

MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF ASIAN LANGUAGES AND SOCIETIES COLLECTION POLICY

MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF ASIAN LANGUAGES AND SOCIETIES

The Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages and Societies (MIALS) was formed in 1998. It is made up of the following programs : Arabic Studies, Chinese, Indonesian, Islamic Studies, and Japanese.

Arabic Studies offers subjects in Arabic language, literature, Arab society and culture and Islamic Studies.

Chinese offers subjects in Chinese language and on Chinese literature, culture and society.

Indonesian offers offer subjects in Indonesian language and subjects covering various aspects of Indonesian and Malaysian culture, history, and politics.

Islamic Studies offers subjects in Islamic and Muslim societies, particularly in the modern period from a broad multi-disciplinary perspective relying on several core and relevant subjects available in Islamic Studies, Anthropology, Arabic Studies, Cultural Studies, History, Indonesian Studies, Philosophy and Politics.

Japanese offers subjects in Japanese language, culture and society.

SUBJECTS TAUGHT

Subjects taught in the five programs include the following :

Arabic Studies

- Arabic Language
- Business Arabic
- Crime , Politics and Law in Islamic Society
- Gender and Islam: The Struggle for Rights in the Muslim World
- Harems and Heroes? Understanding the Muslim World
- Islam and Political Activism: The Twentieth-Century Experience
- Islamic Banking and Finance
- Islamisation as a Challenge to Westernisation and Secularisation of Muslim Societies
- The Media Portrayal of Islam
- Questioning Modernity: Rediscovering Islam
- Researching Islam and Muslim Societies: Sources and Methods
- The Sufi Way: A Journey Through Divine Love

Chinese

- Chinese Language
- Academic and Technical Chinese
- Backwards into Modernity: China in the 1980s and 1990s
- China Imagined and Perceived
- Chinese Calligraphy
- Chinese Classical Texts
- Chinese Composition and Correspondence
- Chinese Legal Documents
- Chinese Linguistics
- Chinese News Analysis

- Chinese Religion and Ritual
- Chinese Research Methods
- Chinese Strategies for Business
- Chinese Thought
- Chinese Translation Project
- Classical Chinese
- Classical Chinese Literature
- Contemporary Chinese Society
- Chinese Studies
- Modern Chinese Literature
- Modern Chinese History
- Modern Chinese Prose
- Taiwan
- The Traditional Chinese Novel
- Virtual Reality Chinese

Indonesian

- History and Varieties of Malay
- Indonesian Language
- Indonesian Civilisation Past and Present
- Indonesian History
- Indonesian Political Economy
- Indonesian Through Multimedia
- Islam in Indonesia
- Malaysian Language and Culture: (introductory)
- Military and State in Twentieth-Century Indonesia
- Modern Indonesian Literature
- Peoples and Languages of Austronesia
- Performance and Power in Indonesia
- Political Islam and the State in Contemporary Indonesia
- Indonesian Studies
- Understanding Contemporary Indonesia

Islamic Studies

- Crime Politics and Law in Islamic Society
- Arabic/Islamic Studies
- Gender and Islam: The Struggle for Rights in the Muslim World
- Harems and Heroes? Understanding the Muslim World
- Histories of God: Judaism, Christianity and Islam
- Islam and Political Activism: The Twentieth-Century Experience
- Islam, Modernity and the Middle East since 1798
- Islamic Banking and Finance
- The Media Portrayal of Islam
- Middle Eastern Women
- Questioning Modernity: Rediscovering Islam
- Researching Islam and Muslim Societies: Sources and Methods
- The Sufi Way: A Journey Through Divine Love

Japanese

- Japanese Language
- Japanese Economic Texts (advanced)
- Translation (advanced)
- Contemporary Japanese Society

- The Dynamics of Japanese Architecture
- Japanese Art: From Zen Painting to Edo Prints
- Japanese Popular Culture
- Japan Today by Satellite Television
- Modern Japanese History and Politics
- Prejudice and Pride: Social Problems in Japan
- Research on Japan

RESEARCH IN THE INSTITUTE

Arabic

- Arabic linguistics
- Modern and classical literature
- Syllabus design
- Language acquisition
- Arab society and civilisation

Chinese

- The application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to the study of Chinese cultural and historical geography
- Botany classification
- Buddhism
- China regional studies
- Chinese cultures
- Chinese film
- Chinese language and linguistics
- Chinese language teaching
- Chinese literature and poetics
- Chinese migrants in Australia
- Chinese ritual theatre
- Cultural studies
- Early Chinese intellectual history
- Ethnobotany
- Ethnography of northwest and southwest China
- Dialectology
- Millenarian movements
- Religious Studies
- Taoism
- Traditional Chinese medicine

Indonesian

- Linguistics
- Sociology
- Education
- Performance
- Culture studies
- Indonesian politics

Islamic Studies

- Islam and civil society
- Islam and gender
- Islamic hermeneutics

- Islamic education: curriculum design and pedagogical issues
- Islamic Studies
- Islamic thought in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Modern Islamic political thought and Islamic religio-political movements of the twentieth century
- Modern attempts at reform in Islamic societies
- Modern Islamic history
- Muslim societies in Australia, South Asia, South East Asia or Middle East

Japanese

- Japanese history of urban change, technology, the East Asian environment and political and legal history,
- Japanese Linguistics and language
- Japanese language teaching
- Japanese architectural history
- Japanese music
- Public health

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTERS

Asialink Centre

The Faculty of Arts' Asialink Centre aims to help Australians be confident and capable of living and working in partnership with their counterparts in the Asian region. Through its programs in education, public affairs and the arts, Asialink promotes a positive understanding of Asia in Australia and of Australia in Asia. To achieve its goals, Asialink seeks to work collaboratively with governments, academic institutions, arts bodies and corporations who, in return, can enjoy immediate long-term cultural and commercial benefits. The Asialink Centre is a partnership between the Myer Foundation and The University of Melbourne supported by the Mazda Foundation.

Asian Economic Centre

The Asian Economics Centre is a Centre within the Department of Economics of the Faculty of Economics and Commerce of the University of Melbourne. It was previously the Asian Business Centre which was a Centre of the Faculty of Economics and Commerce but changed its name and location from 1 January 1997 in recognition of the fact that most of its activities related to the economies of Asia. The role of the Centre is to ensure that the Department of Economics plays a significant part in Australian debates relating to the Asian economies and economic relations with these countries. Its activities cover research, consultancies, conferences and teaching relating to Asia and the Pacific.

Asian Law Centre

The Asian Law Centre, an initiative of the University of Melbourne Law School, commenced activities in 1985. It is the first Australian centre devoted to the development of our understanding of Asian law. Recent initiatives have also aimed to promote Asian interest in Australian legal systems and law

AFFILIATED CENTRES

The Horwood Language Centre

Founded in 1971 by Mr E.K. Horwood, the Horwood Language Centre provides technical services for all languages taught in the Faculty of Arts. Its facilities are state-of-the-art and include two 27-place multimedia CALL laboratories, a broadcast standard recording studio,

an audio-visual resource centre and four audio-visual laboratories. Some 2500 students use the Centre's facilities each week.

The Language Centre also runs a wide range of language teaching programs of its own in foreign languages and ESL. These include summer intensive courses in 6 languages which are taught on a credit-bearing basis, evening programs in 10 languages and an ELICOS program, specialising in advanced English and academic skills. More than 900 students per year are taught by Language Centre staff on these programs.

THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTION

History of the Collection

The studies making up MIALS were introduced into the University in the 1940s to 1960s, beginning with Hebrew and Arabic (as part of the School of Semitic Studies) after World War II. Indonesian studies was first offered in 1959, Chinese and Japanese in the 1960s, and Islamic Studies (as part of the Department of Middle Eastern Studies) in 1967. The collections to support these programs began to experience real growth in the 1960s when the University Council increased funding to the Library at the same time as there was an increase in donations. The bulk of the collection has been acquired in the past three decades.

More detail about the history of the Baillieu Library's East Asian Collection (Chinese and Japanese language materials) follows. The University of Melbourne Library began to collect Chinese and Japanese language materials in the early 1960s. The Library put into a lot of effort building its Chinese collection in the early stages. In the 1970s, recognising that Melbourne could not afford to build two extensive collections in East Asian languages, an agreement was reached with Monash University to focus the Japanese research collection there and build a Chinese research collection at Melbourne. Since 1978, the Library has guaranteed funding to the East Asian Section, specifically to support the institution's role as a regional research resource in Chinese studies. Funding to build up the Chinese non-language and non-literature resources has remained unindexed at \$20,000 per annum. Due to increases in book prices and the recent fall in the value of Australian dollar against some currencies the allocation for Chinese materials, along with other areas of the Library's budget, is able to buy less materials than before.

The Monash and Melbourne agreement has great impact to the growth of the Japanese collection. The Library did not provide special funding for the Japanese Collection even though appointments was made in the areas of Japanese law, economics, Japanese history and Japanese politics in the late 1980s. The growth of the Collection relied heavily on the donations of the Japan Foundation and other Japanese bodies in Japan. This situation improved with the appointment of the Professor of Japanese in 1993. Special funding of \$40,000 was provide by the Library in 1993 to establish the basis of a Japanese Collection. An expert was invited from Japan in 1994 to evaluate the collection and identifying gaps. Since 1994, the Library has provided an amount of \$30,000 annually to build up the Japanese Collection.

The University has various cooperative initiatives relating to Korean Studies. However the Library's resources in Korean are negligible and no funding has been allocation to set up a Korean Collection at Melbourne.

Size of the collection

The complete range of titles of relevance to MIALS study areas has not been enumerated, however counts of Indonesian and Arabic languages and literature, and Japanese and Chinese language materials have been done.

The Library holds approximately 450 volumes of monographs on the Arabic language and 1,300 on Arabic literature, and around 500 volumes on Indonesian languages and 550 volumes on Indonesian literature.

There are 65,000 volumes of Chinese language material in the collection. These materials, covering a broad range of disciplines, are mainly published after 1950. Materials published before 1950 are mainly reprints in book format published in Taiwan, Mainland China and Hongi Kongo , and microforms published in China, the US and Hong Kong.

There are 13,000 volumes of Japanese language materials in the collection covering a wide range of disciplines. Materials in the collection are mainly published after 1950.

Locations of Collections

The Library's collections are housed in a total of 23 libraries, some of which are small branch libraries and others which are quite sizeable. The collections relating to MIALS are housed in four main collections in the University Library; the main collection of the Baillieu Library, the Research Collection (the B collection) in the Education Resource Centre (the ERC), the East Asian Collection in the Baillieu Library, and the Baillieu's Microforms Collection. In addition the ERC's Media Collection houses a number of video- and audio-tapes relevant to the Institute's programs.

The East Asian Collection houses Chinese and Japanese language materials at the third floor of the Baillieu Library. There are also significant parts of the language collection in the Kidds Store, Microforms Section (Baillieu Library), Law Library, Medical library, and the Maps Collection.

Changes in Collection Direction - Korean Studies

The National Korean Studies Centre (NKSC) was established in 1992 which was funded from Department of Education Employment and Training Mechanism C and the Korean Foundation. The NKSC research collection was located at Monash. The University of Melbourne Library is one of the five consortium members, namely, NKSC, Melbourne, Monash, Latrobe and Swinburne. As a consortium member the University of Melbourne Library has made contributions towards building the Korean research collection at Monash.

Classification

Arabic studies, Indonesian Studies, and Islamic Studies and East Asian Studies English language materials are classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme. Materials housed in the East Asian Collection are classified using the Harvard-Yenching Classification System ranging from 0000 to 9999. Chinese and Japanese language materials housed outside the East Asian collection are classified according to the parent collection's classification scheme. This is Dewey in most cases but Moys in the Law library. In the Kidds store Western and East Asian language materials are intershelfed reflecting the nature of the Kidds store as a storage area, not a browsing collection.

Formats

No formats of materials are excluded from the collection.. Formats most relevant to studies within MIALS include textbooks, scholarly treatises, literature, critical works, journal articles, conference reports, newspapers, CD ROMs, indexing and abstracting sources, audio- and video-tapes, maps and microforms.

Links to Co-Operative Agreements

MARLC Melbourne Asian Research Libraries Consortium was formed in 1993 to enhance access to the Asian materials held in Monash University and University of Melbourne libraries. A much improved service can be provided for researchers and students of both institutions by the sharing of expertise and the joint development of collections.

The National Korean Studies Centre was established in 1990 with a grant from the Australian

Commonwealth Government to function as the national focal point for the pursuit of excellence in

Korea-related teaching and research. The NKSC is active at all levels of the Australian education

system from primary to postgraduate. In 1990, after a nation-wide competitive tender process, the Australian Government awarded the NKSC to a consortium of four leading Victorian universities - Swinburne University of Technology, La Trobe University, Monash University, and the University of Melbourne. The offices of the NKSC are located at Swinburne.

The mission of the NKSC is to develop and expand teaching, research and associated activities in Korean studies, including language, culture, politics, law, business, education and other relevant disciplines, in order to enhance the Australian community's knowledge about, understanding of and interaction with Korea, and to assist in supporting Australia's economic and other national development strategies.

Languages

Arabic, Chinese, Indonesian and Japanese languages are the major language materials collected in addition to the English language materials. There is no restriction on the purchase of other foreign language materials.

Collection Methods

Some English language material is received through the Library's approval plans, but the majority of publications are acquired through direct selection by academics and librarians. Collecting focuses upon current and most recently available publications. Chinese language materials are mainly acquired from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and some local Chinese book suppliers. Japanese language materials are acquired directly from Japan. There is no approval plan for the purchase Chinese and Japanese language materials. The Library also accepts donations of material of relevance to its teaching and research programs.

Special Collections

The East Asian Collection

This Collection itself is a special collection of Chinese and Japanese language materials which supports the research and teaching programs relating to East Asian Studies.

Middle Eastern Manuscripts Collection

This collection of 129 manuscripts, mainly in Arabic and Persian, date possibly from the 15th to the 19th centuries. They were transferred to the Library from the former Department of Middle Eastern Studies.

Middle Eastern Studies Collections in Microform

This collection of 377 microfilm reels was originally transferred from the former Department of Indonesian Studies and makes a significant contribution to the Library's collections of Middle Eastern studies. It includes the *Mingara Collection of Manuscripts* on Syriac, Christian Arabic, and Islamic Arabic; *Syriac Manuscripts Preserved in the Library of the University of Cambridge*; *Arabic Manuscripts in the British Museum*; *Syriac Manuscripts in the British Museum*; *Middle Eastern Manuscripts from the Bodleian*; and *Syriac and Karshuni MSS in the British Museum Since 1873*. The collection also includes 112 reels of documents relating to US foreign relations with Middle Eastern countries.

Strengths of the collection

Main collections

- Classical Arabic

Chinese language collection

- Buddhism
- Chinese general series of composite nature
- Chinese history in Ming, Ching Dynasties and the period of Republican
- Chinese language and dialects
- Chinese cultures
- Chinese politics and law
- Modern Chinese literature
- Taoism

Japanese language collection

- Japanese architectural history

Areas needing enrichment/ development

Main collections

- Arabic literature (particularly to fill gaps in early Islamic, Umayyad, early and pre-modern Arabic, and 19th and 20th century fiction, poetry, drama and literary criticism)
- Arabic linguistics/applied linguistics (particularly language teaching in Arabic, curriculum design, language acquisition, and general linguistics)
- Arabic periodicals
- Biographical sources for Arabic and Islamic studies
- Hebrew periodicals
- Hebrew language
- Hebrew literature
- Indonesian modern history
- Indonesian politics (particularly materials in Indonesian and Dutch)
- Islamic religion and theology (particularly Qur'anic interpretation, religion and religious life, sects and sectarianism, Sufism)
- English translations of the major Islamic sources (Qur'an, Hadith, Fiqh, Sirah)
- Islamic periodicals
- Fiqh and Usul al-Fiqh (general classical works, and, in the case of al-Fiqh, contemporary works)
- Mediaeval Arab philosophy
- Modern Islamic thought
- Bibliographical works on Islamic studies

Chinese language collection

- Chinese philosophy
- Chinese performing arts
- Chinese medicine

- Social/demographic areas of China
- Chinese periodicals
- Chinese science, technology, and material culture
- Natural resources of China/ Environmental studies of China
- Databasing and geographical information systems of China
- Taiwanese publications
- Local gazetteers published in China
- Local gazetteers published by Cheng-wen Company, Taiwan
- Modern history of China
- Modern Chinese politics

Japanese language collection

- Japanese history (especially from the Tokugawa (Edo) period (1600-) to the present)
- Japanese architecture
- Japanese politics
- Japanese sociology (including women's studies, anthropology and cultural studies)
- Japanese education
- Japanese periodical collection
- Japanese medical science, technology and engineering

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