

## Japanese Studies Make a Gift

[Home](#) >

### Program Description

The Japanese Studies major and minor are interdisciplinary in nature. Students gain a broad understanding of the language, culture, literature, history, art, film, music, theatre, religion, and politics of Japan.

Students pursuing a program in Japanese studies are strongly urged to study abroad for a semester or year at a Japanese university.

The College is affiliated with Kansai Gaidai University, located in Hirakata City, between the business and industrial center of Osaka and the ancient capital of Kyoto. Kansai Gaidai not only offers instruction in Japanese language and a full range of courses on Japanese topics in English, but also offers many opportunities outside the classroom: living with a Japanese host family, field trips to cultural and historical sites, study of traditional arts, and visits to Japanese businesses. Students may also choose to attend other universities in Japan. Credit for courses taken at Kansai Gaidai may be transferred and counted toward the electives for the major and minor with departmental approval.

-  [download pdf](#)
- [Program Requirements](#)
- [Asian Studies website](#)

### Program Requirements

#### Major Requirements

The major consists of eleven courses. Five courses are required and must be taken at Gettysburg:

- Hist 224 Modern Japan OR Hist 323 Gender in Modern Japan
- AS 265 OR 266 Methods for Japanese Studies
- AS 400-level capstone seminar or course

Any two of the following:

AS 150 Contemporary Japanese Culture and Society (*AS 150 is recommended for first- and second-year students, but cannot be taken by those who have studied in Japan.*)

AS 238 Pre-Modern Japanese Literature

AS 247/347 Extraordinary Fiction in Japan and the World

AS 248/348 Traditional Japanese Theatre

AS 250/350 The Ebb and Flow: Japanese Women's Literature, the First 1200 Years

AS 340 Modernity in Modern Japanese Fiction

AS 341 Genre in Modern Japanese Literature

AS 343 Who Dunit and Why? Japanese Detective Fiction, Past and Present

Six electives are required. One elective must be from the category of arts and humanities, one from the category of history and society, and one must be comparative within East Asia. (*The categories and appropriate courses are listed below. East Asian courses are marked with an asterisk.*) Students must complete four 300-level courses. Two must be 300-level Japanese language courses, or their equivalent as determined by placement tests. (*Credit from abroad may be counted upon return to Gettysburg depending on placement test performance.*) Two must be 300-level non-language courses (History 323 may count). (*Kansai Gaidai content courses do not count as 300-level courses.*) The remaining elective(s) may be taken at any level. Japanese 101, 102, 201, and 202 do not count toward the major.

### **Arts and Humanities**

AS 238 Pre-Modern Japanese Literature

AS 247/347 Extraordinary Fiction in Japan and the World

AS 248/348 Traditional Japanese Theatre

AS 250/350 The Ebb and Flow: Japanese Women's Literature, the First 1200 Years

AS 340/401 Modernity in Modern Japanese Fiction

AS 341/402 Genre in Modern Japanese Literature

AS 343/403 Who Dunit and Why? Japanese Detective Fiction, Past and Present

Film 261 Japanese Cinema

Phil 240 World Philosophy\*

Rel 244 Introduction to Buddhism\*

Rel 249 Religions of Japan

Rel 252 Women in Buddhism\*

VAH 131 Introduction to Asian Art

### **History and Society**

Econ 213 East Asian Economic History and Development\*

Hist 221 History of East Asia to 1800\*

Hist 222 History of East Asia from 1800 to the Present\*

Hist 224 Modern Japan

Hist 226 History and Science of the Atomic Bombings of Japan

Hist 323 Gender in Modern Japan

Hist 325 Tokugawa Japan

Hist 422 The Pacific War, 1931-1945

Pol Sci 271 Government and Politics in Japan

Psych 210 Cultural Psychology\*

### **Minor Requirements**

The minor requires six courses. Five courses must be above the 100 level; one course must be at the 300 level. (JPN 101 and 102 do not count toward the minor.)

Two of the following three courses are required:

- AS 150 Contemporary Japanese Culture and Society
- Hist 224 Modern Japan
- Hist 323 Gender in Modern Japan
- Any Japanese literature course.

In addition, Japanese language proficiency at the 202 level is required. Proficiency is determined by the department.

Students must also complete three electives, with at least one from the category of arts and humanities and one from the category of history and society. (*Categories and appropriate courses appear above in the description of the Japanese studies major.*)

## **Course Listing**

Course level:

100 | 200 | 300 | 400

### ***JPN-101* Elementary Japanese**

Introduction to the fundamentals of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students master hiragana and katakana and learn basic Chinese characters as they are used to write Japanese. Students shop for various items, describe objects, use counters, ask prices, and hold basic conversations all in Japanese. The course also acquaints students with basic patterns, ritual greetings and phrases, and cultural aspects embedded within the use of language.

### ***JPN-102* Elementary Japanese**

Introduction to the fundamentals of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students master hiragana and katakana and learn basic Chinese characters as they are used to write Japanese. Students shop for various items, describe objects, use counters, ask prices, and hold basic conversations all in Japanese. The course also acquaints students with basic patterns, ritual greetings and phrases, and cultural aspects embedded within the use of language.

[Back to the top of course listing](#)

### ***JPN-201 Intermediate Japanese***

Extension of beginning Japanese. Building on the basics, the course emphasizes communication. Students learn to ask and give directions, use honorific and humble verbs, conduct interviews, and discuss family and work situations. Chinese characters (kanji) are introduced at a more rapid rate, and students are able to read and write simple texts and some authentic materials.

### ***JPN-202 Intermediate Japanese***

Extension of beginning Japanese. Building on the basics, the course emphasizes communication. Students learn to ask and give directions, use honorific and humble verbs, conduct interviews, and discuss family and work situations. Chinese characters (kanji) are introduced at a more rapid rate, and students are able to read and write simple texts and some authentic materials.

### ***JPN-203 Advanced Intermediate Japanese***

A language course to prepare students for a possible major or minor in Japanese Studies. The course presents grammar and vocabulary at a faster pace and in broader topics and situations than in the traditional intermediate language course, in order to obtain higher proficiency in both conversation and reading/writing. Also, the course introduces students to skills for beginning independent research and study of materials of their own interests in the field of Japanese Studies.

[Back to the top of course listing](#)

### ***JPN-301 Advanced Japanese***

Continuation of intermediate course. The course refines and integrates skills learned in intermediate level to allow students to handle more complex communications and comprehend more advanced readings with an emphasis on reading and writing kanji.

### ***JPN-302 Advanced Japanese***

Continuation of intermediate course. The course refines and integrates skills learned in intermediate level to allow students to handle more complex communications and comprehend more advanced readings with an emphasis on reading and writing kanji.

### ***JPN-303 Adv Reading, Comp & Conv***

A focus on the development of speaking in honorific language, developing proficiency in reading journalistic style, and becoming more accurate in writing short essays. Discussions are based on advanced-level readings on contemporary issues. Readings include various essays, newspaper articles, and short stories. Students increase their ability to use more sophisticated expressions in both oral and written form.

#### ***JPN-304 Adv Reading, Comp & Conv***

A focus on the development of speaking in honorific language, developing proficiency in reading journalistic style, and becoming more accurate in writing short essays. Discussions are based on advanced-level readings on contemporary issues. Readings include various essays, newspaper articles, and short stories. Students increase their ability to use more sophisticated expressions in both oral and written form.

#### ***JPN-305 Advanced Japanese : Contemporary Issues in Japanese Society***

Study of selected themes in contemporary Japanese society and culture, through reading and discussion of contemporary debates in periodicals, news sources and other media. Readings will focus on such themes as work and social pressure, gender inequality, social alienation, declining birthrates, aging and social support, media images, and education. Conducted in Japanese.

#### ***JPN-306 Advanced Japanese: Discourse and Culture in Second Language Learning***

Study of the significance of cultural knowledge in understanding the meaning of language. The course examines how language learners understand values, expectations and appropriate behavior in Japanese culture, as well as the theoretical underpinnings of pragmatics and discourse analysis.

#### ***JPN-308 Business Japanese***

Advanced Japanese course focusing on the effective communication skills essential in professional fields and the understanding of the Japanese business world. Students develop their verbal, listening, reading, and writing proficiency in business Japanese and acquire culturally appropriate inter-personal communication skills needed to deal with a variety of business situations. Students are expected to effectively employ their language skills to explore and analyze current business trends and issues in Japan. Conducted in Japanese.

[Back to the top of course listing](#)

#### ***JPN-450 Individualized Study-Tutorial***

Individualized tutorial counting toward the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded A-F

***JPN-451 Individualized Study-Tutorial***

Individualized tutorial counting toward the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded S/U

***JPN-452 Individualized Study-Tutorial***

Individualized tutorial not counting in the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded A-F

***JPN-453 Individualized Study-Tutorial***

Individualized tutorial not counting in the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded S/U

***JPN-460 Individualized Study-Research***

Individualized research counting toward the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded A-F

***JPN-461 Individualized Study-Research***

Individualized research counting toward the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded S/U

***JPN-462 Individualized Study-Research***

Individualized research not counting in the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded A-F

***JPN-463 Individualized Study-Research***

Individualized research not counting in the minimum requirements in a major or minor graded S/U

***JPN-470 Individualized Study-Internship***

Internship counting toward the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded A-F

***JPN-471 Individualized Study-Intern***

Internship counting toward the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded S/U

### ***JPN-472 Individualized Study-Internship***

Internship not counting in the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded A-F

### ***JPN-473 Individualized Study-Internship***

Internship not counting in the minimum requirements in a major or minor, graded S/U

### ***JPN-474 Summer Internship***

Summer Internship graded A-F, counting in the minimum requirements for a major or minor only with written permission filed in the Registrar's Office.

### ***JPN-475 Summer Internship***

Summer Internship graded S/U, counting in the minimum requirements for a major or minor only with written permission filed in the Registrar's Office

---

[Back to the top of course listing](#)

[Students](#)

[Faculty](#)

[Employees](#)

[Alumni](#)

[Families](#)

[Visitors](#)

[Employment](#)

[Directory](#)

[News](#)

[Calendars & Events](#)

[myGettysburg](#)

[Giving](#)

[About this Site](#)

[Email via the Web](#)

[Moodle](#)

[CNAV](#)

[Student Center](#)

[Library](#)

[Bookstore](#)

[Mobile](#)



[Gettysburg College](#)

[300 North Washington Street](#)

[Gettysburg , Pennsylvania 17325](#)

[717.337.6300](#)

[Back to top](#)

© 2013 Gettysburg College. All Rights Reserved