



Asian Studies Opportunities at Alabama

February 1, 2010

With so many opportunities to study the cultures of Asia at the University of Alabama, we will be sending out this periodic email newsletter to highlight upcoming opportunities on our campus and select opportunities away from campus. Scroll down the pages to read more about each opportunity and information on whom to contact. Several of the scholarships and study abroad opportunities have deadlines coming soon, so don't procrastinate!

If you have questions about this newsletter or opportunities that you want included in the next newsletter, contact Steven Ramey, Director of Asian Studies, at sramey@as.ua.edu. You can also find links and other current announcements on our website <http://web.as.ua.edu/asianstudies> or by joining *Alabama Students Interested in Asia* on Facebook.

EVENTS AT UA

- Mira Nair Film Series – **MONDAY NIGHTS**
- Award Winning Asian Film Series – **MONDAY NIGHTS**
- Chinese New Year – **FEBRUARY 7, TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**
- Upcoming events in the spring

OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE TUSCALOOSA

- Alabama in Himalayas – Summer study abroad program
- Spring Break in Korea – **FEBRUARY 8 DEADLINE!**
- Scholarship for a Year in Japan
- Japan – America Student Conference
- Korea – America Student Conference
- Chinese and Japanese Intensive Language Courses in Colorado

EVENTS AT UA

Mira Nair Film Series

Two films remain in the Mira Nair Film Series. Mira Nair is an award winning director from India whose work addresses the challenges and achievements in the transnational Indian community. They will be shown in Alston Hall 10 at 7:00 on Monday nights. Everyone is welcome.

Feb 1 - **Mississippi Masala** (1992) English

Partially filmed in the South, Mississippi Masala presents a fascinating picture of an Indian-American family whose father pines for his native Uganda, where his family lived prosperously until Idi Amin took power. Transplanted to rural Mississippi, the family struggles to make ends meet by running a string of motels. When the daughter Mina falls for an African American entrepreneur, complications arise. The film stars Denzel Washington (The Taking of Pelham 123); Sarita Choudhury (Lady in the Water); Roshan Seth (Gandhi).

Feb 8 - **Monsoon Wedding** (2001) Hindi and English with English subtitles

As the monsoon rains loom in this romantic drama, Lalit Verma and his extended family reunite for the arranged marriage of his daughter Aiditi in New Delhi. But long-guarded secrets threaten to tear the family apart. As wedding preparations proceed, five stories intersect, highlighting different aspects of love and crossing boundaries of class and continent. The film stars Naseeruddin Shah (League of Extraordinary Gentlemen).

Award Winning Asian Films Series

Our second film series this semester features six films related to Asia that have been honored with various awards. Everyone is welcome for the free screenings in Alston Hall 10 at 7:00 on Mondays.

Feb. 15 **Departures** (2008) Japanese with English subtitles

2009 Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film

Feb. 22 **Stiff Life** (2006) Chinese with English subtitles

Golden Lion Award at 2006 Venice Film Festival

Mar. 1 **Slumdog Millionaire** (2008) Hindi with English subtitles

8 Oscars in 2009, including Best Motion Picture

Mar. 8 **Farewell My Concubine** (1993) Chinese with English subtitles

1994 Golden Globe for Best Foreign Language Film

Mar. 22 **Heaven and Earth** (1993) English with Vietnamese

1994 Golden Globe for Best Original Score

Mar. 29 **My Beautiful Launderette** (1985) Urdu/Hindi with English and English subtitles

1986 Best Film Award from Evening Standard British Film Awards

For more information on the films, contact Dr. Simanti Lahiri, Dept. of Political Science, slahiri@ua.edu

Chinese New Year

The Association of Chinese Students and Scholars at UA will host the Chinese Spring Festival Celebration 2010 on February 7 at 5:30pm in Ferguson Ballroom. The event will include a range of cultural performances and a buffet of Chinese food. Tickets are \$8 (adult) and \$4 (Children 2-12) and can be purchased in the second floor of the Ferguson Center Feb. 1-4. Tickets at the door will be limited and cost \$10. You do not have to be a member of ACSS to enjoy the celebrations.

Upcoming Events in Tuscaloosa

In March, the Japanese Center holds the **Sakura Festival**, a month-long celebration of Japanese culture, both on campus and at other venues in Tuscaloosa.

After Spring Break, a **Vietnamese American filmmaker** will visit UA and screen a film related to the Vietnam War, co-sponsored with American Studies

In April, Asian Studies will sponsor a third film series featuring the work of Director **Ang Lee**, an international award winning director from Taiwan who has also succeeded in Hollywood.

In April, we hope to have a concert of **Classical Indian music** by a Veena player from India.

OPPORTUNITIES OUTSIDE UA

Alabama in the Himalayas: Tibetan History and Cultural Studies in China

Study abroad opportunity with UA faculty in the Himalayas. For more information, contact Amy Holmes-Tagchungdarpa at aholmes12@bama.ua.edu.

Spring Break in Korea

CIEE is collaborating with the South Korea Foundation to offer a spring break program for 75 students, running March 13th to the 22nd, 2010. Participants will receive a full scholarship for the program and will be hosted by Yonsei University in Seoul. The program is intended to be a cultural exchange for students who have had little to no exposure to Korean culture and is aimed at fostering understanding and diplomacy between the U.S. and Korea. Yonsei University will organize academic lectures, tours, and cultural excursions for participants. Yonsei University is a separately contracted partner of the Korea Foundation and as such they commit to providing a custom-tailored cultural program to our participants. Yonsei University staff will be the official hosts of our students.

This program is not for credit. The application deadline for the program is **February 8, 2010**. Applications are expected to be competitive. For more information and application procedures, go to <http://www.ciee.org/southkorea/>.

Scholarship for a Year in Japan

The Japanese Studies Scholarship is one-year scholarship for undergraduate Japanese or Asian Studies majors or minors to study the Japanese language and culture at a university in Japan. Benefits of the program include a monthly allowance of 125,000 yen (approximately \$1,200); transportation to and from Japan; and university tuition. To qualify, applicant must be a citizen of the United States, be between 18 and 30 years old, and should be in good health. All applicants must be an undergraduate majoring or minoring in Japanese or Asian Studies at a university outside Japan and plan to return to the United States upon completion of the study abroad program. All applicants must have a good knowledge of the Japanese language. Application Deadline: **March 1**, 5:00 pm. For more information, contact the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta, 404-926-3021; info@cgjapanatlanta.org; <http://www.atlanta.us.emb-japan.go.jp/monbusho.html> .

Japan-America Student Conference

Join 72 other students from the U.S. and Japan for a month of cultural exchange, travel and fun! Meet leaders and students that will improve your career network in this unique student-led cultural and academic exchange which will host its 62nd annual program next summer. Students will discuss their research on topics of bilateral and global interest and enjoy prominent speakers during the month-long program.

The theme for the Japan-America Student Conference held July 23 – August 21, 2010, will be “To Understand, To Unite, To Act: Continuous Evolution through Integrated Perspectives.” Applications are due **February 22, 2010!** The participation fee for 2010 is \$2,800, which covers food, lodging and group travel for the duration of the Conference. Travel between each Conference location is included in this fee. Round-trip domestic transportation to and from the American Orientation site is the responsibility of the individual delegate. For applications or more information, please visit www.iscdc.org.

2010 JASC Sites:

- Earlham College, IN
- George Washington University, DC
- New Orleans, LA
- San Francisco, CA

This year’s Roundtable topics include:

- Empowering Today’s Youth: Overcoming Challenges in Society
- Revitalizing Education: The Promotion of Individual Character
- Security, Military and Peace: The US and Japan
- Social Entrepreneurship: The Power to Transform
- Spreading Environmental Awareness in Industrial Developing Nations

- Sustainable Regionalism: How can urban cities and local communities coexist?
- The Role of National Identity in the Globalizing Society

Although many participants may be Asian Studies and East Asian Studies majors, this is not a requirement. All types of students from any field and level of study are welcome at JASC. Knowledge of the Japanese language is not required.

Korea-America Student Conference

Join 50 other students from the U.S. and Korea for a month of cultural exchange, travel and fun! Meet leaders and students that will improve your career network in this unique student-led cultural and academic exchange which will host its 3rd annual program next summer. Students will discuss their research on topics of bilateral and global interest and enjoy prominent speakers in the month-long conference.

The theme for the third Korea-America Student Conference held July 12 – August 12, 2010, will be “Learning from the past, while working in the present toward the future of U.S.-Korea relations.” For applications or more information, please visit www.iscdc.org, or e-mail kasc@iscdc.org. Applications are due **March 5, 2010**. The \$3,000 participation for KASC covers food, lodging, and group travel for the duration of the Conference. Travel between each site is included in this fee. However, individual round-trip transportation to and from the Orientation site is the responsibility of each delegate.

2010 KASC Sites:

- American University, DC
- University of Pennsylvania, PA
- University of Michigan, MI
- Stanford University, CA

This year’s Roundtable topics include:

- The ABC’s of Education: Exploration of Education
- War and Peace: An Analysis of Differing Perceptions
- The Green Life Movement: Social Movement of Going Green
- U.S. and Korea in the News: Media for Cultural Understanding
- Korea in 50 States: The Evolution of National Identity

Although many participants will be Asian Studies and East Asian Studies majors, this is not a requirement. All types of students from any field and level of study are welcome at the conference. Knowledge of the Korean language is not required.

Intensive Chinese and Japanese courses in the summer at University of Colorado at Boulder.

Students will be charged a special continuing education rate of approximately \$3000, regardless of their residency status.

The following courses will be offered:

- Beginning Chinese 1 & 2 (CHIN 1010, 1020)
- Intermediate Chinese 1 & 2 (CHIN 2110, 2120)

- Beginning Japanese 1 & 2 (JPNS 1010, 1020)
- Intermediate Japanese 1 & 2 (JPNS 2110, 2120)
- Advanced Japanese 1 & 2 (JPNS 3110, 3120)

Courses begin June 1 and run through August 6. Registration begins February 15 via Continuing Education. For course information or to register, contact Barbara Russell at 303-492-7735 or Barbara.Russell@Colorado.edu.



This newsletter is produced by the Asian Studies Program at UA. For more information, visit <http://web.as.ua.edu/asianstudies> or email asianstudies@as.ua.edu. To add a name or remove yourself from the mailing list, email Steven Ramey at sramey@as.ua.edu