

Why Japanese?

Relevance: As the world's third largest economy and one of the United States' most important allies and trading partners, Japan is critical to an understanding of global issues. Japan also exerts enormous "soft power" through the borderless appeal of its anime, manga, film, and literature.

Focus: The new BA (major) in Japanese Studies gives you the linguistic and cultural fluency to provide expertise on Japanese culture and society. A double major or minor brings geographical focus to studies in International Relations, Global Studies, Anthropology, Finance Film & Media Studies, and more.

Marketable Skills: Japanese is one of the ten most widely-spoken languages in the world, one of the most widely used languages on the Internet, and a language in which the US State Department has identified a critical need. Japanese language skills give you a rare advantage in the job market.

Opportunities: We offer four levels of language study and a wide variety of courses in English on Japanese culture. We provide opportunities to study abroad, live in our special-interest residence hall Japanese House, and conduct independent research as part of your degree.

We Look Forward to Hearing from You!

Email us with any questions:
Professor Cronin (mpcronin@wm.edu) or
Professor Sasaki (tsasaki@wm.edu).

And learn more at:
www.wm.edu/as/modernlanguages/japanese



WILLIAM & MARY BA in Japanese Studies

"Choosing to major in Japanese was one of the most rewarding and beneficial decisions I made as an undergraduate student."

Nic Querolo ('16)





W&M gives you the opportunity to pursue your interest in Japan and turn it into a career and a life-long pursuit.

Our Course Offerings

In addition to 4 levels of Japanese language instruction, we offer a variety of cultural-studies courses taught in English. These include:

JAPN 100 Anime Explores the Posthuman
 JAPN 150 Japan's Alternate Histories
 JAPN 208 Introduction to Japanese Studies
 JAPN 210 Modern & Contemporary J Literature
 JAPN 211 Samurai: History & Myth
 JAPN 220 Japan's Ghosts & Demons
 JAPN 307 *Washoku*: Japanese Food (in Japanese)
 JAPN 311 Japanese Cinema
 JAPN 320 The Japanese City

Courses in other departments may count toward the interdisciplinary elective for the major. These include:

ANTH 347 Japanese Society
 ARTH 255 The Art of East Asia
 GOVT 336 Govt. and Politics of China and Japan
 HIST 265 Postwar Japan
 RELG 215 History of Religion in East Asia
 RELG 366 Buddhism in Japan

"The State's First Japanese Degree Program" – *The Virginia Mercury*

The US State Department notes that Japanese provides "a competitive edge among Americans seeking to engage in East Asia's booming global market," and stressing the importance of both "Japanese language proficiency and cultural knowledge" in forming "successful cross-cultural partnerships."

The Japanese Studies program at W&M provides precisely this combination of uncommon linguistic proficiency and deep cultural knowledge. Our emphasis is on modern and contemporary Japan. Students completing the major will possess an in-depth knowledge of the social, economic, and cultural conditions of a nation vital to U.S. security and advancement, and the skills necessary to enter a wide variety of career paths.

Our students have gone on to employ their knowledge of Japan in careers in the public and private sector (at such major firms as Goldman Sachs and Bandai), in the US and Japan. Others have continued to graduate work at Harvard, Columbia, Duke, Berkeley, UVA, and elsewhere.

The Japanese Studies major comprises 33 credits, including the introductory course, a history survey, a cultural survey, electives in Japanese Studies and in related fields, and 9 credits in Japanese beyond 202. Your faculty advisor will help you select courses to fulfill major requirements.

We encourage majors to study abroad in Japan if possible, through a summer-, semester-, or year-long program. Up to 9 credits from courses taken at universities in Japan may be applied to the major.

Japanese Studies majors participate in faculty-mentored research through the Advanced Seminar (JAPN 450), where you can develop and explore your interest in all aspects of Japanese culture and society.



WILLIAM & MARY
BA in Japanese Studies