

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree in East Asian Languages and Literatures at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

JAPANESE LANGUAGE/LINGUISTICS

PROGRAM SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Literatures aims to train future scholars for the academic profession. The Ph.D. specialization in Japanese language/linguistics offers students the opportunity to develop scholarly expertise in Japanese historical linguistics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, and/or language pedagogy.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements for admission to the M.A. program, admission to the Ph.D. program requires evidence of the M.A. earned with distinction, or its equivalent. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate their potential as scholars by submitting a research paper or thesis with their application.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Graduate Division **residency requirement** is three semesters of full-time work as a classified student.

Language Requirement(s). Further language study is tailored according to the area of specialization and to make it best fit the needs of the individual student’s immediate research and intended professional career. In all cases this will involve, as a minimum, knowledge of a second East Asian language equivalent to two years of study; in some cases a third East Asian language or an additional European language may also be required.

Coursework Requirements. The University has a residency requirement for all Ph.D. students of three semesters of full-time coursework (a total of 24 credits) beyond the courses counted toward the M.A. degree. Students should consult with their advisors and plan a course of study that will best meet their academic needs. For Japanese language/linguistics students, out of the 24 credits, at least 9 credits must be taken from 3 different courses of JPN 650 and/or JPN 730. Any of the three courses (JPN 650 alpha and/or JPN 730 alpha) can be substituted with the approval of the candidate’s chair/advisor and the graduate chair.

Fields of mastery in Japanese Language/Linguistics. The student shall take a comprehensive exam in three fields, at least one of which will be outside of the students area of specialization, followed by an oral examination on all of them.

Japanese language/linguistics concentration areas

History, Phonology/Morphology, Syntax, Sociolinguistics, Pedagogy, a non-JPN Linguistics area

Examinations

A **qualifying assessment**, required for all students regardless of where they earned their M.A., must be successfully completed within the first three semesters of Ph.D. residency. The assessment format will be a three-hour sit-down examination, and the results will be recorded in the student’s file.

A **comprehensive examination** consisting of written and oral parts will be given in the year of completion of coursework, or the following year, and after the student’s committee agrees that the student is ready for it. The examination will cover three fields [from History, Phonology/Morphology, Syntax, Sociolinguistics, Pedagogy, one non-JPN Linguistics area] with emphasis on the field in which the student intends to specialize. The student will obtain the written approval of his/her Advisor and the Japanese Linguistics Coordinator for the selected areas.

Scholarly/Publishable Paper requirement.

Japanese Language/Linguistics students must additionally write a scholarly paper and receive an evaluation of “PASS” before the Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination can be scheduled. Two graduate faculty members must evaluate the paper as a “PASS.” An M.A. thesis judged by at least two of our Japanese linguistics graduate faculty members to be of publishable quality, will be accepted as fulfilling this requirement.

Dissertation proposal. The student shall submit for his or her committee’s approval a written dissertation proposal that includes an outline of the methodology to be used, and a bibliography. Students should work closely with their doctoral committee chair when preparing the proposal. Defense of the dissertation proposal will be held subsequent to the comprehensive examination.

Advancement to Candidacy. Following the successful completion of the above requirements, the student is officially advanced to PhD candidacy, becoming an “ABD” – All-but-Dissertation – candidate. An “ABD Certificate” will be issued by the Graduate Division to the student.

Upon completion of the dissertation, an original contribution to the major field of study, the candidate will undergo a final oral examination in defense of the dissertation.

The Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Literatures is a recognized WICHE regional graduate program. Residents of Alaska, Arizona, California (from Fall 2010), Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming are eligible, upon admission, to enroll at resident rates.