

Experiential Learning for Japanese Majors



STUDY ABROAD

Choose from over 100 programs in 40 countries with both short-term and semester-long options.

Popular programs for Japanese majors:

- *Earlham Japan Study at Waseda*
- *CET Japan*

Signature Puget Sound programs:

- *PacRim Program*
- *Kyoto Summer Program*
- *Mikiko Ludden's research trip to Japan*

Study abroad programs and support:

- Students with demonstrated financial need who are selected for any Chinese or Japanese language program in Asia are eligible for financial support through a [Trimble Study Abroad Scholarship](#)
- Students can count two approved study abroad courses toward the major or minor
- Consider applying for a [Miki Fellowship](#) for a postgraduate year in Kyoto, Japan within 5 years of graduation
- Consider a spot in the [Critical Language Scholarship Program](#) or to apply for a [Bridging Scholarship](#)

To meet the Experiential Learning requirement, take EXLN 297 during or EXLN 301 after the study abroad experience.

COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING

Helping to advance a local organization's mission is at the heart of community-based learning. It might involve working on a short-term project with that organization, supporting their events, or volunteering your time to help them run programs.

Local community partners:

- *Asian Pacific Cultural Center*
- *Buddhist Temple, Tacoma*
- *Tacoma Public Schools*
- *Hyogo Cultural Center*

Volunteering support:

- Japanese majors sometimes volunteer at local organizations/events or tutor in public schools
- Apply for a Community Engagement Initiative grant if you plan to volunteer 30+ hours within a semester

To meet the Experiential Learning requirement, take EXLN 295 during or EXLN 301 after the community-based learning experience.

SUMMER RESEARCH

Work closely with a faculty member on a full-time research project for ten weeks in the summer. You can partner with faculty on ongoing projects but can also propose your own.

Potential areas of research for Japanese majors:

- *Exploring anime culture and the influence of Japanese food culture*
- *Examine the history of religious food and temple/shrine practices*
- *The impacts of traditional Japanese music on modern day music*

Other research opportunities:

- Every three years, Professor Ludden brings a small group of students abroad to use their Japanese language skills as they conduct research on topics like Japanese entertainment, food, folk culture, and more. Speak with Professor Ludden if interested
- Some PacRim students choose to remain abroad after the program to conduct research projects
- [Trimble research grants](#) for senior theses related to Asia are also available

To meet the Experiential Learning requirement, take EXLN 298 during or EXLN 301 after the research experience.

INTERSHIPS

Learning is at the center of your internship through goal setting and mentorship from your supervisor. Opportunity can be in Tacoma or your hometown, paid or unpaid, with one of our partners or an opportunity you cultivate. The commitment also varies, starting small with 60 hours within a semester up to full time in the summer.

Japanese and Asian Studies minors recently interned at:

- *World Trade Center Tacoma*
- *Tacoma Public Library Archives and Special Collections*
- *Tacoma Little Theatre*

Internship support and resources:

- Use Handshake or visit the internship fair to explore internship opportunities
- Earn up to 1 unit of academic credit through EXLN 296 for an internship experience
- Schedule a meeting with a career advisor for support at any stage of the internship application process including searching for positions, developing resumes and cover letters, and interview preparation
- Apply for a [Puget Sound Internship Grant](#) if engaging in an unpaid internship in the fall or spring

To meet the Experiential Learning requirement, take EXLN 296 during or EXLN 301 after the internship experience.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING COURSES THAT MAY INTEREST JAPANESE MAJORS

HIST 379 Tacoma Public History

Students visit local sites and engage with historians exploring Tacoma's rich histories. Through story map and oral history assignment students actively participate in historical documentation.

EDUC 295 White Teachers Teaching Children of Color

Students will volunteer their time in local classrooms for a minimum of 10 hours working directly with students.

SOAN 299 Ethnographic Methods

Students engage in both curated and independent field research activities for 10+ hours deploying research methods in the greater Tacoma area.

See all the approved experiential learning courses

