

KOREAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE, BA

Students declared in the Korean Language and Culture major are immersed in the vibrant and globally influential world of Korea. As Korea emerges as a major economic, political, and cultural force, understanding its language, history, and society is more crucial than ever. Korea's significance continues to grow: its dynamic economy, strategic geopolitical role, and remarkable cultural output—from the global arts phenomenon of Hallyu (“Korean Wave”) to innovative lifestyle trends—are reshaping international landscapes. The Korean language is recognized as a critical language for U.S. security, and Korean companies are making significant investments across the United States.

This major is thoughtfully designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Korean civilization, preparing them for a diverse range of rewarding career paths. The program's rigorous curriculum provides instruction in Korean language, linguistics, history, literature, film, gender studies, and social sciences. This interdisciplinary approach ensures a holistic and profound engagement with Korean culture.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research with UW-Madison's esteemed faculty, renowned for their expertise in various aspects of Korean studies.

Students in this major cultivate critical skills essential for success:

- advanced abilities in analyzing and synthesizing information from diverse sources;
- producing well-structured and sophisticated academic writing;
- engaging effectively in intercultural communication;
- advanced linguistic proficiency in both English and Korean;
- conducting independent research;
- deep cultural sensitivity;
- ability to interpret complex texts and cultural phenomena with nuance and insight.

HOW TO GET IN

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Requirements	Details
How to get in	No application required. All students who meet the requirements listed below are eligible to declare. For information on how to declare, visit Advising & Careers.
Courses required to get in	None
GPA requirements to get in	None
Credits required to get in	None
Other	None

PLACEMENT EXAM

The Asian Languages and Cultures department offers placement exams for students with prior language study or experience as a speaker of Korean. For more information, see the department's website (<https://alc.wisc.edu/languages/placement-tests-2/>).

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduatestudytext>) section of the Guide.

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| General Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits • Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits • Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits • Communication Part A & Part B * • Ethnic Studies * • Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B * |
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* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

Students pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The College of Letters & Science allows this major to be paired with either a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science curriculum.

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics Complete the University General Education Requirements for Quantitative Reasoning A (QR-A) and Quantitative Reasoning B (QR-B) coursework.

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| Language | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the fourth unit of a language other than English; OR • Complete the third unit of a language and the second unit of an additional language other than English. |
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L&S Breadth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 credits of Humanities, which must include 6 credits of literature; and • 12 credits of Social Science; and • 12 credits of Natural Science, which must include one 3+ credit Biological Science course and one 3+ credit Physical Science course.
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Liberal Arts and Science Coursework	Complete at least 108 credits.
Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work	Complete at least 60 credits at the intermediate or advanced level.
Major	Declare and complete at least one major.
Total Credits	Complete at least 120 credits.
UW-Madison Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 credits in residence, overall; and • 30 credits in residence after the 86th credit.
Quality of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.000 in all coursework at UW-Madison • 2.000 in Intermediate/Advanced level coursework at UW-Madison

NON-L&S STUDENTS PURSUING AN L&S MAJOR

Non-L&S students who have permission from their school/college to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements. They do not need to complete the L&S Degree Requirements above.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

Code	Title	Credits
Language Requisites:		
ASIALANG 105	First Semester Korean	4
ASIALANG 106	Second Semester Korean	4
ASIALANG 205	Third Semester Korean	4
ASIALANG 206	Fourth Semester Korean	4
Advanced Language Courses:		
ASIALANG 305	Fifth Semester Korean (Required)	3
Advanced Language Course electives (choose 3): 9		
ASIALANG 306	Sixth Semester Korean	
ASIALANG 381	Business Korean	
ASIALANG 405	Seventh Semester Korean	
ASIALANG 406	Eighth Semester Korean	
ASIALANG 456	Advanced Korean Through Audio-Visual Media	
Korean Studies Courses		
<i>Introductory Course (one course, choose from options):</i>		3
ASIAN/HISTORY 108	Introduction to East Asian History - Korea	
ASIAN 254	Korean Popular Culture	
ASIAN/HISTORY/POLI SCI 255	Introduction to East Asian Civilizations	
<i>Intermediate Courses (three courses, from options below):</i>		9

ASIAN/SOC 334	Gender, Work, and Family in East Asia	
ASIAN/SOC 336	Social Change in Contemporary South Korea	
ASIAN 374	Korean Cinema	
ED POL 245	Education in East Asia	
HISTORY/INTL ST 332	East Asia & The U.S. Since 1899	
HISTORY/ASIAN 335	The Koreas: Korean War to the 21st Century	
HISTORY 340	Cultural History of Korea	
POLI SCI 328	Politics of East and Southeast Asia	
<i>Capstone Course (choose one):</i>		3
ASIAN 600	Capstone Seminar in Asian Humanities	
ASIAN 630	Proseminar: Studies in Cultures of Asia	
ASIAN 655	Ethnography in Asia	
ASIAN 682	Senior Honors Thesis	
ASIAN 692	Senior Thesis	
ASIAN 699	Directed Study	

Total Credits **43**

RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK

- 2.000 GPA in all major courses
- 2.000 GPA in 15 upper-level credits in the major, in residence
- 15 credits in the major, taken on campus

UPPER-LEVEL COURSES IN THE MAJOR

Code	Title	Credits
ASIAN 300	Topics in Asian Studies	3
ASIAN 301	Social Science Topics in Asian Studies	3
ASIAN/SOC 334	Gender, Work, and Family in East Asia	3
ASIAN/HISTORY 335	The Koreas: Korean War to the 21st Century	3-4
ASIAN/SOC 336	Social Change in Contemporary South Korea	3
ASIAN 360	Topics in Asian Literature	3
ASIAN 374	Korean Cinema	3
ASIAN 433	Topics in East Asian Visual Cultures	3
ASIAN/RELIG ST 505	The Perfectible Body in Religions, Medicines, and Politics	3
ASIAN 600	Capstone Seminar in Asian Humanities	3
ASIAN 630	Proseminar: Studies in Cultures of Asia	3
ASIAN 655	Ethnography in Asia	3
HISTORY/INTL ST 332	East Asia & The U.S. Since 1899	3-4
HISTORY 340	Cultural History of Korea	3-4
POLI SCI 328	Politics of East and Southeast Asia	3-4

HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students may declare Honors in the Major in consultation with the undergraduate advisor.

HONORS IN THE MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

To earn Honors in the Major, students must satisfy both the requirements for the major (above) and the following additional requirements:

- Earn a 3.300 University GPA
- Earn a 3.300 GPA for all courses accepted in the major
- Complete the following coursework, with a grade of B or better:
 - Either ASIAN 699 or another Capstone course (see list above) of 3–4 credits (excluding ASIAN 681 or ASIAN 682 or ASIAN 692) with the professor under whose guidance a student intends to write a thesis. This course must be taken before ASIAN 681.
 - Students who complete ASIAN 699 for the Capstone requirement will follow the department procedure for obtaining consent to enroll in a Senior Honors Thesis supervised by the faculty. Students must contact the undergraduate advisor for this major to initiate this process.
 - A two-semester Senior Honors Thesis in ASIAN 681 and ASIAN 682, for a total of 6 credits.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total Degree To receive a bachelor's degree from UW–Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.

Residency Degree candidates are required to earn a minimum of 30 credits in residence at UW–Madison. "In residence" means on the UW–Madison campus with an undergraduate degree classification. "In residence" credit also includes UW–Madison courses offered in distance or online formats and credits earned in UW–Madison Study Abroad/Study Away programs.

Quality of Work Undergraduate students must maintain the minimum grade point average specified by the school, college, or academic program to remain in good academic standing. Students whose academic performance drops below these minimum thresholds will be placed on academic probation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Demonstrate a high level of independent comprehension of written and audiovisual content, adapting style and speed to various text types and purposes, and selectively using appropriate reference sources.
2. Exchange ideas in both English and the target language, expressing and supporting opinions while respecting diverse viewpoints.
3. Exhibit a deep understanding of pragmatic, sociolinguistic, and rhetorical features of the target language, as well as its cultural nuances.

4. Conduct independent research using both English and target language sources, efficiently gathering and selecting relevant information.
5. Produce effective academic writing in English, critically evaluating and synthesizing information from various sources in both English and the target language.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

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This Four-Year Plan is only one way a student may complete an L&S degree with this major. Many factors can affect student degree planning, including placement scores, credit for transferred courses, credits earned by examination, and individual scholarly interests. In addition, many students have commitments (e.g., athletics, honors, research, student organizations, study abroad, work and volunteer experiences) that necessitate they adjust their plans accordingly. Informed students engage in their own unique Wisconsin Experience by consulting their academic advisors, Guide, DARS, and Course Search & Enroll for assistance making and adjusting their plan.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
COUN PSY 125	1 INTER-LS 145	1
ASIALANG 105 (only offered in fall term)	4 ASIALANG 106	4
ASIAN 100 (Humanities)	3-4 ASIAN 254 (Humanities)	3
Communication A	3 Quantitative Reasoning A	4
Biological Science Breadth	4 Science Breadth	4
	15	16

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ASIALANG 205	4 INTER-LS 210	1
ASIAN/RELIG ST 236 (Communication B)	3 ASIALANG 206	4
ASIAN/SOC 336 (Social Science)	3 ASIAN AM/ENGL 270 (Literature)	3
Quantitative Reasoning B	4 ENGL 319 (Ethnic Studies)	3
	Physical Science Breadth	3
	14	14

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
INTL ST 275	1 ASIALANG 381	3
ASIALANG 305 (Required)	3 ASIAN 374	3
ASIAN/SOC 334 (Social Science)	3 HISTORY/INTL ST 332	3-4
ASIAN 360 (Literature)	3 ASIAN 699 (Option for Honors in the Major)	2-3
Science Breadth	3 Elective	3
Elective	3	
	16	15

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ASIALANG 475 (Korean topic)	3 ASIALANG 456	3
ASIAN 433	3 HISTORY 340	3-4
ASIAN 630 (Capstone)	3 ASIAN 682 (Option)	3
ASIAN 681 (Option)	3 Elective(s)	6
Elective	3	
	15	15

Total Credits 120**ADVISING AND CAREERS****ADVISING AND CAREERS****DECLARE OR CANCEL THIS PROGRAM**

Please follow the process described on the Asian Languages and Cultures website (<https://alc.wisc.edu/advising/>).

ADVISING

Rachel Weiss is the advisor for the undergraduate majors and certificates in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, helping students explore the degree options, prepare for Study Abroad, and advance through their academic plan. Schedule an appointment with Rachel in Starfish (<https://wisc.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/dl/instructor/serviceCatalog.html?bookmark=connection/10715/schedule>).

Students interested in this major have dedicated guidance from our full-time undergraduate advisor. Flexible advising sessions are conveniently available through the Starfish system, accommodating various time zones and student schedules to ensure every student receives the personalized support they need.

Talking with your academic advisor is very important; it can make the difference in getting the courses you want and meeting your graduation goals. Advisors help students plan how to complete more than one major or certificate. They also share more information about course content, which courses fit best with your interest areas, and what kinds of courses might work best with your learning style.

SUCCESSWORKS

SuccessWorks (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/>) at the College of Letters & Science helps you turn the academic skills learned in your classes into a fulfilling life, guiding you every step of the way to securing jobs, internships, or admission to graduate school.

Through one-on-one career advising, events, and resources, you can explore career options, build valuable internship and research experience, and connect with supportive alumni and employers who open doors of opportunity.

- What you can do with your major (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/what-you-can-do-with-your-major/>) (Major Skills & Outcomes Sheets)
- Make a career advising appointment (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/>)
- Learn about internships and internship funding (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/finding-a-job-or-internship/>)

- Try “Jobs, Internships, & How to Get Them,” (<https://successworks.wisc.edu/canvas/>) an interactive guide in Canvas for enrolled UW–Madison students

RESOURCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS**RESOURCES AND SCHOLARSHIPS****DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Department of Asian Languages and Cultures has various scholarships to support meritorious students in our programs. Application information and deadlines (<https://alc.wisc.edu/undergraduate-studies/department-scholarships/>).

OTHER CAMPUS RESOURCES**Wisconsin Scholarship Hub (<https://wisc.academicworks.com/>)**

This is the primary portal for applicants, current students, and everyone looking for scholarship opportunities on campus.

Undergraduate Academic Awards Office (<https://awards.advising.wisc.edu/>)

We help UW–Madison undergraduates and recent graduates pursue nationally competitive scholarships (<https://awards.advising.wisc.edu/scholarships/nationally-competitive/>) and campus-wide awards (<https://awards.advising.wisc.edu/scholarships/campus-wide/>) for research, service, and leadership – activities at the heart of the Wisconsin Experience. We can help you:

- Find scholarship opportunities that match your goals and interests
- Navigate the scholarship application process
- Review scholarship essays
- Prepare for national scholarship interviews

Contact us (<https://awards.advising.wisc.edu/schedule-an-appointment/>) to schedule an appointment to discuss which opportunities are right for you.

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**Boren Scholarships (<http://borenawards.org/>)**

Campus Representative: Kate Hamoonga (kate.hamoonga@wisc.edu)

These scholarships provide up to \$20,000 to U.S. undergraduate students to study abroad in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. The countries of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded. (Full list of preferred countries (<https://borenawards.org/eligible-programs/#countries>)) Additionally, all programs must include formal study of an appropriate foreign language. (Full list of preferred languages (<https://borenawards.org/eligible-programs/#languages>)).

Critical Language Scholarship Program (<http://www.clscholarship.org/>)

Campus Representative: Sarah Linkert (awards@iris.wisc.edu)

The Critical Language Scholarship Program is part of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is a fully funded overseas intensive language and cultural immersion program for American

undergraduate and graduate students. With the goal of broadening the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages and to build relationships between the people of the United States and other countries, the Critical Language Scholarship Program provides opportunities to a diverse range of students from across the United States at every level of language learning. Critical Language Scholarship Program languages are: Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Swahili, Turkish, and Urdu.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program seeks participants with diverse interests, from a wide variety of fields of study, backgrounds, and career paths, with the purpose of representing the full diversity of the United States. Thus, students from all academic disciplines, including business, engineering, law, medicine, science, social sciences, arts, and humanities are encouraged to apply.