**JAPANESE, M.A.**

UW–Madison offers M.A. and Ph.D. degrees 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 classical Heian through contemporary Reiwa 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 (http://alc.wisc.edu/) (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 (https://grad.wisc.edu/apply/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://grad.wisc.edu/apply/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</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>
</tbody>
</table>

* Due to COVID-19, there have been challenges for students attempting to take the GRE. For students applying for Fall 2021, the GRE requirement is optional. Regardless of whether GRE scores are submitted, all applications will be held in equal regard.

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 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-ma/%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 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 restrictions 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, incidentals and health insurance) to be officially accepted by the Graduate School.

DEPARTMENT 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.

OTHER AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

• 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 pages (https://flas.wisc.edu/Languages.html) (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.

• Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS) Awards

Office: IRIS manages its own funding opportunities (Scott Kloeck-Jenson Fellowships, IRIS Graduate Fieldwork Awards, Incubator Grants), coordinates the campus component of a number of external programs (Boren Fellowships, Fulbright US Student Program, Fulbright-Hays DDRA, Luce Scholars Program), assists students, faculty, and staff in exploring funding options, and much more. Visit: https://iris.wisc.edu/funding/ for more information on awards. Contact Mark Lilleleht, Assistant Director for Awards, with questions at awards@iris.wisc.edu & 608-265-6070.

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

• Students may also obtain information from the Grants Information Center 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/#policiesandrequirements), 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

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students are able to complete a program with minimal disruptions to careers and other commitments.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.
**Online:** These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

**CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements Detail</th>
<th></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>
</tbody>
</table>

Minimum Graduate 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 (https://registrar.wisc.edu/course-guide/).

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement 3.00 GPA required.

Other Grade Requirements: Students must earn a B or above in all coursework taken as a graduate student.

Assessments and Examinations: 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.

**LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS**

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 or ASIAN 700</td>
<td>Teaching Asian Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 775</td>
<td>Japanese Applied Linguistics (Repeatable)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Credits (Within ALC)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 300</td>
<td>Topics in Asian Studies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 353</td>
<td>Lovers, Warriors and Monks: Survey of Japanese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 354</td>
<td>Early Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 355</td>
<td>Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 361</td>
<td>Love and Politics: The Tale of Genji</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 367</td>
<td>Haiku</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 376</td>
<td>Manga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Credits (Outside of ALC)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 378</td>
<td>Anime</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 533</td>
<td>Readings in Early Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 563</td>
<td>Readings in Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 573</td>
<td>Readings in Classical Japanese Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 775</td>
<td>Japanese Applied Linguistics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 699</td>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits**

30

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.

2. 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 (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.

- 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).

**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>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 533</td>
<td>Readings in Early Modern Japanese Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**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**

**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.

**Grievances and Appeals**

These resources may be helpful in addressing your concerns:
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://my.grad.wisc.edu/DiscoverPD/), 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 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.

### PEOPLE

#### FACULTY

**Charo D’Etcheverry, Professor**  
website: https://alc.wisc.edu/about/faculty/charo-detcheverry  
email: cdetchevery@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: al kern@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, 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