

MINOR IN ASIAN STUDIES

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures offers a minor in Asian studies. Chinese, with more than 1.3 billion speakers, represents the world's largest linguistic community, while Japanese is the language of the world's third-largest economy. Besides Chinese and Japanese language courses at all levels, the program features topics in Asian culture, literature, history, religion, philosophy, anthropology, politics and development. It is designed to give you a comprehensive understanding of Asia's multi-faceted role in the contemporary world and of its historical and cultural transformations.

Students are encouraged to participate in summer programs in China and Japan as well as to engage in volunteer opportunities offered through the Centre for Global and Community Engagement of the University of Ottawa.

The wide range of skills and knowledge you acquire not only gives you important academic assets, but also prepares you for interesting careers in both the public and private sectors.

All of our language courses are taught in Chinese or in Japanese. Other courses are offered in English or in French.

Learn more about this program (<https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-arts/modern-languages-literatures/undergraduate-asian-studies/>)

Program Requirements

Requirements for this program have been modified. Please consult the 2025-2026 calendar (<https://catalogue.uottawa.ca/en/archives/>) for the previous requirements.

The table below includes only discipline-specific courses. Please refer to the Academic Regulations (<https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/policies-regulations/academic-regulations/b-2-program-studies/>) for information on including a minor to your degree.

One option from the following: 12 Units

Option 1: Chinese¹

CHN 1901 Introduction to Chinese I

CHN 1902 Introduction to Chinese II

CHN 2901 Intermediate Chinese I

CHN 2902 Intermediate Chinese II

CHN 3901 Advanced Chinese I

CHN 3902 Advanced Chinese II

Option 2: Japanese¹

JPN 1901 Introduction to Japanese I

JPN 1902 Introduction to Japanese II

JPN 2901 Intermediate Japanese I

JPN 2902 Intermediate Japanese II

JPN 3901 Advanced Japanese I

JPN 3902 Advanced Japanese II

6 optional course units at the 3000 or 4000 level from the list of optional courses 6 Units

12 optional course units from the list of optional courses 12 Units

Total: 30 Units

the department. The linguistic level will be determined by the Online Placement Test, available at the Department's website: <http://arts.uottawa.ca/modernlanguages/programs-of-study> (<http://arts.uottawa.ca/modernlanguages/programs-of-study/>).

List of Optional Courses

ANT 3307	Contemporary Japanese Society	3 Units
ASI 3110	Selected Topics in East Asian Culture	3 Units
ASI 3111	East Asian Cinemas	3 Units
CHN 1901	Introduction to Chinese I ³	3 Units
CHN 1902	Introduction to Chinese II ³	3 Units
CHN 2101	Introduction to Chinese Culture ³	3 Units
CHN 2901	Intermediate Chinese I ³	3 Units
CHN 2902	Intermediate Chinese II ³	3 Units
CHN 3901	Advanced Chinese I	3 Units
CHN 3902	Advanced Chinese II	3 Units
GEG 4702	Le développement des villes	3 Units
HIS 2176	Introduction to the History of Southeast Asia	3 Units
HIS 2178	History of East Asia from 1600 to the Present	3 Units
HIS 3180	Selected Topics in Asian History	3 Units
JPN 1901	Introduction to Japanese I ³	3 Units
JPN 1902	Introduction to Japanese II ³	3 Units
JPN 2101	Introduction to Japanese Culture ³	3 Units
JPN 2901	Intermediate Japanese I ³	3 Units
JPN 2902	Intermediate Japanese II ³	3 Units
JPN 3901	Advanced Japanese I	3 Units
JPN 3902	Advanced Japanese II	3 Units
LCM 1101	How to Learn Foreign Languages	3 Units
LCM 1102	Tools for Cultural Analysis	3 Units
PHI 2389	Asian Philosophy	3 Units
POL 3114	Comparative Politics: Asia	3 Units
SRS 3313	Buddhism	3 Units

¹ Students whose linguistic level is superior to the levels indicated above have to take other CHN or JPN courses in consultation with