

JAPANESE, BACHELOR OF ARTS

College of Letters & Science

The Major Program

The department offers a core language program in Japanese, and courses in literature and culture.

The Program

Practical language skills are taught using contemporary methods and materials so that upon entering the upper division a student will have attained substantial fluency in the spoken language (listening and speaking) and the written language (reading and writing). Upper division courses balance the need to further develop language skills with the need to understand and appreciate the richness and diversity of Japanese culture. All students are encouraged to combine their study of language and literature with courses in related fields, and to study abroad through the Education Abroad Program, the UC Davis Study Abroad Program or through internships in Japan.

Career Opportunities

UC Davis graduates have learned that a major in Japanese is a meaningful, earned distinction that facilitates entrance to graduate programs and professional schools. In addition, job opportunities abound in virtually all career paths, especially for graduates who have completed study abroad.

Honors Program

To be eligible to receive high or highest honors in the Japanese major, students must complete a senior thesis project. A student interested in pursuing a senior thesis project must enroll in JPN 194H and complete a scholarly paper or similar research project under the direction of a senate faculty member. The thesis project will have a minimum duration of two quarters and carry a minimum of 6 units of credit. To qualify to undertake the senior thesis project, a student must have completed at least 135 units with a minimum GPA of 3.500 in courses counted toward the major. Interested students should consult with faculty in their field of interest by the quarter before they hope to commence work on the project (in most cases this will be the Spring Quarter of their junior year). Students who complete the senior thesis project and have an overall GPA that qualifies them for honors may be recommended by the faculty for honors, high honors, or highest honors at graduation.

Education Abroad Program

The university maintains study abroad programs in Japan. They offer excellent opportunities for students to polish their language skills and experience Asian cultures firsthand. Students are encouraged to participate. Appropriate courses taken abroad can be applied toward the major or the minor. For details, see the department's undergraduate advisor or the Global Learning Hub (<https://globallearning.ucdavis.edu/>).

Related Courses

See East Asian Studies (EAS) (<https://catalog.ucdavis.edu/courses-subject-code/>) course list.

Prerequisite Credit

No student may repeat a course if that course is a prerequisite for a course that has already been completed with a grade of C– or better.

Placement

JPN 001 is intended for beginning students with no prior knowledge of the Japanese language. Students who do have some knowledge but wish to improve their skills should meet with one of the advisors to discuss appropriate placement. Students must follow departmental guidelines for placement in all language courses and instructor approval is required for enrollment.

Backtracking

Satisfactory completion of a language course is evidence that a student's language skills are beyond the level of those expected in its prerequisite courses. Accordingly, students who have completed a language course cannot go back and take its prerequisites. If the prerequisite courses are required for the major, students may substitute other courses. Students who are not sure how this requirement applies to them should speak to the undergraduate advisor.

Waived Language Courses

Students with exceptional language ability may waive required language courses. If lower division courses have been waived, students will not have to take courses in their place. If upper division courses have been waived, students can use other appropriate courses to earn the units they need to complete the major. Consult the undergraduate advisor regarding the selection of appropriate courses.

| Code | Title | Units |
|--|--|-------|
| Preparatory Subject Matter | | |
| Choose 0-30 units: | | 0-30 |
| JPN 001 & JPN 002 & JPN 003 & JPN 004 & JPN 005 & JPN 006 | Elementary Japanese and Elementary Japanese and Elementary Japanese and Intermediate Japanese and Intermediate Japanese and Intermediate Japanese | |
| OR | | |
| Equivalent as determined by a language placement exam. | | |
| Recommended but not required: | | |
| CHN 010 | Modern Chinese Literature (In English) | |
| CHN 011 | Great Books of China (in English) | |
| CHN/JPN 050 | Introduction to the Literature of China & Japan | |
| JPN 010 | Masterworks of Japanese Literature (in English) | |
| HIS 009B | History of East Asian Civilization | |
| JPN 025 | Japanese Language & Culture (in English) | |
| LIN 001 | Introduction to Linguistics | |
| Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal | | 0-30 |
| Depth Subject Matter | | |
| Grading. Students may take up to two and no more than two (regular, letter-graded) courses for the major on a P/NP basis. Courses which are only offered on a P/NP basis do not count toward these limits. | | |
| JPN 101 | Japanese Literature in Translation: The Early Period | 4 |

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| JPN 102 | Japanese Literature in Translation: The Middle Period | 4 |
| JPN 103 | Japanese Literature in Translation: The Modern Period | 4 |
| JPN 111 | Modern Japanese: Reading & Discussion | 4 |
| JPN 112 | Modern Japanese: Reading & Discussion | 4 |
| JPN 113 | Modern Japanese: Reading & Discussion | 4 |
| JPN 151 | Japanese Linguistics | 4 |

Note: With prior approval of the undergraduate advisor, students already proficient in Japanese at any third-year level¹ must take other upper division Japanese (JPN) courses to replace language course(s).

Choose three; at least 12 units: 12

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| JPN 104 | Modern Japanese Literature: War & Revolution |
| JPN 105 | Modern Japanese Literature: Hero & Anti-Hero |
| JPN 106 | Japanese Culture Through Film |
| JPN 107 | Modern Japanese Autobiographies (in English) |
| JPN/CHN 108 | Poetry of China & Japan (in English) |
| JPN 109 | Japanese Popular Culture |
| JPN 114A | Spoken Japanese |
| JPN 114B | Spoken Japanese |
| JPN 114C | Spoken Japanese |
| JPN 115 | Japanese Composition |
| JPN 116 | Culture & History in Kyoto |
| JPN 121 | Advanced Japanese I |
| JPN 122 | Advanced Japanese II |
| JPN 123 | Advanced Japanese III |
| JPN 130 | Readings in Modern Japanese Literature to 1926 |
| JPN 131 | Readings in Modern Japanese Literature: 1920-1945 |
| JPN 132 | Readings in Modern Japanese Literature: 1945-1970 |
| JPN 133 | Readings in Modern Japanese Literature: 1970-Present |
| JPN 134 | Readings in the Humanities: Traditional Culture |
| JPN 135 | Readings in the Humanities: The Modern Period |
| JPN 136 | Readings in Japanese Newspapers |
| JPN 137 | Readings in Contemporary Japanese Literature |
| JPN 138 | Readings in the Humanities: Japan Today |
| JPN 141 | Introduction to Classical Japanese |
| JPN 152 | Traditional Japanese Drama |
| JPN 153 | Love, Sexuality & the Family in Modern Japanese Literature |
| JPN 154 | Tourism & Heritage in Japan |
| JPN 155 | Introduction to Japanese Folklore |
| JPN 156/ CTS 148B | Japanese Literature on Film |
| JPN 157 | Japanese Women Writers |

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| JPN 158 | The Supernatural in Japan |
| JPN 160 | The Culture of Japanese Food |
| JPN 162 | Japan Travelogue: Ethnographic Writing on Japanese Culture & People |
| Up to 4 units: | |
| JPN 194H | Special Thesis Honors Project |
| Up to 4 units: | |
| JPN 198 & JPN 199 | Directed Group Study and Special Study for Advanced Undergraduates |
| or JPN 199 | Special Study for Advanced Undergraduates |
| Up to two (8 units) upper division Chinese courses ² | |
| AHI 164 | The Arts of Japan |
| COM 112 | Japanese Cinema |
| ECN 171 | Economy of East Asia |
| HIS 194A | Aristocratic & Feudal Japan |
| HIS 194B | Early Modern Japan |
| HIS 194C | Modern Japan |
| HIS 194D | Business & Labor in Modern Japan |
| POL 148B | Government & Politics in East Asia: Japan |
| RST 170 | (Discontinued) |
| RST 172 | Ch'an (Zen) Buddhism |

OR

Other advanced literature and culture courses selected in consultation with the undergraduate advisor.

Depth Subject Matter Subtotal 40

Total Units 40-70

¹ JPN 111-JPN 112-JPN 113

² Excluding CHN 111, CHN 112, CHN 113, CHN 120, CHN 150, CHN 192, CHN 194H, CHN 197T, CHN 198, CHN 199