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# Japanese

In the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages  
In the College of Arts and Letters

**OFFICE: Education and Business Administration 334**  
**TELEPHONE: 619-594-5268 / FAX: 619-594-4877**  
**<http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/linguist/index.html>**

## Faculty

Chair: Kaplan  
Professor: Higurashi  
Associate Professor: Kitajima  
Lecturer: Yamaga

## Offered by the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

Major in Japanese.  
Minor in Japanese.

## Offered by International Business

Major in international business, with emphasis in Japanese.

## The Major

Japanese is the fastest growing language in U.S. higher education. Due to the interdependence between the U.S. and Japan, as well as Japan's role in the world economy, the importance of Japanese has become evident.

Students who major in Japanese will gain proficiency in Japanese language skills, and the department offers a broad variety of courses designed to prepare majors for a number of careers after graduation. A major in Japanese is also a good preparatory curriculum for graduate programs in such areas as international business, international law, librarianship, public administration, and journalism.

A knowledge of Japanese is a valuable asset in finding positions as interpreters and translators employed by the federal government, the United Nations, international conferences, trade councils, and publishers, as well as internationally oriented companies, government agencies, the press corps, and the tourism industry. It also gives graduates an advantage in looking for positions in Japan in such areas as language teaching, business consulting, or journalism.

## Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Japanese Major

**With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences**  
**(Major Code: 11081)**

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 63 units in Japanese courses can apply to the degree.

Students majoring in Japanese must complete a minor in another field to be approved by the departmental adviser in Japanese.

All students with transfer credits must take placement test at the Student Testing, Research and Assessment Office at SDSU.

**Note:** Speakers of Japanese who have completed compulsory education through junior high school in Japan, or those who pass level one of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, created and edited

by The Association of International Education and the Japan Foundation, or equivalent, will receive no credit for Japanese 311, 312, 321, 322, 411, 412, 421, and 422.

**Preparation for the Major.** Japanese 111, 112, 211, and 212. (24 units) A maximum of 24 lower division units of Japanese courses may be used to satisfy degree requirements.

**Language Requirement.** The language requirement is automatically fulfilled through coursework for preparation for the major.

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** A minimum of 39 upper division units in Japanese to include Japanese 311, 312, 321, 322, 352, 411, 412, 421, 422, and 480.

## Japanese Minor

The minor in Japanese consists of a minimum of 24 units taught in Japanese, at least 12 units of which must be in upper division Japanese courses. Any course taught in English needs department approval to apply to the minor requirements.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of eight upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Language Requirement for the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Students electing the study of Japanese to fulfill the language requirement for the Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts and sciences must successfully complete Japanese 211 or the equivalent level of achievement. The usual sequence of coursework is Japanese 111, 112, and 211. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements" for additional ways to satisfy competency.

## High School Equivalents

High school foreign language courses may be used for purposes of placement in college courses and may be counted toward meeting the language requirement in various majors. These high school courses will not count as college credit toward graduation.

Secondary school language courses can be used as follows:

1. The first **two years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of the first semester of a college level course, although students with fewer than three years of high school level language may complete the first semester college course for graduation credit.

2. The first **three years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of the first two college semesters, although students with fewer than four years of high school level language may complete the second semester college course for graduation credit. Students who have completed three years of foreign language in high school will not receive credit for the first semester college course unless at least five years separate the last high school course and the first college course.

3. **Four years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of three college semesters or five college quarters, thus fulfilling the language requirement.

## Japanese Language Proficiency Test

The Japanese language proficiency test is taken to assess the proficiency level and to place students at the most appropriate level in the curriculum of the Japanese language program at San Diego State University. Students who have special backgrounds, and those SDSU students who took Japanese elsewhere, including SDSU students who participated in exchange programs, are required to meet with the program adviser and to take this examination.

Test dates and times are listed in the "Special Tests" section of the *Class Schedule*.

## Courses (JAPAN)

Refer to *Curricula and Courses and University Policies* sections of this catalog for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

**Native speakers of Japanese will not receive credit for taking lower division courses except with advance approval from the department.**

**All lower division courses in Japanese are taught in Japanese.**

**No credit will be given for lower division courses taken after successfully completing any upper division Japanese course taught in Japanese.**

**No credit will be given for Japanese 111, 112, 211, 212 taken out of sequence.**

#### JAPAN 111. Elementary Japanese I (6) [GE]

Six lectures and one hour of laboratory.

Elementary language skills: fundamental grammar, idiomatic expressions, hiragana, katakana, and basic kanji characters. Reading, writing, speaking, oral-aural drills, and relationship between language and culture. Not open to students who have completed three years of high school Japanese unless the third course was completed five or more years ago. (Formerly numbered Japanese 101.)

#### JAPAN 112. Elementary Japanese II (6) [GE]

Six lectures and one hour of laboratory.

Prerequisite: Japanese 111.

Continuation of Japanese 111. Preparation for Japanese 211. Not open to students who have completed four years of high school Japanese unless the fourth course was completed five or more years ago. (Formerly numbered Japanese 102 and 202.)

#### JAPAN 211. Intermediate Japanese I (6) [GE]

Six lectures and one hour of laboratory.

Prerequisite: Japanese 112.

Continuation of Japanese 112. More kanji and grammar. Further development of language competence for advanced courses in Japanese. Preparation for Japanese 212. (Formerly numbered Japanese 201 and 303.)

#### JAPAN 212. Intermediate Japanese II (6) [GE]

Six lectures and one hour of laboratory.

Prerequisite: Japanese 211.

Strengthening communication skills in Japanese; various literary styles; additional kyoiku kanji. Cultural values shaping modern Japanese society; intercultural communication. Preparation for Japanese 311.

#### JAPAN 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

#### JAPAN 299. Special Study (1-3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

### UPPER DIVISION COURSES (Intended for Undergraduates)

**All upper division courses in Japanese are taught in Japanese unless otherwise stated.**

**No credit will be given for Japanese 311, 312, 411, 412 taken out of sequence.**

#### JAPAN 311. Third Year Japanese I (4) [GE]

Four lectures and one hour of laboratory.

Prerequisites: Japanese 212 and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities. General Education prerequisite not required for Japanese majors.

Continuation of Japanese 212. Strengthening of communication skills in Japanese; various literary styles; all kyoiku kanji. Cultural values shaping modern Japanese society; intercultural communication. Preparation for Japanese 312.

#### JAPAN 312. Third Year Japanese II (4) [GE]

Four lectures and one hour of laboratory.

Prerequisites: Japanese 311 and completion of the General Education requirement in Foundations of Learning II.C., Humanities. General Education prerequisite not required for Japanese majors.

Further strengthening of communication skills in Japanese; various literary styles; introduction of chugaku kanji. Social and economic issues in Japan and the U.S.; cultural values shaping business conduct in Japan; characteristics of Japanese management; intercultural communication. Preparation for Japanese 411.

#### JAPAN 321. Advanced Japanese Discourse (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 212.

Development of advanced communication skills through Japanese media such as Japanese news broadcasts and television drama. Focus on listening comprehension.

#### JAPAN 322. Advanced Conversation Through Media (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 311.

Development of advanced communication skills through Japanese media such as Japanese news broadcasts and television drama. Focus on oral communication.

#### JAPAN 352. Introduction to Japanese Linguistics (3)

Descriptive analysis of Japanese language taught in English. Sound system, words, sentence structures, history of language and language variation.

#### JAPAN 411. Fourth Year Japanese I (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 312.

Continuation of Japanese 312. Further strengthening of communication skills in Japanese; various literary styles; more chugaku kanji. Social and economic issues in Japan and in the U.S.; cultural values shaping business conduct in Japan; characteristics of Japanese management; intercultural communication. Preparation for Japanese 412.

#### JAPAN 412. Fourth Year Japanese II (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 411.

Continuation of Japanese 411. Further strengthening of communication skills in Japanese; various literary styles; all joyo kanji. Social and economic issues in Japan and the U.S.; cultural values shaping business conduct in Japan; characteristics of Japanese management; intercultural communication.

#### JAPAN 421. Japanese Literature Through Text and Film (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 312.

Japanese literature from earliest times to present. Major works of modern Japanese fiction as a literary genre and their cinematic interpretation.

#### JAPAN 422. Newspaper Reading and Advanced Composition (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 411.

Development of reading and writing skills through texts taken from current Japanese newspapers and broadcast news.

#### JAPAN 480. Business Japanese (4)

Prerequisite: Japanese 422.

Commercial Japanese, with emphasis on economic principles necessary for financial analysis and management, including banking system, foreign exchange market, stock market, and derivatives. Terminology and techniques used in Japanese commercial transaction. Japanese business rhetoric.

#### JAPAN 496. Topics in Japanese Studies (1-4)

Topics in Japanese language, literature, culture and linguistics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit eight units.

#### JAPAN 499. Special Study (1-3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

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