Water and Society GE Track

This track takes water as the central theme to explore diverse aspects of culture and society from past to present. As an essential substance in nature and culture, water has the potential to bridge philosophy and technology, nature and culture, material culture and literature, history and landscape, as well as engineering, social science, and humanities. This track will address water-related issues within the framework of Anthropocene and environmental humanities. Topics include waterways in the formation of prehistoric interaction networks, ideologies of flood control in the archaic notion of kingship, hydraulic engineering and water management as technologies of empire-building, historical and present water crisis, water and empires, and water in works of philosophy, knowledge, technologies, and literature.

List of Courses by GE Foundation Area

Click on a Foundation Area or scroll below to see list of courses and descriptions.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - LITERARY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS (14 COURSES)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - PHILOSOPHICAL AND LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS (8 COURSES)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS ANALYSIS (3 COURSES)

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - HISTORICAL ANALYSIS (23 COURSES)

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - SOCIAL ANALYSIS (11 COURSE)

SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY - LIFE SCIENCE (0 COURSES)

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - LITERARY AND CULTURAL ANALYSIS (14 COURSES)

CHIN 50 – Chinese Civilization. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 50W. Knowledge of Chinese not required. Introduction to most important aspects of Chinese culture. Topics include early Chinese civilization, historical development of Chinese society, issues of ethnicity, Chinese language and philosophy, and early scientific and technological innovation. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

CHIN 50W – Chinese Civilization. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Enforced requisite: English Composition 3 or 3H or English as a Second Language 36. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 50. Knowledge of Chinese not required. Introduction to most important aspects of Chinese culture. Topics include early Chinese civilization, historical development of Chinese society, issues of ethnicity, Chinese language and philosophy, and early scientific and technological innovation.
Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 30B – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 30A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Exploration in depth of particular mythological traditions, aspects of storytelling, role of myth in culture, society, and/or art, and contributions of various disciplines to study of myth. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 30CW – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore.** Seminar, three hours. Enforced requisite: course 30B. Limited to first-year freshmen. Topics may include myth and modern art (including literature, music, and film), myth and ritual, oral tradition and orality, myth and political ideology, myth and science, hero and trickster, and myths of creation. Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 40A – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 40A is enforced requisite to 40B, which is enforced requisite to 40CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics--works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts. Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 40B – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 40A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics--works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts.
Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


**CLUSTER 25A – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 25A is enforced requisite to 25B, which is enforced requisite to 25CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Comprehensive exploration of historical evolution of popular East Asian urban culture and interrelationship of East Asian politics, social life, and economic and urban cultural expression. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 25B – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 25A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Comprehensive exploration of historical evolution of popular East Asian urban culture and interrelationship of East Asian politics, social life, and economic and urban cultural expression. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


**HIST 11A – History of China: To 1000.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Survey of early history of China--genesis of characteristic Chinese institutions and modes of thought from antiquity to 1000. Focus on social, political, intellectual, and economic aspects of early and middle empires. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**HIST 11AH – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Honors course parallel to course 11A. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**M E STD M50A – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** (Same as
Ancient Near East M50A.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Survey of great civilizations of ancient Near East--Egypt, Israel, and Mesopotamia--with attention to emergence of writing, monotheism, and urban societies. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

RELIGN M61--Introduction to Zen Buddhism. (Same as Asian M61.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Knowledge of Asian languages not required. Introduction to Zen traditions and to interplay between Zen and other fundamental cultural and religious concerns in East Asia. Topics include role of Zen within Buddhist thought and practice, artistic and literary arts, society, and daily life. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES - PHILOSOPHICAL AND LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS (8 COURSES)

CHIN 50 – Chinese Civilization. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 50W. Knowledge of Chinese not required. Introduction to most important aspects of Chinese culture. Topics include early Chinese civilization, historical development of Chinese society, issues of ethnicity, Chinese language and philosophy, and early scientific and technological innovation. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

CHIN 50W – Chinese Civilization. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Enforced requisite: English Composition 3 or 3H or English as a Second Language 36. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 50. Knowledge of Chinese not required. Introduction to most important aspects of Chinese culture. Topics include early Chinese civilization, historical development of Chinese society, issues of ethnicity, Chinese language and philosophy, and early scientific and technological innovation. Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

CLUSTER 30B – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 30A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Exploration in depth of particular mythological traditions, aspects of storytelling, role of myth in culture, society, and/or art, and contributions of various disciplines to study of myth. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 30CW – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore. Seminar, three hours. Enforced requisite: course 30B. Limited to first-year freshmen. Topics may include myth and modern art (including literature, music, and film), myth and ritual, oral tradition and orality, myth and political ideology, myth and science, hero and trickster, and myths of creation. Satisfies Writing II
CLUSTER 40A – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 40A is enforced requisite to 40B, which is enforced requisite to 40CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics—works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts. Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 40B – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 40A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics—works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts. Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


KOREA M60 – Introduction to Korean Religions. (Same as Religion M60C.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Knowledge of Asian languages not required. General survey of history of religions in Korea—Shamanism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism,
Christianity, Tonghak, and some new religions—with focus on religious doctrines, practices, Korean characteristics, and social impacts. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**ARTS AND HUMANITIES - VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS ANALYSIS (3 COURSES)**

**CLUSTER 25A – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 25A is enforced requisite to 25B, which is enforced requisite to 25CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Comprehensive exploration of historical evolution of popular East Asian urban culture and interrelationship of East Asian politics, social life, and economic and urban cultural expression. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 25B – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 25A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Comprehensive exploration of historical evolution of popular East Asian urban culture and interrelationship of East Asian politics, social life, and economic and urban cultural expression. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


**SOCIETY AND CULTURE - HISTORICAL ANALYSIS (23 COURSES)**

**ANTHRO 2 – Archaeology: Introduction.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; one field trip. Required as preparation for both bachelor's degrees. General survey of field and laboratory methods, theory, and major findings of anthropological archaeology, including case-study guest lectures presented by several campus archaeologists. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**AN N EA M60W – Achaemenid Civilization and Empire of Alexander.** (Same as History M60W and Iranian M60W.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Requisite: English Composition 3. Not open for credit to students with credit for course M60. Survey of period from circa 600 to 300 BCE, rise and fall of Achaemenid Persia, first world empire of antiquity, which was ended by Alexander the Great, whose campaigns were as transformative as they were violent. Alexander connected ancient Mediterranean and Near East as never before, ushering in new era and forever changing cultural landscape of ancient world. Focus on themes of ancient kingship and political ideology; comparative study of empires; administration and institutions; and
religious and ethnic diversity in large, heterogeneous states. Emphasis on diversity critical to understanding political nuances of ancient world. Students gain broad knowledge of Achaemenid and Macedonian empires, facility with ancient primary sources, and development of analytical skills central to discipline of history that allow conceptualizing issues of diversity and othering in ancient world. Satisfies Writing II requirement. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**CHIN 50 – Chinese Civilization.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 50W. Knowledge of Chinese not required. Introduction to most important aspects of Chinese culture. Topics include early Chinese civilization, historical development of Chinese society, issues of ethnicity, Chinese language and philosophy, and early scientific and technological innovation. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**CHIN 50W – Chinese Civilization.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Enforced requisite: English Composition 3 or 3H or English as a Second Language 36. Not open for credit to students with credit for course 50. Knowledge of Chinese not required. Introduction to most important aspects of Chinese culture. Topics include early Chinese civilization, historical development of Chinese society, issues of ethnicity, Chinese language and philosophy, and early scientific and technological innovation. Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 30B – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 30A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Exploration in depth of particular mythological traditions, aspects of storytelling, role of myth in culture, society, and/or art, and contributions of various disciplines to study of myth. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 30CW – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore.** Seminar, three hours. Enforced requisite: course 30B. Limited to first-year freshmen. Topics may include myth and modern art (including literature, music, and film), myth and ritual, oral tradition and orality, myth and political ideology, myth and science, hero and trickster, and myths of creation. Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

**CLUSTER 40A – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 40A is enforced requisite to 40B, which is enforced requisite to 40CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that
students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics—works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts. Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 40B – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 40A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics—works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts. Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


CLUSTER 25A – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 25A is enforced requisite to 25B, which is enforced requisite to 25CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Comprehensive exploration of historical evolution of popular East Asian urban culture and interrelationship of East Asian politics, social life, and economic and urban cultural expression. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 25B – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 25A. Limited to first-year


**GEOG 4 – Globalization: Regional Development and World Economy.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Economic geography explores spatial distribution of all forms of human productive activity at number of geographical scales--local, regional, national, and global. Key theme is impact of increasingly powerful global economic forces on organization of production. P/NP or letter grading. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**HIST 11A – History of China: To 1000.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Survey of early history of China--genesis of characteristic Chinese institutions and modes of thought from antiquity to 1000. Focus on social, political, intellectual, and economic aspects of early and middle empires. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**HIST 11AH – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Honors course parallel to course 11A. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**HIST 11B – History of China, circa 1000 to 2000.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Survey of later history of China--evolution of characteristic Chinese institutions and modes of thought from circa 1000 to 2000. Focus on social, political, intellectual, cultural, and economic aspects of early modern regimes and empires and rise of modern China into contemporary era. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**HIST 11BH – History of China: 1000 to 1950 (Honors).** Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Honors course parallel to course 11B. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**IA STD 33 – Introduction to East Asia.** Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour (when scheduled). Interdisciplinary survey designed as introduction to modern East Asia. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.
M E STD M50A – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia. (Same as Ancient Near East M50A.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Survey of great civilizations of ancient Near East--Egypt, Israel, and Mesopotamia--with attention to emergence of writing, monotheism, and urban societies. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

RELANG M61–Introduction to Zen Buddhism. (Same as Asian M61.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Knowledge of Asian languages not required. Introduction to Zen traditions and to interplay between Zen and other fundamental cultural and religious concerns in East Asia. Topics include role of Zen within Buddhist thought and practice, artistic and literary arts, society, and daily life. Letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

SEASIAN 50 – Southeast Asian Societies and Cultures. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. General introduction to varied and diverse region of Southeast Asia. Designed to acquaint students with broad themes that characterize societies, cultures, and civilizations of this vitally important part of globe. Study of historical trajectories that have led eleven countries of region to present situations. Emphasis on examinations of these societies and important contemporary issues relating to geography, topography, politics, culture, literature, gender issues, religion, human rights, and environment. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

KOREA 50 – History of Korean Civilization. (Same as Religion M60C.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Knowledge of Korean not required. General survey of development of Korean culture within context of political, social, and economic history. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

KOREA M60 – Introduction to Korean Religions. (Same as Religion M60C.) Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. Knowledge of Asian languages not required. General survey of history of religions in Korea--Shamanism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Daoism, Christianity, Tonghak, and some new religions--with focus on religious doctrines, practices, Korean characteristics, and social impacts. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

SOCIETY AND CULTURE - SOCIAL ANALYSIS (11 COURSE)

ANTHRO 2 – Archaeology: Introduction. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour; one field trip. Required as preparation for both bachelor's degrees. General survey of field and laboratory methods, theory, and major findings of anthropological archaeology, including case-study guest lectures presented by several campus archaeologists. P/NP
or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

CLUSTER 30B – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 30A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Exploration in depth of particular mythological traditions, aspects of storytelling, role of myth in culture, society, and/or art, and contributions of various disciplines to study of myth. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 30CW – Neverending Stories: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Myth and Folklore. Seminar, three hours. Enforced requisite: course 30B. Limited to first-year freshmen. Topics may include myth and modern art (including literature, music, and film), myth and ritual, oral tradition and orality, myth and political ideology, myth and science, hero and trickster, and myths of creation. Satisfies Writing II requirement. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 40A – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 40A is enforced requisite to 40B, which is enforced requisite to 40CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics--works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts. Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.

CLUSTER 40B – Chinese Classics, Their Legacy in East Asia, and Reimagination in Modern Times. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Enforced requisite: course 40A. Limited to first-year freshmen. Learning in traditional China was defined through mastery of canon of classic texts that students memorized as part of their education. These classics were also taught in Vietnam, Japan, and Korea, and served to create cultural ties across East Asia. Many more texts came to be considered classics--works of enduring value, read by large numbers of people across centuries, including religious scriptures, legal codes, novels, paintings, and performances. Exploration of how Chinese classics have been used and reimagined in different places and times to demonstrate enduring importance of these texts and cultural artifacts.
Emphasis on how these works were interpreted throughout East Asia, relationship with past, and how shared history is seen as informing present. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


CLUSTER 25A – Politics, Society, and Urban Culture in East Asia. Lecture, three hours; discussion, two hours. Course 25A is enforced requisite to 25B, which is enforced requisite to 25CW. Limited to first-year freshmen. Comprehensive exploration of historical evolution of popular East Asian urban culture and interrelationship of East Asian politics, social life, and economic and urban cultural expression. Letter grading. Credits: 6.0 Units.


IA STD 33 – Introduction to East Asia. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour (when scheduled). Interdisciplinary survey designed as introduction to modern East Asia. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

SEASIAN 50 – Southeast Asian Societies and Cultures. Lecture, three hours; discussion, one hour. General introduction to varied and diverse region of Southeast Asia. Designed to acquaint students with broad themes that characterize societies, cultures, and civilizations of this vitally important part of globe. Study of historical trajectories that have led eleven countries of region to present situations. Emphasis on examinations of these societies and important contemporary issues relating to geography, topography, politics, culture, literature, gender issues, religion, human
rights, and environment. P/NP or letter grading. Credits: 5.0 Units.

**SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY - LIFE SCIENCE (0 COURSES)**

No courses for this GE Foundation area in this track