

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURES, MA

for the degree of Master of Arts in East Asian Languages & Cultures

Admission

Applicants are expected to have a strong background in at least one East Asian language; normally, this means a minimum of two years of formal study. Applicants to the graduate program must submit an application for admission online (<https://ealc.illinois.edu/academics/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-admissions/>) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of reference completed by teachers, advisers, or recent employers, and a 10-20 page writing sample. Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should be sent to:

SLCL Graduate Student Services
4080 LCLB
707 S. Mathews Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are recommended but not required. They should be submitted to institution code 1836. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 103 on the internet-based test (iBT) for admission with full standing; they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (<https://grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c/>). Students with a B.A. or B.S. only should apply to the M.A. Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services (slclgradservices@illinois.edu).

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program. Therefore, applicants are requested to include information on teaching background as part of the application, and students can normally be expected to teach at least one semester as part of their graduate experience. Non-native English speakers must first pass a test of their oral English ability.

Financial Aid

The Department makes every effort to assist graduate students in securing financial aid. Financial aid packages usually combine some form of fellowship support with teaching or research assistantships in a manner that allows for both teaching experience and timely completion of the degree. In recent years, almost all EALC graduate students have received some form of financial support. Financial aid for graduate students in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures may include:

- University Fellowships
- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships
- Illinois Global Institute (IGI) Fellowships
- University Dissertation Completion Fellowships
- Minority Academic Partnership Plan (MAPP) Fellowships

- Teaching assistantships
- Research assistantships

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For additional details and requirements refer to the department's guide to Graduate Programs (<http://www.ealc.illinois.edu/programs/graduate/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

Thesis Option

Code	Title	Hours
Two 500-level courses in the major field including one course designated as a research seminar in which the student produces a research paper using Asian language sources.		8
EALC 500	Proseminar in EALC	4
Distribution requirements. a minimum of two (8 hours) 400- or 500-level courses that are: 1. outside the major field of interest. 2. in an East Asian culture other than the major areas of interest. 3. in a Second Period (modern or premodern)		8
Elective hours		8
Language Requirement: Candidates must demonstrate a knowledge of one East Asian language at the fourth-year level by satisfactory completion of appropriate (400-level) coursework or examination and passage of a written examination covering material studied while in residence.		
EALC 599	Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree)	4
Total Hours		32

Other Requirements (may overlap)

Requirement	Description
Minimum 500-level Hours Required	12
Overall:	
Minimum GPA:	2.75

Non-Thesis Option

Code	Title	Hours
Two 500-level courses in the major field including one course designated as a research seminar in which the student produces a research paper using Asian language sources.		8
EALC 500	Proseminar in EALC	4
Distribution requirements. a minimum of two (8 hours) 400- or 500-level courses that are: 1. outside the major field of interest. 2. in an East Asian culture other than the major areas of interest. 3. in a Second Period (modern or premodern)		8
Elective hours		12
Language Requirement: Candidates must demonstrate a knowledge of one East Asian language at the fourth-year level by satisfactory completion of appropriate (400-level) coursework or examination and passage of a written examination covering material studied while in residence.		
Total Hours		32

Other Requirements (may overlap)

Requirement	Description
Minimum 500-level Hours Required	12
Overall:	
M.A. Examination	
Minimum GPA:	2.75

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College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences website (<https://las.illinois.edu/>)

Admissions

Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)

1. **Learning goal in East Asian languages:** Language proficiency in two East Asian languages.
2. **Learning goal in East Asian disciplines:** Familiarity with a major field and at least one minor field outside of the student's focused area to broaden students' perspectives and ability to conduct interdisciplinary research and to teach general courses.
3. **Learning goal in East Asian periods:** Understanding of both modern and pre-modern periods of East Asian societies.
4. **Learning goal in teaching preparedness:** Proficiency in teaching methodologies to teach languages or to teach Gen-Ed courses.
5. **Learning goal in research:** Completion of MA thesis or qualifying exams in three fields for MA students. Three qualifying exams, oral exam, and the completion of the dissertation and defense for Ph.D. students.

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Graduate Degree Programs in East Asian Languages & Cultures

- East Asian Languages & Cultures, MA (p. 1)
- East Asian Languages and Cultures, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/east-asian-languages-cultures-phd/>)
 - optional concentrations:
 - Medieval Studies (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/>)
 - Second Language Acquisition & Teacher Education (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/second-language-acquisition-teacher-education/>)

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Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures

Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures website (<https://ealc.illinois.edu/>)

East Asian Languages & Cultures Faculty (<https://ealc.illinois.edu/directory/faculty-by-area/>)

East Asian Languages & Cultures Graduate Degree Information (<https://ealc.illinois.edu/academics/degree-programs/graduate/graduate-admissions/>)

2090 Foreign Languages Building, 707 South Mathews, Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 244-1432

East Asian Languages & Cultures email (ealc@illinois.edu)