GDAS

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ASIAN STUDIES

York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR)

Email: **gdas@yorku.ca**

Website: **www.yorku.ca/ycar**

Program Overview

The Graduate Diploma in Asian Studies (GDAS) is tailored specifically for students conducting their graduate research on Asia and Asian Diasporas. The Diploma provides interdisciplinary academic and professional exposure to students who can enrich their graduate training and strengthen their credentials in Asian Studies. The diploma is approved by the Ontario Council on Graduate Studies.

The GDAS is offered by the York Centre for Asian Research (YCAR) and is awarded concurrently with a Masters or Doctoral degree for which the student is registered at York University. YCAR also offers funding and awards for fieldwork, language training and professional development, and students enrolled in the GDAS are given priority.

The GDAS program is for students who want to:

- Gain a broad knowledge of contemporary research issues related to Asia and Asian Diasporas
- Earn certified recognition for expertise in Asia and Asian Diaspora Studies
- Access funding for language study and fieldwork
- Add Asian content to their graduate research and studies

Program Requirements

The GDAS is awarded upon fulfillment of the following requirements in addition to the candidate’s degree requirements:

1. Completion of the core course: The Making of Asian Studies: Critical Perspectives
   The core course offers an interdisciplinary examination of processes through which Asian identities and spaces are constituted. It focuses on questions of epistemology and methodology in Asian studies including new directions in scholarship that are emerging through an analysis of intensified global flows, transnationalism and diaspora.
2. Two research papers with clear Asian or Asian Diaspora content (excluding the core course paper).
3. Demonstrated competency in an Asian language relevant to the candidate's research.
4. Fieldwork or other experience in the Asian geographic region or in the Diaspora, normally of at least 12-week duration. In exceptional circumstances, archival work or other forms of fieldwork may qualify if this is central to the candidate's research.

Eligibility

All candidates for the GDAS must first be admitted to a graduate program at York University. Masters and Doctoral students can enroll at any time, normally before course work is completed. The student's research should have a substantive Asia or Asian Diaspora focus.

Core course

This course will be offered in the Winter 2026 term on Fridays from 14:30 to 17:30 ET. The course director is Laam Hae (Politics).

More information

- Requirements for the GDAS
- GDAS application process

Contact us

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Core Course Director: Laam Hae (lhae@yorku.ca)
Diploma Administrator: Alicia Filipowich (gdas@yorku.ca)

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