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I. ASIAN STUDIES M.A. (CHINA FOCUS) PROGRAM INFORMATION

A. Overview: Program Options & Requirements

The Master of Arts in Asian Studies (China focus) offered at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is an interdisciplinary area studies degree. Fulfilling the requirements of the program usually takes four semesters. Entering students may choose one of two options to fulfill these requirements: Plan A (Thesis) or Plan B (Non-thesis).

Option 1: Plan A (Thesis)

The requirements for the Plan A option are as follows:

1. Two semesters (or 4 six-week summer sessions) of full-time academic study in residence at UH-Manoa.

2. A minimum of 36 credit hours of coursework. Of these, at least 18 credits must be earned in courses numbered 600 or higher. The 36 credits must also include:
   - 8 credit hours in Chinese language at the fourth-year level (CHN 401/CHN 402).*
   - 6 credit hours of ASAN 700, Thesis Research, taken in the second year.
   - 3 credit hours of ASAN 600C (an introductory graduate seminar on China), taken in the first year.
   - 3 credit hours of ASAN 750C (a research seminar on China), taken in the second year.

   *Please note: Chinese language courses below the 400 level do not count toward degree requirements. For details about language requirements and waivers, see Language Requirements (Section C) below.

3. Satisfactory completion of a master’s thesis and an oral examination on the thesis by a three-member faculty committee to be chosen by the student in consultation with the Graduate Academic Adviser.

4. A minimum of 18 credit hours of interdisciplinary study related to China, with at least 3 credit hours each in the fields of humanities, social sciences, and arts, but no more than 9 credit hours in any one discipline. A maximum of 6 credits of coursework may be taken related to other regions.

5. Attendance at 15 or more China research seminars during the course of study (see section D below).

Option 2: Plan B (Non-Thesis)

The requirements for the Plan B option are as follows:

1. Two semesters (or 4 six-week summer sessions) of full-time academic study in residence at UH-Manoa.

2. A minimum of 36 credit hours of coursework. Of these, at least 18 credits must be earned in courses numbered 600 or higher. The 36 credits must also include:
   - 8 credit hours in Chinese language at the fourth-year level (CHN 401/CHN 402).*
   - 3 credit hours of ASAN 600C (an introductory graduate seminar on China), taken in the first year.
   - 3 credit hours of ASAN 750C (a research seminar on China), taken in the second year.

   *Please note: Chinese language courses below the 400 level do not count toward degree requirements. For details about language requirements and waivers, see Language Requirements (Section C) below.

3. Satisfactory completion of an oral examination on a research paper by a three-member faculty committee to be chosen by the student in consultation with the Graduate Academic Advisor. The paper is normally written or revised in the 750C course. The advisor must submit the final grade for the Plan B paper and exam by the Monday of Week 14 (that is, two weeks prior to the end of classes) in the semester in which the student intends to graduate. This deadline should be taken into consideration when scheduling the exam and any potential revisions the committee may request.

4. A minimum of 18 credit hours of interdisciplinary study related to China, with at least 3 credit hours each in the fields of humanities, social sciences, and arts, but no more than 9 credit hours in any one discipline. A maximum of 6 credits of coursework may be taken related to other regions.

5. Attendance at 15 or more China research seminars during the course of study (see section D below).
### At-A-Glance: COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan A</th>
<th>Plan B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum total 36 credits, of which 18 at 600+ level:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Minimum total 36 credits, of which 18 at 600+ level:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asian Studies Core Requirements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Asian Studies Core Requirements</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASAN 600C (3 credits) - taken in first year</td>
<td>ASAN 600C (3 credits) - taken in first year</td>
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<td>ASAN 750C (3 credits) - taken in second year</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASAN 700 (6 credits) - taken in the last 2 semesters</td>
<td>Other ASAN Courses (minimum 3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other ASAN Courses (minimum 3 credits)</td>
<td><strong>Language Requirements</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHN 401/CHN 402 (8 credits) or equivalent</td>
<td>CHN 401/CHN 402 (8 credits) or equivalent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Breadth Requirements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Breadth Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTS (minimum 3 credits): Architecture, Arts, Music, Theater &amp; Dance.</td>
<td>ARTS (minimum 3 credits): Architecture, Arts, Music, Theater &amp; Dance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMANITIES (minimum 3 credits): History, Literature, Philosophy, Religion.</td>
<td>HUMANITIES (minimum 3 credits): History, Literature, Philosophy, Religion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL SCIENCES (minimum 3 credits): Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Urban and Regional Planning.</td>
<td>SOCIAL SCIENCES (minimum 3 credits): Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Urban and Regional Planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Seminar Requirements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Research Seminar Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance at 15 or more China research seminars.</td>
<td>Attendance at 15 or more China research seminars.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Please Note:** Breadth requirements may also be fulfilled through courses in interdisciplinary programs such as Asian Studies, American Studies, Ethnic Studies, Peace Studies, Population Studies, Women’s Studies, when the course content reflects the respective field. Courses in Language, Natural Sciences, and in professional degree programs such as Business, Education, Law, Public Administration, Public Health, do not fulfill breadth requirements, though relevant courses may be counted toward electives. Consult with the graduate adviser to confirm that the courses you select fulfill the necessary breadth requirements!

### B. PLANNING YOUR COURSE OF STUDY

The program requirements provide a structural framework for individually defined courses of study. Students develop their own courses of study based on their academic interests and career objectives.

Students should begin to articulate their area of academic focus as early as possible in the first year of study. The area of academic focus will be the basis for curriculum planning and course selection as well as for the thesis or Plan B paper. By the end of the first year, students should have developed a workable research topic.

Students will need to make four key decisions at four key points during the course of their studies:

a) **What will be your area of academic focus (broadly defined)?** This should be decided before registering for courses in the first year.

b) **What is your general plan of study for the entire two years?** This should be decided before the end of the first semester.

c) **Will you do Plan A (thesis) or Plan B (non-thesis)?** This should be decided before the middle of the second semester. (Be sure to review Section VII. Thesis Process).

d) **Which faculty members would you like to serve as your Thesis/Research Paper advisor and on your examination committee?** This should be decided before taking ASAN 700 or ASAN 750C.
M.A. in ASIAN STUDIES (China Focus)
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Some considerations in selecting courses:

a. Only courses taken for a letter grade (e.g., not pass/fail) count toward the degree requirements.

b. All courses must be China-related. A general rule of thumb for determining whether a given course counts as "China-related": at least 30% of its content (readings, lectures or assignments) should focus on China. Consult your academic advisor to be sure outside courses will count as China-related.

c. Apart from Asian Studies courses, no more than 9 credits in any one discipline (or offered through any one department) will count towards the degree requirements.

d. “Individual Directed Study” courses (699’s) can be useful for students with research interests that are not covered by course offerings. However, no more than 6 credits of 699 in the Plan A program, or 9 credits in the Plan B program, will count towards the degree requirements. Additionally, the Office of Graduate Education has strict guidelines as to how to petition to do a 699. Please consult with your academic advisor before registering for a 699 to make sure you will be able to count it towards your degree.

e. As per Graduate Division and Asian Studies Program requirements, the following kinds of courses cannot count towards the MA degree requirements: courses numbered at the 200 level or below; courses numbered 399 and 499; CHN courses below the 400 level; and ASAN 310 and ASAN 312.

Before registering for courses, students should consult the Academic Advisor to review study progress and course selection. The academic adviser will do his or her best to ensure that students are aware of and are able to meet the course requirements. However, students themselves are ultimately the ones responsible for meeting the curriculum requirements.

At-a-Glance: COURSE PLANNING
Below is a sample course plan for a student entering the MA program with 300-level Chinese. This sample is provided for reference only; individual variations are to be expected.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Starting in FALL SEMESTER</th>
<th>Program Starting in SPRING SEMESTER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st Semester: Fall</strong></td>
<td><strong>1st Semester: Spring</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASAN 600C (3 credits)</td>
<td>Breadth Requirement course (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHN 401 (4 cr)</td>
<td>Breadth Requirement course (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth Requirement course (3 cr)</td>
<td>Breadth Requirement course (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd Semester: Spring</strong></td>
<td><strong>2nd Semester: Fall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHN 402 (4 cr)</td>
<td>ASAN 600C (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth Requirement course (3 cr)</td>
<td>CHN 401 (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd Semester: Fall</strong></td>
<td><strong>3rd Semester: Spring</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASAN 750C (3 cr)</td>
<td>CHN 402 (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth Requirement course OR ASAN 700 (3)</td>
<td>Elective course OR ASAN 700 (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4th Semester: Spring</strong></td>
<td><strong>4th Semester: Fall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course OR ASAN 700 (3 cr)</td>
<td>ASAN 750C (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
<td>Elective course OR ASAN 700 (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
<td>Elective course (3 cr)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS & WAIVERS
All entering students must take a Chinese language placement test from the Center for Chinese Studies before registering for any language classes. To make arrangements for this test, please contact Prof. Cynthia Ning (office at Moore 418, phone: 956-2692, email: cyndy@hawaii.edu). After the test, Prof. Ning will recommend which level of Chinese language course the student should enroll in. Students should obtain from Prof. Ning a written memo recording the test results and course recommendation, and give it to the Academic Adviser as soon as possible.

If the placement test results indicate that a student has surpassed the 400 level of proficiency in Chinese, Prof. Ning will issue a waiver which will go on record as a substitute for the completion of CHN 401-402. (Other advanced Chinese language and literature courses may be taken instead). Other ways of obtaining a language waiver include taking and passing recognized Chinese language courses in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and the US mainland. Students interested in pursuing these options should discuss them and obtain approval from Prof. Ning.

Please note:
- Graduates of universities with Chinese-language instruction are automatically given language waivers.
- Language courses below the 400 level do not count toward the degree requirements.

D. RESEARCH SEMINARS
Students are required to attend at least 15 research seminars, the majority of which should be seminars sponsored by the Center for Chinese Studies (CCS). CCS runs about six to ten China Research Seminars per semester, usually at lunchtime. Attendance at these seminars is a required part of the MA degree because they provide students with exposure to a wide variety of China-related research interests and projects currently in progress at UH and in the community and to the work being done by visiting scholars from China. These seminars often prove valuable to students in the process of developing their own research interests. They present a great opportunity for students to meet and talk with China scholars from around campus and around the world, and help forge a sense of community among China scholars at UH. They also undeniably broaden the horizons of even the most seasoned China experts.

At each CCS-sponsored seminar, there will be a sign-in sheet that ASP MA students must sign if they wish to count the seminar towards their 15. Students should also note down on their own Research Seminar Attendance Record (to be handed out at orientation; extra copies available from the academic adviser) the date, presenter and title of each seminar they have attended. This form must be completed and submitted before a grade will be given for ASAN 750.

All Research Seminars offered by the Center for Chinese Studies may be counted towards this requirement. Seminars on China offered in other departments within the University or by the East-West Center may also be counted with prior approval from the Academic Advisor. A brief summary for each non-CCS seminar must be submitted with the Attendance List.

Students are strongly encouraged to start attending seminars during in their first semester of study.

E. PLAN A: THESIS OPTION
Students who select Plan A (Thesis) are required to register for ASAN 700 Thesis for 6 credits in the third and fourth semesters. Students must be registered for ASAN 700 in the semester in which they plan to graduate.

Students may take ASAN 700 for between 1 to 6 credits per semester. Normally, students register for ASAN 700 in the last two semesters, 3 credits each semester. Please note: Because students do not receive a grade for ASAN 700, these credits DO NOT count as part of the 18 credits that need to be taken at the 600 level or above.

If the thesis is not completed in two semesters, the student must register for ASAN 700 continuously until graduation, unless a leave of absence is granted. Usually students register for 1 credit in each additional semester.

According to University regulations, ASAN 700 is repeatable up to nine times. However, any credits beyond 6 that are earned through ASAN 700 are not counted towards the MA degree requirements.
Administratively speaking, progress through the thesis-writing process is marked by the submission of four forms:

**Form I**, “Master’s Plan A – Pre-Candidacy Progress” certifies that the student has completed all coursework and requirements necessary to be allowed to begin writing the thesis. In Asian Studies, there are no specific requirements, so this form serves primarily as an official declaration that a student wishes to pursue Plan A.

**Form II**, “Master’s Plan A – Advance to Candidacy” serves as a way of notifying the University that the student has chosen a thesis advisor and two other faculty members to serve as the thesis committee, and that that committee has approved the topic of the thesis.

**Form III**, “Master’s Plan A – Thesis Evaluation” is submitted immediately after the oral defense, and certifies that the student has passed (or failed) the defense.

**Form IV**, “Master’s Plan A – Thesis Submission” is submitted after the student has completed any revisions that the committee required, and it certifies that the committee is satisfied with the final content and form of the thesis. This form is submitted to Graduate Division along with a copy of the final version of the thesis.

Please Note: Students are responsible for keeping track of official deadlines, such as for the submission of forms, the completion of the defense and the submission of the final manuscript to Graduate Division. These dates are set by the University and are published in the University Catalog and online at [http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/about-uh/calendar.htm](http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/about-uh/calendar.htm).

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### At-a-Glance: PLAN A THESIS TIMETABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Period</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle of 2nd semester</td>
<td>Decision to opt for Plan A (Thesis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late 2nd semester</td>
<td>Submission to Graduate Division of Forms I &amp; II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late 2nd semester</td>
<td>Registration for ASAN 700 Thesis (to be taken in 3rd semester)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd &amp; 4th semester</td>
<td>Research, writing and review of thesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-to-late 4th semester</td>
<td>Oral thesis defense; submission to Graduate Division of Form III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Late 4th semester</td>
<td>Final submission of thesis to Graduate Division, along with Form IV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### F. STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

Students who plan to spend summer session, one semester or more to study in China, Taiwan or Hong Kong may consider taking a 'Self-Designed Study Abroad Program.' This program ensures the students will receive UHM credits and grades for coursework completed overseas as well as UHM financial aid if eligible. Information about this program is available at the Study Abroad Center. Students who are interested in this program should notify the Academic Advisor, apply to the Study Abroad Center well in advance, and be sure meet the Center’s deadlines.

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**Notes:**

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II. OFFICE OF GRADUATE EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
The following sections are taken from the Office of Graduate Education website (http://manoa.hawaii.edu/graduate/). They are reproduced here as they may be of particular interest to Asian Studies M.A. students.

A. TRANSFER OF CREDITS
Upon approval by the graduate program and the Graduate Division, the following may be applied toward master’s degree requirements:

1. credits earned for post-baccalaureate courses at an accredited institution of higher education,
2. credits earned as a post-baccalaureate unclassified (PBU) student at UHM. A PBU student is one who holds a bachelor’s degree and who enrolls at the university as an unclassified student.

To transfer credits or to apply UHM PBU credits, submit the appropriate petition form to the Office of Graduate Student Services. Note the policies below:

For new master’s students, submit the petition during the first semester of enrollment at UHM.

For current UHM master’s students who subsequently study at another institution and who plan to transfer the credits to UHM, obtain advance approval from the graduate program and the Graduate Division.

Attach the following to the petition:

- an official transcript and transcript guide of the credits being transferred
- a course syllabus (if transferring credits to substitute for a required course)
- certification by the graduate program as to the equivalent course level of credits (if transferring credits from a non-U.S. institution)

Regardless of the number of credits transferred, more than half of the total number of credits used to fulfill master’s degree requirements must be earned at UHM while enrolled as a classified graduate student.

For non-UHM credits earned after enrolling at UHM as a graduate student, up to nine credits may be transferred, with advance approval by the graduate program and the Office of Graduate Education.

Regardless of the number of credits transferred, the minimum residence requirements must be met.

For transfer credits from another institution, only credits with a grade of B- or above are transferable. UHM PBU credits are subject to regular grading policy.

Quarter credits are converted to semester credits by using the formula: 2/3 x quarter credits = semester credits, rounding off to the lower whole number. Conversion is made by the Office of Graduate Student Services.

The following credits may not be transferred:

- Credits with grades of S, Cr, and P or any equivalent grade;
- Credits earned for directed reading/research (699) or thesis;
- Credits more than seven years old;
- Credits used to earn a previous degree.

Transfer credits may not be used to fulfill practicum, seminar or thesis requirements, or more than half of the required courses numbered 600 and above.

B. ENROLLMENT, OVERLOADS, & LEAVES OF ABSENCE
Once admitted to UHM, all graduate students need to be enrolled continuously (excluding summer session) until they graduate. Domestic students need to enroll in at least one credit each semester. The one credit may be for course work, thesis, dissertation or research. International students are required by law to maintain full-time enrollment while studying in the United States. Exceptions may be granted to students with serious illness, students in their graduating semester, or students who experience academic difficulties. To enroll less than full-time, students need advance approval from International Student Services. For all students, full-time enrollment is defined as 8 credits or more per semester in degree-related courses; 6 credits or more per semester in degree-
related courses when also employed as graduate assistant; or at least one credit of 700 when enrolled as a Master’s Plan A student.

Students may exceed maximum course limits only with approval from the Office of Graduate Education. Graduate assistants who wish to enroll in more than nine credits in any semester must file a Graduate Assistant Petition to Enroll in More than Nine Credits with the Office of Graduate Student Services. They are advised to consider carefully the potential effects of academic overload on their ability to maintain the required academic performance and to carry out their graduate assistant duties.

Unless a leave of absence has been approved in advance, a student who fails to maintain continuous enrollment (excluding summer session) is considered withdrawn from the university. Students on approved leave do not pay tuition or fees. Students who will be consulting university faculty or using university facilities or staff services should not request leave.

Each student is allowed up to one year of leave. Time on approved leave is not counted against time allowed for the completion of graduate programs. However, leave will not be granted simply to avoid the seven-year rule.

To apply for leave, a student must be enrolled currently; be in good academic standing; and have completed at least a semester of coursework relevant to the degree objective.

Students who wish to petition for leave need to file a Petition for Leave of Absence with the Graduate Student Services Office. Students who must maintain full-time enrollment due to their status as international students, guaranteed loan recipients, East-West Center grantees, or veterans need to obtain approval from the respective offices before petitioning for leave.

Students who do not return from leave on the specified date will need to apply for readmission. Students who wish to return sooner from an approved leave should contact the Office of Graduate Student Services by the following deadlines: April 1 if intending to return in fall semester; October 1 if intending to return in spring semester; by the end of March if intending to return in summer.

C. DUAL and CONCURRENT DEGREES

A current UHM graduate student who wishes to pursue an additional graduate degree concurrently may do so, ONLY after completing one year of study in the first graduate program. To apply for concurrent enrollment, submit the Petition to Apply for Concurrent Degree Status along with the Graduate Admissions Application. (note: this does not apply to official dual degree programs with law or medicine, and graduate certificate programs).

Official “dual degrees” at UHM are formal agreements between UHM departments that allow applicants to apply and be admitted in the same semester and start two graduate programs simultaneously. Asian Studies has an official dual degree program with Library and Information Science. Applicants interested in applying to this program need to submit separate applications to each of the two programs in the intended dual degree.

In the past, some students have pursued concurrent degrees with the Asian Studies Program and the UH-Richardson School of Law. Simultaneous admission to a graduate program and the law school is not permitted. A current UHM graduate student must complete at least one semester of graduate course work before starting law school. A current law student must complete the first year of law school before starting the Asian Studies graduate program.

Students pursuing concurrent or dual degrees may apply to have some credit hours of graduate course work accepted for credit in both degree programs (double-counted). In general, no more than six credits may be double-counted, subject to the following conditions:

- Credits for required courses (in either graduate program) may not be double-counted.
- Both degrees are completed within the time allowed.
- Written approval from the Office of Graduate Education is obtained.
- Written approval from both graduate programs is obtained.
To avoid unpleasant surprises near graduation time, if you would like to enroll in a concurrent or dual degree program and plan to double-count some course credits, please be sure to consult with the academic advisors both in Asian Studies and in the other department as you begin your course planning.

D. GRADE OF INCOMPLETE

An incomplete or I grade may be issued to a student who fails to complete a small but important part of a course before the semester grades are issued, if and only if the course instructor believes that the failure is due to reasons beyond the control of the student, and not due to carelessness or procrastination on the part of the student. An incomplete issued for an undergraduate course must be accompanied by an alternative grade. For a graduate course, the issuance of an alternative grade is optional. The alternative grade is computed by averaging the grades received by the student for the completed course work and F grades for the incomplete course work, including the final exam if the student did not take it.

Students receiving an Incomplete should contact the instructor to determine the steps to be taken for completing the course work. The deadline for removing an Incomplete is April 1 for Incompletes recorded in the previous fall semester and November 1 for Incompletes received in the previous spring or summer semester. However, after this deadline graduate students still have one year following the end of semester in which the I grade was issued to request a change of grade. The Change of Grade Form in these cases should be submitted to the Office of Graduate Student Services. If the instructor included an alternative grade when assigning the incomplete, the I will be automatically converted to the alternative grade if it is not converted before the deadline.

E. TIME TO COMPLETION OF DEGREE

In general, graduate students at UHM must complete all degree requirements within seven years after admission to their programs. An approved leave of absence of up to two semesters is not counted in the seven years. Masters students will be automatically placed on academic probation at the beginning of the 7th year. However, this does not preclude a graduate program from requesting an academic probation action if they deem appropriate, sooner than year seven. Official correspondence will be sent from Graduate Student Services with further information at the time of the probation action.
III. FUNDING SOURCES

Unfortunately, both locally and nationwide, there is limited funding for graduate students at the M.A. level. However, incoming students who could benefit from financial support should be aware of the sources of potential funding that do exist, and are encouraged to apply for as many of them as they can. Below is a list of the scholarships that Asian Studies China MA students most often benefit from:

CCS Scholarships: Each year the CCS offers the two major fellowships for which Asian Studies China grad student are eligible: the Ah Kin Buck Yee Graduate Fellowship in Chinese Studies, open to US citizens and international students; and the Eu Tong Sen Scholarship, which allows two UH students to spend a semester each studying at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. (CUHK has an excellent Chinese Studies graduate curriculum and Chinese language classes). CCS maintains a website of both intramural and extramural funding sources, at http://www.ccs-uhm.org/academia/scholarships/graduate-student-funding/. Via the email list, they also send out information regarding funding opportunities during the year.

ASP Scholarships: the ASP has a limited number of scholarships for which MA students are eligible. The JTB and Shigeta Fellowships are small scholarships (usually only one or two thousand dollars) that are open to Asian Studies B.A. and M.A. students; the Starr Foundation Graduate Fellowship is open to full-time Asian Studies MA students only, and is much more substantial in terms of amount. All are merit-based scholarships, and the deadlines for application usually fall in January or February.

Tuition waivers: each degree program has a limited number of merit-based tuition waivers for degree-seeking students. Check with the Academic Advisor or Program Chair for eligibility.

Department G.A.-ships: Most departments around campus have some funding to pay for Graduate Assistants. GA’s may have different roles in different departments, but usually they assist professors teaching large undergraduate courses. The Asian Studies Program has funding for two GA-ships each year. ASP GA’s assist professors teaching ASAN 201-202 and ASAN 312, and are responsible for organizing a nation-wide graduate student conference each year. GA-ships do not pay much, but they provide tuition, benefits, and a small salary. They also provide invaluable work experience, especially for anyone who hopes to continue on in an academic career. Please note that many departments welcome applications from graduate students across campus.

Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) scholarships from the federal government are open to US citizens who are enrolled full-time in a graduate program and, in the case of Chinese, who are taking 300-level Chinese or higher. FLAS scholarships cover full tuition for one academic year and provide a modest stipend. They are very prestigious and competition is strong. There are also summer FLAS scholarships available to cover the costs of summer intensive language study. Deadlines fall in January/February.

The East-West Center Graduate Degree Fellowships. These are open to citizens of a number of countries (including the US) who plan to pursue a graduate degree at the M.A. or PhD level at UH. They cover tuition and fees; graduate residence hall room costs, health insurance, book allowance, and partial living stipend. The deadline is in late fall. For details, please see http://www.eastwestcenter.org/education/student-programs.

Keep your eyes open for announcements about these and other scholarship opportunities. In addition, please consult the Office of Graduate Education’s list of fellowships and scholarships for graduate students at http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/graduate/content/fellowships-scholarships. You may also wish to speak with Chizuko Allen (chizuko@hawaii.edu), who is the Fellowships Coordinator for SPAS. In general, you are responsible for seeking out your own funding opportunities; however, if you let your academic adviser know that you are interested, s/he may be able to help keep an eye out for appropriate opportunities.
IV. IMPORTANT PEOPLE, PLACES AND WEBSITES

Asian Studies Program (main office: Moore 416)

Asian Studies Program Chair, 2015-16 only
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Useful Websites

Center for Chinese Studies:  <http://www.ccs-uhm.org>
Office of Graduate Education:  <http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/graduate/>
Asian Studies Course listings  http://www.catalog.hawaii.edu/courses/departments/asan.htm
UH-Manoa-wide course listings (by semester):  <http://www.sis.hawaii.edu/uhdad/avail.classes?i=MAN>

Please note: you are enthusiastically encouraged to sign up for the Center for Chinese Studies mailing list. CCS serves as a clearinghouse for information on China-related activities on campus and in the community; funding and scholarship opportunities for graduate students; employment opportunities and other important information that may be of interest. But if you don’t sign up, they won’t know you’re there!