

# Japanese

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## (Asian Studies)

Learning Japanese introduces you to a dynamic nation of 120 million people at the hub of technological innovation, trade, and diplomatic relations in the world's fastest-growing market: the Pacific Rim. It introduces you to a modern country that has maintained a distinct cultural identity; to a society that still emphasizes the individual's responsibilities to family and group; and to an economy with distinctive solutions to problems of productivity, management, and motivation in the work place. It introduces you to the earliest non-Western nation to become a modern world power.

St. Olaf teaches four full years of Japanese language and sends language students to three different campuses in Japan. Study programs in Japan are available at Waseda University in Tokyo through the ACM, Nagoya University in Nagoya, and Hokusei Gakuen University in Sapporo.

## Courses

For information about the Japan studies concentration and the Asian studies major, see Asian Studies (<http://catalog.stolaf.edu/academic-programs/asian-studies>).

### **JAPAN 111: Beginning Japanese I**

This course is an introduction to speaking, reading, and writing Japanese; writing includes the learning of all syllabic letters (Hiragana and Katakana) and basic Kanji (Chinese characters). Class meets four times weekly. Individual language laboratory visits are also required. Offered annually in the fall semester.

### **JAPAN 112: Beginning Japanese II**

This course is an introduction to speaking, reading, and writing Japanese; writing includes the learning of all syllabic letters (Hiragana and Katakana) and basic Kanji (Chinese characters). Class meets four times weekly. Individual language laboratory visits are also required. Offered annually in the spring semester.

**Prerequisite:** JAPAN 111 or equivalent.

### **JAPAN 231: Intermediate Japanese I**

Students continue to develop the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills that enable them to deal not only with topics of daily life, but also cultural themes and authentic materials. Class meets four times weekly. Offered annually in the fall semester.

**Prerequisite:** JAPAN 112 or its equivalent.

### **JAPAN 232: Intermediate Japanese II**

Students continue to develop the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills that enable them to deal not only with topics of daily life, but also cultural themes and authentic materials. Class meets four times weekly. Offered annually in the spring semester. Counts toward management studies concentration.

**Prerequisite:** JAPAN 231 or its equivalent.

### **JAPAN 294: Academic Internship**

### **JAPAN 298: Independent Study**

### **JAPAN 301: Advanced Japanese I**

This third-year-level course aims to increase the knowledge of Japanese people, language, and society by comparing with students' own cultures in their target language. Various authentic "texts" (images, video clips, written texts, etc.) support student learning. Counts toward management studies concentration.

**Prerequisite:** JAPAN 232 or equivalent.

### **JAPAN 302: Advanced Japanese II**

This course builds on Japanese 301 and aims to increase the knowledge of Japanese people, language, and society by comparing with students' own cultures in their target language. Authentic "texts" (images, video clips, written texts, etc.) support student learning. Counts toward management studies concentration.

**Prerequisite:** JAPAN 301 or its equivalent.

### **JAPAN 320: Special Topics in Japanese**

In this fourth-year-level Japanese course, students explore a specified topic or theme in language, in various text/media (literature, newspaper, manga, and films), in culture/civilization, or in a combination of these, through close examination of texts (written or visual), discussion, analysis, and interpretation of selected materials. Sample topics include "Best Sellers and Film Adaptations" and "Haiku and the Concept of Nature." May be repeated if topic is different. Taught in Japanese.

**Prerequisite:** JAPAN 302 or equivalent.

### **JAPAN 394: Academic Internship**

### **JAPAN 398: Independent Research**

## Faculty

### **Hiroe Akimoto**

Instructor in Asian Studies

Japanese language instruction

### **Rika Ito**

Associate Professor of Asian Studies

language change and variation; sociolinguistics; language and gender; Japanese

### **Joanne Quimby**

Assistant Professor of Asian Studies

modern Japanese literature