



DR. DAVID CHU PROGRAM IN  
**CONTEMPORARY  
ASIAN STUDIES**  
AND MINOR IN  
**SOUTH ASIAN  
STUDIES**  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

ASIAN  
INSTITUTE


**munk school**  
OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY




UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**



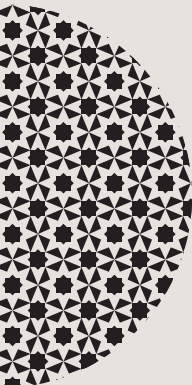
## ASIA ON THE WORLD STAGE



Asia is home to more than half the world's population. Its cultural and historical complexity is endless, its economic growth unprecedented, and its global influence unmatched. Our job is to understand it better.



Our faculty and students create interdisciplinary, cross-regional, cutting-edge insights into a wide range of crucial issues at stake in this dynamic region of the globe. Asia's breakneck urbanization processes, social media and communications revolutions, and growing environmental crises all offer new challenges and demand creative interventions. Meanwhile, the creation of local literary, visual, and archeological sites as fields of a contested colonial and postcolonial past provide rich pathways to greater understanding of the region's complexity.



**“Usually when you study Asia, you get perspectives simply from the West or simply from Asia. With Contemporary Asian Studies, you get perspectives both from Asia and the West. It really influences your point of view.”**

Aaron Wilson (Alumnus)



Photos (top left and right): Grace Chong

**“Getting to do field research and to see what I had read about in class was one of the highlights of my undergraduate experience.”**

Sarah Tan (Alumna)



Photo: Jennifer Su



## CONTEMPORARY ASIAN STUDIES

The Dr. David Chu Program in Contemporary Asian Studies (CAS) examines the linkages between Asia's history and culture, its emergence on the global stage, and its future in the global arena through a multidisciplinary lens informed by anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, cultural studies, and sociology. CAS students gain empirical and critical knowledge of East, Southeast, and South Asia through a comparative exploration of contemporary issues.

## SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Inspired by the changing face of South Asia today, the minor in South Asian Studies (SAS) offers rigorous training in major debates and questions in this rich field, and allows students to study South Asia with an approach attentive to global formations. Students are introduced to the study of South Asia – Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka – through a wide-angle view of Asian modernities, political economies, and cultures, while simultaneously delving into specialist close-up perspectives within the region.

## PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

We offer a major and minor in Contemporary Asian Studies and a minor in South Asian Studies with a wide range of core courses and electives. For complete program requirements and course descriptions, please refer to the Faculty of Arts and Science calendar at [calendar.artsci.utoronto.ca](http://calendar.artsci.utoronto.ca).



# THE ASIAN INSTITUTE ADVANTAGE

As boutique programs situated in the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, CAS and SAS offer students a host of unique resources.



## Experiential Learning

- Travel to Asia for language study, courses, and research
- Conduct fieldwork with Asian-Canadian communities in Toronto through the Asian Pathways Research Practicum
- Join student groups and organize social and academic events
- The Richard Charles Lee Insights through Asia Challenge (ITAC) guides teams of students through the steps of a complex multi-stage academic research project with real world impact, from writing a winning proposal to project management, ethics reviews, conducting field research, writing up results, and delivering a public presentation

## Scholarships and Awards

- Dr. David Chu Scholarships in Asia-Pacific Studies offer funding to study and conduct research in Asia
- A range of scholarships and awards to fund student travel and research, and recognize leadership and academic excellence

## Career Development

- Gain the skills and knowledge for careers in a world that is no longer rooted in the west
- Prepare for work in academic research, policy development and practice, global business and more
- Global Careers through Asia Conference
- Internship opportunities
- Alumni network



**“Because it’s a small program, you get to know your peers and professors really well.”**

Hormuz Dadabhoy (Alumnus)



## A VIBRANT INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY

- Housed in the Asian Institute at the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, a hub for leading faculty, affiliated graduate students, and visiting scholars with Asian Studies expertise, in the heart of downtown Toronto at Canada's premier research institution
- Thriving student initiatives, including the Contemporary Asian Studies Student Union (CASSU), the INDePth Conference, and *Synergy: The Journal of Contemporary Asian Studies*

### CONTACT

PROGRAM ADVISOR,  
ASIAN INSTITUTE

1 Devonshire Place  
Room 228N

Toronto ON M5S 3K7 Canada

416-946-8832

[ai.asianstudies@utoronto.ca](mailto:ai.asianstudies@utoronto.ca)

[munkschool.utoronto.ca/ai/cas](http://munkschool.utoronto.ca/ai/cas)

[munkschool.utoronto.ca/csas/undergraduate-study](http://munkschool.utoronto.ca/csas/undergraduate-study)

ASIAN  
INSTITUTE

**munk school**  
OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**