

The Department of Modern Languages

The Major in Japanese Studies

Faculty Advisors

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Required Units: 102-105

Prerequisites

Intermediate-level proficiency in the Japanese language. This is equivalent to the completion of three courses (two at the 100-level and one at the 200-level), or placement or exemption based on Advanced Placement, Cambridge GCE Advanced level, International Baccalaureate or CMU internal placement test scores. In all cases, progress will be accelerated by study abroad, which is highly recommended for all majors. (Study abroad advisor - Dr. Yasufumi Iwasaki, yiwasaki@andrew.cmu.edu)

**Students may double count four courses taken for the Japanese Studies major that is also being used to fulfill the requirements of other majors, minors, and programs. This does not include double-counting with General Education requirements, which has no limit.*

1. Core Courses in Japanese Studies

36-39 units

Complete all four courses.

- 82-272* Intermediate Japanese II
- 82-273 Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture
- 82-371 Advanced Japanese I
- 82-372 Advanced Japanese II

*Students who place out of 82-272 must take 9 units chosen from List A electives.

2. Core Courses in Modern Languages

18 units

Complete one 9-unit course in Modern Languages, plus the Senior Seminar in spring of the senior year.

- 82-280 Bilingual & Bicultural Experiences in the US
- 82-281 Contextual Thinking in Modern Languages
- 82-282 Interpreting Global Texts & Cultures
- 82-283 Language Diversity and Cultural Identity
- 82-284 Multi-Cultural Pittsburgh: Virtual Reality Storytelling
- 82-285 Podcasting: Language & Culture Through Storytelling
- 82-286 Understanding Cultural Complexities
- 82-287 Multicultural Immersion: Relating Your World in Virtual Reality
- 82-358 Literacies Across Language and Culture
- 82-383 Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research
- 82-388 Topics in Second Language Acquisition
- 82-480 Translation Technologies
- 82-580 Senior Seminar

N.B. In consultation with the major advisor, students may substitute a Modern Languages course elective with one related to language analysis, language learning, or acquisition of language and culture from the listings in Japanese Studies or from another department. Examples: 80-180 Nature of Language, 85-421 Language and Thought.

3. Japanese Studies and Interdisciplinary Electives

54 units

Complete four courses (36 units) from List A and two (18 units) from List B. With permission of the major advisor, students are encouraged to complete at least one Japanese history course that qualifies for List A or List B at the University of Pittsburgh, one in Japan during study abroad, or in a summer program at another university.

List A. Japanese Studies Electives

- 82-373 Structure of the Japanese Language
82-374 Technical Japanese
82-473/474* Topics in Japanese Studies
Past Topics: Changing Cultural Icons – Samurai, Kamikaze, and Totoro
Youth Culture
Japanese Language and Culture from a Pragmatics Perspective
Rethinking Culture from the Marginal Voices of Japan: Intra-national Others
The Transnational Within: Multiculturalism in Japan and Beyond
82-476 Japanese Discourse Analysis
82-505 Undergraduate Internship
82-571/572* Special Topics: Japanese
*Students may repeat these courses with new topics.

List B. Interdisciplinary Electives

This list is compiled from possibilities such as but not limited to the following. Students should consult OLR and their major advisor for the most up to date interdisciplinary electives appropriate for the Japanese Studies curriculum. Courses may be suggested to the major advisor for approval as a substitute. Note that not all courses are offered each semester.

English

- 76-239 Introduction to Film Studies
76-386 Language & Culture
76-387 Writing in the Disciplines

History

- 79-211 Modern Southeast Asia: Colonialism, Capitalism, and Cultural Exchange
79-261 The Last Emperors: Chinese History & Society, 1600-1900
79-262 Modern China: From the Birth of Mao....to Now
79-275 Introduction to Global Studies

Modern Languages

- 82-280 Bilingual & Bicultural Experiences in the US
82-281 Contextual Thinking in Modern Languages
82-282 Interpreting Global Texts & Cultures
82-283 Language Diversity and Cultural Identity
82-284 Multi-Cultural Pittsburgh: Virtual Reality Storytelling
82-285 Podcasting: Language & Culture Through Storytelling
82-286 Understanding Cultural Complexities
82-287 Multicultural Immersion: Relating Your World in Virtual Reality
82-358 Literacies Across Language and Culture
82-383 Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research
82-388 Topics in Second Language Acquisition
82-480 Translation Technologies

Music

- 57-306 World Music

Philosophy

- 80-180 Nature of Language
80-280 Linguistic Analysis
80-281 Language & Thought
80-283 It Matters How You Say It
80-380 Philosophy of Language

Psychology

85-375 Cross Cultural Psychology
 85-421 Language and Thought

Social and Decision Sciences

88-384 Conflict and Conflict Resolution in International Relations

4. Oral Proficiency Interview

Complete an oral proficiency interview. At the latest, this exam should be scheduled by midterm of the senior spring semester. Students are permitted to retake the test.

Study Abroad

A semester or year of study abroad is strongly recommended. Consult with your advisor and the Office of International Education (OIE) about possible options.

Senior Honors Thesis

In addition, majors are encouraged to undertake a Senior Honors Thesis (82-591/592 Modern Languages Honors Thesis or 66-501/502 H&SS Senior Honors Thesis I, II). The Honors thesis program provides qualified seniors with a valuable opportunity to synthesize their academic and personal experiences and interests accumulated during their college years here and elsewhere (Prerequisite: a 3.5 QPA in Japanese and a 3.25 QPA overall).

Sample Curriculum- Japanese Studies (B.A.)

This sample curriculum assumes that all prerequisites for 82-272 are fulfilled prior to the junior year.

Junior Year		Senior Year	
Fall	Spring	Fall	Spring
Advanced Japanese I 82-371	Advanced Japanese II 82-372	Japanese Studies Elective from List A	Japanese Studies Elective from List A
Introduction to Japanese Language and Culture, 82- 273	Interdisciplinary Elective from List B	Japanese Studies Elective from List A	Japanese Studies Elective from List A
ML core course or equivalent approved by advisor	Interdisciplinary Elective from List B	Elective	Senior Seminar 82- 580
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective

This is presented as a two-year (junior-senior) plan for completing the major requirements. It is intended to show that this program can be completed in as few as two years, not that it must be. Students may enter their major and begin major course requirements as early as the start of the sophomore year, and in some instances in the first year. Students should consult their advisor when planning their program.

This plan is also an example of the suggested sequence of study for students who have had little or no prior exposure to the language. Such students would need to satisfy the prerequisites (elementary and intermediate language study) during their freshman and sophomore years.