K Japanese Studies

Founded in 1981, the Department of Japanese Studies is one of the largest area studies departments devoted to the study of Japan in the Asia-Pacific region. We offer B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Japanese Studies taught by specialists with qualifications from leading universities around the world. Every year, more than 1500 undergraduate students enrol in our courses covering a broad range of disciplines including Japanese linguistics, business studies, sociology, anthropology, history, literature, religion, politics and international relations. All of our faculty members have extensive experience in Japan and are active in publishing and research.

The Department believes in the importance of maintaining close and supportive relationships with our students. Through our mentorship programme, each major student is paired with a faculty member who monitors the individual student’s academic progress over the course of his/her time at NUS. Other than that, our students are also given many opportunities to actively interact with the Japanese communities in Singapore and Japan through such programmes as visiting Japanese families and companies, home stays and company internships, and language and cultural immersion activities. Scholarships for students to pursue further training and study in Japanese universities are also available. Graduates of the Department are well prepared for work in the private and public sectors, as well as in local and overseas companies and institutions which require graduates with good knowledge of Japanese language and society, and its operating values and ethos.

Entry Requirements

There are no prerequisites or qualifying tests. The Department welcomes students who show a keen interest in the subject. Students are not expected to have studied the language and for those who have, placement tests will be conducted to enable them to pursue language modules* appropriate for their level**. Not all elective modules are available in any one year as module offerings depend on staff availability and student interest.

* all the language modules are offered by the Centre for Language Studies.

** students with JLPT levels N1/N2/N3/N4/N5 or GCE ‘O’, GCE ‘AO’ or GCE ‘A’ Levels Japanese Language or pass in placement test may be granted waivers. Placement tests are conducted by the Centre for Language Studies.

Subject Requirements

Single Major [BA (Hons)]

1. Pass JS1101E Introduction to Japanese Studies. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.
2. Pass at least 84 MCs of JS modules or JS-recognised modules or LAJ modules, which include the following:

   (1) JS2101 Approaches to Japanese Studies I
   (2) JS3101 Approaches to Japanese Studies II
   (3) no more than 24 MCs of the following LAJ modules
       (i) LAJ1201 Japanese 1
       (ii) LAJ2201 Japanese 2
       (iii) LAJ2202 Japanese 3
       (iv) LAJ2203 Japanese 4
       (v) LAJ3201 Japanese 5 or LAJ3203 Business Japanese 1
       (vi) LAJ3202 Japanese 6 or LAJ3204 Business Japanese 2 or LAJ3205 Media Japanese
   (4) a minimum of 60 MCs at level-3000 (including JS3101 and LAJ level-3000) or higher, with
       (i) a minimum of 40 MCs at level-4000 or higher
       (ii) a maximum of 2 level-5000 JS modules (subject to department’s approval)

Note 1:
To declare Honours track, students must have completed 110 MCs, including 44 MCs in the Major, with a CAP of 3.20 and above.

Note 2:
The Honours Thesis (15 MCs) is optional. To qualify for the Honours Thesis, students must complete 110 MCs including 44 MCs of JS major requirements with a minimum CAP of 3.50. In order to obtain Honours (Highest Distinction), students must achieve a CAP of 4.50 or higher AND pass the Honours Thesis.

Note 3:
Students who do not attempt the Honours Thesis will read level-4000 modules to fulfil the Honours Requirements.

Note 4:
Students may also read a level-4000 Independent Studies Module (5 MCs). The level-4000 ISM carries a prerequisite of 100 MCs completed, including 44 MCs in the Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20. It precludes the Honours Thesis.

Note 5:
All level-4000 modules carry a general prerequisite of having completed 80 MCs, including 28 MCs in the
Major, with a minimum CAP of 3.20 OR being on the Honours Track (some level-4000 modules may have different prerequisites).

**Single Major (BA)**

1. Pass JS1101E Introduction to Japanese Studies. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.

2. Pass at least 44 MCs of JS modules or JS-recognised modules or LAJ modules, which include the following:

   (1) JS2101 Approaches to Japanese Studies I
   (2) JS3101 Approaches to Japanese Studies II
   (3) no more than 16 MCs of the following LAJ modules

      i. LAJ1201 Japanese 1
      ii. LAJ2201 Japanese 2
      iii. LAJ2202 Japanese 3
      iv. LAJ2203 Japanese 4

   (4) a minimum of 20 MCs at level-3000 (including JS3101) or higher

**Second Major**

1. Pass JS1101E Introduction to Japanese Studies. This will be counted towards the Faculty Core or UE requirements.

2. Pass at least 44 MCs of JS modules or JS-recognised modules or LAJ modules, which include the following:

   (1) JS2101 Approaches to Japanese Studies I
   (2) JS3101 Approaches to Japanese Studies II
   (3) no more than 16 MCs of the following LAJ modules

      i. LAJ1201 Japanese 1
      ii. LAJ2201 Japanese 2
      iii. LAJ2202 Japanese 3
      iv. LAJ2203 Japanese 4

   (4) a minimum of 20 MCs at level-3000 (including JS3101) or higher

**Minor**

Pass at least 24 MCs of JS modules or JS-recognised modules or LAJ modules, which include the following:
1. JS1101E Introduction to Japanese Studies
2. a minimum of 4 MCs of Japanese language modules (LAJ), subjected to a maximum of 12 MCs (See Note 1)
3. a minimum of 4 MCs of JS modules at Level-3000

**Note 1:**

If students have JLPT 1 or equivalent language proficiency, all LAJ modules will be waived. Such students are required to read JS modules or JS-recognised modules to make up for the minimum 4 MCs required.

**Note 2:**

A maximum of 8 MCs from the minor can be used to satisfy the requirements of a major or another minor.

For the latest updates, please visit the Department website at: [http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/jps](http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/jps)