JAPANESE, M.A.

UW–Madison offers an M.A. and Ph.D. degree in Japanese, specializing either in linguistics or in literature and culture. The program provides broad foundations and focused training in these two specialties, assuring that our graduates are amply prepared to teach and conduct research.

The linguistics specialty excels in areas such as functional linguistics, pragmatics, discourse/conversation analysis, sociolinguistics, applied linguistics, and language pedagogy.

The literature and culture specialty covers the Heian through Heisei periods, offering a wide range of courses on fiction, poetry, drama, popular culture, visual culture, cinema, acoustic culture, and cutting-edge cross-media and avant-garde topics, particularly manga and anime.

The Japanese Program is housed in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC), along with the Chinese Program and the Asian Languages and Cultures Program. As such, students will have opportunities to interact with all faculty, staff, and graduate students affiliated with the department to examine their area of specialty in broader regional and disciplinary contexts.

ADMISSIONS

Thank you for your interest in our programs. The Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (ALC) offers a graduate program in Asian Languages and Cultures (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/asian-languages-and-cultures), Chinese (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/chinese), and Japanese (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/japanese).

Prior to submitting application and materials, applicants should carefully review the information regarding the program of interest and the faculty’s expertise (https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/) to determine the fit between their interest and the program. To this extent, prospective applicants should contact a specific faculty to discuss their research interest prior to submitting applications.

Applicants should also review the Graduate School’s admission process (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate-asian-languages-cultures/japanese-mar%20https://grad.wisc.edu/apply), Graduate School’s minimum requirements (http://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/requirements), and program requirements and information prior to submitting the online application and fee. The application fee cannot be waived or refunded.

DEADLINES

We accept applications for the fall term only.

In order to be considered for fellowships, project assistantships, and teaching assistantships (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/costs), all application materials must be in by January 10.

If you do not need any funding support, you may submit applications by April 15.

APPLICATION PROCESS

New applicants to UW–Madison apply to programs through the Graduate School application process. Complete the online Graduate application (https://apply.grad.wisc.edu/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2f) and select the Asian Languages and Cultures (major code 596) or Chinese (major code 171) or Japanese (major code 583) program.

If you are a currently enrolled UW-Madison graduate student and would like to add or change your current graduate program to Asian Languages and Cultures, Chinese, or Japanese, you do not need to fill out the online application. You will need to submit the following to the ALC Graduate Program Coordinator (1244 Van Hise):

- Grad School "Add/Change Program (https://grad.wisc.edu/documents/change-program)" form (click on link and look for form in the "Academic Forms" box)
- Letters of recommendation
- CV or Resume
- Statement of purpose

The applications from current UW–Madison graduate students will be reviewed every spring, together with new applications submitted.

GRADUATE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Graduate admissions is a two-step process between academic degree programs and the Graduate School. Applicants must meet requirements of both the program(s) and the Graduate School. Once you have researched the graduate program(s) you are interested in, apply online (https://grad.wisc.edu/admissions).

FUNDING

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Students applying to the Department of Asian Languages and Culture and students currently enrolled in the department may apply for fellowship support. Most fellowships are handled through the department. However, some are available through sources outside of the department and have different application procedures.

Graduate Studies Costs

For tuition and living costs, please view the Cost of Graduate School page (http://grad.wisc.edu/admissions/cost). International applicants recommended for admission to the Graduate School are required to show sufficient funds to attend the University during the course of studies (tuition, food and housing, incidental and health insurance) to be officially accepted by the Graduate School.

Financial Assistance

Our department offers financial assistance in the forms of fellowships, teaching assistantships (TAships), and project assistantships (PAships). These positions are highly competitive as applicants are competing against other applicants across the department, and across campus in some cases. Please make note of the deadline of January 10 for
financial assistance consideration. All necessary materials including test scores must be submitted by the deadline.

If you are an international applicant and receive a fellowship, PAship or TAship, please make note that you will likely be required to show additional financial documentation to meet the minimum required for your official acceptance to the Graduate School.

Fellowships. Students applying to the Department of Asian Languages and Culture and students currently enrolled in the department may apply for fellowship support. Most fellowships are handled through the department. However, some are available through sources outside of the department and have different application procedures. Some examples are as follows:

- Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships: FLAS fellowships are funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered by the UW’s National Resource Centers to assist students in acquiring foreign language and either area or international studies competencies. FLAS awards are only available for specific languages (https://flas.wisc.edu/Languages.html), and are contingent on federal funding. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Applications by students in professional fields are encouraged. Preference will be given to applicants with a high level of academic ability and with previous language training. Academic Year and Summer FLAS awards are two separate competitions requiring two separate and complete applications. Complete details about FLAS at UW-Madison are available on the FLAS FAQs (https://flas.wisc.edu/FAQS.html) (your first stop) and the FLAS Languages & Coordinators (https://flas.wisc.edu/Languages.html) pages (should you have additional questions).
- Advanced Opportunity Fellowship (AOF): This fellowship is awarded to highly qualified underrepresented students. To be considered for AOF funding, prospective students must be new to the Graduate School and be admissible to a graduate program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. For further information: https://grad.wisc.edu/diversity/oeid/

Project Assistantships. Availability of PAship vary from one year to another, depends on the types of projects the departmental faculty are engaged in. PAs assist faculty members’ research projects and/or respond to some programmatic needs of the department and other campus units.

Teaching Assistantships. Availability of TAship vary from one year to another, depending on the department’s curricular needs and the student enrollment. TAs will support a number of our language and culture courses, typically team-teaching with faculty members. If you are interested in being a teaching assistant in our language programs, you must submit the TA application and necessary materials through the Graduate School application system by January 10.

Other Forms of Financial Aid: Loans and some on-campus job openings are handled through the Student Financial Services Office (https://financialaid.wisc.edu). Please contact them to obtain more information.

Please also refer to the Graduate School’s Funding Information for New and Current Graduate Students (https://grad.wisc.edu/studentfunding/currentstudents) page for additional information.

Students may also obtain information from the Grants Information Center (https://www.library.wisc.edu/memorial/collections/grants-information-collection) in the Memorial Library, Room 262, 728 State Street, Madison, WI 53706. Phone 608-262-3242.

If you encounter questions or difficulties with the application process, please contact the Graduate Coordinator at rweiss@wisc.edu.

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/grad/wisconsin/requirements#policiesandrequirementstext), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face to Face</th>
<th>Evening/Weekend</th>
<th>Online</th>
<th>Hybrid</th>
<th>Accelerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Evening/Weekend: These programs are offered in an evening and/or weekend format to accommodate working schedules. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses and personal connections, while keeping your day job. For more information about the meeting schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

Online: These programs are offered primarily online. Many available online programs can be completed almost entirely online with all online programs offering at least 50 percent or more of the program work online. Some online programs have an on-campus component that is often designed to accommodate working schedules. Take advantage of the convenience of online learning while participating in a rich, interactive learning environment. For more information about the online nature of a specific program, contact the program.

Hybrid: These programs have innovative curricula that combine on-campus and online formats. Most hybrid programs are completed on-campus with a partial or completely online semester. For more information about the hybrid schedule of a specific program, contact the program.

Accelerated: These on-campus programs are offered in an accelerated format that allows you to complete your program in a condensed time-frame. Enjoy the advantages of on-campus courses with minimal disruption to your career. For more information about the accelerated nature of a specific program, contact the program.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Minimum | 30 credits
Credit Requirement

Minimum | 16 credits
Residence Credit Requirement

Minimum | All 30 credits must be in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university’s Course Guide Requirement (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/).
**REQUIRED COURSES**

**Linguistics Track**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 434</td>
<td>Introduction to Japanese Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 623</td>
<td>Teaching of Japanese as a Foreign Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 775</td>
<td>Studies in Japanese Linguistics (Repeatable)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 18 credits out of the 30 credits need to be taken from the department. The required courses above must be part of these. You may consider taking courses on Japanese literature/culture to satisfy this portion of requirements.
- If you do not have sufficient linguistics background, you are encouraged to take LINGUIS/ANTHRO 301 Introduction to Linguistics: Descriptive and Theoretical during your first semester.
- If you had not satisfied the prerequisites for the M.A. program (the equivalent of our undergraduate major degree, which includes 4 years of Japanese in our program) prior to your enrollment, you need to satisfy this requirement by taking appropriate level of language courses.
- You may consider taking courses on linguistics, applied linguistics, language acquisition or language education offered in Linguistics, English (Language and Linguistics), Curriculum and Instruction, French and Italian, German, Spanish and Portuguese, and so on to fulfill the requirements.
- Consult the faculty every semester regarding the registration of courses in the following semester. You may discuss your plans with any one of the three Japanese linguistics faculty, but please consult the designated graduate advisor, the role of which will be rotated among the faculty.
- Most students take four semesters to complete the course work necessary for the MA degree, and officially earn the degree in the following summer (an exception to this schedule may be considered on a case-by-case basis).

**Literature Track**

Japanese literature/culture students must take three graduate-level courses (500 level or above) in literature/culture, including at least one course at the 700 level or higher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 573</td>
<td>Readings in Classical Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 574</td>
<td>Readings in Classical Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 563</td>
<td>Readings in Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E ASIAN 564</td>
<td>Readings in Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seminar in Japanese Literature

These tracks are internal to the program and represent different pathways a student can follow to earn this degree. Track names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.

**Policies**

**Graduate School Policies**

The Graduate School's Academic Policies and Procedures (https://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy) provide essential information regarding general university policies. Program authority to set degree policies beyond the minimum required by the Graduate School lies with the degree program faculty. Policies set by the academic degree program can be found below.

**Major-Specific Policies**

**Graduate Program Handbook**

The Graduate Program Handbook (https://alc.wisc.edu/graduate-programs/japanese) is the repository for all of the program's policies and requirements.

**Prior Coursework**

**Graduate Work from Other Institutions**

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework from other institutions. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**UW-Madison Undergraduate**

With program approval, no more than 7 credits of graduate coursework (as defined above) completed while a UW-Madison undergraduate may be counted to satisfy degree requirements. Coursework earned five or more years prior to admission to a master's degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**UW-Madison University Special**

With program approval, students are allowed to count no more than 9 credits of graduate coursework (as defined above) taken as a UW-Madison Special student. Coursework earned
five or more years prior to admission to a master’s degree is not allowed to satisfy requirements.

**PROBATION**

If a student’s average falls below 3.0 in a given semester, the department will decide whether the student may continue on probation. A specific plan will be arranged with dates and deadlines in place in regard to removal of probationary status.

**ADVISOR / COMMITTEE**

Starting fall 2018, all students are required to have two co-advisors, identified at the time of admissions. During the course of study, students meet regularly with their advisors to ensure satisfactory progress.

**CREDITS PER TERM ALLOWED**

15 credits

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

- The maximum time for completing all M.A. requirements and passing the M.A. examination is three years.
- Master’s degree students who are absent for five or more years will not be given credit for prior work.

**OTHER**

The program offers limited financial assistance in the form of fellowships and teaching assistantships to candidates who are highly qualified. Applicants should consult the program website for selection criteria and application materials for assistantships.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES**

Resources to help you afford graduate study might include assistantships, fellowships, traineeships, and financial aid. Further funding information (https://grad.wisc.edu/funding) is available from the Graduate School. Be sure to check with your program for individual policies and processes related to funding.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

The Graduate School Office of Professional Development (OPD) coordinates, develops, and promotes learning opportunities to foster the academic, professional, and life skills of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers and scholars.

Professional development topics include Individual Development Plans (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/idp), communication, mentoring, grant writing, dissertation writing, career exploration, job search strategies, and more. OPD collaborates with the Writing Center, Libraries, DoIT Software Training for Students, Delta, career centers, and others to provide a wealth of resources and events tailored to the needs of UW–Madison graduate students.

The office developed and maintains DiscoverPD (https://my.grad.wisc.edu/DiscoverPD), an innovative tool for UW-Madison graduate students to advance their academic and professional goals. DiscoverPD introduces nine areas (or “facets”) of professional development, includes a self-assessment, and provides a customized report of areas of strength and weakness. The report comes with recommendations to help graduate students strengthen their ability within each area.

More information on campus resources for student professional development is available at Graduate Student Professional Development (http://grad.wisc.edu/pd). Students may keep up-to-date by reading GradConnections (https://grad.wisc.edu/new-students), the weekly newsletter for graduate students, and bookmarking the Events Calendar (https://grad.wisc.edu/events) to keep tabs on upcoming workshops of interest.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Demonstrate a thorough and in-depth understanding of research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory, knowledge, or practice in at least one of the following areas of study: Japanese literature and culture, Japanese linguistics, and Transasian studies.

2. Formulate ideas, concepts, designs, and/or techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within the specialized field(s).

3. Create scholarship and advance knowledge that makes a substantive contribution to the field(s).

4. Articulate and communicate complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner to both specialized and general audience.

5. Recognize, apply, and foster ethical and professional conduct.

**PEOPLE**

**FACULTY**

Charo D’Etcheverry, Associate Professor

[cdetcheverry@wisc.edu](mailto:cdetcheverry@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Classical Japanese literature (especially court fiction & its reception and early kabuki)

Naomi Geyer, Associate Professor

[ngeyer@wisc.edu](mailto:nfgeyer@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language, Language Pedagogy, Pragmatics

Adam L. Kern, Professor

[alkern@wisc.edu](mailto:alkern@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: The popular literature, culture, poetry, theater, and visual culture of early modern unto modern Japan (1600-1900). Transcultural comics in Japan (manga, kibyôshi, etc) and beyond.

Naomi McGloin, Professor

[nmcmgloin@wisc.edu](mailto:nmcmgloin@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language and Linguistics

Junko Mori, Professor

[jmori@wisc.edu](mailto:jmori@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language and Linguistics

Takako Nakakubo, Faculty Associate

**DiscoverPD**

DiscoverPD introduces nine areas (or “facets”) of professional development, includes a self-assessment, and provides a customized report of areas of strength and weakness. The report comes with recommendations to help graduate students strengthen their ability within each area.

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Naomi Geyer, Associate Professor

[ngeyer@wisc.edu](mailto:nfgeyer@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language, Language Pedagogy, Pragmatics

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Naomi McGloin, Professor

[nmcmgloin@wisc.edu](mailto:nmcmgloin@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language and Linguistics

Junko Mori, Professor

[jmori@wisc.edu](mailto:jmori@wisc.edu)

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language and Linguistics

Takako Nakakubo, Faculty Associate
tnakakubo@wisc.edu

Areas of Expertise: Second Language Acquisition of Japanese, Japanese Pedagogy, Learning Strategies

Steve Ridgely, Associate professor

steve.ridgely@wisc.edu

Areas of Expertise: modern Japanese literature, cultural theory, transasian studies

Current Research: 1960s counterculture, Expo 70, kitsch, topology in Japanese art and literature