

Teaching Asia



Free &
Virtual

Across the Curriculum & Region



Sponsored by
University System
of Georgia
Asia Council

Southeast Regional
Faculty Development Workshop
Friday, April 5, 2024

REGISTRATION <https://forms.office.com/r/rYdpNWpXE2>

If viewing flyer in non-electronic form, email ekendrick@gsu.edu for link or scan QR code

9:30a - 3:30p ET • 8:30a - 2:30p CT *Those from any time zone invited to attend*



The program (p.2) explores diverse academic perspectives across **East Asia, South Asia, & Southeast Asia**

Why Asia? Asia is the world's largest and most populated region, rivaling the West in economic, geopolitical, and socio-cultural influence. It is important for faculty to understand Asia, and to integrate Asian content and issues into their courses when appropriate.

Target Audiences *Please share the flyer & program with individuals & distribution lists*

- Faculty in public & private, four-year & two-year institutions that teach lower-division courses, especially those who are not Asian specialists.
- Upper-division/graduate faculty & Asian specialists, given the range of regions & topics covered.
- Graduate students, librarians, international education staff, independent scholars, and others.

How it Works: Register at the above link or QR code. The week of the workshop you will receive Zoom links for each of the six sessions on p.2. Attend any sessions based on your interests or academic areas.

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Asian Studies Development Program



Enhancing Undergraduate Asian Studies
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Background: Over a decade ago, the USG Asia Council established the TEACHING ASIA faculty development workshop series hosted at Perimeter College in Atlanta. The first five years targeted India, China, Southeast Asia, South Korea and Japan. The series moved to a theme focus in 2018 with Religion in Asia and 2019 with Women's Issues in Asia. In 2020, the Asia Council hosted the Asian Studies Development Program national conference in Atlanta. The annual workshop adopted a virtual format in 2022, and for 2023 expanded from a state to a regional focus.

PROGRAM

*Eastern Time – Each Session 50 minutes, including Q&A
Speaker bios will be included in the final program sent to registrants*

#1 9:30a The Written Word in Contemporary Chinese Art: From New English Calligraphy to Performance Art

Yanfei Zhu, University of North Georgia

Having evolved over three millennia, written Chinese carries both semantic meaning and aesthetic value. For non-Chinese readers to appreciate the formal beauty of Chinese calligraphy, contemporary Chinese art is a good place to begin as the written word has been more and more treated as a visual art rather than text. The talk summarizes major trends of this phenomenon and introduce significant examples such as Xu Bing's "square word calligraphy" (English words written as Chinese characters) and performance art that reflects on the power (or powerlessness) of writing in China's recent history.

#2 10:30a China's Population, Labor Force and Economy **Haizheng Li, Georgia Institute of Technology**

China is undergoing swift demographic shifts, facing the dual challenges of an aging population and a declining birth rate. These changes pose significant obstacles for the country. In this discussion, we will explore the dynamics and trends in the age structure of both the population and the labor force. We will also compare these aspects with the structure of human capital. Furthermore, we will measure human capital using various indices, including its valuation, to investigate whether the development of human capital can mitigate the adverse effects of demographic trends.

#3 11:30a Japan's Population Trends and Policies During the Fifteen-Year War (1931-1945) **Masako Racel, Kennesaw State University**

Japan is facing a demographic trend characterized by a low birth rate and a high aging population. Some, both inside and outside of Japan, consider this trend a crisis. Elon Musk tweeted that "unless something changes to cause the birth rate to exceed the death rate, Japan will eventually cease to exist" (7 May 2022). During the Fifteen-Year War (1931-1945), Japanese leaders and intellectuals saw different kinds of population crises and devised plans to alleviate the problems. This session will explore the demographic trends in the war years and how the perceptions of "crises" shaped Japan's policies during the time of territorial expansion. The session will also address how wartime policies continue to impact the country today.

#4 12:30p History of Korean Immigration to the U.S. **Sooh-Rhee Cha, Georgia State University Perimeter College**

Koreans are the fifth largest Asian group in the U.S. and comprise almost 10 percent of the Asian population. This session highlights the history of Korean immigration to the U.S. beginning with the first Korean plantation workers in Hawaii of the early 1900s to the recent immigrants who come to pursue the "American dream."

#5 1:30p Transnational Families from India Residing in the U.S. **Jyotsna Kalavar, Georgia Gwinnett College**

Transnational care refers to the exchange of care and support across national boundaries. The challenges of providing transnational support for older adults left behind in India carries implications for the health and well-being of both elderly parents and adult children in the United States.

#6 2:30p Myanmar (Burma): Recent Past, Present, and Future **Liam Madden, Georgia State University Perimeter College**

The presentation briefly analyze the factors leading to February 2021 coup returning Myanmar to military rule yet again. Data on the effects of the coup on human rights, the economy, travel restrictions, censorship, and international relations will be discussed. Attention will be given to the role of opposition forces, including ethnic minority groups, opposing the Myanmar's junta and the extent to which the political crisis in Myanmar constitutes a state of civil war. Consideration of possible paths to restoration of democracy, however remote, will be discussed.