

SOUTH ASIA STUDIES, BA

South Asia Studies is an interdisciplinary field focusing on the history, languages, society, literature, and art from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, and Bhutan. We are America's oldest and arguably most distinguished South Asia regional studies program dealing with the past and contemporary life of one-fifth of the world's population and teaching more languages than any other South Asian studies program in the US. Having a deep knowledge of the country set to outpace the US as the second largest economy in the world in an increasingly competitive global job market gives graduates a competitive edge over others with more generic skills. Make your home in a department where you get to know your Faculty and they know you as an individual, whether as a major or double major. You don't have to know anything about India or be South Asian to find a home with us; just be curious!

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 32. Double majors may entail more course units.

For more information: <http://www.southasia.upenn.edu/undergraduate> (<http://www.southasia.upenn.edu/undergraduate/>)

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Language Requirement</i>		
Select 2 course units in South Asian language: ²		2
ARAB 0300-0600, BENG 0300-1500, GURJ 0300-1502, HIND 0300-1500, KAND 0300-1500, MLYM 0300-1500, MRTI 0300-1500, PASH 0300-1500, PERS 0300-0400, 0500-0600, 2000-2100, PUNJ 0300-1500, SKRT 0300-0400, TAML 0300-0400, TELU 0300-0400, URDU 0300-1500		
<i>Foundational Requirements</i>		
Select 2 course units from the following:		2
SAST 0001	Introduction to Modern India	
SAST 0002	The City in South Asia	
SAST 0003	History, Culture, and Religion in Early India	
SAST 0004	India's Literature: Love, War, Wisdom and Humor	
SAST 0006	Hindu Mythology	
SAST 0007	Introduction to Modern South Asian Literatures	
SAST 0008	India: Culture and Society	
SAST 0009	Introduction to Hinduism	
SAST 0010	Musical Cultures of Modern India	
SAST 0058	Doing Research: First-Year Seminar	
<i>Major Courses</i>		
Select 8 additional course units in		8

SAST 0000-4999

Or any course with Attribute ASAR (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/asar/>)

Total Course Units **32**

- ¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<http://www.college.upenn.edu/sectors-policy/>).
- ² A South Asian language with a grade of "B" or higher. Students may be exempted from this requirement by passing a language proficiency test administered by the department. Students who pass the proficiency test are required to fulfill the necessary credits with a distribution of other courses. While only 2 course units in a South Asian language are required, 4 course units are encouraged.

Honors

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 3.5.

Code	Title	Course Units
SAST 4998	UNDERGRADUATE THESIS (or Research Paper)	1

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.