

Teaching Asia



Free
&
Virtual

Across the Curriculum & Region



Sponsored by
University System
of Georgia
Asia Council

Southeast Regional
Faculty Development Workshop
Friday April 10, 2026

REGISTRATION Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/JR4u9NThMd>

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM ET *Participants from any time zone are invited to attend*



The program explores diverse academic perspectives across the region and academic disciplines.

10:00a-10:50a	What is the Indo-Pacific?
11:00a-11:50a	Silicon Island: Designing Global Experiential Learning in Taiwan
12:00p-12:50p	Whither the Road Leads – China's Health System Reform
1:00p-1:50p	Anime Outside the Frame: Myth, Industry, and Transnational Audience

Why Asia? Asia is the world's largest and most populated region, rivaling the West in economic, geopolitical, and socio-cultural influence. It is important for faculty to understand Asia, and to integrate Asian content and issues into their courses when appropriate.

Target Audiences *Please share the flyer with individuals & distribution lists*

- Faculty in public & private, four-year & two-year institutions that teach lower-division courses, especially those who are not Asian specialists.
- Upper-division/graduate faculty & Asian specialists, given the range of regions & topics covered.
- Graduate students, librarians, international education staff, independent scholars, and others.

How it Works: Register at the above link or QR code. You will receive Zoom links for each of the sessions closer to the workshop date. Feel free to attend any sessions that align with your interests or academic focus.

Background: In 2012, the USG Asia Council established the TEACHING ASIA faculty development workshop series hosted at Perimeter College in Atlanta. The first five years targeted India, China, Southeast Asia, South Korea and Japan. The series moved to a theme focus in 2018 with Religion in Asia and 2019 with Women's Issues in Asia. In 2020, the Asia Council hosted the Asian Studies Development Program national conference in Atlanta. The annual workshop adopted a virtual format in 2022, and for 2023 expanded from a state to a regional focus.

Co-sponsored and hosted by



Planning Team

- Tsu-Ming Chiang (Chair), Georgia College & State University
- Eric Kendrick (Workshop Co-chair), Georgia State University - Perimeter College
- Baogang Guo, Dalton State College
- Sungshin Kim, University of North Georgia
- David Starling, Valdosta State University
- Aileen Tang (Vice Chair), Georgia Southern University

Teaching Asia 2026

Topics and Speakers

#1 10:00a **What Is the Indo-Pacific?**

Scott D. McDonald, Ph.D., University of North Georgia

This presentation introduces the concept of the Indo-Pacific, examining the political, cultural, historical, and economic forces shaping the region, along with competing interpretations of its strategic significance.

Dr. McDonald is an Assistant Professor of Political Science & International Affairs at the University of North Georgia. A former U.S. Marine Corps officer with 24 years of service, he learned Mandarin Chinese and was trained as a China Foreign Area Officer. His career included diplomatic tours in Canberra, Australia, and Taiwan, as well as postings in Japan, Hawaii, and the Pentagon. His research explores the intersection of classical Chinese philosophy and foreign policy decision-making.

#2 11:00a **Silicon Island: Designing Global Experiential Learning in Taiwan**

Jeffrey Yiin, Ph.D., Kennesaw State University

This session examines the design of a faculty-led study abroad program centered on Taiwan's semiconductor ecosystem. Through structured industry engagement, cultural context, and guided reflection, students deepen their understanding of global interdependence and their professional roles within it.

Dr. Yiin is a Clinical Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at KSU. With 17 years in the global high-tech sector, including leadership roles in semiconductor and mobile technology companies, and experience in venture investing, he bridges industry and academia through experiential learning initiatives. He earned his Ph.D. from Georgia Tech.

#3 12:00p **Whither the Road Leads — China's Health System Reform**

Zhuo (Adam) Chen, Ph.D., University of Georgia

This talk traces China's health reform from the 1950s to the present, highlighting insurance expansion, public hospital restructuring, and efforts to achieve universal, affordable care and strengthen public health systems for 1.4 billion citizens.

Dr. Chen is Professor and DrPH Program Director at UGA's College of Public Health. He has published over 140 peer-reviewed articles and co-led the Health, Ethnicity, and Pandemic (HEAP) study on Asian American health during COVID-19. Dr. Chen organized an event in 2023 for the Committee of 100 to discuss priorities to prevent the next pandemic.

#4 1:00p **Anime Outside the Frame: Myth, Industry, and Transnational Audience**

Jeremy Speed Schwartz, Kennesaw State University

This session reexamines anime beyond Western marketing narratives, emphasizing its industrial and aesthetic diversity. Drawing from immersive study in Japan, it challenges students to rethink audience, consumption, and creative practice in a global context.

Professor Jeremy Speed Schwartz is an animation historian, interactive artist, and filmmaker at KSU. He's the co-author of the upcoming edition of *A New History of Animation*, and leads study abroad programs in Japan focused on animation and digital art.