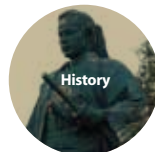


MJSP



MODERN JAPANESE STUDIES PROGRAM SPECIAL LIFT-OUT



Modern Japanese Studies Program

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📘 www.facebook.com/modernjapanesestudiesprogram

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DISCOVER YOUR JAPAN!

Hokkaido University has a brand new four-year Bachelor's Degree program launching in 2015. This amazing course gives a comprehensive education in the language and society of Japan in one of the most picturesque campus settings in Asia.

MJSP

Why choose MJSP?

There are many excellent universities around the world offering Japanese Studies degrees, but where better to do a Japanese studies degree program than in Japan itself? For four years you can live and breathe the culture that you are studying!

The Modern Japanese Studies Program (MJSP) is a brand new four-year Bachelor's Degree program at one of Japan's leading research-intensive universities. It is preceded by a six-month Foundation Course for those without sufficient Japanese to enter the Bachelor's Degree program directly. MJSP gives a comprehensive education in the language and society of Japan.

There are two modules to choose from: History/Culture and Society/Political Economy. One becomes your major and the other your minor. In the first two to three years, these subjects are taught in English by an international team of educators with world-class research profiles. Once you have sufficient Japanese, you may take courses in Japanese in the faculties of Law, Letters, Education and Economics, too.

The program has four main characteristics:

- Intensive study of the Japanese language – you should be completely fluent on graduation;
- The study of Japan in four main academic disciplines – history, cultural studies, sociology and political economy;
- Co-learning with Japanese students – you will take many classes with your Japanese peers;
- A curriculum that allows you to discover your Japan from the unique and multicultural vantage point of Japan's northernmost island.

One of the mottos of Hokkaido University is 'practical learning'. Each year you will have the chance to design your own study program suitable for your interests and career aims. In Years 1-2 (Project Study), design your own language- or self-study project for submission as a mid-program thesis; in Year 3 (Digital Portfolio), be creative and showcase your growing expertise in Japan via a blog or video project; and in Year 4 (Graduation Thesis), undertake a serious piece of academic research. You may also spend time studying at one of our many partner universities, go on study trips, or do an internship in a local company.

APPLY

Submit your application online between October and December (1st call for applications) OR between January and March (2nd call for applications). The most up-to-date official university documents giving details about the application process are available on the website.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Non-Japanese nationality; permanent residency not in Japan; 12 completed years of education
- Mother tongue English, or a high school education in English, or certificate proving English language ability
- Japanese ability: none for Foundation Course entry; intermediate Japanese for Bachelor's Degree program entry (this will be tested in an interview);

www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/mjsp/entry_details/



Apply



STUDY THEMES



War and Empire

Health and Wellbeing

Foreign Policy

Popular Culture

Historical Tourism

Regional Revitalization

Hokkaido History

Critical Thinking

Japanese Language

Japanese Youth Employment

Gender

Lifestyle Migration

Rural Japan

Political Economy of Japan and East Asia

Politics

Trade Policy

FOOD AND SOCIAL LIFE

Faculty & Staff

Meet the main teaching staff of our brand new program!



INTRODUCING

PHILIP SEATON

From

London, United Kingdom

Degree

History (BA, Cambridge University), International Relations (MA University of Sussex), Media and Cultural Studies (DPhil, University of Sussex)

What I teach on the MJSP

On MJSP I teach mainly the history modules. We look at Japan's modern history from the mid-nineteenth century to the present day, discuss historiography (the theory and practice of history), and look at what the past means to Japanese people today in their politics, popular culture and tourist sites. History is not simply the "what happened when and why" story of the past: it is a valuable mirror on us and our own times.

In class, I try and use a variety of materials, not simply academic texts. Much of the interest among young people in Japan and Japanese studies these days is rooted in an interest in popular culture. I have researched Japanese cinema and television dramas extensively. I greatly value popular culture as teaching materials and use them to supplement academic reading lists.

Favourite book on Japan

John Dower, *Cultures of War: Pearl Harbor, Hiroshima, 9-11, Iraq*

Favourite thing about living in Japan

Eating out. I love Japanese food. Eating out is an important part of Japanese culture and there are many restaurants serving wonderful food at very reasonable prices.

Tip for getting the most out of living in Sapporo

Sapporo's population is 1.9 million, but it is very compact. I recommend living close to campus in the middle of town. There are many interesting places within walking distance, and prices are reasonable. Spending only a short time commuting is one of my favourite things about living in this great city.

Japanese HISTORY



INTRODUCING

EMMA COOK

From

Hemel Hempstead, United Kingdom

Degree

PhD (Social Anthropology) SOAS, University of London

What I teach on the MJSP

Through providing comprehensive courses on different aspects of Japanese society it is my aim to train critical thinkers with a strong understanding of the complexities of contemporary Japan and the global context within which it is situated. Furthermore, the Society stream of the program provides students with the theoretical and conceptual tools to analyse social life by providing introductory courses in the practice and theory of social anthropology and sociology.

Courses I will teach on MJSP currently include: An Introduction to Japanese Society, An Introduction to Social Theory, and Multiculturality in Japan. Courses I have taught previously and which may be offered on MJSP include: Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Japan, Japanese Youth Cultures, Health and Illness in Contemporary Japan, and Ethnographic Readings of Japan.

Favourite book on Japan

A really tough question... Haruki Murakami's *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*, or Banana Yoshimoto's *Kitchen*, or the dark and disturbing *Out* by Natsuo Kirino.

Favourite thing about living in Japan

Too many to write, but friendly people, great food and drink, stunning natural scenery, the contrasts between old and new.

Tip for getting the most out of living in Sapporo

Get a bike! Public transport is great in the city, but with the abundance of space having a bike is a fantastic way to check out all areas on your own terms. Hang out in tiny coffee shops, restaurants and bars and make friends with local folk. Learn to snowboard, ski, surf-ski or cross-country to enjoy the snowy winters.

Japanese SOCIETY



INTRODUCING

SUSANNE KLIEN

Japanese
CULTURE



From
Vienna, Austria

Degree
Vienna University (Dr. Phil. / Political science, Japanese studies, philosophy)

What I teach on the MJSP
On the MJSP, I will be in charge of courses dealing with Japan's culture. My aim is to provide students with chances to encounter the great variety of cultures that make up Japan and to examine Japan's culture as part of a larger global context. Courses I will teach on MJSP currently include: An Introduction to Japanese Culture and Introduction to Practical Aspects of Japanese Culture.

I believe that studying should not be confined to the classroom and the university campus but encourage students to explore their environment to reflect on issues we discuss in class. I hope students will venture out into their immediate daily surroundings and engage in communication with local people, both to improve their Japanese language skills as well as to deepen their understanding of local and Japanese society.

Favourite book on Japan
Alex Kerr's Dogs and Demons: The Fall of Modern Japan

Favourite thing about living in Japan
I am an absolute fan of Japanese food, such as the classic teishoku meal consisting of rice, fish, miso soup, pickles and tofu. This is very nutritious, low calorie and helps you work even right after the meal.

Tip for getting the most out of living in Sapporo
Get involved with the locals! Talk to them, ask them about their favourite places to eat, go out, shop etc. This will get you a sense of the place, which can be somewhat difficult at first.

INTRODUCING

HIRONORI SASADA

Japanese
POLITICAL
ECONOMY



From
Kumamoto, Japan

Degree
PhD (Political Science) University of Washington

What I teach on the MJSP
Courses I will teach on MJSP include: Introduction to Japanese Studies (Japanese politics), Japan and the World (East Asian political economy), Advanced Readings (Japanese foreign policies), and Political History of Japan. In the past, I taught courses on international relations, comparative politics, and international political economy within both Japanese and American universities.

My students on those courses were mostly non-Japanese students who had a keen interest in Japan. It has been a great pleasure for me to help my students deepen their understanding of my country and to discuss various issues with them. Currently, I am researching the historical development of Japanese agricultural trade policies paying close attention to the influence of various political factors including agricultural ideas, electoral systems, and rural-urban relations.

Favourite book on Japan
Bushido by Inazo Nitobe

Favourite thing about living in Japan
I enjoy going out to the sea and rivers to fish with my 7 year old son.

Tip for getting the most out of living in Sapporo
Hokkaido is one of Japan's best places for outdoor activities such as fishing, camping, mountain trekking, skiing and more. I would suggest that you explore the astonishing nature Hokkaido has to offer.

INTRODUCING

YOSHIKO KOBAYASHI

Japanese
LANGUAGE



From
Sapporo, Japan

Degree Master of Letters

What I teach on the MJSP
On MJSP I will be teaching Japanese and coordinating the Japanese language component of the degree. In the program, we aim to focus heavily on Japanese language study and you will master the four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing to a relatively high degree. To help you find a career in which you can utilize what you learn on our program, we focus on practical Japanese as it is used in academic settings.

Utilizing my background in psychology as a base, I have created a program with an emphasis on academic writing and kanji and my aim is for students to learn at a pace that suits their own needs. I also have a deep interest in how popular culture such as manga, anime and also film can be used to teach practical Japanese. I really look forward to learning a vast array of things together with my students on this journey that is the MJSP.

Favourite book on Japan
Isabella L. Bird, Unbeaten Tracks in Japan - An Account of Travels in the Interior, Including Visit to the Aborigines of Yezo and the Shrines of Nikko and Ise

Favourite thing about living in Japan
Japan, being quite a long archipelago of islands stretching from north to south, is rich and varied in natural beauty. It also has a unique culture developed over thousands of years with influences from continental Asia as well as Polynesia. I love the attention to detail in Japanese culture, for example in our cuisine! It is amazing, and in my opinion the world's best!

Tip for getting the most out of living in Sapporo
Hokkaido is an island with its own unique history within Japan. Hokkaido was originally inhabited by the Ainu people. During the Meiji period many people moved to Hokkaido from other parts of Japan. This mix of old cultures makes Hokkaido unique. Sapporo is the main city of Hokkaido and the university is right in the middle. My tip is discover this unique history and culture for yourself and through this find YOUR Japan!

Attractive Career Paths



Business

In the increasingly interconnected global economy, multilingual and multicultural people are in great demand in international business. Many Japanese companies are now actively recruiting non-Japanese staff for both their Japan-based operations and to run their branch businesses overseas. Hokkaido University is one of Japan's most prestigious universities, so an education here will open many doors with Japanese employers.



**Research/
Education**

Japan is the world's number three economy, its major corporations are household names, and its culture and cuisine are enormously popular around the world. Consequently, there is a great demand for cutting edge research about Japan. MJSP's bilingual curriculum makes it the ideal starting point for a research career because ease in using Japanese-language sources is essential in academic publishing or other research relating to Japan. To pursue a research career, you should proceed to postgraduate studies either inside or outside Japan after graduation from MJSP.



**Journalism/
Tourism**

There are many careers in which a high level of specialist knowledge about Japan is a great asset. In the tourism industry, the millions of people who visit Japan every year want to rely on people with extensive local knowledge to make their trips smoother and more enjoyable. Or, you could work for a company that facilitates Japanese visitors' trips to your country. In the worlds of publishing and journalism, your specialist knowledge about Japan and broad-based education will be invaluable as an author or editor, whether in articles for websites, magazines and newspapers, or in the publications produced by trade presses (that publish non-academic books).



**Translation/
Interpreting**

Employment possibilities in translating and interpreting take many forms: employment in a company as a document translator/editor, freelance translation, film subtitling, and simultaneous interpretation (although this latter option will require further specialist training not offered on MJSP). The basic prerequisite for doing any of these jobs is mastering the Japanese language, which is a core element of MJSP.



**Discover
Your Own Path**

Whatever your path is, we are confident that MJSP gives you the confidence, all-round education and creativity necessary to make your chosen life path a rewarding and successful one.