



# Japanese

1106 Jimenez Hall  
(301) 405-4025

<http://slc.umd.edu/japanese/undergraduate>

College of Arts and Humanities

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## Key Features of a Japanese Major

- Gain a better understanding of the language, culture, and history of a very modern nation with a very fascinating past.
- Develop skills that will offer a wealth of career opportunities in business, education, international relations and the arts.

## Career Options and Salaries with a Japanese Major

Knowledge of a foreign language is a very valuable and marketable skill. Asian languages, in particular, are in great demand by a variety of employers. Many with foreign language skills work as interpreters and translators. Others work as “language specialists” in various capacities for the Federal Government. Teaching is also a popular option, especially as the demand for non-Western language skills rises.

The median salary for interpreters and translators in 2015 was \$44,190 per year.

Career and salary information was taken from [Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2015](#).

\*Additional information on salaries and careers can be found through the University Career Center & The President’s Promise: [Languages](#)

## Advising

If you are interested in the Japanese major or minor, you can easily meet with an advisor by contacting:

### Advisor for the Japanese Major

Dr. Lindsay Yotsukura  
2106D Jimenez Hall  
301-405-0038  
[ly@umd.edu](mailto:ly@umd.edu)

### Advisor for the Japanese Minor

Dr. Michele Mason  
4224 Jimenez Hall  
(301) 405-3745  
[mmmason@umd.edu](mailto:mmmason@umd.edu)

## Declaring a Japanese Major

*Japanese is not a Limited Enrollment Program (LEP). If you have decided to major in this field, you can declare immediately!*

When you declare your major in Japanese, you are also declaring that you will be a student in the College of Arts and Humanities (ARHU) which houses the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (of which Japanese is a part). There are two levels in your process of declaring and later advising: the department (Japanese) and the College (Arts and Humanities). The Department will advise you regarding your major requirements. The College will advise you regarding your GEN ED or CORE requirements.

To declare a major in Japanese:

- 1) Download the [JAPN Major Requirements](#) handout and the [Major Sign-Up Form](#).
- 2) On the [Major Sign-Up Form](#), fill in your contact information, the semester, course numbers, and grades for any JAPN major requirements you've already completed.
- 3) Send an email to the JAPN advisor with a request to make an appointment. If you email the advisor, attach a copy of your sign-up form with the relevant information filled out; if you stop by in person, bring a print-out with you. Also bring a copy of the 4-year plan form with you for the JAPN advisor to help advise you on and sign.
- 4) Students must complete the ARHU [Foreign Language Placement Test](#) (FLPT must be taken in a proctored environment if students are seeking exemption from [The Global Engagement Requirement](#)). Please note that students' majors will not be changed until they have an FLPT score on file or have satisfied prerequisites via AP credit or earned college credit.
- 5) You will then submit a "College of Arts & Humanities Change of Major Form." This is presented to the ARHU Office of Student Affairs, along with your 4-Year Plan, in 1120 Francis Scott Key Hall (301-405-2108). You will either meet with an advisor then or make an appointment for a later meeting.  
**Enrollment in the major is not complete until an ARHU advisor has signed the Four- Year Plan worksheet.**
- 6) As a new major, you will then be assigned to a department advisor, with whom you will need to meet at least once per semester prior to registration.

## Four-Year Plan (GenEd)

To see the 4-Year Plan: <http://www.arhu.umd.edu/sites/default/files/arhu/undergraduate/pdf/4YP-JAPN-GENED.pdf>

### B.A. in Japanese

#### First Year:

|               |               |          |            |
|---------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| ENGL 101 (AW) | 3             |          |            |
| HIST 284      | 3             | AR       | 3          |
| JAPN 101      | 6             | JAPN 102 | 6          |
| UNIV 100      | 1             | NS       | 4          |
| Math (MA)     | 3-4           | HU       | 3          |
|               | 16-17 credits |          | 16 credits |

#### Second Year:

|          |            |          |            |
|----------|------------|----------|------------|
| Elective | 3          | SP       | 3          |
| Elective | 3          | HIST 285 | 3          |
| JAPN 201 | 6          | JAPN 202 | 6          |
| HU       | 3          | OC       | 3          |
|          | 15 credits |          | 15 credits |

#### Third Year:

|          |            |                  |            |
|----------|------------|------------------|------------|
| NL       | 3          | HIST 483         | 3          |
| Elective | 3          | Elective 1xx-4xx | 3          |
| HIST 482 | 3          | Elective 3xx-4xx | 3          |
| JAPN 301 | 6          | JAPN 302         | 6          |
|          | 15 credits |                  | 15 credits |

#### Fourth Year:

|                         |            |                          |            |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| SP                      | 3          | Elective 3xx-4xx         | 3          |
| Elective 3xx-4xx        | 3          | Elective 3xx-4xx         | 3          |
| JAPN Literature 3xx-4xx | 3          | Elective 3xx-4xx         | 3          |
| JAPN Elective 3xx-4xx   | 3          | JAPN Linguistics 3xx-4xx | 3          |
| PW                      | 3          | JAPN Elective 3xx-4xx    | 3          |
|                         | 15 credits |                          | 15 credits |

Total credits for degree: 120; 45 credits must be 3xx-4xx level.

**Total = 122 credits**

## Four-Year Plan (CORE)

To see the 4-Year Plan: <http://www.arhu.umd.edu/sites/default/files/arhu/undergraduate/pdf/4YP-JAPN-CORE.pdf>

### B.A. in Japanese

#### First Year:

|                 |            |                      |            |
|-----------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| ENGL 101        | 3          | LL or PL             | 3          |
| HA or HL        | 3          | HIST 285 or HL or HA | 3          |
| JAPN 101        | 6          | MATH                 | 3          |
| HIST 284 (SH)   | 3          | JAPN 102             | 6          |
| UNIV 100 or 101 | 1          |                      | 15 credits |
|                 | 16 credits |                      |            |

#### Second Year:

|          |            |                       |            |
|----------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| LS/PS/MS | 3          | LS/PS                 | 3          |
| HL or HA | 3          | HL/HA/HO/SB/Diversity | 3          |
| SB       | 3          | JAPN 202              | 6          |
| JAPN 201 | 6          | JAPN Elective 3xx-4xx | 3          |
|          | 15 credits |                       | 15 credits |

#### Third Year:

|                      |            |                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Advanced Studies #1  | 3          | Professional Writing | 3          |
| JAPN 301             | 6          | JAPN 302             | 6          |
| HIST 482 or Elective | 3          | HIST 483 or Elective | 3          |
| CORE/ARHU/Elective   | 3          | CORE/ARHU/Elective   | 3          |
|                      | 15 credits |                      | 15 credits |

#### Fourth Year:

|                         |            |                          |            |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Advanced Studies #2     | 3          | JAPN Linguistics 3xx-4xx | 3          |
| JAPN Literature 3xx-4xx | 3          | JAPN Elective 3xx-4xx    | 3          |
| JAPN Elective 3xx-4xx   | 3          | Elective 3xx-4xx         | 3          |
| Elective 3xx-4xx        | 3          | Elective                 | 3          |
| Elective                | 3          | Elective                 | 3          |
|                         | 15 credits |                          | 15 credits |

**TOTAL = 121 credits**

## Q & A

***I've had some Japanese classes in the past, but I don't know what level I should start at here. Is there a placement test I can take?***

Yes. The online placement test is an achievement test based upon the following textbooks: Japanese: The Spoken Language (E.Jorden/M. Noda) and Japanese: The Written Language (E. Jorden/M. Noda). The test usually takes approximately 90 minutes. Listening, reading, grammar and vocabulary skills will be assessed to determine your level of proficiency.

You must make an appointment for the test by filling out the online application (see <http://www.arhu.umd.edu/undergraduate/flpt> for more information about the placement test). Contact [japntest@umd.edu](mailto:japntest@umd.edu) for more information and test dates.

***I've heard about a Certificate in East Asian Studies. What is it and how is it different from a regular Japanese major?***

The Undergraduate Certificate in East Asian Studies is designed to expand your knowledge of that region. Through 24 credits of coursework, you will learn about the “cultures, histories and contemporary concerns of the peoples of China, Japan and Korea.” Such knowledge is prized by many employers and graduate schools. Upon successful completion of the curriculum, you will receive a notation on your transcript.

For more information, contact the Center for East Asian Studies, 0115 Taliaferro Hall, (301) 405-0681.

***Is there a Japanese minor?***

Yes. The Japanese minor requires 15 credits beyond JAPN 201. Courses must be selected in consultation with the Minor Advisor. Because there is a cap placed on the number of students in the minor, you may apply only after having received at least a grade of “C-” or better in JAPN 102. You may be placed on a waitlist, depending upon how many other students are in the minor. While there is no deadline to apply, you should do so early. Please contact the Minor Advisor, Dr. Michele Mason (4224 Jimenez Hall, 301-405-3745).