

Japanese Studies Major (GIS)

Chairperson: Chiji Akoma, Ph.D.

Office Location: 36 Garey Hall

Telephone: 610-519-6302

[\[Website\]](#)

About

The Department of Global Interdisciplinary Studies (GIS) provides students with a tripartite of skills, knowledge, and values that foster critical thinking, problem solving, and preparation for responsible global citizenship. Students gain an understanding of global studies, acquiring the know-how in global and digital literacy, cultural diversity and intercultural competences, interdisciplinary research, and a passion for social justice, nurtured in experiential learning.

Program: [Global Interdisciplinary Studies](#)

Type: Bachelor of Arts

PRIMARY MAJOR (122 credits)

Required Major Courses (36 credits)

With the capital Tokyo the world's largest metropolitan city, Japan occupies a prominent position on the global stage for its cutting-edge technologies humming across the country's archipelago of over 6,800 islands. Japanese Studies offers students extensive instruction in Japanese language coupled with interdisciplinary studies that position the language and culture of Japan in subject areas with global significance. Students will study Japanese to advanced levels, including taking courses on translation, with a capstone thesis partially written in Japanese. Sitting for external proficiency exams provides language certification, and a required Study Abroad experience provides experiential learning that re-enforces cultural literacy.

Course	Title	Credits
GIS 2000	Intro to Global Interd Studies	3
GIS 5000	Special Topics	1
GIS 5011	GIS Select	3
GIS 6500	Capstone I: Research	3
GIS 6600	Capstone 2:Thesis	3
	Intermediate Japanese Courses	8
	Advanced Japanese Courses	12
	Asian Studies Course with Attribute	3

Core Curriculum Requirements (44 credits)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Upper-Level Theology (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (42 credits)

Students with a Japanese Studies primary major have forty-two (42) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 36 credits
- **Core Credits:** 44 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 42 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

SECONDARY MAJOR

Students who declare Japanese Studies as a **secondary major** must complete the Required Major Courses to achieve this major. Students are able to count any eligible course taken in their primary major, the core curriculum, minors, concentrations, or free electives toward these requirements.

Category Descriptions

Intermediate Japanese Courses

Credits: 8

Course	Title	Credits
JPN 1121	Intermediate Japanese I	4
JPN 1122	Intermediate Japanese II	4

Advanced Japanese Courses

Credits: 12

Course	Title	Credits
JPN 1131	Advanced Japanese I	3
JPN 1132	Advanced Japanese II	3
JPN 1133	Advanced Japanese III	3
JPN 1134	Advanced Japanese IV	3

Asian Studies Course with Attribute

Credits: 3

One Asian Studies elective with ASN attribute worth at least 3 credits.

Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)

Credits: 8

Non-science majors meet the Core Curriculum Natural Science requirement by taking two semesters of Mendel Science Experience (MSE), thematically-based lecture/laboratory courses designed for non-science majors; or two semesters of lecture/laboratory courses designed for science majors.

Science (AST, BIO, BIOC, CHM, CBN, CSC, ENV, MAT, PHY - B.S. only, PSY - B.S. only) majors meet the science requirement through the regular program of study in their major.