

# Carleton

Asian Studies Program

507-222-4588

Dear Future Carl,

Congratulations on being accepted to Carleton College! I am delighted that you are interested in pursuing your interest in [Asian Studies](#) in the coming years. Our program is unique in its **interdisciplinary and trans-regional approach**, with emphasis on **language learning** and **off campus studies experiences**.

**Interdisciplinary and trans-regional approach:** We offer an interdisciplinary, regionally-focused [major in Asian Studies](#) with a wide variety of courses on Asia in ten departments (Art History, Asian Languages and Literatures, Economics, English, History, Linguistics, Music, Religion, Sociology and Anthropology, Political Science) concentrating on three regions of East Asia, South Asian and Central Asia. We attract students with an overriding interest in one or more regions of Asia who want to explore complex cultural or social phenomena without being confined to one department. We also offer [minors in East Asian Studies and in South Asian Studies](#) for students majoring in traditional departments to bring focus to their choice of electives.

**Language learning:** One year of study of an Asian language is required in our major and minors. Our regular offerings include Chinese and Japanese. Languages available through special arrangement include Hindi, Tamil, Urdu, and Uzbek.

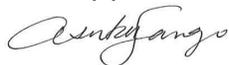
**Off campus studies experiences:** One term of off campus study (OCS) in Asia is required in our major and minors, and many of our students participate in more than one program. Faculty-led Carleton programs are very popular. [Linguistics and Culture in Japan](#) offers courses in Japanese history and culture in addition to linguistics. [Political Economy and Ecology of Southeast Asia](#) provides opportunities for students to learn about social and ecological changes in Thailand, Lao PDR and Myanmar. [Globalization and Local Responses in India](#) focuses on social structures and institutions in India and the intersections with development, sustainability and gender relations.

In addition, [Buddhist Studies in Bodh Gaya](#) (Carleton Global Engagement Program) introduces students to both the theory and practice of Buddhism. Carleton also cooperates with several other colleges to sponsor the [Associated Kyoto Program](#), and [Waseda University sponsored by the Associated Colleges of the Midwest \(ACM\)](#) for students interested in Japan, as well as the [Intercollegiate Sri Lanka Education Program \(ISLE\)](#), in which students study at the University of Peradeniya near Kandy, Sri Lanka. Opportunities to study in Asia also are available through a variety of [non-Carleton programs](#).

As the culmination of these three components of our program, our students work on a wide variety of [senior comprehensive projects](#) (called “comps” at Carleton).

I'd be glad to be in touch with you about any of your interests. If you have questions about Asian Studies at Carleton, please feel free to email me ([asango@carleton.edu](mailto:asango@carleton.edu)).

Sincerely yours,



Asuka Sango  
John W. Nason Professor of Asian Studies and Religion  
Director, Asian Studies Program

