DEPARTMENTS, PROGRAMS, AND COURSES OF STUDY

JAPANESE

In the Department of East Asian Studies.

Chair, Associate Professor Hong Zhang (Chinese)
Professor Tamae Prindle; Associate Professor Hideko Abe; Language Assistant Risa Fujiwara

A minor in Japanese is offered for students who have a substantial interest in Japanese language and culture.

Requirements for the Minor in Japanese

Five language courses of at least three credits each at the level of Japanese 126 or above, and one more course with a substantial literary/cultural component to be chosen from either Japanese 421, 422, or a course on Japanese literature at the 200 level or higher (Japanese literature courses are listed in the “East Asian Studies” section of the catalogue). Students who start taking Japanese from an upper level are expected to take at least four language courses probably including 421, 422, and independent study 491 and 492.

Note: The minor in Japanese is intended for non-East Asian studies majors. East Asian studies majors must declare either a Chinese concentration or a Japanese concentration within the major.

Course Offerings

JA125fj Elementary Japanese I  Introduction to the spoken and written language to provide a solid grounding in all the language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students will have a comfortable command of hiragana, katakana, and basic sentence patterns and will become familiar with about 60 kanji and their combinations.  Five credit hours.  PRINDLE

JA126s Elementary Japanese II  Introduction to the spoken and written language to provide a thorough grounding in all the language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing.  Prerequisite: Japanese 125.  Five credit hours.  PRINDLE

JA127f Intermediate Japanese I  A continuation of the methods and goals used in elementary Japanese.  Prerequisite: Japanese 126.  Four credit hours.  ABE

JA128s Intermediate Japanese II  Designed for students who have taken three semesters of Japanese. All four components of language skills—speaking, writing, reading, and listening—are simultaneously introduced and practiced in every class, and emphasis is placed on balancing accuracy, fluency, and complexity. Enables students to function in various social contexts using culturally appropriate linguistic skills and knowledge, including honorifics and speech levels.  Prerequisite: Japanese 127.  Four credit hours.  ABE

JA135fs Conversational Japanese I  In a small group setting, students practice speaking. Nongraded.  Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Japanese 125 or 126.  One credit hour.  FUJIWARA

JA235fs Conversational Japanese II  In a small group setting, students practice speaking. Nongraded.  Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Japanese 127 or 128.  One credit hour.  FUJIWARA

JA321f Third-Year Japanese  Advanced reading, audiovisual comprehension, writing essays in Japanese, speaking at a native speaker’s level, and an introduction to Japanese culture.  Prerequisite: Japanese 128.  Four credit hours.  ABE

JA322s Third-Year Japanese  Advanced reading, audiovisual comprehension, and writing practice in Japanese. Designed primarily for those students who have had substantial experience in a Japanese-speaking setting.  Prerequisite: Japanese 321.  Four credit hours.  ABE

JA335fs Conversational Japanese III  In a small group setting, students practice speaking. Nongraded.  Prerequisite: Concurrent enrollment in Japanese 321, 322, 421, or 422.  One credit hour.  FUJIWARA

JA421f Fourth-Year Japanese  Further reading, writing, listening, and speaking in Japanese, using current newspaper articles, short stories, and audiovisual materials.  Prerequisite: Japanese 322.  Four credit hours.  PRINDLE
JA422s  Fourth-Year Japanese  A continuation of Japanese 421 for students who have taken seven semesters of Japanese. Language practice includes reading short stories and newspaper articles, giving oral presentations on topics related to Japanese culture, learning another 150 Chinese characters, mastering the use of various types of dictionaries and online supports, and learning the structure of kanji radicals. All class activities are conducted only in Japanese.  Prerequisite: Japanese 421.  Four credit hours.  PRINDLE

JA491f, 492s  Independent Study  Individual projects in areas where the student has demonstrated the interest and competence necessary for independent work.  Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor.  Two to four credit hours.  FACULTY