Director of Operations for China. Most of Intralink’s customer communications are conducted in the local language so I use the language skills gained from Sheffield daily. The language teachers at Sheffield were outstanding and the modules on Chinese culture, economics and politics also provided a solid base to understand the intricacies of China’s business environment.”

Alexander Barton graduated with a degree in Chinese Studies and is now working for Intralink and based in China.

“My time at SEAS allowed me to develop a self-confidence and passion of interest that has already served me well in my career, and will continue to do so. I wouldn’t have had the opportunity to get where I am today without the personal and intellectual support of SEAS.”

Amy Studdart graduated with a degree in East Asian Studies. As Asia Program Associate for the German Marshall Fund of the United States, she travels frequently to East Asia where her work focuses on identifying how the world changes as Asia rises.

Developing your employability

During your time in Sheffield you will have the opportunity to enhance your CV by participating in a range of extra-curricular activities that will be both personally fulfilling and attractive to potential employers.

Global Learning Opportunities in Social Sciences (GLOSS)

GLOSS provides undergraduate and postgraduate students from the Faculty of Social Sciences with a pioneering range of international opportunities. You can engage with international policy; pursue international research; and take action in the field of international development.

Student Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE)

SURE offers undergraduate students a chance to become directly involved in the research activity of the University, take part in ‘real life’ research projects in subject areas that are of special interest, and experience what it’s like to work in partnership with academic staff or collaboratively in a research group.

Degrees with Employment Experience

All of our degrees can be converted at a later date to a degree “with Employment Experience”. This offers you the opportunity to further develop your knowledge, skills and understanding within an employment context by undertaking an additional one year work placement as part of your programme.

Find out more about these opportunities and others at: www.sheffield.ac.uk/seas/employability

As part of the SURE scheme, BA Chinese Studies and History student Nicola Unwin undertook some research into the history of Oriental acts in the British circus. Read a blog about her research at: www.spotlight-eastasia.group.shef.ac.uk/sure
Why Sheffield?

The University of Sheffield is a Russell Group University meaning it is committed to maintaining a high standard of research excellence and an outstanding student experience.

We are very proud to say our Students Union has been voted best in the UK for 10 years in a row in the Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey. Find out more about our Students Union at www.su.sheffield.ac.uk/

As a city, Sheffield has got it all: Ground-breaking annual festivals including Tramlines Music Festival, galleries with links to the Tate and the V&A, a world-famous theatre scene, and the biggest indie cinema outside London. Plus, more than a third of the city is inside the Peak District National Park which means you are never far away from beautiful country scenery.

It’s a green, friendly, affordable and safe city where you’ll find incredible bars, restaurants, clubs, and sports facilities, both on and off campus.

How to apply

We make offers at ABB at A Level or equivalent.

We also accept other qualifications such as Access to HE, BTEC or International Baccalaureate.

We welcome enquiries from mature applicants and currently have a number of mature students on our undergraduate courses.

English Language requirement

Applicants who are not native speakers of English are required by the University to have a 6.5 in IELTS (with at least 6 in each component), or equivalent.

As our language-based courses are taught as a foreign language, we do not accept native speakers on to courses involving their own languages. However, we welcome – and currently have – East Asian students studying towards a degree in an area other than that covered by their native language, or studying the region as a whole through an East Asian Studies degree.

We also welcome, and have a lively presence of, students on the ERASMUS scheme.

Contact us

If you have any queries about our courses then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

For details, please contact our Undergraduate Admissions Team:

School of East Asian Studies
The University of Sheffield
6/8 Shearwood Road
Sheffield
S10 2TD

Tel: 0114 222 8400
Email: eastasianstudies-admissions@sheffield.ac.uk
www.sheffield.ac.uk/seas
The content of our courses is reviewed annually to make sure it’s up-to-date and relevant. This is in response to discoveries made through our world-leading research, funding changes, professional accreditation requirements, student or employer feedback; outcomes of reviews, and variations in staff or student numbers.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication, for the reasons detailed above, changes may need to be made to modules, courses, entry requirements and fees between the date of this publication and the start of your course.

This publication is correct as at the time of print, but please see www.sheffield.ac.uk for the most up-to-date information about undergraduate study at the University. If there is an inconsistency between this publication and www.sheffield.ac.uk, the information on www.sheffield.ac.uk should be taken as correct.