

# JAPANESE, B.A.

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**Begin Campus:** Any Penn State Campus

**End Campus:** University Park

## Program Description

The major in Japanese strengthens students' overall skills in internationalism and provides a focus on one of the world's most important nations. The Japanese major is designed for students who want to develop proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing Japanese, and acquire profound knowledge of Japanese culture, history, and civilization in the context of East Asia.

The Japanese major requires students to study abroad in order to deepen their understanding of the language, culture and contemporary society, and to develop intercultural and comparative perspectives.

The major can also help students prepare for graduate study in Japan-related fields and professional careers where proficiency in Japanese is required, such as government services, or multinational companies.

Students planning to teach in public schools should schedule the appropriate courses leading to certification in consultation with an adviser in the College of Education.

## What is Japanese?

The Japanese program provides students with an opportunity to concentrate on acquiring expertise in an important modern language and its culture. Giving students a strong working knowledge of the Japanese language and understanding of Japanese culture, the program can help prepare students for work in contexts where the language and culture are pertinent, to live and work in Japan as informed and capable individuals equipped with appropriate intercultural skills and awareness, or for graduate study in Japan-related fields. Graduates may work in government service, domestic and foreign offices, or international agencies. Many go on to teach English in Japan or to do translation work. Employment may also be available with trade organizations, international banking houses, or U.S. companies abroad. Domestic and multinational companies are increasingly seeking employees with backgrounds in multicultural studies as a way of dealing with the global market.

## You Might Like This Program If...

- You are interested in Japanese language, culture, history, or society.
- You want to live or work in Japan.
- You are aiming for a career involving travel to Japan and interaction with native speakers of Japanese.