Why Study Japanese?

Japanese is spoken by 126 million people, including 2 million outside of Japan. Japan is ranked as the third economic power in the world, and is a vital political and economic partner with the West. Manga and Anime, and other forms of Japanese popular culture, are widely enjoyed throughout the globe!

At MIT, are you considering a MISTI internship in Japan? Japanese IV (21G.504) or equivalent proficiency is required for participation.
CONCENTRATION OPTIONS

A. Japanese I or II through Japanese IV
B. Japanese III and two subjects beyond
C. Japanese IV or above, plus two more subjects

Concentration Proposal approval must be obtained by the first week of classes second term junior year.

Concentration Advisor:
Takako Aikawa, Sr. Lecturer
taikawa@mit.edu, 14N-314, 4-5074

Assessing your level:
Contact any member of the Japanese group to assess your level and advise on course placement.

MINOR in Japanese

Completed your concentration in Japanese? Take your Japanese skills to the next level by pursuing a minor while satisfying most HASS elective and CI-H requirements

- 6 subjects total beginning from Japanese III
- 5 out of the 6 subjects can be applied to B-subject HASS requirement
- 1 of these 5 can apply to HASS Distribution (H, S, or A)

Minor Advisor:
Paul Roquet, Assistant Professor
proquet@mit.edu, 14N-334, 8-8564

SPRING 2018 Japanese Schedule

21G.039J / 591 Gender and Japanese Popular Culture
Examines contemporary popular culture and theories of gender, sexuality, race, and the workings of power and value in global culture industries. Topics include manga (comic books), hip-hop and other popular music, anime and feature films, video games, contemporary literature, and online communication. Several films screened outside of regular class meeting times. Taught in English, with Japanese language option. HASS H T, 1-4, I. Condry

21G.067 / 597 Digital Media in Japan and Korea (New)
Focuses on digital media use (and abuse), including the internet, streaming and mobile media, gaming, robots, and augmented realities; the digital remediation of older media; and methods for the study of online life. By considering how digital media use has developed in each country and reshaped identity, politics, public space, and creative practice, students build a conceptual and critical vocabulary for the comparative study of algorithmic cultures. Taught in English, with Japanese language option. HASS-H TR, 11-12:30, P. Roquet

21G.502 Japanese II
Enhancement of the four basic skills. Extension of basic grammar. Vocabulary and kanji (Chinese characters) building. Lab work required. HASS-H MTRF, 9-10, T. Aikawa / E. Rafique
MTRF, 10-11, T. Aikawa / E. Rafique
MTRF, 12-1, T. Aikawa / E. Rafique
MTRF, 1-2, T. Aikawa / E. Rafique

21G.504, Japanese IV
Review and expansion of basic skills. Emphasis on application of basic grammar and vocabulary in various situations. Lab work required. HASS-H MTRF, 10-11, W. Maekawa
MTRF, 12-1, W. Maekawa
MTRF, 1-2, W. Maekawa

21G.506, Japanese VI
Continuation of 21G.505. Further development of reading, writing, and oral communication skills. Extension of advanced grammar and further enhancement of advanced vocabulary. Variety of cultural elements studied through readings, video, and discussion. Lab work required. HASS-H MWF, 11-12, M. Ikeda-Lamm
MWF, 12-1, M. Ikeda-Lamm

Most GSL classes are held in Bldg 14N or the 6th floor of Bldg 16. Check the online catalog for up-to-date room assignments and schedule information.

Looking ahead

Fall 2018
21G.064/592 Intro to Japanese Culture HASS-H, CI-H
21G.065/593 Japanese Literature and Cinema HASS-H, CI-H
21G.501 Japanese I HASS-H
21G.503 Japanese III HASS-H
21G.505 Japanese V HASS-H

STUDY and INTERN ABROAD

Course 2, 3, and 22 Exchange at the University of Tokyo
• Spring semester of junior year
• Transfer credit toward concentration or minor available

MISTI
• MIT-Japan

Study Abroad Advisor:
Takako Aikawa, taikawa@mit.edu, 14N-314, 4-5074

Transfer Credit Advisor:
Emma Teng, Professor eteng@mit.edu, 14N-303, 3-4536