Affordable Materials Grants, Round 19:

Continuous Improvement Grants

(Spring 2021 -Spring 2022)

Proposal Form and Narrative

# Notes

* The proposal form and narrative .docx file is for offline drafting and for our review processes. Submitters must use the online Google Form for proposal submission, including uploading this document.
* The only way to submit the official proposal is through the Google Form. The link to the online application is on the [Round 19 RFP Page](https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/rfp_r19).
* The italic text provided below is meant for clarifications and can be deleted.

The Round 18 Kickoff will include an asynchronous training module, required for all team members to complete, followed by the synchronous Kickoff Meeting on March 26, 2021 from 1pm-4pm. At least two team members from each awarded team (unless the award is for one individual) are required to attend the synchronous Kickoff Meeting.

# Applicant and Team Information

*The* ***applicant*** *is the proposed Project Lead for the grant project. The* ***submitter*** *is the person submitting the application (which may be a Grants Officer or Administrator). The submitter will often be the applicant—if so, just leave the submitter blank.*

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| Requested information | Answer |
| Institution | Kennesaw State University |
| Applicant name | Ginny Zhan |
| Applicant email | gzhan@kennesaw.edu |
| Applicant position/title | Professor of Psychological Science and Asian Studies |
| Submitter name |  |
| Submitter email |  |
| Submitter position/title |  |

Please provide the first/last names and email addresses of all team members within the proposed project. Include the applicant (Project Lead) in this list. Do not include prefixes or suffixes such as Ms., Dr., Ph.D., etc.

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| Team member | Name | Email address |
| Team member 1 | Ginny Zhan | gzhan@kennesaw.edu |
| Team member 2 | May Gao | mgao@kennesaw.edu |
| Team member 3 | Elizabeth Miles | emiles17@kennewsaw.edu |
| Team member 4 | Sha Huang | shuang5@kennesaw.edu |
| Team member 5 |  |  |

If you have any more team members to add, please enter their names and email addresses in the text box below.

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# Project Information

| Requested information | Answer |
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| Type of Project | *Revision of open educational resources (OER) used in the existing courses* |
| Requested Amount of Funding  *$10,000 maximum total award per grant* | *$9,875* |
| Course Titles and Course Numbers | ASIA 1102: Introduction to Asian Cultures |
| Final Semester of Project | *Spring 2022* |
| Currently Existing Resource(s) to be Revised/Ancillaries Created  *Please provide a title and web address (URL) to each of the currently existing resources that you are revising, creating new ancillary materials for, or replacing. If replacing, please include a title and web address (URL) to the new OER as well.* | We currently use chapters from these books:  Culture and Society in the Asia-Pacific (1998). Mackerras and Maidment (Eds.). The Open University. Routledge.  Asian Cultural Traditions (1999). Heinz, Carolyn Brown. Waveland Press. ISBN: 1577660439.  Asian American Psychology: Current Perspectives (2009). Tewari & Alvarez (Eds.). Taylor & Francis.  The Book of Tea(1906, 2017). Okarura, Kakuzo. Fox, Duffield & Company.  The Korean Wave: Korean Popular Culture in Global Context (2004. ISBN: 978-1-349-46832-4 (print), 978-1-137-35028-2 (online). Kuwahara, Yasue.  Japanese Visual Culture: Explorations in the World of Manga and Anime (2008). MacWilliams, Mark W. ISBN: 978-0-7656-1601-2.  We plan to replace these readings and older, outdated free media materials with the following sources (other potential resources to be searched and included):  1. OER Resources: An Asian Perspective  <http://oasis.col.org/handle/11599/23>  2. OER in Asia: Examples  <https://www.slideshare.net/rc_sharma/selected-examples-of-oer-in-asia>  3. Khan Academy resource on Asian art and culture  <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/art-asia/beginners-guide-asian-culture>  4. Asian religion (Buddhism): The story of India  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F9c7gYcBE8o>  5. Gender and Sexuality in Asia Today  <https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2016/06/20/gender-and-sexuality-in-asia-today/>  6. The Complexity of Kanji  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SX3h9irApwg&t=610s>  7. Seijin no hi <http://www.units.miamioh.edu/ath175/student/hammerzt/>  8. India in Ten Years: Imagining the Future: A Lecture with Dr. Jagdish N. Sheth (Emory University (2015)  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xnL7qV82Jk4>  9. Ying and Yang in Chinese Medicine  <https://www.sacredlotus.com/go/foundations-chinese-medicine/get/yin-yang> |

# Project Goals

*In at least one paragraph, describe your project’s goals and what materials will be created or revised.*

ASIA 1102: Introduction to Asian Cultures is offered by the Asian Studies program, located in the Interdisciplinary Studies Department (ISD) in the Norman J. Radow College of Humanities and Social Science at Kennesaw State University. It is a required course for Asian Studies majors and minors, and a General Education elective for all majors on campus. Each year ISD offers at least 8 sections of ASIA 1102 (3 in Fall, 3 in Spring, and 2 in Summer) in all three modalities: face-to-face, hybrid, and 100% online. Since the founding of the Bachelor of Arts degree in Asian Studies in Fall 2016, KSU has witnessed an increased demand for the course, including the first Honors section to be taught in Fall 2021 by Dr. Elizabeth Miles. ASIA 1102: Introduction to Asian Cultures serves a diverse population of students, including first-generation, non-traditional, BIPOC, and LGBTQIA students. Course instructors desire to update, expand, and enrich the course materials to better represent the diversity of Asia and better serve the diverse student population at no cost to the students.

In 2015, we received an USG Affordable Learning Georgia Textbook Transformation Round Four Grant, which helped to transform this course into a popular no-cost course. The overall goal for the current proposal is to systematically revise, expand, and update the Open Education Resources learning materials currently used in the course. Specifically, we plan to:

1. Add more multimedia learning materials to the course to replace book chapters. Students’ feedback indicates they prefer more visual and audio materials to reading texts. For better learning outcome, we believe it makes sense “to show” rather than “to tell” the rich and diverse Asian cultures. Although the KSU library houses some documentaries on Asian cultures via Films on Demand (database), with the aid of the ALG Continuous Improvement Grant, the team hopes to compile and develop a solid portfolio of OER multimedia materials at no-cost to students.
2. Update learning material to reflect recent developments in Asian countries, as well as expand the coverage in the course to better reflect the heterogeneity of Asia. This includes more teaching materials on South and Southeast Asia. Some potential topics may include global pandemic in Asian contexts; ethic conflicts in Myanmar; rise of China in world economy, popular cultures in Japan and Korea; doing business in Asia, and a variety of other topics.
3. Revise and redesign course activities and assignment to better reflect recent developments, new course materials, and learning objectives. Some examples are: further utilize D2L Discussions forums by inviting students to share their insights and experiences on Asian cuisine, popular cultures, contemporary issues in Asia, and travel in Asia; ask students to write short reflection pieces based on a new collection of movies, videos, and documentaries about Asia; and encourage students, by offering extra credits, to participate in Asian cultural events on Asia in the metro Atlanta area. Such events include but are not limited to JapanFest, Lunar New Year celebrations by the Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese communities, Diwali celebration, Indian weddings, Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival, etc.

# Action Plan

*Describe the tasks needed to complete the project in as much detail as possible. If this application has more than one team member, include the major roles for each person and which tasks this role is assigned. Estimate the amount of time (e.g. number of hours) each task will take. Include plans for open licensing and plans for making your materials accessible. Indicate if you are using other platforms in addition to the repository to host your created materials.*

Our interdisciplinary team consists of four faculty members from psychological science, communication, Asian languages, and interdisciplinary studies (Asian Studies and Gender & Women’s Studies). All members have a solid foundational knowledge of Asian cultures and are experienced instructors of Asian Studies courses. We are familiar with Open Education Resources and regularly use OER material in our courses.

The ASIA 1102 course contains twelve modules, covering a wide range of topics, including premodern and modern history, ethnic diversity, languages, art and literature, religions and philosophy, family, education, holidays and customs, cuisines, etc. We plan to systematically review each module and update learning materials. Specifically, we will perform three tasks specified in the goals above: In each module, we plan to add more multimedia material (e.g., YouTube videos, Ted talks, documentaries, feature films, etc.), update and expand coverage to keep the currency and width of the material, and revise and re-design module-based activities/assignments.

Each team member will be responsible for three modules, depending on their research interests and expertise. For each module, the team member will:

* Replace book chapter reading with more multimedia learning materials;
* Update and expand coverage of learning material to reflect recent developments in a wider range of Asian countries, including key issues of importance;
* Revise and redesign course activities/assignment to better reflect recent developments, new course materials, and learning objectives.

The team will follow ADA-compliant rules and work on improving the accessibility of all class resources and assignments for students with disabilities. We will meet regularly to share and discuss proposed revisions and updates to meet the ADA requirements.

We plan to fully utilize KSU library resources in our ALG Continuous Improvement project. Ms. Hyun Chu Kim, Interim Director of Technical Services and Librarian Associate Professor at KSU Library System has agreed to serve as our resource consultant. Her expertise in Asian leaning materials will be valuable in helping us locate and use OER free educational material from the KSU library and other online sources.

We also plan to engage Asian Studies students (majors and/or minors) in the research and selection process. A large number of Asian Studies majors and minors wish to pursue teaching in the future, in Asia or the U.S. This project will allow them to begin thinking about course materials in a pedagogic manner. Beginning in late Summer 2021, team members will start recruiting stellar students in various roles in the search and selection process, including conducting KSU library research on possible materials (along with a student-written assessment as to why this particular work); interviewing past and potential Asian Studies students on the topics which they feel are necessary for an Asian Studies degree and/or advanced knowledge of Asia. It is possible these activities will form an upper-level (ASIA 4400) Directed Study course under the supervision of one or two of the team members.

Furthermore, project members intend to incorporate material research into their current courses. For example, in Summer 2021 and Fall 2021 Dr. May Gao will teach three sections of ORGC3325: Intercultural Communication, an elective course for both Asian studies majors and minors. In each of the 35-seat sections, there are usually 5-8 Asian Studies major and minor students. These students will be given a special project in searching and collecting learning materials on Asian cultures, in the format of texts, websites, audio, video and other multimedia formats. Such learning materials will be reflective of the learning habits of Generation Z (GenZ) students (born from mid-to-late 1990s to early 2010s). The collected multimedia materials will be assessed by the team for quality, credibility, significance, and accessibility.

Our finished course package will be shared on D2L course management forum with faculty in ISD Department and any other interested faculty at KSU. We understand that any new materials or revisions created with Affordable Learning Georgia funding will, by default, be made available to the public under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY).

Timeline

*Provide a project timeline aligned with the action plan above. Include major milestones and deadlines, keeping in mind your selected Final Semester.*

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| Time/Deadline | Milestone/Project Goal |
| Summer 2021 | * Finalize the division of the 12 modules among four team members. * Team members begin to examine current materials in greater depth to assess what concepts and ideas to include in the revised course. * Individual team members begin to search and compile material and design improved activities/assignments for the assigned three modules. The team will communicate regularly to review our progress. * Dr. May Gao implements her student-led curriculum search/selection plans in her ORGC 3325 course. |
| Fall 2021 | * Faculty will continue to collect materials. * Planned Directed Study course with students begins. * Dr. May Gao continues to implement her student-led curriculum search/selection plans in her ORGC 3325 course. * Team meet regularly to go over and discuss the new materials compiled and developed by each member, as well as by students. * Team determine what materials and activities/assignments will be adopted. * Finalize the revised material and assignments by the end of the semester. |
| Spring 2022 | * At least one team member will teach the course using revised learning material as a pilot course. The instructor will keep the team informed of its progress. * Team meet at the end of the semester to discuss any necessary changes. * By summer of 2022, the revised course materials will be finalized and available to the upcoming course instructors. The ISD Department is currently conducting searches for two faculty positions in Asian Studies program, and the new faculty will be likely to teach ASIA 1102 using the revised teaching material developed by this project in the fall 2022. |

# Budget

*Please enter your project’s budget below. Include personnel and projected expenses, keeping in mind that this grant funds the estimated time in your Action Plan. The maximum amounts for the award are as follows:*

* *$2,000 maximum per team member for salary, course release, travel, etc.*
* *Additional project expenses allowed, but must be adequately justified in this section*
* *$10,000 maximum total award per grant*

# We are asking for $9,875. The justification is provided below.

1. $2,000 - each of the four team members for supplemental salary and/or possible conference travel expenses.
2. $1,800 - Kanopy (KSU Library) subscriptions for Asian culture related films (for 3 years).
3. $75 - purchasing Ang Lee Trilogy DVD.

# Creative Commons Terms

*I understand that any new materials or revisions created with Affordable Learning Georgia funding will, by default, be made available to the public under a Creative Commons Attribution License (CC-BY), with exceptions for modifications of pre-existing resources with a more restrictive license.*

# Accessibility Terms

*I understand that any new materials or revisions created with Affordable Learning Georgia funding must be developed in compliance with the specific accessibility standards defined in the* [*Request for Proposals*](https://www.affordablelearninggeorgia.org/about/rfp_r18)*.*

# Letter of Support

*The Department Chair from the corresponding project, or the Department Chair’s direct report such as the Dean or Provost, must provide a signed Letter of Support for the project. This letter should acknowledge the following:*

* *The department will provide support for fund disbursement in correspondence with the Grants/Business Office.*
* *The department approves of the work on the proposal by the applicant(s).*
* *The department acknowledges the sustainability of these affordable resources after the grant work is complete.*

*In the case of multi-institutional affiliations, all participants’ institutions must provide a letter of support.*

*Please provide the name and title of the department chair (or other administrator) who provided you with the Letter of Support.*

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| Dr. Heeman Kim, Asian Studies Coordinator, Professor of Communication, Kennesaw State University  Dr. Cecile Accilien, Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Department, Kennesaw State University  Dr. Thierry Leger, Senior Associate Dean, Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Kennesaw State University |

# Grants or Business Office Letter of Acknowledgment

*Institutional Grants/Business Offices will be responsible for fund disbursement, often in correspondence with the Department Chair, including expense and travel reimbursement. Applicants will need to provide a short Letter of Acknowledgment stating that the Grants/Business Office knows about the applicant’s intent to apply for an Affordable Materials Grant. Either the Department Chair or the Project Lead can work with the Grants/Business Office to get this signed letter.*

*In the case of multi-institutional affiliations, all participants’ institutions must provide a letter of acknowledgment.*

*Please provide the name and title of the grants or business office representative who provided you with the Letter of Acknowledgment.*

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| Kimberly Hunt  Grants and Contract Manager – Pre-Award  Office of Research  Kennesaw State University |