

Japanese

Faculty

Matthew Fraleigh

(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Hiroko Sekino

(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and Literature)

Courses of Instruction

(1–99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students

JAPN 10a Beginning Japanese

Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.

Intended for students with little or no previous knowledge of Japanese. This course offers intensive training in the basics of Japanese grammar, listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students acquire Japanese language proficiency through various interactive classroom activities, workbook, audio, video, and computer-assisted exercises. Usually offered every fall.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 20b Continuing Japanese

Prerequisite: JAPN 10a or the equivalent. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.

Continuation of JAPN 10a. Usually offered every spring.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 30a Intermediate Japanese

[fl]

Prerequisite: JAPN 20b or the equivalent. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.

Continuation of JAPN 20b. This course aims to further develop a student's four language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Japanese through various classroom activities, workbook, audio, video, and writing essays.

Usually offered every fall.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 40b Advanced Intermediate Japanese

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: JAPN 30a or the equivalent. Meets five days per week for a total of five class hours per week.

Continuation of JAPN 30a with more emphasis on reading and writing. Usually offered every spring.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 98a Readings in Japanese

Prerequisite: JAPN 40b or the equivalent.

Usually offered every year.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 98b Readings in Japanese

Prerequisite: JAPN 40b or the equivalent.

Usually offered every year.

Ms. Sekino

(100–199) For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

JAPN 105a Advanced Conversation and Composition I

[fl hum]

Prerequisite: JAPN 40b or the equivalent.

Designed for advanced students of Japanese who wish to enhance and improve their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will develop their proficiency in writing, reading, and speaking through reading and discussion of Japanese texts on various topics of relevance. Listening and speaking skills are reinforced through audio, video, guided conversation, discussion of texts, and oral presentation. Usually offered every year.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 105b Advanced Conversation and Composition II

[fl hum]

Continuation of JAPN 105a. For advanced students of Japanese who wish to enhance and improve their speaking proficiency as well as reading and writing skills. Speaking skills will be developed through conversation, discussion of texts and films, and oral presentation. Various reading topics on Japanese culture and various forms of writing will be assigned to improve students' reading and writing skills.

Usually offered every year.

Ms. Sekino

JAPN 120a Readings in Contemporary Japanese Literature

[hum nw]

Prerequisite: JAPN 105b. Course is conducted in Japanese.

Offers advanced students of Japanese the chance to read, analyze, and discuss short fiction by contemporary authors. Film adaptations of these literary works as well as other related visual materials are used for additional listening practice. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Fraleigh

JAPN 120b Readings in Modern Japanese Literature

[hum nw]

Prerequisite: JAPN 105b or equivalent. Course is conducted in Japanese.

A continuation of JAPN 120a. Students read, analyze, and discuss Japanese short fiction by a wide range of modern authors from Meiji period to the present day. Screening of film adaptations and television programs complement class discussion, which is conducted in Japanese. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Fraleigh

JAPN 125b Putting Away Childish Things: Coming of Age in Modern Japanese Literature and Film

[hum nw]

Explores the ways in which modern Japanese writers and filmmakers have represented childhood, youth, and coming of age. A variety of short stories, novels, and memoirs from the 1890s to the present day are read, and several recent films are also screened. Usually offered every third year.

Mr. Fraleigh

JAPN 130a The Literature of Multicultural Japan

[hum nw]

"Multicultural" may not be an adjective that many associate with Japan, but as we will find in this class, Japan's modern literary and cinematic tradition is rich with works by and about resident Koreans, Ainu, Okinawans, outcasts, and sexual and other marginalized minorities. Why then does the image of a monocultural Japan remain so resilient? Usually offered every third year.
Mr. Fraleigh

JAPN 135a Screening National Images: Japanese Film and Anime in Global Context

[hum nw]

All films and readings are in English.
An introduction to some major directors and works of postwar Japanese film and anime with special attention to such issues as genre, medium, adaptation, narrative, and the circulation of national images in the global setting. Usually offered every third year.
Mr. Fraleigh

JAPN 145a The World of Classical Japanese Literature

[hum nw]

A survey of some of the most important works of Japanese literature from its origins to the late sixteenth century, including a wide range of genres: fiction, essays, travelogues, poetry, and drama. All readings are in English. Usually offered every third year.

Mr. Fraleigh

JAPN 140a The World of Early Modern Japanese Literature

[hum nw]

A survey of the most celebrated works of literature from Japan's early modern period (1600–1868). Explores a wide range of genres, including fiction, travelogues, memoirs, dramatic forms such as the puppet theater and kabuki, as well as poetry in Japanese and Chinese. All readings are available in English translation; Japanese knowledge is not required. Usually offered every third year.
Mr. Fraleigh

An interdepartmental program

Courses of Study:
Minor

Journalism

Objectives

The journalism program examines the place of the media in the American—and more broadly speaking, the global—experience. The program offers students a liberal arts approach to the study of journalism. A diverse faculty of scholars and journalism professionals teach students about the role of the media in domestic and international affairs and train students in the skills necessary for the accomplished practice of journalism. In class and in professional environments, students wrestle with the challenges and responsibilities of communicating the essence of world events, and domestic and human issues, in print and broadcast journalism.

The program is part of the university's larger effort to train students to be critical thinkers and forceful writers. Although there are a few courses that teach specific journalistic skills, the journalism program is not a nuts-and-bolts communications program; rather, it features a strong liberal arts curriculum that grounds students in an academic subject area and gives them the tools to translate and transmit knowledge to a general audience.

In the core courses and electives, students study the history and organization of media institutions; examine the ethical responsibilities of media practitioners; analyze the relationships among the media and other American social, political, and corporate institutions; and learn the reporting, writing, and editing skills needed by the print and broadcast media.

Although some of our graduates advance directly to graduate programs in journalism and communications, and others take jobs in media venues including public relations and advertising, many go on to other vocational areas where the skills and learning affected by the program are found to be highly valuable.

How to Become a Minor

This minor is open to all Brandeis undergraduates, subject to limitations on appropriate class size. Students who complete the requirements of the program receive journalism certificates and notations on their transcripts.

Committee

Maura Farrelly, Director
(American Studies)

Mark Auslander
(Anthropology)

Jacob Cohen
(American Studies)

Thomas Doherty
(American Studies)

Mari Fitzduff
(Coexistence and Conflict)

Ben Gomes-Casseres (on leave fall 2008)
(Economics)

Tim Hickey
(Computer Science)

Janet McIntosh (on leave 2008–2009)
(Anthropology)

Eileen McNamara
(Journalism)

Laura Miller
(Sociology)

Stephen Whitfield
(American Studies)

Requirements for the Minor

Students are expected to complete a minimum of six courses from the following options:

A. Core courses: Students must take two core courses, one from a “History/Culture” area, which consists of either JOUR 120a or AMST 137b; and one from a “Writing” area, which consists of either JOUR 15a or JOUR 138b.

B. Ethics: All students are required to take JOUR 110b.

C. Internship/thesis: Students have three options for satisfying this requirement:

1. JOUR 89a, which must be taken in conjunction with a preapproved off-campus internship (with prior approval, students may complete the off-campus internship in the summer prior to taking JOUR 89a).

2. JOUR 98a or b, in which students complete a semester-long independent study with a faculty member of the journalism program and are graded on a single independently researched writing project.

3. The completion of an honors thesis, in which students write a thesis in their major that is on a topic related to the media (a faculty member of the journalism program must serve as an outside reader).

D. Electives: Students must take two electives from the electives course list below. Each elective must be from a different department.

Courses of Instruction**Core Courses****AMST 137b Journalism in Twentieth-Century America**

[ss]
Examines what journalists have done, how their enterprise has in fact conformed with their ideals, and what some of the consequences have been for the republic historically. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Whitfield

JOUR 15a Writing for Broadcast and the Internet

[ss wi]
A hands-on workshop designed to teach basic broadcast news-writing skills, as well as techniques for gathering, producing, and delivering radio and television news. Stresses the importance of accuracy. Issues of objectivity, point of view, and freedom of the press are discussed. Writing assignments will be written on deadline. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Melnicove

JOUR 89a Contemporary Media: Internship and Analysis

Prerequisite: JOUR 15a or 138b.
Brings together students who are independently engaged in various media internships and provides an opportunity for them to exchange their experiences with other students and to discuss and analyze related readings. Students who choose to satisfy the journalism minor’s internship option must take this course. Usually offered every semester.
Staff

JOUR 98a Independent Study

Usually offered every year.
Staff

JOUR 98b Independent Study

Usually offered every year.
Staff

JOUR 110b Ethics in Journalism

[ss]
Should reporters ever misrepresent themselves? Are there pictures that newspapers should not publish? Is it ever acceptable to break the law in pursuit of a story? Examines the media’s ethics during an age dominated by scandal and sensationalism. Usually offered every year.
Ms. McNamara

JOUR 120a The Culture of Journalism

[ss]
Examines the social, cultural, political, and economic influences on the practice and profession of journalism. Provides the background and concepts for a critical analysis of the American press. Usually offered every year.
Ms. Farrelly

JOUR 138b The Contemporary World in Print

[ss]
Introduces students to the practice of news reporting for print media and links theory and history to the working craft of journalism. Trains students in the fundamentals of news gathering and writing, providing an opportunity to practice those skills in conditions simulating a newsroom. A concern for ethics, balance, and accuracy is stressed in all assignments. Usually offered every second year.
Ms. McNamara

(100–199) Journalism Electives for Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

JOUR 103b Advertising and the Media

[ss]

Combines a historical and contemporary analysis of advertising's role in developing and sustaining consumer culture in America with a practical analysis of the relationship between advertising and the news media in the United States. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Farrelly

JOUR 104a Political Packaging in America

[ss]

Examines the history of political marketing, image making in presidential campaigns, the relationship between news and ads, and the growth of public-policy advertising by special-interest groups to influence legislation. Usually offered every third year.

Ms. McNamara

JOUR 107b Media and Public Policy

[wi ss]

Examines the intersection of the media and politics, the ways in which each influences the other, and the consequences of that intersection for a democracy. Through analytic texts, handouts, and contemporaneous newspaper and magazine articles, explores the relationship between policy decisions and public discourse.

Usually offered every second year.

Ms. McNamara

JOUR 109b Digital and Multimedia Journalism

[ss]

The fast-changing landscape of new information technologies, from the Internet to wireless networking, is redefining the nature and practice of journalism today. This course explores the political, sociological, legal, and ethical issues raised by these new media technologies. The Internet, in particular, is a double-edged sword: It poses both a real threat and opportunity to newspapers and television news, and to the concept of the media's watchdog role in a democracy. It also provides journalists with powerful new tools for news gathering, but often at the expense of individual privacy rights.

Usually offered every year.

Ms. Bass

JOUR 112b Literary Journalism: The Art of Feature Writing

[ss wi]

Introduces students to signal works of literary journalism. Helps develop the students' own voices by honing and improving students' own work and by critiquing the work of professionals and colleagues. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Feeney

JOUR 114b Arts Journalism

[ss wi]

Introduces students to cultural reporting, profiling, and criticism. Students read and discuss the work of notable past and present practitioners with the aim of enhancing their skills as both consumers and producers of arts journalism. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Feeney

JOUR 130b Medical and Science News Writing

[ss]

Scientific progress has brought extraordinary medical advances and serious environmental crises. Good medical and science journalism has never been more important in understanding our world and how to fix it. This course is an introduction to the skills needed to cover medical and science news. It focuses on how to report and write daily news stories and longer features. It also explores the ethical, social, and political issues raised by the press coverage of science and medicine. Usually offered every second year.

Ms. Bass

JOUR 140b Investigating Justice

[ss]

Explores in depth how journalists cover the criminal justice system and investigate cases of potential wrongful convictions. Students observe, analyze, and write about criminal cases, gain insights into the justice system, and consider the intersection of race, class, and ethics. Usually offered every year.

Staff

Elective Courses

The following courses are approved for the program. Not all are given in any one year. Please consult the *Schedule of Classes* each semester.

AAAS 117a

Communications and Social Change in Developing Nations

AMST 130b

Television and American Culture

AMST 131b

News on Screen

AMST 132b

International Affairs and the American Media

AMST 134b

The New Media in America

AMST 135b

Radio in American Culture

AMST 144b

Signs of Imagination: Gender and Race in Mass Media

ANTH 26a

Communication and Media

ENG 60a

Documentary Prose and Film

POL 110a

Media, Politics, and Society

POL 115a

Constitutional Law

POL 115b

Seminar: Constitutional Law and Theory

POL 116b

Civil Liberties in America

SOC 146a

Mass Communication Theory