

# Japanese

In the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages  
In the College of Arts and Letters

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<http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/linguist/index.html>

## Faculty

Chair: Kaplan  
Professor: Higurashi  
Associate Professor: Kitajima  
Lecturer: Yamaga

## Offered by the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

Major in Japanese.  
Minor in Japanese.

## Offered by International Business

Major in international business, with emphasis in Japanese.

## The Major

Japanese is the fastest growing language in U.S. higher education. Due to the interdependence between the U.S. and Japan, as well as Japan's role in the world economy, the importance of Japanese has become evident.

Students who major in Japanese will gain proficiency in Japanese language skills, and the department offers a broad variety of courses designed to prepare majors for a number of careers after graduation. A major in Japanese is also a good preparatory curriculum for graduate programs in such areas as international business, international law, librarianship, public administration, and journalism.

A knowledge of Japanese is a valuable asset in finding positions as interpreters and translators employed by the federal government, the United Nations, international conferences, trade councils, and publishers, as well as internationally oriented companies, government agencies, the press corps, and the tourism industry. It also gives graduates an advantage in looking for positions in Japan in such areas as language teaching, business consulting, or journalism.

## Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Japanese Major

### With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences (Major Code: 11081)

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 56 units in Japanese courses can apply to the degree.

Students majoring in Japanese must complete a minor in another field to be approved by the departmental adviser in Japanese.

All students with transfer credits must take placement test at the Student Testing, Research and Assessment Office at SDSU.

**Note:** Speakers of Japanese who have completed compulsory education through junior high school in Japan, or those who pass level one of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test, created and edited by The Association of International Education and the Japan Foundation, or equivalent, will receive no credit for Japanese 311, 312, 321, 322, 411, 412, 421, and 422.

**Preparation for the Major.** Japanese 111, 112, 211, and 212. (24 units) A maximum of 24 lower division units of Japanese courses may be used to satisfy degree requirements.

**Language Requirement.** The language requirement is automatically fulfilled through coursework for preparation for the major.

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** A minimum of 32 upper division units in Japanese to include Japanese 311, 312, 321, 322, 411, 412, 421, and 422.

## Japanese Minor

The minor in Japanese consists of a minimum of 24 units taught in Japanese, at least 12 units of which must be in upper division Japanese courses. Any course taught in English needs department approval to apply to the minor requirements.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of eight upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University, and a proficiency level equal to that of Japanese 411 must be demonstrated.

## Language Requirement for the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

Students electing the study of Japanese to fulfill the language requirement for the Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts and sciences must successfully complete Japanese 211 or the equivalent level of achievement. The usual sequence of coursework is Japanese 111, 112, and 211. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements" for additional ways to satisfy competency.

## High School Equivalents

High school foreign language courses may be used for purposes of placement in college courses and may be counted toward meeting the language requirement in various majors. These high school courses will not count as college credit toward graduation.

Secondary school language courses can be used as follows:

1. The first **two years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of the first semester of a college level course, although students with fewer than three years of high school level language may complete the first semester college course for graduation credit.

2. The first **three years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of the first two college semesters, although students with fewer than four years of high school level language may complete the second semester college course for graduation credit. Students who have completed three years of foreign language in high school will not receive credit for the first semester college course unless at least five years separate the last high school course and the first college course.

3. **Four years** of high school level language count as the equivalent of three college semesters or five college quarters, thus fulfilling the language requirement.

## Japanese Language Proficiency Test

The Japanese language proficiency test is taken to assess the proficiency level and to place students at the most appropriate level in the curriculum of the Japanese language program at San Diego State University. Students who have special backgrounds, and those SDSU students who took Japanese elsewhere, including SDSU students who participated in exchange programs, are required to meet with the program adviser and to take this examination.

Test dates and times are listed in the "Special Tests" section of the *Class Schedule*.