Asian Studies Center at Michigan State University
S.C. Lee Best Paper Competitions for Undergraduate and Graduate Students
Application 2024-2025

The Asian Studies Center at Michigan State University makes awards for undergraduate and graduate students for **single-authored papers focusing on Asian topics**. Students in any academic discipline may submit a research paper (typically 10 – 25 pages with citations) completed for a course or under the supervision of a faculty member, **at MSU during the spring, summer or fall semesters of 2024**. The paper must focus on an Asian topic or have significant content related to Asia. Book reports or literature reviews are not eligible. The paper competition is open to both undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled through Spring 2025. Only one paper may be submitted by a student for a particular annual competition. Awards will be made during the spring semester.

Application Checklist:

_____ **Completed Online Application:** The online application submission requires students to upload the paper document, as well as a separate file containing a copy or summary of the course assignment that guided the development of the paper (optional).

_____ **Paper submission:** The paper should be typed in 12-point font with at least one-inch margins on all sides, double-spaced, and footnotes at the bottom. Pages must be numbered, and a bibliography/reference list must be included. The paper should not include any commentary or editorial remarks by the professor who graded the original paper. The paper document should be **prepared for a blind-review**. Students are responsible for removing all information from their manuscripts that may lead reviewers to discern their identities and departmental affiliation. *Instructions:* Remove from the manuscript file: author names, departmental affiliation, and the course title/number for which the paper was written. Please use the paper title only as the document filename. File format for the paper document: DOC, DOCX, TXT, ODT.

_____ **Organization:** The paper has a clear statement of purpose and shows clarity of thought with sophistication, depth, and logic. A clear theme is developed in the paper. The paper should be free of spelling and grammatical errors.

_____ **Content:** Papers must focus on Asian topics, written for a course at **MSU during the spring, summer, and fall of 2024.** The paper shows an objective treatment of the subject matter. Specific terms to a particular discipline are clearly explained.

_____ **Course Context:** If the paper was written to fulfill a course requirement, a copy or summary of the course assignment (PDF) must be included in a separate file and uploaded onto the online application portal.

_____ **Confirmation Statement:** A confirmation statement from the professor for whose class the paper was originally produced and completed is required. A request for a Confirmation Statement email will be sent automatically to the professor (course instructor) whom the student has identified on the application form, when the online application is submitted. Instructions for the professor are included in the email. The Confirmation Statement must be submitted electronically to Asian Studies Center's email: asiansc@msu.edu. *Note*: Students are responsible for following up with their professor to ensure the statement is submitted on time (by January 31, 2025, at 11:59 PM EST).

All application materials are due by 11:59 p.m. EST on January 31, 2025.

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