INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The South and Southeast Asian Studies major is a flexible, interdisciplinary program offering opportunities for both wide and comparative study of South and Southeast Asian cultures, literature, religion, and history. Students may choose from 13 languages for language study, including Bengali, Burmese, Filipino, Hindi, Indonesian, Khmer, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Thai, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

- It is possible to create a mixed South/Southeast Asian combination in the major; please see the undergraduate faculty adviser to discuss this possibility.
- Already have an intended major but interested in South and Southeast Asian Studies? Consider adding a double major or minor.
- AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR
  - Immerse yourself in South and Southeast Asian language and culture through study abroad.
  - Apply for a FLAS award to support your language study.
  - Find scholarly resources, events, and research opportunities at the Institute of East Asian Studies, the Institute for Southeast Asia Studies, and the Center for Buddhist Studies.

Without my SSEAS degree I never would’ve have interned at Wedu in Bangkok, and never would’ve realized that my desired career path is to help international students study in the US.

– Blair Dishon, SSEAS alumna

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit vcue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map. 
**SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES**

**Bachelor of Arts**

### FIRST YEAR
- **Explore your major**
  - Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
  - Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements.
  - Enroll in L&S 1 and HUM 10.
  - Take the placement exam for your chosen language of study.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Get 11 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect and L&S Mentors Program.
  - Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
  - Explore the Berkeley Language Center.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar or student-run DeCal course.
  - Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships.
  - Visit the South/Southeast Asia Library collection at the Doe Library.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Attend the Calapaloosa student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
  - Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
  - Explore study, internship, and research abroad options in Asia with Berkeley Study Abroad.

### SECOND YEAR
- **Explore your major**
  - Complete the lower division prerequisites in South or Southeast Asian language and introduction to the Civilizations of India or Southeast Asia, and declare the major.
  - Review major guidelines: Explore study abroad and schedule an appointment with the UG Faculty Advisor about using specific abroad courses toward the major.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Check out the Southeast Asian Student Coalition.
  - Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.
  - Start attending South & Southeast Asian Studies department events.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Continue exploring with a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
  - Assist faculty and graduate students in their research through URAP and SMART.
  - Build your research skills in HUM W101: Research Bootcamp.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Contribute to a community organization with an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
  - Go on a service-learning trip with the Alternative Breaks Program.
  - Apply to the Boren, Freeman-ASIA, or Critical Language Scholarship.

### THIRD YEAR
- **Explore your major**
  - Focus on upper division requirements in intermediate language, religion and history, literature courses, and electives.
  - Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
  - Ask your major advisor about the South and Southeast Asian Studies honors program.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Explore resources from the Center for Southeast Asia Studies and Institute of South Asian Studies.
  - Work with peers and graduate students in HUM 196: Mentored-Research and Discovery Groups.
  - Consider joining the Association of Asian Studies.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Apply for a FLAS award to support your language study.
  - Planning a senior thesis or project? Apply to the Haas Scholars Program or SURF.
  - Curious about entrepreneurship? Enroll in HUM120: Entrepreneurship for All.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Experience life at another UC or college on a full year summer minor.
  - Complete any “bucket list” courses.
  - Focus on intermediate language, religion and history, literature courses, and electives.

### FOURTH YEAR
- **Explore your major**
  - Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
  - Complete any "bucket list" courses.
  - Finish remaining major, college, and campus requirements.
  - Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Practice your language skills while helping others.
  - Learn in the SLC Language Exchange Program.
  - Get support for your thesis project in the Townsend Honors Thesis Workshop.
  - Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Teach your own DeCal course.
  - Undertake an optional honors thesis or independent study.
  - Consider submitting your work to the Journal of Asian Studies.
  - Finish remaining_upperdivision_requirements_and_schedule_an_appointment_with_your_major_advisor_to_discuss_your_degree_progress_with_your_major_and_college_advisor.
  - Consider publishing your research in the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal of Asian Studies.
  - Practice your language skills while helping others learn in the SLC Language Exchange Program.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Hone your leadership skills with the Peter E. Haas Public Service Leaders program.
  - Explore service opportunities after graduation, such as Peace Corps, Teach for America, or U.S. Department of State.
  - Apply to the Fulbright ETA Program to teach English in Asia.

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
- **Jobs and Employers**
  - Asst. Professor, Peking University
  - Asst. Prof., Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa
  - Associate Professor, UC Berkeley
  - Associate Professor, UW-La Crosse Business Dev. Assoc., SF City and Cty.
  - Category Spc., Walmart E-Commerce Coordinator, AmeriCorps
  - External Relations Specialist, Year Up Foreign Svc. Officer, US Dept. of State
  - Musician
  - Paralegal, Los Angeles
  - PI, ACHEE for S. Asian Americans
  - Student Services Asst., UC Berkeley
  - Visiting Professor, Brown University
- **Graduate Programs**
  - Asian Studies, PhD
  - International Education, Masters
  - Public Health, Masters
- **Examples gathered from the Career Destinations Survey of recent Berkeley graduates and South and Southeast Asian Studies Department.**

*Updated Last: 07/30/2019*