Japanese Program Policies

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Credit Transfer

* For JAPN minors, up to 9 credits (3 classes) of the 3000- or 4000-level courses taken outside of GW can count toward the minor. For JAPN majors, up to 18 credits (6 classes) of the 3000- or 4000-level courses taken outside of GW can count toward the major. You can count only up to 9 transfer credits a semester towards your minor or major.

Please keep this in mind when planning your transfer credits!

Part 1: Transferring Academic Year Study Abroad Credits


Students who have completed at least one Basic or Intermediate Japanese language course at GW—JAPN 1001 through JAPN 2004—may receive credit for the succeeding GW courses in sequence up to JAPN 2004, upon successfully passing a Japanese language course at a Japanese university that is sanctioned by GW’s Study Abroad Program<http://studyabroad.gwu.edu/>, regardless of the level into which they were placed by the program at the Japanese university. Credit for the course(s) will be granted on a one course-per-one-semester basis—credit for one GW Japanese language course will be granted for each semester of Japanese language studied at the Japanese university.

The Office for Study Abroad will award language credit for JAPN 1002-JAPN 2004 based on this policy statement and the language level they took at GW before their study abroad. Note, however, that only the same number of credit units as they studied in Japan will be awarded even if the corresponding GW courses carry more credits.

Example 1: A student spends one semester in Japan after completing Japanese 1002 at GW. He/she can automatically have up to 4 credit hours transferred from his/her overseas program as Japanese 2003 without a test.

Example 2: A student spends two semesters in Japan after completing Japanese 1002 at GW. She/he can get up to 8 credit hours transferred as Japanese 2003 and 2004.

Any other extra credits earned in Japan for a language course up to the 2003 level will be transferred as JAPN 1099.

This also applies to credits earned by a student who begins his or her study of the Japanese language for the first time while abroad at a Japanese university. This means that a student who begins studying Japanese on a study abroad program will not get automatic 1001 credit but will get 1099 credit for his/her language class; if the student further spends a second
semester abroad, he or she will also get 1099 credit instead of 1002 credit for his/her language class that semester.

However, 1099 credits can be converted to regular GW Japanese course credit up to JAPN 3106 at the discretion of the course instructor through examination. In general, this examination will be the equivalent of the Final Exam of the GW JAPN course that corresponds to the study-abroad course for which credit is sought. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor for relevant course material for study prior to the examination.

**Higher-level (above 2003) credits:**

If a student wants to receive JAPN 3105-3106 or 4107-4108 credit for a language course taken while in Japan, he/she must take an examination with the instructor of the course it is equivalent to at GW upon return from Japan. Transfer of credits is not automatic. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor of the course for all relevant materials.

JAPN4121 and JAPN 4122 are WID classes and must be taken in residence.

**Credit for Non-language courses**

If a student wants JAPN 3123 or 3124 credit, bring all relevant materials from the course taken in Japan—syllabus, textbooks, tests, and reading and writing assignments, etc.—as evidence of equivalency to Professor Hamano or Professor Tsujioka. Credit transfer is at discretion of the instructor.

If a student wants JAPN 3111, 3112, 3132, or 3162 credit, bring all relevant materials from the course taken in Japan—syllabus, textbooks, tests, and reading and writing assignments, etc.—as evidence of equivalency to Professor Hanami or Professor Yasuda. Credit transfer is at discretion of the instructor.

If a student wants credit for an upper-level Japanese literature, film, or other humanities course taken in Japan for which there is no equivalent at GW, bring all relevant materials from the course—syllabus, textbooks, tests, and reading and writing assignments, etc.—to Professor Hanami or Professor Yasuda. Credit transfer for JAPN 3099 is at discretion of the instructor.

**Part 2: Transferring Summer Study Abroad Credits**

There is no official study abroad program for summer associated with the Japanese program. Credits for summer abroad are not automatic.

**Minimum requirement for the summer program**

- Study abroad institute must be an accredited university.
- Japanese program abroad must be a minimum of six (6) weeks.
Japanese program abroad must be a minimum of six (6) credit units.

Process for the student

- Study abroad at an accredited program.
- Upon return, take the final exam in Japanese for the level s/he wants to receive credit. (Students are strongly advised to obtain Japanese textbooks used at GW to prepare for the exam.)
- Student must score a minimum 80% on the exam to receive credit.

Other

Students on shorter programs may place out of a level upon return on the basis of their placement test results, but cannot receive academic credits.

Part 3: Transferring Credits from non-GW-affiliated programs

The registrar’s office gives elective JAPN 1099 credits to transfer students for all Japanese language courses taken at a non-GW university in the US. They may also give such credits for courses taken at non-GW-affiliated programs outside US. These JAPN 1099 credits can be converted to regular GW Japanese credits for language courses only after written examination and/or an oral interview. Please contact Professor Hamano or Professor Tsujioka.

For content courses, JAPN 1099 credits can be converted to regular GW Japanese credits (3111, 3112, 3123, 3124, 3132, or 3162) or 3099 credit (for courses with no equivalent content at GW) only upon presentation of all relevant materials from the course—including syllabus, textbooks, tests, and reading and writing assignments, etc.—to Professor Hamano/Tsujioka (Linguistics) or Professor Hanami/Yasuda (Literature and Culture). Credit transfer is at discretion of the instructor.

[adopted on 8/26/16]