

From: [Redeker, Jean Marie](#)
To: [Reed, Kathy](#)
Cc: [Colombo, John](#); [Ledom, Karen](#); [Latta, Kristine](#); [Falicov, Tamara](#); [Schwien, Rachel C](#); [Bichelmeyer, Barbara Anne](#); [Roberts, Jennifer A](#); [Copp, LaGretia Lee](#); [Harding, Michaela](#); [Mizumura, Ayako](#); [Quirin, Amy D](#); [Snider, Amanda J](#); [Spurgeon, Megan](#)
Subject: Discontinuance for MA in East Asian Studies
Date: Thursday, September 2, 2021 9:47:23 AM
Attachments: [Recommendation for Discontinuance of Active Academic Programs CEAS degree.pdf](#)
[CFAS Jan 2021 KBOR PR.pdf](#)

Kathy,

Attached is a request to discontinue the MA in East Asian Studies. The request includes a rationale for the recommendation, the projected impact on KU's mission, students, and faculty, and the latest program review.

Copied on this request are those with direct appointments in the Center for East Asian Studies, the Provost/EVC, the VP for Academic Affairs & Graduate Studies, the Interim CLAS Dean, and others in the CLAS Dean's Office.

The request meets the definition of an active academic program as outlined in USRR 8.1.1 and as such I understand will be considered by University Senate during the Fall 2021 semester.

Sincerely,

Jean

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Recommendation for Discontinuance of an Active Academic Program

Name/Type of Program and Academic Plan Recommended for Discontinuance:

- MA in the Center for East Asian Studies (CEASIAN-MA)

Academic Unit and CIP Code:

- Center for East Asian Studies, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- CIP Code: 05.0104

Number of students currently enrolled (from Tableau Academic Plan Counts – Spring 2021):

Program	Spring 2021
MA in East Asian Studies	1

Number of students enrolled over the past five academic years (from Tableau Academic Plan Counts):

Program	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	Fall 2020
MA in East Asian Studies	4	5	3	2	0

Number of program graduates over the past five years (from Tableau Degrees Awarded):

Program	AY 2017	AY 2018	AY 2019	AY 2020	AY 2021
MA in East Asian Studies	0	3	1	2	0

Rationale for recommendation:

The Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) was founded in 1959 with an eye to capitalizing on newly available funding from the National Defense Education Act (the precursor of the Department of Education’s current Title VI program). Since 1959, KU has steadily built its capacity in East Asian studies, expanding language offerings, and hiring faculty with expertise on China, Japan, and Korea in numerous departments. The MA in East Asian Studies was approved by the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) in 2014 as an interdisciplinary degree. The degree was designed to attract those in US Military Army’s Foreign Area Officer (FAO) program as well as those in businesses and government agencies in Kansas and elsewhere seeking expertise on contemporary East Asia.

The biggest challenge the program is experiencing the budget cut and meeting the minimal student credit hours as the Center is not an academic unit. The MA degree failed to meet KBOR minima for the number of majors (minimum=20 per year) and awards (minimum = 5 per year). Also, as shown in the table below, the number of total credit hours peaked in AY 2018 with a high of 22 SCH.

CEAS student credit hours (from Tableau Course Enrollment Summaries)

	AY 2014	AY 2015	AY 2016	AY 2017	AY 2018	AY 2019	AY 2020	AY 2021

Center for East Asian Studies Program Review
Submitted to KBOR Feb 2021
CIP 05.0104
Master of Arts - Continue

Program Support for University Mission.

Founded in 1959, the Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) at KU supports East Asian language instruction and promotes East Asian studies across the university and the Kansas region. CEAS fulfills KU's mission to "lift students and society by educating leaders, building healthy communities, and making discoveries that change the world." Over the last 25 years, CEAS has been one of the few National Resource Centers (NRC or Title VI) in the United States. The NRC is a million dollar grant over four years to support East Asian Studies (and area studies centers). In addition, CEAS has also received the Foreign Language and Area Studies award (FLAS). This is also a one million dollar grant every four years. These grants directly contribute to departments through faculty support (travel awards, conferences and course/faculty development), seeded tenure track positions, lectures and GTAs as well as students' scholarships and internships.

The NRC and FLAS contribute to educating leaders, such as KU students who go on to the State Department, intelligence agencies and private firms involved in global business. CEAS works closely with academic departments, especially East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC), and the NRC helps fund language instruction while the FLAS provides student scholarships to attend language classes. CEAS also provides information and workshops on domestic and international (government and non-government) internships.

CEAS promotes building healthy communities through regional outreach and university programs on East Asia. CEAS directly contributes to diversity and equity across campus through cultural programs. In addition, CEAS outreach works closely with Kansas community colleges introducing East Asian studies into classrooms at institutions such as Barton Community College, Pratt Community College and Johnson County Community College. Moreover, these programs at community colleges and Kansas high schools provide a pipeline for KU undergraduates. The CEAS programs at Kansas community colleges also improves the image of KU across the state.

CEAS supports discoveries that can change the world (and make it is safer) through faculty research, symposia, invited speakers and seeded positions. CEAS, through the NRC grant, provides research funding for affiliated faculty in East Asian studies from fieldwork to publications. The center also funds symposia that bring scholars from around the country and globe to KU. In addition, every four years, CEAS secures funding for a seeded position in East Asian Studies.

The quality of the program as assessed by the strengths, productivity, and qualifications of the faculty.

While CEAS does not have assigned tenured/tenure-track faculty, the center has 70 affiliated faculty members teaching in 26 departments and 8 professional schools at KU, offering over 250 courses fully or partially devoted to East Asia.

One of CEAS's programming goals is to help improve the strength, productivity and qualifications

of the affiliated faculty and associated departments. CEAS contributes to the strength of the East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) department through direct GTA and instructor support for course offerings, especially for advanced language learning such as 5th year language courses for Japanese, Chinese and Korean. According to the US State Department and Department of Defense, these are critical languages. In addition, CEAS supports specific languages such as Tibetan and Uyghur. In fact, KU is only one of four universities in the United States that teaches Uyghur. CEAS is currently developing an online version of the courses that will become available to a broader audience. Indeed, there is a growing demand to learn this language over the next several years due to events in China.

CEAS contributes to faculty productivity through research funding and symposia. Every year CEAS provides over a dozen summer research grants for faculty to conduct fieldwork in East Asia or archival work in the United States. This funding directly influences faculty publications and productivity. CEAS also gives priority to assistant professors to increase their research productivity before coming up for tenure.

CEAS also funds faculty-led symposia on their specific East Asian areas of study. These symposia (at least two to three a year) bring in scholars from around the country and globe. For many of these symposia, the result is an edited book or a special issue of an academic journal. This contributes to faculty development especially for assistant and associate professors. The symposia also bring together regional partners with KU such as Fort Leavenworth. For example, this year CEAS worked with Fort Leavenworth and KU Office of Graduate Military Programs for a symposium on North Korea that brought in former US Ambassador to South Korea, speakers from US intelligence agencies as well as KU faculty.

CEAS directly funds faculty research and online publications such as the Uyghur online textbook. In fact, this textbook is the only one of its kind in the country, and it is one of the most downloaded items in KU ScholarWorks through the KU libraries. CEAS is currently funding the long-awaited second volume of the Uyghur textbook.

CEAS provides funding for tenured/tenure track and lecturers to participate in the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) training workshops. The ACTFL sessions provide the highest level of language education training. The standards for language teaching and assessment change, so ACTFL workshops are critical for KU language departments and faculty.

Quality of Program as Assessed by its Curriculum and Impact on Students.

The CEAS MA program was established to meet the need for US Army Foreign Area Offices to receive a civilian MA degree from an accredited research one university. This is an interdisciplinary MA program that draws on CEAS affiliated faculty for classes and advising. The program is also open to non-service members. Over the last few years the program has about 2-3 MA students per year. While the program is small it fills a critical need.

In Fall 2020, CEAS started the CEAS accelerated MA program also known as the 4+1 with Global and International Studies (GIST) to increase the number of students in the program. The program is designed for GIST, POLS and EALC undergraduates.

CEAS provides two \$2,500 course development grants each year (summer). Faculty can redesign or create a new East Asian related course for their respective departments. New courses are important for faculty and their related departments to design (or redesign) class that meet with KU Core Goal 4.

CEAS works with Study Abroad program to provide East Asian internships in China, South Korea and Japan. The goal is to connect language and cultural experience with practical internship in a company or non-government organization. For example, the Office of Study Abroad with CEAS applied for and was awarded a Freeman Foundation East Asia Internships Grant of \$400,000 across two years to provide scholarships for students interning abroad in East and Southeast Asia. This provided East Asia Internship grants of \$4,000-\$5,000 and high-need students can receive up to \$8,000 in scholarships and aid for summer internships in East Asia.

EALC majors graduate with a high proficiency in language and cultural competency of China, Korea and Japan. A recent survey of EA graduates confirms CEAS's impact: 10% of CEAS alumni work at some point in their career in public or military service; 11% are K-12 teachers; 15% work for national or international non-profits; 18% are pursuing graduate study; and the remainder hold jobs in academia (11%) and private sector (35%) across the nation and world. EA alumni in public service include jobs in the intelligence, State Department and military.

CEAS also contributes to the Interagency Studies Program (ISP) with Fort Leavenworth. The ISP is a condensed one year MA program and the students are Special Operations Forces officers. One of the key classes for this program is China Foreign Policy. East Asian studies is also a critical area of interest for Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth.

CEAS also supports Chinese, Korean and Japanese courses as well as offering Tibetan and Uyghur classes. These are critical languages for the US Department of Defense and the State Department. Indeed, CEAS contributed \$300,000 to the Project GO critical language grant at KU. This is a US Department of Defense grant that offers KU ROTC students scholarships to study critical languages including Japanese, Chinese and Korean.

Demonstrated Need, Employment Demand, and Cost Effectiveness.

CEAS does not have an undergraduate program, but CEAS is critical in supporting language courses and course development in other departments. Through the CEAS NRC and FLAS grants, CEAS has funded critical 5th year Chinese, Japanese and Korean languages classes in the EALC department. The 5th year courses dramatically improve student's language fluency and makes them more competitive in the job market especially for international business and government jobs. CEAS also funds language tables for Japanese, Chinese, Korean and Uyghur. These language tables provide essential language training and practice for students. CEAS also funds additional GTAs needed for language classes.

Student interest in national security and intelligence has been growing in the last decade and will continue to grow, especially interest in China. Academic programs, internships and campus events have been adjusting to meet this need. Over the last 20 years CEAS provided 5 seeded positions from center grants. In 2019 the seeded position through the CEAS NRC grant funded the assistant

professor on East Asian Security in political science. These East Asian classes typically reach full enrollment. In 2002, CEAS was awarded the Freeman Foundation grant for a seeded position in China politics. From 2003 to the present, the political science Chinese domestic and foreign policy classes are always full with a wait list. A current Chinese Foreign Policy class was designed to bring together military officers and KU students in one class. This unique course is capped at 23 with 13 military officers from Fort Leavenworth and 10 KU graduate and undergraduate students. The course immediately filled up. CEAS sponsored talks and symposiums are well attended, especially those related to East Asian security. The recent North Korean symposium had more than 80 faculty and students in attendance. In 2018-2019, 122 students participated in Asian internships and together received \$326,745 in scholarships. From embassy internships to private companies, students gained the experience needed to be competitive in the national and international job market. These well attended classes and programs reflects the student demand for East Asian studies especially in the areas of national security and intelligence. CEAS has met this demand and continues to work with departments and the College to increase student opportunities as well as expanding grant applications and external funding.

While a low number of students are enrolled in the MA degree, CEAS is working to increase enrollments. The unit's FY 21 operating budget is \$258,141 – much of which is covered by grants, making the program and unit cost-effective.

Service to the Discipline, the University and Beyond

As mentioned above, CEAS is not an undergraduate academic unit, but through NRC and FLAS grants over the last 25 years CEAS has made direct contributions to EALC department supporting instructors and GTAs as well as political science and history departments regarding seeded tenure track positions and course development. The recent CEAS NRC or Title VI grant for 2018-2022 provides \$621,912 for salaries and fringe across several departments.

CEAS provides significant resources for affiliated faculty and students. Including professional development for language instructors, travel funds for faculty, sponsored symposia and conferences and language scholarships for students through FLAS. The professional development for language instructors is through CEAS sponsored ACTFL training. This improves the quality of instruction for EALC. As noted above, CEAS provides funding for faculty travel especially for research. The CEAS 2018-2022 grant cycle provides \$76,000 in travel funds available to the 70 affiliated faculty across 26 departments. In addition, the grant on average provides over \$40,000 for East Asian library acquisitions. The recent grant also provides \$56,000 for faculty led conferences and visiting speakers. The FLAS grant is \$250,000 per year for four years and awards students studying East Asian languages at KU full tuition and living expenses.

CEAS also provides outreach activities to state community colleges and K-12 schools as noted earlier. Regional outreach is part of the NRC grant requirements and over the last 25 years CEAS has developed strong community and state-wide relationships. The goal of the outreach activities and workshops is to increase knowledge and East Asian studies material in the community college and K-12 curriculum.