## **Asian Studies**

The Interdisciplinary Asian Studies program focuses on the diverse cultures, countries, and communities of Asia. The program allows students to develop the knowledge and skills characteristic of a traditional BA program while preparing them to respond creatively to the challenges they will encounter in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world. In this interdisciplinary program, students will not only acquire practical skills that they can employ in their multicultural communities locally. They will also develop the intellectual and intercultural skills required to operate successfully in a world where the nations of East and South Asia are increasingly influential.

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## STUDENT PROFILE

The Interdisciplinary Asian Studies program will appeal to recent high school graduates as well as mid-career professionals seeking to expand their knowledge and skills base. In a world increasingly characterized by complex interdependencies and problems in areas such as business and trade, the environment, immigration, international conflict, food security, and human health, knowledge of Asia's cultures, histories, politics, and languages can only lead to better and more sustainable solutions. These are the students that will find a home in our program and, in turn, these are the students that will have a greater chance at making a positive impact on their communities and the world.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

In our increasingly globalized economy and interconnected world, a graduate who combines Asian language skills with an awareness of the region's cultural, political, philosophical, and historical heritage will automatically have a number of advantages. Some graduates will seek immediate employment in Asian and Pacific Rim countries, governmental agencies (e.g., The Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development), intergovernmental agencies (e.g., the United Nations), NGOs, or in companies dealing with Asia. Specific areas of employment include public service and administration, journalism and professional writing, immigration agencies, language translator, bilingual customer support, tourism, politics, teaching, business or entrepreneurship, community service, social work, law, policing, military service, and bilateral or multilateral trade organizations. Graduates can also pursue further professional or graduate studies.