

# Japanese

The International Languages Department offers Japanese courses that build strong communication skills, cultural understanding, and real-world language use. Japanese study enhances speaking, listening, reading, and writing abilities while fostering intercultural awareness. It also strengthens applications to competitive programs in fields where multilingual communication is vital, such as healthcare, education, social services, international relations, and law enforcement. A degree or Certificate of Achievement in Japanese supports careers in education, healthcare, international business, diplomacy, media, community outreach, and translation and interpretation.

Japanese courses fulfill general education humanities requirements under the Cal-GETC transfer pathway and support UC-bound students, where proficiency in a Language Other Than English (LOTE) is a graduation requirement. There are UC and CSU majors that also require additional language study. Students can often meet these requirements at the community college level, saving time, tuition, and units. All Japanese courses at MiraCosta are Low Textbook Cost (LTC) or Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC).

*Note: Students educated in a non-English speaking country through high school or equivalent will generally not earn lower-division transfer credit in their language at most universities. Students who might be affected by this rule should consult a counselor and/or the International Languages department chair before enrolling in their language courses.*

## Academic and Career Pathway

Languages, Communication, and Humanities (<https://www.miracosta.edu/academics/degree-and-certificate-programs/languages-communication-and-humanities/>)

## Contact Information

**Chair:** Emiko Kiyochi  
**Dean:** Jonathan Fohrman  
<https://www.miracosta.edu/academics/degree-and-certificate-programs/languages-communication-and-humanities/international-languages/japanese/index.html> (<https://www.miracosta.edu/academics/degree-and-certificate-programs/languages-communication-and-humanities/international-languages/japanese/>)

**Department:** International Languages  
**Office:** Building OC2700, 760.795.6844

## Full-Time Faculty

Emiko Kiyochi

## Associate Degree

### Associate in Arts Degree

#### Japanese

The Japanese program offers lower-division preparation for students who plan on transferring to pursue a bachelor's degree in Japanese. Students planning to transfer and/or earn this associate degree may also need to complete additional requirements or electives required by the transfer institution, as many CSUs and UCs have unique admissions and preparation-for-the-major requirements. Students should meet with a MiraCosta College counselor to identify required courses and to develop a written plan for their targeted university.

#### Graduation Requirements

- ▶ Complete a minimum of 60 degree-applicable units of credit (including major and general education courses).
- ▶ Complete all courses required in the major with a "C" or "P" or better.
- ▶ Complete a general education pattern of courses (see Associate Degrees).
- ▶ Obtain a minimum GPA of 2.0.
- ▶ Complete a minimum of 12 units in residence at MiraCosta College.

#### Program Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to do the following:

- ▶ Communicate in the Japanese language at the Intermediate Mid level of ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) and N4 level of JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Test).
- ▶ Demonstrate awareness and appreciation of cultural differences of Japanese speaking communities in comparison to their own culture and the dominant culture of the United States.

#### Course Requirements

Required courses:		
JAPN 101	Elementary Japanese (First Semester)	4
JAPN 102	Elementary Japanese (Second Semester)	4
JAPN 201	Intermediate Japanese (Third Semester)	4
JAPN 202	Intermediate Japanese (Fourth Semester)	4
Select three (3) units from the following courses.		3
JAPN 121	Introduction to Japanese Culture	
JAPN 123	Japanese Anime and Manga	
JAPN 210	Intermediate Conversation I and Reading	
JAPN 211	Intermediate Conversation II and Writing	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>19</b>

Certificates

Certificate of Achievement  
Japanese

This certificate benefits students who are interested in learning about and effectively interacting with Japanese culture and society. Completion of the certificate provides students with a solid introduction to Japanese language skills and culture. Students take the required language courses in the given sequence and choose an elective to emphasize either conversational skills in Japanese or advanced cultural competency in English.

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Total Units		19	

Courses

JAPN 101: Elementary Japanese (First Semester)

Units: 4  
Prerequisites: None  
Enrollment Limitation: Not open to students with prior credit in JAPN 101H, JAPN 102, JAPN 201, or JAPN 202.  
Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC  
Lecture 3.50 hours, laboratory 1.50 hours.  
Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course introduces contemporary Japanese and the Japanese writing system (hiragana, katakana, and selected kanji characters). It examines the language's structure and emphasizes the development of language acquisition through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students learn about Japanese history, geography, and customs as well as about the relationship between language and culture. This course corresponds to the first two years of high school Japanese.

JAPN 102: Elementary Japanese (Second Semester)

Units: 4  
Prerequisites: JAPN 101 or two years of high school Japanese with a "C" or better.  
Enrollment Limitation: Not open to students with prior credit in JAPN 201 or JAPN 202.  
Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC  
Lecture 3.50 hours, laboratory 1.50 hours.  
Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course continues to develop Japanese language acquisition through listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It introduces more advanced kanji characters and reviews (recycles) first semester Japanese vocabulary and grammar. The course also continues to develop the student's ability to read, interpret, and discuss Japanese-language narratives about newly introduced cultural aspects of the Japanese-speaking world. This course corresponds to the third year of high school Japanese.

JAPN 121: Introduction to Japanese Culture

Units: 3  
Prerequisites: None  
Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC  
Lecture 3 hours.  
Course Typically Offered: Spring, Summer

This course introduces students to various aspects of Japanese culture and society. Areas of study include history, music, literature, philosophy, political ideas, customs, and Japan's influence on and contribution to the civilization of America and the world. The course does not require prior study of the language or culture.

**JAPN 123: Japanese Anime and Manga**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: None

Enrollment Limitation: Not open to students with prior credit in JAPN 123H.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall

This course introduces students to anime and manga (Japanese cartoons and comics) and explore various aspects of Japanese culture and society through the lens of anime and manga. Areas of study include history, music, literature, technology, customs, traditions and their interrelationship with the cultures and societies of America and the world. The course does not require prior study of the language or culture.

**JAPN 201: Intermediate Japanese (Third Semester)**

Units: 4

Prerequisites: JAPN 102 or three years of high school Japanese with a "C" or better.

Enrollment Limitation: Not open to students with prior credit in JAPN 202.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3.50 hours, laboratory 1.50 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall

This third course in the Japanese language sequence continues to develop Japanese language acquisition through listening, speaking, reading, and writing at the intermediate-mid level. It introduces more advanced kanji characters and reviews (recycles) first-year Japanese vocabulary and grammar. The course also continues to develop the student's ability to read, interpret, and discuss Japanese-language narratives about newly introduced cultural aspects of the Japanese-speaking world. This course corresponds to the fourth year of high school Japanese.

**JAPN 202: Intermediate Japanese (Fourth Semester)**

Units: 4

Prerequisites: JAPN 201 or four years of high school Japanese with a "C" or better.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3.50 hours, laboratory 1.50 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This fourth semester course in the Japanese language sequence continues to develop Japanese language acquisition through listening, speaking, reading, and writing at the intermediate-high level. Students practice writing in Japanese with kanji characters, review grammar and syntax, and expand their vocabulary and knowledge of idiomatic constructions. The course also continues to develop the student's ability to read, interpret, and discuss Japanese-language narratives about Japanese history, geography, and culture.

**JAPN 210: Intermediate Conversation I and Reading**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: JAPN 102 or three years of high school Japanese with a "C" or better.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This course stresses oral communication and reading comprehension through cultural materials in order to improve and expand the student's conversational skills in Japanese. It emphasizes practical topics, fundamental and expanded vocabulary, and commonly used idioms. Students learn to employ Japanese in general discussions of assigned topics and simple dialogues. The course also reviews communicative functions.

**JAPN 211: Intermediate Conversation II and Writing**

Units: 3

Prerequisites: JAPN 210.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU, UC

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Spring

This continuation of JAPN 210 is intended for students who want to further enhance their skills in Japanese. The course stresses oral and written communication through cultural materials in order to improve and expand the student's conversational skills in Japanese. It emphasizes practical topics, fundamental and expanded vocabulary, and commonly used idioms. Students learn to employ Japanese in general discussions of a variety of culturally relevant topics and dialogues. The course also reviews and practices communicative functions.

**JAPN 292: Internship Studies**

Units: 0.5-14

Prerequisites: None

Corequisite: Complete 54 hours of work per unit, paid or unpaid.

Enrollment Limitation: Instructor, dept chair, and Career Center approval. Fourteen unit maximum in any combination of work experience education and/or internship studies per semester.

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course provides students the opportunity to apply the theories and techniques of their discipline in an internship position in a professional setting under the instruction of a faculty-mentor and site supervisor. It introduces students to aspects of the roles and responsibilities of professionals employed in the field of study. Topics include goal-setting, employability skills development, and examination of the world of work as it relates to the student's career plans. Students must develop new learning objectives and/or work/intern at a new site upon each enrollment.

### **JAPN 296: Topics in Japanese**

Units: 1-3

Prerequisites: None

Acceptable for Credit: CSU

Lecture 1 hour.

Lecture 2 hours.

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: To be arranged

This course gives students an opportunity to study topics in Japanese that are not included in regular course offerings. Each Topics course is announced, described, and given its own title and 296 number designation in the class schedule.