Japanese Section Activities

Community Outreach / Experiential Learning
The Japanese program at the University of Memphis offers various outreach activities and experiential learning opportunities for students and the Memphis community. We work closely with K12 schools and local NPO such as the Memphis Botanic Garden, GPAC, and Opera Memphis. With funding support from Japanese companies and government agencies, we introduce Japanese culture to facilitate the community's understanding of Japan and our multicultural society. The program's Japanese students volunteer for various outreach events and internship programs, which give them an excellent opportunity to use what they learned in class for real purposes. For more information, please contact the outreach program co-ordinator Ms. Sommer at asommer@memphis.edu, www.facebook.com/japan.memphis

Weekly Japanese Language Table
The Japanese Language Table is an informal gathering where all students are invited to practice their Japanese every week and become friends with exchange students from Japan. Please contact Ms. Watanabe at swatanab@memphis.edu for the schedule.

MANGA Library
The Japanese program has a student-operated Manga Library in the Student Lounge (241 Jones). If you want to read books, please contact Ms. Watanabe at swatanab@memphis.edu

Memphis Kendo Club
Kendo is Japanese fencing. With its foundation in traditional Japanese sword training, it has developed over many years into a modern fencing art. Please contact the club organizer, rbgossett@fedex.com for more information.

Japanese Language Faculty

YUKI MATSUDA, Professor of Japanese, Japanese Program Coordinator.
Ph.D., 1997, University of Southern California.
Areas of Interest: Language Pedagogy, Linguistics of Japanese Popular Culture, Media discourse

HIRONORI NISHI, Assistant Professor of Japanese.
Ph.D., 2016, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
Areas of Interest: Japanese linguistics, Discourse analysis, Second language acquisition

SHINOBU WATANABE, Instructor of Japanese.
M.A., 2015, University of Memphis
Areas of interest: Language Pedagogy

KAORI FUJI
Adjunct Instructor

AKEMI SOMMER
Adjunct Instructor
Coordinator of the Japan Outreach

YUKIKO TERADA
Adjunct Instructor

Why Learn Japanese?
Studying Japanese brings career opportunities for international business, translation, and education. Indeed there is tremendous opportunity for someone who is fluent in Japanese in the State of Tennessee. There are 180 Japanese-owned companies in Tennessee, employing more than 40,000 Tennesseans, and account for cumulative capital investments of more than $15 billion. Also, both traditional and popular culture have become part of international culture. Studying Japanese will give you direct access to Japanese culture, fine and performing art, and modern technology such as robotics, tea ceremony, calligraphy, Zen garden, architecture, literature, fashion, music, dance, cuisine, manga, animation, and video games.

The University of Memphis is the only institution in the mid-south region to offer the full Japanese major and is one of the largest major programs in the U.S.
Japanese Major and Minor

THE MAJOR Students majoring in World Languages may choose Japanese as a single-language concentration or as part of a two or three-language concentration. A single-language concentration requires 24 upper-division hours in Japanese. A two-language concentration requires 27 upper-division hours in the department, with at least nine credit hours in each language. A three-language concentration requires at least 33 upper-division hours, with coursework chosen in consultation with the chair of the department.

THE MINOR Students must take eighteen hours, including JAPN 1020, 2010, and 2020, plus nine upper-division JAPN hours.

University of Memphis study abroad programs are designed to provide students with the opportunity to combine a rigorous academic program with a cross-cultural learning experience that is not available in the United States. We offer semester, academic year, and summer programs to meet the diverse needs of the U of M student population.

Visit http://www.memphis.edu/abroad/for more information.

Exchange Partners:
Chou Gakuin University (Chiba)
Nagoya Gakuin University (Nagoya)
Meiji University (Tokyo)
J.F. Oberlin University (Tokyo)
ISEP: Chukyo University; Kansai Gaidai University; Nanzan University; Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University; Ritsumeikan University; Toyo University
CCIS: KCP International Language Institute

For more information about Japanese at the University of Memphis, please contact Dr. Yuki Matsuda, the coordinator of the Japanese program (ymatsuda@memphis.edu), or visit www.memphis.edu/fl/japanese/, and www.facebook.com/japanese.memphis

COURSES OFFERED:

JAPN 1010 Elementary Japanese I (3): Basic skills fundamental to language proficiency and culture. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 1010, or equivalent.

JAPN 1020 Elementary Japanese II (3): Further development of basic skills fundamental to language proficiency and culture. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 1010, or equivalent.

JAPN 2010 Intermediate Japanese I (3): Continued development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 1020, or equivalent.


JAPN 3001 Conversation I Composition I (3): PREREQUISITE: JAPN 2020, or equivalent.

JAPN 3002 Conversation and Composition II (3): PREREQUISITE: JAPN 3001, or equivalent.

JAPN 3401 Introduction to Japanese Literature (3): Japanese literature and culture through a selection of important literary works written since 1900. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 3301, or equivalent.

JAPN 3402 Directed Readings in Japanese Culture (3): Continued development of cultural competencies and language skills through a wide range of primary reading materials such as newspaper articles, comic books, biographies, and essays.


JAPN 3900 Japanese Culture and Society (3): Intensive language and culture course; travel to Japanese speaking country required.

JAPN 4401 Advanced Japanese I (3): Advanced development of language skills and cultural knowledge. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 3302 or permission.

JAPN 4402 Advanced Japanese II (3): Continuation of JAPN 4401. Further development of advanced language and cultural skills. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 4401 or permission.


JAPN 4701/4702 Japanese for Professional Purposes (3): Focusing on the acquisition of communication skills and socio-cultural knowledge that are necessary to handle formal and professional situations in a Japanese speaking environment. PREREQUISITE: JAPN 3302, or permission.

JAPN 4780 Individual Studies in Japanese (3): Directed individual study in selected area of Japanese chosen in consultation with instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours credit. PREREQUISITE: permission.

JAPN 4791-99 Special Topics in Japanese Language, Culture, or Literature (3): May be repeated for a maximum of 6 hours credit. PREREQUISITE: permission of instructor. Cross-listing 7000 level.

JAPN 7101/7102 Advanced Business Japanese I, II (3): For graduate students in the IMBA and other programs.

LALI 4500 Japanese Culture and Society (3): Study of Japanese culture through hands-on activities along with reading and creating media resources on traditional, popular, and business culture of Japan. Japanese language skills are not required.