College of Arts and Sciences

JPN Japan Studies

JPN 101 BEGINNING JAPANESE I. (4)
A course in first semester Japanese language.

JPN 102 BEGINNING JAPANESE II. (4)
A course in second semester Japanese language. Prereq: JPN 101 or equivalent.

JPN 201 INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE I. (3)
A course in third semester Japanese language. Prereq: JPN 102/RAE 121 or equivalent.

JPN 202 INTERMEDIATE JAPANESE II. (3)
A course in fourth semester Japanese language. Prereq: JPN 201/RAE 220 or equivalent.

JPN 283 JAPANESE FILM. (3)
Study of Japanese films as an expression of Japanese culture. Viewing of films outside of class required. (Same as ENG 283.)

JPN 301 ADVANCED JAPANESE I. (3)
This course is primarily a course in contemporary Japanese culture, but serves as a third year language course. The “texts” will consist of contemporary written materials (books, magazines, newspapers) and visual materials (tv programs, movies) and will exercise the four skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) studied in the first four semesters of the language. By building on the skills learned in the initial semesters, this course will continue and strengthen the oral and aural, written and reading skills in Japanese, for students who have studied the equivalent of two years of Japanese language. Further, this course will emphasize the speaking and listening skills. It is paired with JPN 302, a course emphasizing reading and writing skills. Thus, students who complete this course will be able to communicate at a rather sophisticated level of Japanese on a variety of contemporary topics within Japanese society. Prereq: JPN 202 or permission of instructor.

JPN 302 ADVANCED JAPANESE II. (3)
This course is primarily a course in contemporary Japanese culture, but serves as third year language course. The “texts” will consist of contemporary written materials (books, magazines, newspapers) and visual materials (tv programs, movies) and will exercise the four skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) studied in the first four semesters of the language. By building on the skills learned in the initial semesters, this course will continue and strengthen the oral and aural, written and reading skills in Japanese, for students who have studied the equivalent of two years of Japanese language. Further, this course will emphasize the reading and writing skills. It is paired with JPN 301, a course emphasizing speaking and listening skills. Thus, students who complete this course will be able to communicate at a rather sophisticated level of Japanese on a variety of contemporary topics within Japanese society, and will be comfortable within Japanese print media. Prereq: JPN 301.

JPN 320 INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE CULTURE, PRE-MODERN TO 1868. (3)
This course, taught in English, is designed as a general introduction to the culture of pre-modern Japan (up to the Meiji Restoration of 1868). This discussion will focus heavily on the literary arts but will also encompass film, architecture, and the fine arts.

JPN 321 INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE CULTURE, MEIJI (1868) TO PRESENT. (3)
General introduction to Japanese culture from Meiji Restoration (1868) to the present, focusing mainly on the literary arts, but also including film, architecture and the fine arts. (Same as ANT 321.)

JPN 334 ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY AND ECONOMY OF JAPAN. (3)
This course examines some of the major aspects of the society, culture, and economy of Japan. It discusses Japan’s human and natural environments; natural hazards and disasters; cultural history and geography; economic and technological developments, their prospects and potentials; challenges to the management of environment and its resources; and Japan’s role in global economy. (Same as GEO 334.)

JPN 395 INDEPENDENT WORK IN JAPANESE. (1-6)
Independent work to pursue special problems in reading and research. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: Instructor approval.

JPN 400G TOPICS IN JAPAN STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)
Variable in content, this course focuses on important texts and issues in Japanese history, religion, literature, and philosophy. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits under different subtitles. To be taught in English.
JPN 405 SEMINAR IN JAPANESE AND ASIAN STUDIES (Subtitle required). (3)
An interdisciplinary seminar focusing on a topic in Japanese and Asian Studies. May be repeated to a maximum of six credits. Prereq: Instructor approval.

JPN 420G PRE-MODERN LITERARY AND VISUAL ARTS OF JAPAN. (3)
This course will introduce representative literary and visual arts of Japan, from antiquity until the mid-nineteenth century. This serves as an introduction to intellectual and societal undercurrents foundational to understanding Japanese society.

JPN 421G CONTEMPORARY LITERARY AND VISUAL ARTS OF JAPAN. (3)
This course will introduce the literary and visual arts of the last 150 years (since the Meiji period) of Japan. This serves as an introduction to intellectual questions that have enlivened Japanese society in the last century and a half, key to understanding contemporary Japanese culture.

JPN 451G SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN MODERN JAPAN. (3)
This course will explore selected movements within Japan that have arisen in the last one hundred and fifty years. This course will ask questions about the specific nature of these movements, the context of these movements within Japan, and within the context of other movements around the world, whether contemporary in time or theme.

JPN 461G JAPANESE COLONIALISM AND ITS LEGACIES. (3)
This course will explore the making and unmaking of Japanese colonialism and its postwar legacies via a number of media. Geopolitically, the course will be organized in terms of the changing boundaries, and their representations, of the Japanese empire. We will also incorporate the following related perspectives in order to examine some of the basic problems of Japanese colonialism which contemporary Japan has not completely left behind.

JPN 491G JAPANESE LANDSCAPES. (3)
A study of the landscapes of Japan as vivid portrayal of Japanese culture and their value system, including review and analysis of major primary and secondary components of the Japanese landscape. Prereq: JPN 334 or GEO 334 or consent of instructor. (Same as GEO 491G.)

JPN 551 JAPANESE MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS. (3)
A study of the giant Japanese multinational corporations in the world economy and their impact on development and environment of selected countries. Topics include: geographical organization of multinational corporate system; their locational decisions; affect of multinationals policies on the environment; and local economy. Prereq: Consent of instructor. (Same as GEO 551.)