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Curriculum

Japan Studies | MA Academic Requirements

Japan Studies Program Learning Goals and Objectives ^[8]

Entering Class 2017-2018

MA students must take the equivalent of 16 non-language courses (64 credits) in order to graduate. Those students who are approved for dual degree or advanced standing may only need to take 12 courses (48 credits) or 14 courses (56 credits) as approved by Academic Affairs.

JAPAN STUDIES ^[9]

Students concentrating in Japan Studies must take at least 4 courses within this program.

ASIAN STUDIES ^[10]

Japan Studies concentrators must also fulfill the requirements for the field of Asian Studies, which include 2 Asian Studies area courses outside of Japan Studies.

Students in Japan Studies also have the option of pursuing a specialization in the International Relations of Asia ^[11] (AsiaIR).

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

Students must complete 16 credits. The four required courses are:

- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics (prerequisite or concurrent: Microeconomics)
- International Trade Theory (prerequisite: Microeconomics)
- International Monetary Theory (prerequisite: Macroeconomics)

If a student passes a waiver exam ^[12] in one of these areas, the student must take a replacement International Economics program course(s) to fulfill the concentration requirement.

Starting with the entering class of Fall 2017, students who pass Microeconomics in Pre-Term ^[13] will have the concentration reduced to 12 credits, but still must complete Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory, and International Monetary Theory (or a replacement course(s) if waiver exam(s) passed). The Pre-Term Microeconomics course is not for credit and is not factored into the GPA.

Beyond the requirements, many students choose to pursue an International Economics Specialization ^[14] in one of four areas of economics. Students may also choose to specialize in Emerging Markets ^[15].

Concentration GPA Requirement

Students must achieve a combined GPA of at least 2.67 in four (or three if Microeconomics is passed in Pre-Term) required International Economics program courses or they must retake the course(s) until a 2.67 concentration GPA is achieved. In the standard case, the concentration GPA will be the average of the grades of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, International Trade Theory, and International Monetary Theory.

If one or more of the four standard courses is waived, the school will use the highest grade(s) from any eligible replacement International Economics program course(s) to compute the International Economics concentration GPA.

QUANTITATIVE REASONING

Students must complete one course from the list below.

- Statistical Methods for Business & Economics
- Econometrics (prerequisite Statistical Methods for Business & Economics)
- Applied Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
- Macro Econometrics (prerequisite Econometrics)
- Risk Analysis and Modeling
- Quantitative Global Economics (prerequisite International Monetary Theory)
- Credit Markets & Credit Risk (prerequisite Corporate Finance)

Students may not double-count the same course toward the Quantitative Reasoning requirement and as an International Economics concentration course and vice-versa.

If a student passes the statistics waiver exam, the student must take an alternate course from the list above to fulfill the Quantitative Reasoning requirement.

Starting with the entering class of Fall 2017, students who pass Statistical Methods for Business

& Economics in Pre-Term ^[13] will have fulfilled the Quantitative Reasoning requirement. The Pre-Term course is not for credit and is not factored into the GPA.

CORE COURSES/EXAMS

All students must pass 2 core courses and/or exams from the subjects below. Japan Studies concentrators must pass Comparative Politics as one of their core requirements prior to the start of their third semester. If the core courses/exams are not completed by the start of the final semester, the student no longer has the option of completing the exam and must enroll in the core course(s) for credit.

- American Foreign Policy Since World War II
- Comparative Politics
- Evolution of the International Systems
- Theories of International Relations

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Japan Studies MA candidates must pass exams to demonstrate proficiency in Japanese. All non-native English speakers are required to pass an English placement exam upon entering the school. Native Japanese speakers must pass proficiency in a second language which can include English.

CAPSTONE

Japan Studies MA concentrators must complete ONE of the following capstones:

- Japan Studies Oral Exam. The exam provides students with the opportunity to cap their academic experience at the school through discourse with their professors that highlights the findings of their studies and research, particularly the US-Japan Yearbook project. Students will be expected to suggest policy implications for Japan, the US, and the world of the issues discussed. At least two Japan Studies professors will administer the exam. Discussion will focus initially on the specific findings of the student in the Yearbook Project and then branch into broader policy areas. The exam will be graded on a pass-fail basis. Makeup oral exams for students who fail must be scheduled within three weeks of the exam, with the students preparing a three-page paper addressing the areas or issues deemed insufficient by the examiners. Those who fail the makeup exam will not graduate in that term.
- MA Oral Exam (to compete for honors—if eligible)

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

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[Entering Class 2015-2016](#) ^[17]

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