Global trade routes have for millennia not only served as a way for civilizations to reap financial rewards from foreign commerce but have also been essential conduits for domestic innovations that have led to great cultural and scientific advances for the societies along their routes. The greatest of the ancient trade routes is the Silk Road that connected the East and West. Japan is widely regarded as its Eastern-most terminus, and the country’s deep and varied engagement with it spans many centuries. This talk will explore the various ways contact with the Silk Road enriched the artistic landscape of Japan at various points in time by showing the types of arts reaching Japan via its path and introducing Japanese collectors, researchers, and explorers of Silk Road materials as well as Japanese artists inspired by it from the sixth century to the present. Patricia Graham is a former professor and museum curator specializing in Japanese art, and an adjunct research associate at the University of Kansas Center for East Asian Studies who lectures widely and serves as a professional consultant and certified appraiser of Asian Art.

Study Abroad: Chiang Mai, Thailand
July 2-30, 2017

Study art, yoga and mindfulness in Thailand’s northern capital, Chiang Mai. Despite being a modern city, Chiang Mai has remained steadfastly Thai, with its marketplaces, food and monasteries. Students have the opportunity to create their own paper -- unique to this culture, draw and create with local architecture, explore the eight limbs of yoga practice, and gain a better understanding of brain and mind. The program fee is $5430 and includes six credits. More information is available here: https://studyabroad.asu.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=9785.
Lecture: State, Development and Political Geography in Contemporary Turkey
Dr. Faik Gur, Ozyegin University
Thursday, February 23, 4PM, Coor 4403

Professor Gur will address the way in which the business class emerged and accumulated capital, and the type of enterprises and value chains they generated since the foundation of the Republic of Turkey. Understanding “business history” is one of the most essential ways of making sense out of what happened in the last two decades in Turkey. Drawing on historical and sociological accounts this talk will shed light on the relationship between politics and economy in contemporary Turkey. Dr. Faik Gur is an Assistant Professor in the School of Social Sciences, Department of International Relations, at Ozyegin University.

Study Abroad in Laos:
2017 Sage Scholarship Announcement

ASU offers an annual scholarship of $3,000.00 for an undergraduate student to spend several weeks traveling in Laos, ordinarily (but not necessarily) over the summer. The recipient must be a full-time undergraduate student during the Spring Semester 2017 and have completed 56 hours, or four semesters, of study. Recipients of the Sage Scholarship are expected to spend at least three weeks in Laos but are free to travel elsewhere in Southeast Asia during their trip. After returning home, they will make an informal presentation about what they have seen and learned and submit a final project report. To date, ten ASU undergraduates have traveled to Laos as Sage Scholars. The application deadline is March 6, 2017, and an application form can be downloaded from: https://car.clas.asu.edu/news-and-events/2017-sage-family-southeast-asian-studies-scholarship-accepting-applications/ For questions, contact Professor James Rush at james.rush@asu.edu. Our 2016 Sage Scholarship awardee was Brynn Szukala. Brynn recorded her travels and made a wonderful video available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hAKUamxe60.

UISFL Asia Mediated Speakers Series

As part of the recently awarded UISFL grant Asia Mediated, the Center for Asian Research will be presenting three public lectures in the Spring of 2017. These will feature Professor Wenhong Chen of the University of Texas (whose interests include digital media technologies in multiethnic, entrepreneurial & civic settings, among others) on February 24, Professor Lisa Brooten of Southern Illinois University, Carbondale (whose research interests include Burmese independent media in opposition to the country’s military dictatorship, among others) on March 31, and Professor Cara Wallis of Texas A & M University (whose interests include mobile communication and critical studies of technology, among others) on April 20. More details will be forthcoming.
ASU Welcomes Amitav Ghosh
Tuesday, March 21, 7PM
Tempe Center for the Performing Arts

The Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing, the Environmental Humanities Initiative, the School of International Letters and Cultures, the Center for Asian Research and the Institute for Humanities Research will host a lecture by Amitav Ghosh on Tuesday, March 21, at the Tempe Center for the Performing Arts. Ghosh will speak about his most recent book, *The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable*. Ghosh was born in Calcutta and grew up in India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. He studied in Delhi, Oxford and Alexandria and has won several awards for his work, including the Prix Médicis, the Sahitya Akademi Award, the Arthur C. Clarke Award, the International e-Book Award, the Crossword Book Prize, and others. His work has been translated into more than two dozen languages and his essays have been published in *the New Yorker*, *the New Republic* and *the New York Times*. He has taught in many universities, including Delhi University, Columbia, Queens College and Harvard. In January 2007 he was given the Padma Shri, one of India’s highest honours, by the President of India and in 2010 he was awarded honorary doctorates by Queens College, New York, and the Sorbonne.

Summer Institute: Rethinking Area Studies through the Modern Novel
June 11-July 8, University of Michigan

The National Endowment for Humanities and the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science and Arts will host a summer institute that delves into the history and prospects of Area Studies in the American academy, anchoring this inquiry in readings of modern Asian novels. Natsume Sōseki’s *Kokoro*, Rabin dranath Tagore’s *Home and the World*, and José Rizal’s *Noli Me Tangere* will serve as the basic texts in our exploration. Our questions will include: What did Area Studies retain and reject from philology and translation, the chief preoccupations of Oriental Studies? How did Area Studies marry the social sciences and the humanities, and to what ends? What might a new Asian Studies beyond the limitations of Area Studies look like in practice? Over the four weeks of the institute, participants will be given full access to the University of Michigan’s extensive archives on the development of Asian Studies in order to conduct their own projects and research. At the same time, the members of the institute will collaborate to develop new syllabi for the undergraduate classroom. More information is available here: https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/neh-institute/.

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships

The Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship Program provides opportunities to doctoral candidates to engage in full-time dissertation research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies. The program is designed to deepen research knowledge of languages and cultures not generally included in U.S. curricula. More broadly, Fulbright-Hays programs aim to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through educational and cultural exchange. More information is available here: https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsddrap/applicant.html?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=; the deadline is March 14, 2017.
MA and PhD Funding at the University of Leeds  
(Chinese, Japanese, Southeast Asian and Asia-Pacific Studies)

East Asian Studies, a constituent unit within the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies at the University of Leeds, UK, would like to draw your attention to the funding opportunities in Chinese, Japanese and Southeast Asian Studies listed below. We invite applications from suitably qualified students intending to begin their MA or PhD study in October 2017. The study of languages, cultures and linguistics enjoys over a century of history at the University of Leeds. The School of Languages, Cultures and Societies (http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/info/125028/research) is one of the Europe’s leading centres for international-quality languages and cultures research and teaching. The School belongs to the Faculty of Arts (http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts), which was recently ranked in the top 50 in the world by the QS World University rankings. Researchers in the Faculty of Arts are currently running projects worth over £3 million, funded by research councils, charities and the European Union. Within the School, you can enjoy state-of-the-art facilities, the expertise and dedication of internationally recognised scholars. East Asian Studies at Leeds has been established for over fifty years and, in 2004, it came together with the School of East Asian Studies at Sheffield and the Centre for International Business at the University of Leeds to create the White Rose East Asia Centre (WREAC). Staff at Leeds pursue individual, collaborative and multidisciplinary research in the fields of language, literature, history, politics, economics, sociology, cultural studies, film and media studies, linguistics and translation studies. Underpinning our research is the appreciation of the key importance of language as a human institution and the intellectual, educational, and social value of its study. Detailed information about the research interests and areas of PhD supervision of our academic staff can be found here: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/people/20052/east_asian_studies/ Please note that in order to be considered for the scholarships below, you need to have gained a place on one of our MA programmes or on the PhD programme at the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies. More information about the programmes is available here: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/info/20052/east_asian_studies/1712/postgraduate_study. For the PhD, we advise you to contact a prospective supervisor and discuss your application with them before submitting it. For information on how to apply for PhD study at the University of Leeds, entry requirements and fees, please visit the research postgraduate admissions web page: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/arts/info/125024/postgraduate/1028/admissions_research_postgraduate.

Fellowship for Graduate Students from CHIBS

The Chung-Hwa Institute of Buddhist Studies has launched an annual fellowship program for graduate students who are working on pre-modern Chinese Buddhism. This fellowship is to support MA thesis research, PhD dissertation research and PhD dissertation writing. For MA students the fellowship will be awarded to students at two stages of research for thesis writing for a grant of up to US $3000. For PhD Students the fellowship will be awarded to students at three stages of research: pre-generals reconnaissance research (up to US $4,000); post-generals dissertation research (up to US $10,000); dissertation writing (up to US $10,000). An applicant can only apply for one fellowship at a time. Deadline for submission of application materials is March 1st 2017. Applications will only be considered for projects that begin on or after March 1st each year. For more details, see http://www.chibs.edu.tw/eng_html/index_eng00_08.html or write to grant@chibs.edu.tw.