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

Please consult the table below for key information about this degree program’s admissions requirements. The program may have more detailed admissions requirements, which can be found below the table or on the program’s website.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall Deadline</td>
<td>January 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Deadline</td>
<td>This program does not admit in the spring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Deadline</td>
<td>This program does not admit in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)</td>
<td>Required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Proficiency Test</td>
<td>Every applicant whose native language is not English or whose undergraduate instruction was not in English must provide an English proficiency test score and meet the Graduate School minimum requirements (<a href="https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency">https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/requirements/#english-proficiency</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Test(s) (e.g., GMAT, MCAT)</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters of Recommendation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 may 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), 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 assistancies, and teaching assistancies (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.

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.

**GRADUATE STUDENT COSTS**

For tuition and living costs, please view the Cost of Attendance page (https://financialaid.wisc.edu/cost-of-attendance/). 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.

**PROGRAM RESOURCES**

The Department of Asian Languages and Cultures offers financial assistance in the forms of fellowships, teaching assistantships (TAships), and project assistantships (PAships). 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**

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/.

- **Project Assistantships.** Availability of PAship vary from one year to another, depending 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 and types 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 (1-2 page written autobiography that refers to your prior teaching experience, letter of recommendation that speaks to your teaching experience, video recording of your teaching, if available) 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/funding/) page for additional information.

  - Students may also obtain information from the Grants Information Center (https://www.library.wisc.edu/memorial/collections/grants-information- (http://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.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS**

Review the Graduate School minimum academic progress and degree requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/ #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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Detail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Credit Requirement</td>
<td>30 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Residence Credit Requirement</td>
<td>16 credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement</td>
<td>Half of degree coursework (15 credits out of 30 total credits) must be completed graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide (<a href="https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/">https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Graduate GPA Requirement</td>
<td>3.00 GPA required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grade Requirements</td>
<td>Students must earn a B or above in all coursework taken as a graduate student.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments and Examinations</td>
<td>Japanese linguistics students are required to pass two in-class exams on Japanese Pedagogy and Japanese Linguistics; and to successfully deliver an M.A. project presentation based on a research project or a pedagogy-oriented project. For Japanese literature/culture students, a final examination is required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Language Requirements**

1. Advanced proficiency in modern Japanese is required.

**REQUIRED COURSES**

**Linguistics Track**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 434</td>
<td>Introduction to Japanese Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 713</td>
<td>Teaching of Japanese as a Foreign Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ASIAN 700</td>
<td>Teaching Asian Languages</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 775</td>
<td>Japanese Applied Linguistics ((Repeatable))</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. 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 did not satisfy the prerequisites for the M.A. program (the equivalent of our undergraduate major degree (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/asian-languages-cultures/japanese-ba/#requirementstext) 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 co-advisors every semester regarding the registration of courses in the following semester.
- 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).

1. 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.

**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>ASIAN 573</td>
<td>Readings in Classical Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 563</td>
<td>Readings in Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 763</td>
<td>Studies in Japanese Literature (Seminar in Japanese Literature)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seminar in Japanese Literature

1. 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.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**
1. Demonstrate understanding of the primary field(s) of study in a historical, comparative, and global context.
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.

**FACULTY**
- **Charo D’Etcheverry, Associate Professor**
  website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/charo-detcheverry
  email: cdetcheverry@wisc.edu
  Areas of Expertise: Classical Japanese literature (especially court fiction & its reception and early kabuki)

- **Naomi Geyer, Associate Professor**
  website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/naomi-geyer
  email: nfgeyer@wisc.edu
  Areas of Expertise: Japanese Language, Language Pedagogy, Pragmatics

- **Adam L. Kern, Professor**
  website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/adam-l-kern
  email: alkern@wisc.edu
  Areas of Expertise: Japanese Literature, 17th-20th Century Literature
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, kibyōshi, etc) and beyond.

Junko Mori, Professor

website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/junko-mori
email: jmori@wisc.edu

Areas of Expertise: Japanese Linguistics, Applied Linguistics, Conversation Analysis, Sociolinguistics

Takako Nakakubo, Faculty Associate

website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/takako-nakakubo
email: tnakakubo@wisc.edu

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

Steve Ridgely, Associate Professor

website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/steve-ridgely
email: steve.ridgely@wisc.edu

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