Program Description

Degree Awarded: MA Asian Languages and Civilizations (Japanese)

The Asian languages faculty in the School of International Letters and Cultures offer a graduate program leading to an MA in Asian languages and civilizations with a concentration in Japanese.

In addition to preparing students for further academic training, the program helps to prepare students for jobs relating to Japan, in fields such as law, business, journalism and translation, and for entrance into professional schools.

Students who see higher-level understanding of the language and culture Japan as a valuable asset to a professional career are an ideal fit for this program as are students who want to pursue doctoral studies in the same or a closely related field.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe campus](#)

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis, or
30 credit hours including the required applied project course (JPN 593)

**Required Core (3 credit hours)**
CHI 501/JPN 501 Proseminar: East Asian Humanities (3)

**Concentration (3 credit hours)**
JPN 586 History of Japanology (3)

**Electives (18 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**
JPN 593 Applied Project (6) or
JPN 599 Thesis (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**
The MA in Asian languages and civilizations has concentrations in Chinese and Japanese. Students in the Chinese concentration take CHI 501 as required core and students in the Japanese concentration take JPN 501 for core. The course is cross-listed.

Electives are selected in consultation with the program chairperson.

**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor’s or master’s degree, in Japanese or a related field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00="A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor’s degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00="A") in an applicable master’s degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. personal statement
4. resume
5. writing sample
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency
Additional Application Information
An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

The writing sample should represent the applicant's thinking and writing skills on a topic connected with Japanese culture. The personal statement should highlight the applicant's motivations and skills and indicate why they are interested in the Japanese graduate program. Candidates for the program should present the equivalent of an undergraduate major in Japanese upon entrance to the program. Those who lack this background but who show strong potential and meet the Graduate College admission requirements may be admitted to a graduate program on a conditional basis, pending removal of specified deficiencies. These deficiencies must be completed in addition to the regular plan of study for the master's degree.

Students should see the School of International Letters and Cultures website for more information.

Contact Information

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