Asian Studies

Transferable Skills
A liberal arts degree in general, reflects a comprehensive education emphasizing analytical skills, critical thinking and communication skills; abilities in high demand for all employers. Concentrating your studies in a major allows you to also gain specific transferable skills of interest to particular employers and industries. Graduates with a major in Asian/Asian-American Studies are attractive to employers due to their abilities in the following areas:

- Interest in and ability to speak less commonly taught languages
- Willingness to travel and immerse in other cultures
- Ability to clearly form arguments
- Strong intercultural communication skills
- Ability to interpret nonverbal language and other cues from diverse cultures
- Expert level interviewing skills
- Strong skills in oral and written expression
- Wide ranging curiosity
- Display a sensitivity to other cultures, especially non-western cultures
- Possess a diversity of knowledge across many topics or bring interdisciplinary skills (i.e. skills from a variety of disciplines) to bear on problem solving
- Savvy about international politics
- Ability to think logically, critically and make analogies
- Ability to interpret
- Ability to understand ideas and values
- Comprehensive command of grammar and vocabulary
- Creativity
- High proficiency in reading, speaking and writing

Range of Example Positions held by Asian Studies Majors
Please note that some of these positions require an advanced degree. For more information and descriptions of these careers, visit O*NET On-line.

- Account Supervisor - Marketing
- Accountant
- Advertising Copywriter
- Anthropologist
- Arts Educator
- Attorney
- Businessperson
- Columnist
- Community Action Specialist
- Consumer Advocate
- Counselor
- Cultural Affairs Officer
- Curator
- Customer Relations Representative
- Embassy Personnel
- English Teacher Abroad
- ESL Teacher
- Family Planning Counselor
- Feminist Organization Worker
- Foreign Correspondent
- Foreign Student Advisor
- Health Policy Advocate
- Historic Preservation Specialist
- Historic Preservationist
- Human Resources Manager
- Importer/Exporter
- International Business
- Interpreter
- Int'l. Conference Planner
- Int'l. Relations Specialist
- Journalist
- Language Instructor
- Lawyer
- Legislator
- Manager/Supervisor
- Market Research
- Martial Arts Instructor
- Medical Doctor
Professional Associations

Professional associations or organizations can be a great way to meet, learn from and network with professionals in your field of interest. Inexpensive student memberships are often available. These are only a sampling of professional associations. Be sure to search for others that may be applicable or helpful.

- Asian American Association
- Asian Americans for Civil Rights & Equality (AACRE)
- Asian Inc.
- Asian Professional Exchange (APEX)
- Asian Research Service
- Association for Asian Studies
- Bridge to Asia
- Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA)
- Global Korean Network of LA
- Korean American Family Services Center (KAFSC)
- Korean American Professional Society
- The Babilonia Wilner Foundation (PUSOD)
- U.S. Federation of Philippine American Chamber of Commerce