The Japanese program offers students a range of courses and activities that enhance students’ intercultural and transcultural competencies. With the completion of the four basic years of the language, students will be prepared to handle various types of colloquial Japanese. Our majors pursue advanced studies in Japanese language or literature. It is also possible to combine an interest in Japan with a degree in business, engineering, history, or international studies.

Majors are urged to begin coursework early, ideally in the freshman or sophomore year. If, however, this is not possible, summer courses at UW–Madison or elsewhere are available which speed the student’s progress. Those who have previous Japanese study experience may enter advanced courses on the basis of department recommendation.


STUDY ABROAD IN JAPAN
Students may receive residence credit for study abroad through a variety of programs sponsored by the department. Please contact International Academic Programs (https://www.studyabroad.wisc.edu/) for details.

Students may also receive credit, or gain experience, through various internship opportunities abroad. Please contact International Internship Programs (http://internships.international.wisc.edu/) for details.

STARTING COURSEWORK TOWARD THE MAJOR
Before declaring the major, students are urged to begin coursework early, ideally in the freshman or sophomore year. If, however, this is not possible, summer courses at UW–Madison or elsewhere are available which speed the student’s progress. Those who have previous Japanese study experience may enter advanced courses on the basis of placement tests (https://alc.wisc.edu/languages/placement-tests/).