



Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures

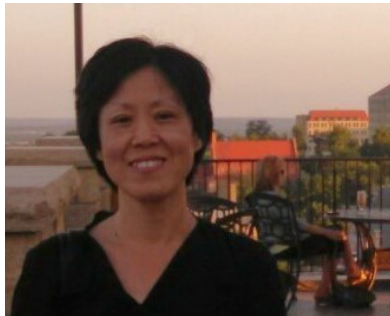
2024 Winter Newsletter



Chair's Message

Dear EALC Faculty, Staff, Students, Families and Alumni,

As we approach the close of another year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for being an integral part of the EALC community. Whether you are shaping the future in the classroom, advancing research, supporting the department's daily operations, engaging in learning, guiding your students, or representing us as proud alumni, your dedication and connection are what make this department vibrant and special.



This year has been filled with many achievements and milestones. We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Eun Ah Cho, our new Korean faculty member whose expertise provides much-needed strength to our Korean program and gives our students expanded learning resources and opportunities. Our faculty has excelled in research, teaching and service to the community. Please refer to the Faculty Achievements section for more details. The department continues to see healthy and steady enrollment in both undergraduate and graduate programs. Thanks to the support of CEAS and the Title VI grant, enrollment in the Uyghur and Tibetan language programs has grown significantly, from 9 students in AY22-23 to 44 in AY23-24.

In the summer of 2024, the Korean program introduced a newly designed online curriculum, making the study of Korean accessible to anyone interested in the language. The Chinese and Japanese programs hosted the last cohorts of ROTC students learning these languages on KU campus. The Chinese program launched its inaugural

Study Broad in Taiwan program, with 19 participants from KU. The Japanese program revived the summer study abroad program, "Japan: Then and Now," which had been paused during the pandemic. In collaboration with the Center for East Asian Studies, we held our annual Award Ceremony in April 2024 to celebrate graduating seniors and [award recipients](#). Students who choose to study East Asian languages are a particularly dedicated, resilient, and high-achieving group. Be sure to check out the Students Spotlights section to meet some outstanding representatives of this exceptional group.

During my interim tenure as Chair this fall, I have been impressed by the generous contributions the department received in October and November. We want to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for your support. Alumni, your ongoing engagement and contributions continue to inspire and strengthen the bonds between past and present generations of EALC.

As we enter the holiday season, I hope you find time to relax, recharge, and connect with those closest to you. Let us also look forward to 2025 as a time for new opportunities, continued collaboration, and shared successes.

Wishing you and your families a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year! Thank you for all you do to make the department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at KU truly exceptional.

Yan Li
Interim Chair



Yan Li
Interim Chair

Faculty Achievements



Dr. Eun Ah Cho is a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Korean Studies in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC). She earned her PhD in East Asian Studies from the University of California, Irvine. Before joining KU, she

worked at the University of Sydney in Australia. Her research focuses on how literary, cinematic, and media representations of marginalized individuals in Korean society contribute to the discourse on (ab)normalcy.

Dr. Cho's first book project explores the narratives of North Korean refugee women, examining their experiences of settlement, contestation, and negotiation at borders and in arriving societies. Several articles related to this topic have been published in *Positions* (2022), *Situations* (2020), and *Cross-Currents* (2018), among others. Simultaneously, her second project investigates the intersections of sexuality and disability in aging bodies, analysing how societal prejudices render elderly populations as unproductive, waning, and disabled. She recently presented a paper titled "'Helping' Hands: Sexuality and Disability of Aging Bodies in E J-yong's *Bacchus Lady*" at the International Symposium on Global Aging & Diversity, hosted virtually by Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan (October 5-6).

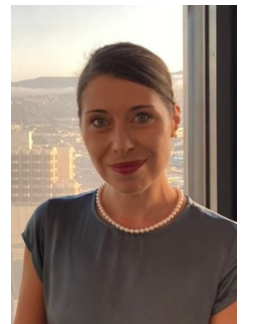
This academic year, Dr. Cho is teaching *Modern Korean Fiction and Film* (covering works from the 1910s to the present) and *Cultural History of Korea* (tracing history from pre-modern Korea to the 1910s, with special sessions on North Korea), as well as *Modern Korean Texts I and II*. In November, she organized a film screening of the independent film *Concerning My*

Daughter (2024) for KU students. Her reflections on the film and its original novel of the same title will be featured in the upcoming special issue of *Critical Asia Archives: Events and Theories* (December 2024). She looks forward to introducing more engaging Korean cinematic and literary works to KU students in the future.

Dr. Cho is thrilled to join the EALC department at KU and is eager to contribute by developing inspiring Korea-related courses and events. She also looks forward to collaborating with colleagues and researchers in Chinese and Japanese Studies in the years ahead.

In 2024, Galvane presented her research at four conferences outside of KU, two of which were supported by travel grants from KU's College of Liberal Arts and Science. At the American Comparative Literature Association (Montreal, March), she participated in a panel on advertising and cross-genre media with her paper "Literary Toilet Marketing: TOTO's Toilet *Senryū* Competition and Other Uncoiling Readings." At the Association for Japanese Literary Studies (Yale, May), she presented "Toilet Paper Writing as Genre: Suzuki Kōji and Others from Japanese Literary Bathrooms." At AAS-in-Asia (Yogyakarta, Indonesia, July), she convened a panel on transnational Japanese-language poetry, presenting "Active and Latent: Japanese-Latvian Poetological and Geopolitical Encounters."

As an invited talk at the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies, University of Iowa (October), she gave an updated version of her research on toilet-paper writing, "Paper and Pixel: Suzuki Kōji's Toilet Paper Novella as a Virtual Reality Horror Experience." In addition,



Galvane participated in KU's John Dardess Research Forum (April) with "An Excursion into the Excremental: Tanizaki Jun'ichirō's 'Manganese Dioxide Dreams.'"

At KU, Galvane also hosted four public events this year. As part of the EALC's webinar series in the spring, she invited and moderated talks by cultural anthropologist Anne Allison (Duke) on her book *Being Dead Otherwise* (2023, Duke UP) and translator Jeffrey Angles (Kalamazoo) on his English translation of *Godzilla* (2023, Minnesota UP). This fall, as a steering committee member for CEAS' 2024-25 "Digital Age" program, Galvane introduced and moderated discussion of Kurosawa Kiyoshi's horror film *Pulse* and hosted a webinar with media scholar Paul Roquet (MIT).

With the support of KU funding (International Affairs South, Southeast, and East Asia Fund, New Faculty Research Development Grant, and startup research funds), Galvane conducted research in Japan this summer on periodicals related to enema discourses at the National Diet Library and Abnormal Museum in Tokyo, and visited the interactive Unko (Poop) museum in Odaiba and the TOTO Museum in Kitakyūshū. She is looking forward to her next research trip to Japan in 2025, supported by the Hall Center for the Humanities' Faculty Research Travel Grant. As a KU Digital Humanities Fellow 2024/2025 (Institute of Research in the Digital Humanities), Galvane has started working on a digital project to complement her book project research on excremental rhetoric in modern Japanese literature.

Galvane has also been involved in local Japanese cultural outreach. At the 26th Annual Heartland Japanese Language Contest (March), she served as a judge for student poetry entries. As part of the Kansas City Japan Festival (October), she gave a talk for K-12 educators on "Yōkai on the Daily: Discovering the Multifacetedness of Japanese Supernatural Entities" and held a workshop on writing waka-style poetry. Since spring 2024, she has been hosting the monthly East Asian Literature Book Club at Wescoe

Hall, a short reflection on which is also in this newsletter.

Finally, Galvane redesigned her course on "Japan's Literary Legacy" (Fall 2024) with the support of KU's Center for Teaching Excellence Course Design Grant.



Thomas McDonald developed two new EALC courses this year: "Introduction to Contemporary Japan" (Spring 2024) and "Translating East Asian Languages: Theory and Practicum" (Fall 2024). He also revamped "Eastern Civilizations"

and is currently developing a new advanced language course, "Business Japanese" (Spring 2025). Thomas served as a panel moderator for KU's conference *When Global East Meets Global South: East Asia and Latin America* (March) and, as part of a Japanese culture workshop organized in collaboration with Dr. Ayako Mizumura, gave a talk on "Japanese Business Etiquette" at Reece Nichols Real Estate firm in Leawood, Kansas (July). With the generous support of CEAS funding, Thomas traveled to Japan and South Korea this summer to gather material for his ongoing research project on Zainichi Korean writer and dancer Lee Yangji. He is currently finalizing an article on the engagement with Japan in contemporary Spanish-language literature.

Keith McMahon presented a paper as part of a panel at the annual Association for Asian Studies conference, Seattle, Washington, March 14-17, "Demon-Immortal Monkey: Categories of Being in *Journey to the West*." He presented a longer form of that paper in a two-hour talk in Chinese for the



Chinese Department, Beijing University, May 26, 2024, "妖仙孙悟空: 《西游记》中的生命存在类别," and published the same paper in its most expanded form, "Demon-Immortal Monkey: Categories of Being in the Cosmos of *Journey to the West*," in *Journal of Chinese Literature and Culture* 10.2 (November, 2023): 403-37 (published in spring 2024). The article is about a little studied aspect of the Monkey character (Sun Wukong 孫悟空), his identity in terms of category of being, and how he fits into and rebels against the cosmic system of the ranking and classifying of beings that governs the novel. McMahon also published "Monkey and Masculinity" in *Nan Nü: Men, Women and Gender in China*, 26.2 in fall 2024, which is about how Sun Wukong takes himself as belonging to the social category of men and, in addition, how he manifests as an asexual being, which involves not only his own sexual nature, but also that of the characters he interacts with. Both pieces are part of a longer project about the novel and its cosmic context, the next phases of which will be about Monkey and authority, cosmic geography in *Journey to the West*, and the role of Daoist internal alchemy. In addition, he revived an old course in spring 2024, EALC 418/618 Sexual Politics in Dynastic China, which uses fiction, poetry, history, and biography to discuss sexual politics in China from ca 1500 B.C.E. to the end of the last dynasty in 1911. He also chaired a search committee which resulted in the hiring of a new Korean specialist, Cho Eun-Ah, who adds a much-needed tenure-track faculty member to the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and its highly popular Korean program. Finally, McMahon became a union activist and was part of the movement to establish a faculty union at the University of Kansas, United Academics of KU (UAKU). Yuka Naito successfully passed her first third-year review as an assistant teaching professor. She served as one of the panelists of the CEAS Migration Symposium, giving a



"Promoting not-so-POP-ular Culture and Customs of Japan: Challenges and Innovations in the Japanese Language Classroom" in April. She also had a poster presentation about a course innovation of the Japanese Practicum course at Celebration of Teaching in May.

She relaunched a summer study abroad trip, called, "Japan: Then and Now", and took 13 students with a GTA, Ami Kitada.

She is currently participating in 2024-2025 Course Internationalization Seminar to innovate Japanese language curriculum to further cultivate students' global understanding.

In response to the growing interest in online courses post-pandemic, Ji-Yeon Lee, in collaboration with Rachel Kook, EALC lecturer, developed and successfully launched KOR 104 (Elementary Korean I) and KOR 108 (Elementary Korean II) during Summer 2024. In addition, Ji-Yeon presented "Korean Wave in Motion: A Dynamic Journey of Korean Language Program at a Midwestern University" at the CEAS Migration Symposium: Art, Music, and Language through the Lens of Global Asia. She also did a poster presentation titled "Step by Step: A Recipe for Quality Work on Time in KOR 504 Advanced Modern Korean" at the CTE's Celebration of Teaching. Her article titled "Best Practices for Including Students with Visual Impairment in KFL Classrooms" is forthcoming in the peer-review journal, *The Korean Language in America*, (volume 27, Issue 2) by Pennsylvania State University Press.



Study Abroad



Yan Li has focused her academic career on advancing research and curriculum development in Chinese language education. She co-authored an article with Hongying Xu titled “*Pinyin Instruction: How Instructors Teach and What They Expect*”, published

in *Studies in Chinese Learning and Teaching (SCLT)*, Volume 8, pages 71–112. She is currently conducting an English Chinese parallel corpus study focusing on Chinese aspect markers *-le* and *-zhe* and the *ba*-construction. This research aims to uncover English equivalents for the basic, commonly used, and specialized functions of these Chinese grammatical structures, contributing insights to the field of Chinese linguistics. Yan worked with faculty at the Chinese Language Center at National Sun Yat-sen University to develop the curriculum for KU’s summer intensive Chinese II and III programs. She also created learning modules to help students in the Taiwan summer study abroad program transit from simplified to traditional Chinese characters. Additionally, Yan conducted a site visit to the Taiwan program to further support the program development. Since 2014, Yan has served as the Principal Investigator (PI) and director of the KU Project GO Center, an initiative of the Defense Language and National Security Education Office (DLNSEO) aimed at supporting critical language training. Over the past decade, this grant has enabled ROTC students to study critical languages such as Arabic, Hindi, Russian, Korean, Chinese, and Japanese through KU’s programs. Yan also collaborated with faculty in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science as a co-PI for the Midwest Virtual Institutes for Cyber and Electromagnetic Spectrum Research and Employ (VICEROY) Institute. In July 2024, she developed and taught a new course, *Elementary Chinese for Cybersecurity*. Additionally, Yan served as the

interim Chair for the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) in Fall 2024.



Kyoim Yun presented a paper entitled “Templestay: The Intersection of Buddhism, Business, and Science in South Korea” at the annual conference of the American Anthropological Association (AAA) held in Tampa, Florida, November 20-23, 2024.

The paper was part of a panel “Enacting and Contesting Religion in Public Institutional Life” sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, a section of the AAA. Yun also presented a longer version of the paper at the Interdisciplinary Speaker Series and gave a workshop for graduate students from the Departments of Anthropology, Archaeology and Folklore, at Memorial University in St. John’s, Canada, on November 25. The paper was about Templestay, a program that interfaces Buddhist practice, business development, and tourism projects, along with health and science initiatives. For more about Templestay, see her article “Engaged Buddhism in South Korea” published in [Asian Ethnology](#). Inspired by her experience as a Keeler Intra-University Professor in the Department of Geography and Atmospheric Science in the spring of 2023, she wrote an entry entitled “Geography of Happiness,” published in the *Encyclopedia of Human Geography* in fall 2024. Yun taught a brand-new online course Happiness in East Asia this fall. The course, which has been drawing a wide range of KU students, will be offered again in spring 2025. Yun served as the Director of Undergraduate Studies in EALC during fall 2024.

Summer in Taiwan



The 8-week intensive summer Chinese program in Taiwan is offered in collaboration with National Sun Yat-Sen University (NSYSU) in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. In the summer of 2024, nineteen KU students participated in the program. Morning classes at NSYSU’s Chinese Language Center were conducted entirely in Mandarin Chinese and focused on developing foundational language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Afternoons featured structured cultural events, offering students opportunities to immerse themselves in the local culture. Participants enhanced their language proficiency, experienced Taiwanese culture, explored the region, and met new people. Many students described the program as “one of the best experiences of their time at KU.”

Watch a video about the program [here!](#)

Japan: Then and Now

The summer study abroad trip “*Japan: Then and Now*,” has been successfully relaunched after the pandemic. This program has a long history, dating back to 1991, and holds special significance due to KU’s relationship with Kanagawa University (“KU”). Kanagawa university previously had a campus in Hiratsuka, which played a key role in establishing Hiratsuka as Lawrence’s sister city.

Professors and students at Kanagawa University enthusiastically welcomed the KU group, led by by Dr. Yuka Naito and Ami Kitada, to their brand-new campus which is a 21-story-building(!) in Minato Mirai (central Yokohama). They also reconnected the KU group with Hiratsuka City.

During the first week, the participants of the trip attended classes, mingled with students, experienced cultural activities, and went sightseeing in Yokohama, Tokyo, and Hiratsuka. Both Kanagawa University and Hiratsuka City volunteers took wonderful care of the group. After the students had a home-staying opportunity for a couple of nights, the KU group hopped onto the *shinkansen* (bullet train) heading west to visit Kyoto, Osaka, and Hiroshima to learn more about Japan’s history and culture. It was an activity-packed 2.5-week-long trip with intensive walking (10,000+ steps each day), but students’ journal entries were filled with excitement about Japanese hospitality, preservation of nature, modern technology, lifestyles, and food. They enjoyed every moment and tried to fully absorb everything they experienced. Dr. Yuka Naito looks forward to bringing more students in the future to get this eye-opening and enriching experience, and to strengthen the KU-KU and Hiratsuka sister-city relationship.

Watch a video about the program [here!](#)

Student Spotlights



Daphne Tibbetts graduated from KU in May 2024 with a bachelor's degree in Linguistics and East Asian Languages and Cultures. Following graduation, she continued studying Korean language and culture as a FLAS fellow and master's student. During the 2023-24 academic year, she received KU's Student Employee of the Year Award for contributions to the History of Black Writing project. With the goal of becoming a Korean Studies Librarian, plans to pursue a Master's in Library Science after earning a Master's in East Asian Languages and Cultures. Currently, Daphne serves as a Public Services Specialist for the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library.

Daphne's current research project is about the book "교실이 돌아왔다" ("The Classroom Came Back") by JoHan Hyejeong, and the English-learning craze in South Korea in the late 1990's and early 2000's. The book includes perspectives of college-aged English students in South Korea in the late 2000's, who had experienced the English craze in their childhood. Part of her project is translating the essays written by the students from Korean

Daniel is a junior majoring in Computer science and Chinese Language and Literature. He began pursuing his major in Chinese Language and Literature as a sophomore and received the Mary and Joseph Kuo Scholarship in the spring of 2024. Daniel aims to combine his Chinese skills and cultural knowledge with a career in computer science. He is passionate about the Chinese language, its culture, and its stories, and he plans to continue his studies after graduation.



Two Korean language students, Brooke Reinecke and Josette Pinto, achieved top honors in the intermediate and advanced levels, respectively, at the 5th Midwest Korean Speech Contest in Chicago. They amazed judges by standing out from a competition featuring 43 students from 18 Midwest universities. Both Brooke and Josette received monetary prizes and scholarships to study Korean at universities in Seoul. They are incredibly proud of these achievements for the second consecutive year and deeply grateful for the extra efforts of their Korean instructors in making this success possible.



Josette Pinto is a Spring 2024 graduate from the University of Kansas with degrees in East Asian Languages and Cultures, Supply Chain Management, and International Business. During her final semester at KU, she applied for the Global Korea Scholarship (GKS), one of the most competitive graduate school scholarships in the world. After a five-month, three round selection process, she was accepted to Sogang University where she is currently pursuing a Master's degree in International Trade.

During her application process, Josette received incredible support from Professor Ji-Yeon Lee and credits her success to that guidance. The EALC department at the University of Kansas provided an excellent learning environment, preparing her to excel as a full-time student in South Korea. Out of the 14 students from the United States accepted into the program, Josette was the only one to score a level 5 on the Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK), allowing her to skip the mandatory language year and begin her master's classes immediately. She often thinks back to her time at KU and is deeply grateful for the program that shaped her into the person she is today.





Henri Groves is a senior double majoring in Journalism with a concentration in Media Arts & Production and East Asian Language and Culture with a focus on Korean. With aspirations to bridge media, culture, and society, Henri is passionate about studying how cross-cultural mass media can foster global engagement. Henri experienced a transformative spring semester at Korea University, supported by a FLAS fellowship, where he immersed himself in South Korean culture and language. Henri also gained hands-on experience at *The New York Times* newsroom in Seoul, funded by the Carlos R. Tejada scholarship, exploring the art of cultural storytelling and addressing contemporary issues in South Korea.

Helen Vilorio is a junior majoring in Economics and minoring in East Asian Language and Culture with a focus on Chinese. She chose to study Chinese because of her belief in the transformative power of language as a bridge between diverse communities and cultures. This belief was further strengthened when she spent the previous summer at National Sun Yat-Sen University in Kaohsiung, Taiwan as a FLAS Fellow for a two-month intensive Mandarin program. During this time, she fully immersed herself in Taiwanese culture and practiced Mandarin. With over 160 hours in classes, her experience was enriched by cultural activities such as tea tasting, seal carving, field trips to local pineapple farms, and more. Looking ahead, Helen plans to leverage her interdisciplinary education in governmental and diplomatic work to create meaningful change and aid in the efficiency of current government programs.



Nicole Giam is a junior double majoring in Chemistry and East Asian Language and Culture with a concentration in Chinese Language and Literature on the pre-pharmacy track. She pairs her love for learning the Chinese language with her interest in STEM to construct an unforgettable undergraduate learning experience in hopes that this combination of topics will help her make positive contributions in the future as a pharmacist. Made possible by the FLAS fellowship and Honors Opportunity Award, Nicole had the eye-opening, unforgettable opportunity of studying abroad in Taipei, Taiwan, at National Taiwan University through the language-intensive International Chinese Language Program during the summer following her freshman year at KU.



Rita Pham is a senior in the Honors program, majoring in Political Science and East Asian Languages and Cultures with a concentration on Chinese culture. As a pre-law student, Rita plans to attend law school next fall to obtain a J.D. degree with a focus on immigration, international, and human rights law.

Currently, as a FLAS fellow, she is continuing her Chinese studies at KU to refine her speaking and technical abilities, with the hope of one day serving Asian American communities across the U.S., including Chinese speakers and immigrants.

As a proud Jayhawk, Rita is very involved on campus. Her responsibilities include serving as the Chair of social relations on the KU Debate Team, researching her honors thesis in China-Vietnam international relations, and working as a policy intern for the KU Office of Audit, Risk and Compliance.

Rita hopes to leverage her liberal arts education to become a holistic lawyer who champions racial equality and human rights on a broader scale.





Xingning Luan is a second-year MA student interested in Ming China. Her thesis focuses on the link between commercial life and the activities of late Ming courtesans, especially their artistic pursuits, as well as how they navigated in the male-dominated literati circles. She argues that courtesans used their artistic and literary works as marketing strategies to build their reputations. Their connections with prominent literati also helped them keep visible in the competitive entertainment market. She plans to pursue a PhD to study further Ming poetry, late Ming literary activities, and the social network of literati figures.



John Marvin is a recent master's graduate from the University of Kansas' East Asian Languages and Cultures Department. During his graduate studies, he focused on the traditional Japanese performance art of *Rakugo*. With the support of the faculty, especially Dr. Yuka Naito, John Marvin completed a translation project in which he translated four different versions of the *Rakugo* story, "Shibahama" into English. In addition to his translation work, John performed one of the story versions in its original hour-long Japanese format in front of a live audience. This experience, along with his academic work, significantly enhanced his Japanese language skills. Currently, John is working at KU as a Japanese lecturer, teaching Elementary Japanese I & II.

Kevin Reppar is a senior majoring in EALC studies with a focus on Japanese language. He first got into learning Japanese at Johnson County Community College after joining the military. At first, he tried learning foreign languages to challenge himself, Japanese being at the top of his list to tackle. In the spring semester of 2024, he received the Tsubaki Award, which allowed him to study abroad and deepen both his language understanding as well as his cultural knowledge. Kevin hopes to one day translate Japanese for the military and help strengthen the bonds that the United States and Japan have been building for so long. Kevin says that the Japanese program here at KU has done much in helping to provide both the resources and teaching necessary to learn at a high level, for which he is grateful.



Support EALC!

If you feel so inclined, please consider donating to our department! Our most important priorities are providing study-abroad scholarships for our undergraduates, research and conference funding for our graduate students, and covering expenses for activities on campus that benefit our students and the larger KU community. Click [here](#) or go to ealc.ku.edu/giving-our-department. Thank you!

East Asian Literature Book Club

The East Asian Literature Book Club at the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures was launched by Linda Galvane in Spring 2024 with the goal of creating an opportunity for everyone who loves reading to learn more about East Asian literature, history, and culture in an informal atmosphere over snacks. The EAL Book Club gatherings take place monthly in Wescoe Hall 2106 (EALC library room) on Wednesdays at 6 pm.

In the spring 2024 semester, the EAL Book Club read four novels: Tawada Yoko's *Scattered All-Over the Earth* (2022), Young-Ha Kim's *Black Flower* (2012), Ito Hiromi's *The Thorn Puller* (2022), and Mo Yan's *Red Sorghum* (1986). The highlight of the semester was Ito Hiromi's novel, as we were joined via Zoom by the author herself as well as by the translator of the novel, Jeffrey Angles. In the fall 2024 semester, we read Kaiko Takeshi's *Into a Black Sun* (1968), *Human Acts* (2014) by the recent Nobel Prize in Literature winner Han Kang, and Perhat Tursun's *The Backstreets: A Novel from Xinjiang* (2022). The gathering for Perhat Tursun's work was particularly memorable as we were joined by fellow faculty member Akbar Amat, who invited students from his classes and contributed his brilliant insights into Uyghur history and literature. In addition, dedicated club attendee and faculty in KU's English department, Brian Daldorph, shared his own poem, "The Writer," inspired by Perhat Tursun's life and work.

In spring 2025, the book club will read the following works: On February 26, Hwang Sok-yong's *Princess Bari* (2013); on March 26, Kobayashi Erika's *Trinity, Trinity, Trinity* (2016); and on April 23, Ma Jian's *The Noodle Maker* (2004).

Please follow announcements about the club on our department's Events page and on Instagram @eastasianlitbookclub_ku or contact Linda Galvane (linda.

The Writer

for Perhat Tursun

Just before he was arrested,

he buried in his garden

the five manuscripts he'd almost finished.

He hopes that in spring

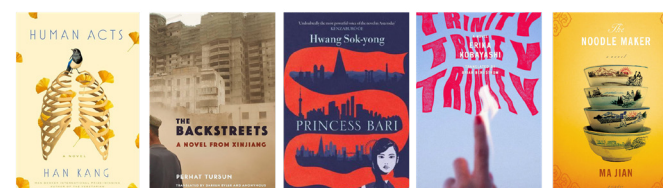
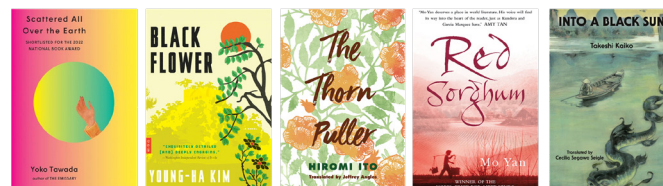
they will sprout and grow

into beautiful trees,

to shelter his family

from the cruel sun.

(Brian Daldorph, Lawrence, November 2024)



MASTER'S IN EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURES

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

The M.A. in East Asian Languages and Cultures is an interdisciplinary degree focused on East Asia, designed to prepare students for 21st-century global citizenship. The program provides students with professional language training and in-depth knowledge of a selected East Asian country (China, Japan, or Korea), a broad knowledge of pre-modern and modern East Asian literature, history, thought, politics, and social science, as well as advanced research skills and methods appropriate to international area studies (30 credit hours).

WHY OUR PROGRAM?

Since the 1950s, we have been the premiere East Asian research unit in the Great Plains, collaborating effectively with our partners in Art History, Education, Linguistics, and Sociology to disseminate knowledge about East Asian languages, cultures, and critical perspectives throughout the region.

- 60+ faculty
- Extensive [East Asian Library](#) and renewed [Asian Art collection](#).
- [DOE Title VI Grant Language Resource Center](#)
- [Foreign Language and Area Studies \(FLAS\) Fellowships](#)
- Teaching Assistantships in language and culture courses.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. B.A., B.S., or equivalent undergraduate degree.
2. Minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
3. Proficiency in an East Asian language not required for admission but for degree. (See [Requirements](#)).

HOW TO APPLY:

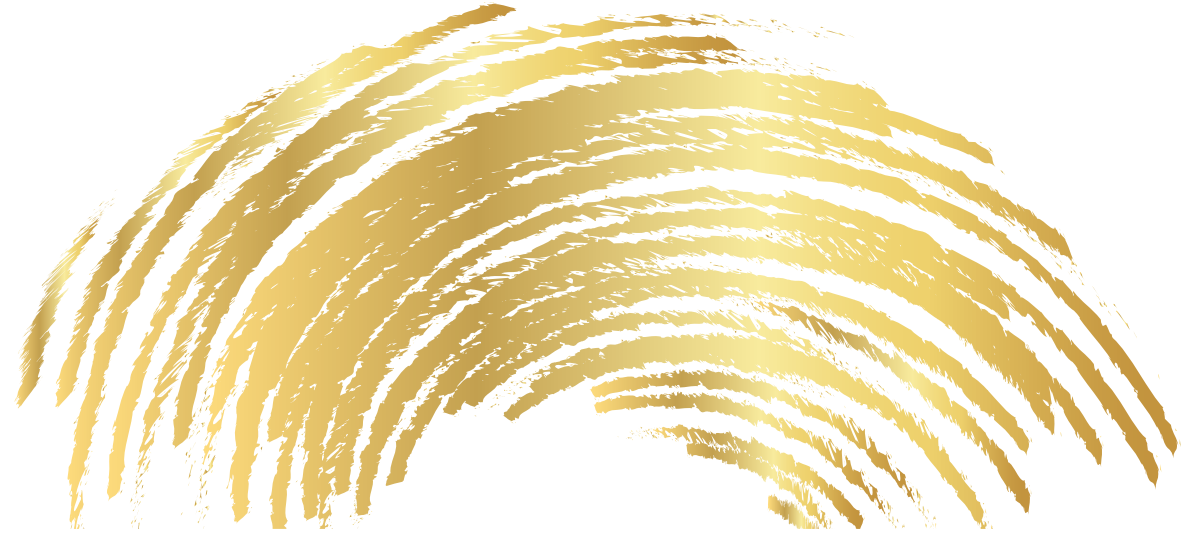
1. Visit [How To Apply](#) and fill out the online application form.
2. Submit the following: (a) two-page statement of purpose, outlining your academic objectives, (b) CV/resume, (c) a writing sample, (d) three letters of recommendation, and (e) official transcripts for all post-secondary education.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit [EALC MA Program](#) or contact [Keith McMahon](#), EALC Director of Graduate Studies.

APPLY NOW!

2025-2026 Application Deadline:
Completed applications submitted by February 1 will receive priority consideration.





Happy Holidays!
节日快乐/節日快樂!
良いお年をお迎え下さい!
즐거운 성탄절 보내시고, 새해 복 많이 받으
세요!
Gung sang la Tashi delek!
دهم ئېلىشىڭىز كۆڭۈللۈك بولسۇن!

