

Programme specification

Est.
1841

YORK
ST JOHN
UNIVERSITY

BA (Hons) Japanese, English Language & Linguistics

<i>School:</i>	School of Languages & Linguistics		
<i>Entry from:</i>	2019/20	<i>in:</i>	September
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Delivery location:</i>	York St John University		
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>Exit awards:</i>	BA (Ord) Japanese, English language & Linguistics Diploma of Higher Education Japanese, English Language & Linguistics Certificate of Higher Education Japanese, English Language & Linguistics		
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>	QT32		
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>	Not applicable		
<i>QAA benchmark group(s):</i>	Languages, Cultures and Societies 2015; Linguistics 2015		
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	Full-time for 4 years		
<i>Language of study:</i>	English and Japanese		
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	No		
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	Yes – compulsory Year Abroad between level 5 and level 6		
<i>Placement Year opportunity:</i>	No		

Introduction and special features

This four-year degree in Japanese, English Language & Linguistics – which includes a year in Japan – combines Japanese language study with the study of how language is structured and used. The programme is designed to give you communicative Japanese language skills and a deep understanding of Japanese culture. You'll study how we convey meaning, how language varies according to speaker and situation, the position of English in the multilingual world, and social, political and ideological issues in language and education. This programme is ideal if you prefer two years of university study before studying abroad in Japan and would like to choose from a diverse range of English Language & Linguistics modules.

Special features:

- Start Japanese from beginners or with prior study. On arrival at York St John University you will be placed at an appropriate level, either Accelerated Japanese 1 or Japanese Communication 1.
- Study abroad between level 5 and level 6 – study Japanese for two years before going abroad.
- Take the CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Speakers of Other Languages), the internationally recognised English language teaching qualification awarded by Cambridge Assessment English, part of the University of Cambridge, subject to successful interview – take this for no extra fee, during the summer or up to a year after you graduate.
- Take the Japanese Language Proficiency Test for no extra fee.
- Take part in extra-curricular activities related to Japanese language and culture: the vibrant student-run Japanese Society, where you can experience Japanese culture and meet home and exchange students, and the staff-led taiko drumming group, where you can learn a new skill and practice intercultural understanding.

- Access specialist spaces for students: a Linguistics Lab, Languages Workshop, Lounge and Study.
- Learn about current research issues and methods from guest lecturers in our Colloquium Series on a variety of topics related to programmes in the School of Language and Linguistics.
- Apply to join the University's Students-as-Researchers scheme or present your dissertation research at ULAB, the Undergraduate Linguistics Association of Britain conference.

Admissions criteria

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [undergraduate](#) study.

You can enter this programme as a beginner in Japanese. You can also enter if you have studied Japanese before and/or if you have any qualifications in Japanese.

The programme is not suitable if Japanese is your first language, or if you have C1 level of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR) in Japanese

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Accredited Prior \(Experiential\) Learning \(APL/APEL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aims

By the end of the programme, successful students will reach upper B2/C1 Independent/Proficient User level on the JF standard for Japanese language education. You will be able to have conversations, give presentations, join in discussions, read articles and reports, and write coherently, communicating effectively for a range of academic, social and professional purposes. You will have the skills to be an independent and ethical (applied) linguist, able to work for social justice in changing global contexts by drawing on sound evidence from linguistic theories and applied linguistics practice.

Programme learning outcomes

Level 4

Upon successful completion of this level of study you will be able to:

- 4.1. Effectively communicate in Japanese, both orally and in writing, on routine and familiar matters
- 4.2. Read and write hiragana and katakana characters, and recognise sufficient kanji characters to understand text on predictable everyday matters
- 4.3. Handle, analyse and present data in an ethical way using appropriate digital tools
- 4.4. Recognise and explain socio-cultural, political, psychological and/or historical contexts of language use
- 4.5. Describe and analyse grammatical structures of language using appropriate terminology
- 4.6. Describe and analyse the sounds of language using appropriate terminology
- 4.7. Source and interpret a range of academic literature to effectively communicate orally and in writing, adopting appropriate referencing conventions

Level 5

Upon successful completion of this level, you will be able to:

- 5.1. Effectively describe experiences and events in Japanese, both orally and in writing, and give reasons and explanations for opinions

- 5.2. Demonstrate a critical understanding of aspects of Japanese cultures, communities and societies
- 5.3. Analyse and present naturalistic and/or experimental data in an ethical way
- 5.4. Identify and use appropriate theoretical frameworks
- 5.5. Investigate, interpret and/or reflect on socio-cultural, political, psychological, historical and/or interpersonal contexts of language use
- 5.6. Communicate professionally both in writing and orally, evidencing arguments through correctly referenced, appropriate sources

Year Abroad

Upon successful completion of this level of study you will be able to:

- 5.7. Demonstrate an awareness of professional values
- 5.8. Reflect on your capacity to apply theoretical knowledge to real-life contexts

Level 6

Upon successful completion of this level, you will be able to:

- 6.1. Communicate flexibly and effectively in Japanese, both orally and in writing, for a range of academic, social and professional purposes
- 6.2. Design and carry out an independent research study, presenting and critically analysing data in an ethical way
- 6.3. Select and apply appropriate theoretical frameworks
- 6.4. Investigate and critically evaluate socio-cultural, psychological, political and/ or historical contexts of language use
- 6.5. Appropriately adapt language to communicate professionally with a range of audiences
- 6.6. Construct a convincing argument, evidenced by critical engagement with appropriate sources
- 6.7. Demonstrate professional and transferable skills

Programme Structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Status of Module*
Students will take Module 1LLJA1 or 1LLJA3. This is dependent upon language proficiency					
1LLJA1	4	1	Accelerated Japanese 1	20	OC ¹
1LLJA3	4	1	Japanese Communication 1	20	OC ¹
1LL300	4	1	English Language and Linguistics	20	CA
1LL301	4	1	Semantics and Pragmatics	20	C
Students will take Module 1LLJA2 or 1LLJA4. This is dependent upon language proficiency					
1LLJA2	4	2	Accelerated Japanese 2	20	OA ²
1LLJA4	4	2	Japanese Communication 2	20	OA ²
1LL303	4	2	Descriptive Grammar of English	20	CA
1LL304	4	2	Phonetics	20	C
Students must take module 2LLJA5 and 40 additional credits from the list of modules in semester one					
2LLJA5	5	1	Japanese Language and Society 1	20	CA
2LL305	5	1	Analysing Texts	20	OA
2LL301	5	1	Applied Phonetics and Phonology	20	OA
2LL304	5	1	Language, Gender and Sexuality	20	OA
2LL300	5	1	Linguistic Diversity in the Classroom	20	OA
2LL302	5	1	World Englishes	20	OA
Students must take modules 2LLJA6 and 2LL317 and 20 additional credits from the list of modules in semester two					
2LLJA6	5	2	Japanese Language and Society 2	20	CA
2LL317	5	2	Intercultural Communication	20	CA ⁵
2LL311	5	2	Forensic Linguistics	20	OA

2LL307	5	2	Language and Literacy	20	OA
2LL308	5	2	Psycholinguistics	20	OA
2LL309	5	2	Sociolinguistics	20	OA
Year abroad					
2LL321	5+	2	Reflective Report	0	CA
3LLJA7	6	1	Japanese Language Project 1	20	C
3LL302	6	1	Attitudes to Language	20	O ³
3LL307	6	1	Child Language Acquisition	20	O
3LL301	6	1	English Accents and Dialects	20	O
3LL311	6	1	L2 Grammar and Phonology	20	O ⁴
3LL303	6	1	Language, Identities and Cultures	20	O ³
3LL306	6	1	Speech and Language Pathology	20	O
3LL300	6	1	TESOL Theories and Methods	20	O ⁴
3LLJA8	6	2	Japanese Language Project 2	20	C
3LL310	6	2	Dissertation	40	C

***C**: Compulsory, **OC**: Compulsory if taken, **OA**: Compulsory for award if taken, **CA**: Compulsory for award, **O**: option or **E**: elective.

¹ Your Japanese level will be tested on arrival and the appropriate module selected.

² Accelerated Japanese 2 follows Accelerated Japanese 1; Japanese Communication 2 follows Japanese Communication 1.

³ At most one of Attitudes to Language and Language, Identities and Cultures can be selected.

⁴ At most one of L2 Grammar and Phonology and TESOL Theories and Methods can be selected.

⁵ Students who have transferred onto this programme having already taken 1LL317 Intercultural Communication are exempt from this module

Please note that not all options will be available every year as they depend on student demand and staff availability.

Learning, teaching and assessment

Japanese

You can enter this programme if you are a complete beginner or if you have studied Japanese before. On arrival at York St John University your Japanese level will be tested using a placement test. You will be placed at an appropriate level, either Accelerated Japanese 1 or Japanese Communication 1. Japanese Communication 1 is designed for students who have studied Japanese before and/or who have a qualification in Japanese.

We use a communicative Japanese teaching style at level 4, teaching speaking and listening through tasks such as pair-work and group work. Reading and writing input includes focus on independent learning strategies. At level 5 you will be taught Japanese via content-and-language integrated learning – you will study aspects of Japanese cultures, communities and societies through the medium of Japanese. You will learn through giving and listening to presentations, reading and discussing news articles. There will be discussion of independent learning strategies, weekly tests and formative feedback on writing. In your Year Abroad, if you study at a host university in Japan, you will study Japanese language and culture, as well as modules relating to the English Language & Linguistics side of your programme. Our level 6 Japanese language project modules use content-and-language integrated learning – you will study academic and professional Japanese through topics on Japanese cultures, communities and societies. You will learn through individual and/or group presentations, reading and discussion of authentic texts, and formative feedback on writing. You are expected to proactively engage with the language outside of class time at all levels.

Japanese modules are assessed with a combination of oral exam, videos, class tests and written work which varies according to the module. In addition, if you wish you can take the Japanese Language Proficiency Test for no extra fee at level 6.

We also provide opportunities for you to take part in extra-curricular activities related to Japanese language and culture: the vibrant student-run Japanese Society, where you can experience Japanese culture and meet home and exchange students, and the staff-led taiko drumming group, where you can learn a new skill and practice intercultural understanding.

English Language & Linguistics

English Language & Linguistics modules are delivered using a mixture of lectures, workshops and seminars. Academic and research skills are embedded in modules, for example, academic writing and referencing, peer review, use of web based resources for document sharing, and the use of wikis and blogs. The assessment varies from module to module. There is an exam on 1LL303 Descriptive Grammar of English at level 4. Other assessment methods include essays, presentations, data analysis, online tests, peer reviews, blog posts and research proposals and reports.

Year Abroad and Work Experience

You will spend a year in Japan between level 5 and level 6. You will normally study abroad at one of our partner institutions. While studying abroad, you will take Japanese language classes at your host university. You will also take courses, either taught in English or in Japanese, which are relevant to the English Language & Linguistics side of your degree. You are expected to fully engage with the tuition and assessment, but your grades will not count towards your York St John credits.

At the end of your Year Abroad you will submit a Reflective Report (module code 2LL321). Through this module you will reflect on your Year Abroad with particular reference to how your experience relates to the modules you studied at level 4 and 5 and will go on to study at level 6. As part of this module you will also carry out 10 days of work experience. This addresses the University commitment to ensuring that graduates of York St John have worked towards the development of their own post-graduation careers.

Instead of a year studying abroad plus 10 days of work experience, it may alternatively be possible to you to do a year-long work placement while in Japan.

CELTA

You will have the opportunity to apply to take CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Speakers of Other Languages), an internationally-recognised English language teaching qualification. CELTA is awarded by Cambridge Assessment English, part of the University of Cambridge as is delivered as a four-week intensive course at York St John University. You have the opportunity to apply to take a CELTA course between level 5 and level 6, either before or after the Year Abroad, or, alternatively, at the end of level 6 before you graduate. A place on the CELTA course is subject to a successful application and interview, but, if successful, is funded by the School. CELTA includes theoretical input, tutorial support and consultation, supervised lesson planning, 6 hours assessed teaching practice, peer observation of teaching practice and observation of experienced teachers in the classroom.

Level 6

Level 6 modules challenge you to critically evaluate socio-cultural, psychological, political and/or historical contexts of language use through independent study. You learn research and academic literacy skills across both Japanese and English Language & Linguistics modules, enabling you to construct a convincing argument, evidenced by critical engagement with appropriate sources, both orally and in writing, and in both English and Japanese. In the 40-credit dissertation module you conduct an independent research study of relevance to your programme, drawing on the research skills you have learned throughout the programme, and supported by additional skills sessions and up to six hours of one-on-one supervision.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [general regulations for](#) undergraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section.

In addition, the following programme-specific regulations apply in respect of progression and graduation.

The opportunity to participate in the Year Abroad is a privilege and approval will be given during level 5 subject to meeting the following criteria:

1. Completion of least 80% of non-assessed formative tasks in Japanese language modules in semester 1 and 2.
2. A pass on all level 5 modules (after resit(s) where applicable).
3. At least a serious attempt (a mark of 20 or above) on all level 5 semester 1 modules at first attempt.
4. No concerns have arisen under the Fitness to Study Policy that would prevent you from studying abroad.
5. No breaches of the York St John Code of Discipline.
6. Acceptance by a host institution.

In exceptional cases, if a student is not deemed suitable for study abroad, the Subject Director in consultation with the Head of School may not approve it. If you have otherwise met the requirements to progress to level 6, but have not met the criteria for the Year Abroad, it will usually be possible to transfer to a course which does not contain a study abroad element, most likely English Language & Linguistics.

Progression to level 6 at the end of the Year Abroad is determined by the pass/fail module 2LL321 Reflective Report. In the exceptional case of a student not completing the Year Abroad, progression to level 6 is not possible on this programme. In this exceptional case, you would transfer to a programme which does not contain Japanese at level 6, most likely English Language & Linguistics.

In special circumstances where the students are not able to study abroad due to external factors (e.g. virus pandemic, war, political conflict), students will be consulted and may be able stay on this programme without going to study abroad

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University Mission Statement](#) [see page two]
- [Strategic Plan 2015-20](#) [see page four]
- [QAA subject benchmark statement](#)
- [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/level-descriptions>
- Japanese Foundation (JF) Standard for Language Education
https://www.jpfd.go.jp/e/urawa/e_rsrcs/dl/jfs2015_pamphlet_eng.pdf

Date written / revised: