



University of
Pittsburgh

Dietrich School

Japanese Major and Minor

www.DEALL.Pitt.edu/Japanese/Japanese-Major

Revised: 07/2025

The Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures offers courses in the language, literature, film, linguistics, and culture of China and Japan; the department offers both a major and a minor in Japanese. A full sequence of courses in the modern standard language of Japan and a variety of offerings, ranging from introductory to specialized, illuminate various facets of Japanese civilization. Students whose interests range broadly across the civilization of East Asia may want to take advantage of the Asian Studies certificate program. The departmental curriculum for the Japanese major is composed of three main categories as follows.

Courses designed to develop competence in the four skills of the Japanese language, plus courses for advanced study.
Courses taught in English and focused on the mainstream of Japanese culture as reflected in literature, drama, and film.
Courses for the advanced study of literature and linguistic analysis.

Required courses for the Japanese major

The Japanese major requires the completion of 44 credits distributed as follows.

Language courses

JPNSE 0003 Second Year Japanese 1 +

JPNSE 0004 Second Year Japanese 2 +

JPNSE 1020 Third Year Japanese 1

JPNSE 1021 Third Year Japanese 2

+ **Note:** JPNSE 1062 may replace **both** JPNSE 0003 **and** JPNSE 0004.

Advanced language course; choose one

JPNSE 1040 Intro to Classical Japanese 1

JPNSE 1050 Fourth Year Japanese 1

Culture, literature, and linguistics (four courses)

Required course

JPNSE 0083 Introduction to Japanese Literature

Choose one

JPNSE 1023 Structure of the Japanese Language

JPNSE 1035 Pragmatics of Japanese *

Elective courses; choose two

JPNSE 0007 Japanese Culture and Civilization

JPNSE 0081 East Asia in the World

JPNSE 0085 Japanese Tales of the Supernatural

JPNSE 1023 Structure of the Japanese Language

JPNSE 1030 Japanese Language Teaching and Learning*

JPNSE 1035 Pragmatics of Japanese*

JPNSE 1056 Japanese Literature and the West*

JPNSE 1057 Japanese Culture/Society through Cinema *

JPNSE 1058 Westerns and Samurai Films *

JPNSE 1065 Detective and Mystery Fiction in Japan

JPNSE 1070 The World of Japan: Special Topics *

JPNSE 1071 The World of Japan: Special Topics *

JPNSE 1080 Ghosts, Masks, and Actors *

JPNSE 1081 Forms of Japanese Theatre *

JPNSE 1085 Introduction to East Asian Cinema*

JPNSE 1700 Introduction to Theory and Practice of Translation

Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete JPNSE 1908 Directed Writing (one credit) in conjunction with one of the 1000-level courses marked with an asterisk (*) in the culture, literature, and linguistics section.

Capstone course

JPNSE 1999 Capstone Project (three credits) must be taken during the student's last term as an undergraduate.

Non-departmental course requirements

Students must complete three courses related to Japan offered by other Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences departments. Two of these courses must have at least 50% Japan-related content. The Asian Studies Center at the University Center for International Studies (UCIS) maintains a list of Asia-related classes, which students may use to identify Japan-related courses.

Grade requirements

A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option

First year language courses may be taken on an S/NC basis; second year courses may not be taken on an S/NC basis. In the third and fourth years, majors have the option of taking two additional courses on an S/NC basis, one of which may be an advanced language course.

Checklist for the Japanese major

Language courses

_____ JPNSE 0003 Second Year Japanese 1 +

_____ JPNSE 0004 Second Year Japanese 2 +

_____ JPNSE 1020 Third Year Japanese 1

_____ JPNSE 1021 Third Year Japanese 2

+ **Note:** JPNSE 1061 may replace **both** JPNSE 0003 **and** JPNSE 0004.

Advanced language course; choose one

_____ JPNSE 1040 Intro to Classical Japanese 1

_____ JPNSE 1050 Fourth Year Japanese 1

Culture, literature, and linguistics (4 courses)

Required course

_____ JPNSE 0083 Introduction to Japanese Literature

Choose one

_____ JPNSE 1023

_____ JPNSE 1035 *

Elective courses; choose two

_____ JPNSE 0007

_____ JPNSE 0081

_____ JPNSE 0085

_____ JPNSE 1023

_____ JPNSE 1030*

_____ JPNSE 1035*

_____ JPNSE 1056 *

_____ JPNSE 1057 *

_____ JPNSE 1058 *

_____ JPNSE 1065

_____ JPNSE 1070 *

_____ JPNSE 1071 *

_____ JPNSE 1080 *

_____ JPNSE 1081 *

_____ JPNSE 1085*

_____ JPNSE 1700

Writing (W) requirement

_____ JPNSE 1908 Directed Writing

Note: This course must be taken in conjunction with one of the 1000-level courses marked with an asterisk (*) in the culture, literature, and linguistics section.

Non-departmental course requirements

Capstone course

_____ JPNSE 1999

Checklist for the Japanese minor

One Language Course

_____ JPNSE 0001

_____ JPNSE 0002

_____ JPNSE 0003

_____ JPNSE 0004

_____ JPNSE 0012

_____ JPNSE 1020

_____ JPNSE 1021

_____ JPNSE 1040

_____ JPNSE 1050

_____ JPNSE 1061

_____ JPNSE 1062

_____ JPNSE 1066

_____ JPNSE 1800

One Culture Course

_____ JPNSE 0007

_____ JPNSE 0006

_____ JPNSE 0081

_____ JPNSE 0083

_____ JPNSE 0085

_____ JPNSE 1023

_____ JPNSE 1030

_____ JPNSE 1035

_____ JPNSE 1056

_____ JPNSE 1057

_____ JPNSE 1058

_____ JPNSE 1065

_____ JPNSE 1070

_____ JPNSE 1071

_____ JPNSE 1080

_____ JPNSE 1081

_____ JPNSE 1085

_____ JPNSE 1700

Three Other Language and/or Culture Courses

_____ JPNSE 0001

_____ JPNSE 0002

_____ JPNSE 0003

_____ JPNSE 0004

_____ JPNSE 0006

_____ JPNSE 0007

_____ JPNSE 0012

_____ JPNSE 0081

_____ JPNSE 0083

_____ JPNSE 0085

_____ JPNSE 1020

_____ JPNSE 1021

_____ JPNSE 1023

_____ JPNSE 1030

_____ JPNSE 1035

_____ JPNSE 1040

_____ JPNSE 1050

_____ JPNSE 1056

_____ JPNSE 1057

_____ JPNSE 1058

_____ JPNSE 1061

_____ JPNSE 1062

_____ JPNSE 1065

_____ JPNSE 1066

_____ JPNSE 1070

_____ JPNSE 1071

_____ JPNSE 1080

_____ JPNSE 1081

_____ JPNSE 1085

_____ JPNSE 1700

_____ JPNSE 1800

Note: Students must apply for any official minor they will complete or have completed at the time they apply for graduation.

Note: JPNSE 0006 counts for minor requirements, but not major requirements.

Advising

Stephen D. Luft

2720 Cathedral of Learning

412-648-0848

Luft@Pitt.edu

