



Institute for Japanese Studies

A unit of the
East Asian Studies Center

SPARK ■ FORGE ■ INITIATE



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

Institute for Japanese Studies



easc.osu.edu/ijs

The Institute for Japanese Studies (IJS) at The Ohio State University is a major hub and catalyst for original thought and action in the study of Japan. With unique expertise and domestic and international partnerships, IJS continually challenges paradigms to further knowledge, increase understanding, and inspire life-long learning of Japan and its relationships with Ohio, the United States, and the world.

The reach of IJS-affiliated faculty and students extends worldwide. IJS, under the auspices of the East Asian Studies Center (EASC), obtains major support from the university, governmental agencies, and private foundations to fund core programs and administrative functions. This institutional support goes only part of the way for IJS to fulfill its mission. IJS needs grassroots support from individual and corporate donors in order to maintain flexibility and vigor as a nationally recognized center of research, instruction, and outreach. Support in the form of scholarships, travel grants, research support, and outreach projects, can make a real difference in the quality and achievements of students, faculty, and public constituencies.

Please visit <http://easc.osu.edu/giving> and consider a gift to the Institute for Japanese Studies. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law.



Sparks Innovative Research and Instruction

Academics is central to the mission of the Institute for Japanese Studies. To stimulate a community of faculty, students, and the campus public with new research opportunities and instructional initiatives, the Institute for Japanese Studies:

- Organizes lectures, workshops, and conferences to obtain and share new perspectives that enrich research projects and instructional curriculum development
- Supports a wide range of courses and programs on Japan
- Augments research and teaching resources by facilitating access to instructional media, films, lectures, and exhibitions
- Works with students interested in pursuing scholarships, grants, and fellowships that pertain to Japanese studies
- Explores and facilitates opportunities for students' study, work, and internship in Japan



Forges Interdisciplinary Connections Across Fields and Regions

In today's highly interconnected, almost *flat*, world, innovative research and instruction span many domains and disciplines. To promote an interdisciplinary network of Japanese studies experts throughout OSU and beyond, the Institute for Japanese Studies:

- Connects over two dozen faculty and instructors from 10 disciplines to promote collaboration
- Brings together undergraduate and graduate students interested in Japan and related topics
- Plans to introduce the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Japanese Studies
- Works with various OSU units to promote exchange programs and collaborative partnerships with overseas institutions
- Cooperates with partners in business and government sectors to promote exchange between Ohio and Japan



Initiates Programs to Inspire Life-Long Learning

IJS believes that learning about Japan contributes to the development and appreciation of comparative perspectives that enrich one's capacity to gain practical and intellectual knowledge, to develop careers, and to understand life and the world around us. To this end, the Institute for Japanese Studies works with students, teachers, businesses communities, government agencies, and the general public to:

- Help elementary and secondary educators incorporate Japanese and East Asian content into their curriculum
- Provide teaching resources on Japan and East Asia for K-12 schools and community organizations
- Organize career and professional development events including internships and alumni networking
- Provide opportunities for training, testing, and credentialing of Japanese language skills
- Sponsor cultural events to bring both traditional and modern Japanese arts to OSU and the people of Ohio

OSU in Japan

Education Abroad Programs and International Partnerships

OSU offers more than 15 student exchange and education abroad programs which provide students the opportunity to experience Japan firsthand. OSU also has more than 15 active partnerships established, and more in development, with universities in Japan. These cooperative agreements for research, teaching, professional training, and exchange cover diverse areas such as languages and literatures, chemistry, education, dentistry, business, astronomy, and data analytics.

Students, Scholars, and Alumni

The OSU Japanese Student Organization is open to all OSU students and the IJS Director serves as its faculty advisor. Alumni organizations are also active in Japan. IJS facilitates the Ohio-Japan Alumni Network (OH-JAN) to contribute further to students' career development.

Connecting Ohio and Japan



Economic and Business Ties

The Institute for Japanese Studies was created in 1985 by the State of Ohio to promote education, research, and outreach in Japanese studies for students, businesses, and the greater public in Ohio. It was by gubernatorial initiative in recognition of rising economic opportunities with Japan and in particular with Japanese manufacturing investment that made Ohio a prime state for Japan's direct U.S. investment. Japan continues to be the leading foreign investor in Ohio with over 481 facilities providing over 70,000 jobs, 98% of which are held by Ohioans. The State of Ohio maintains a sister-state relationship with Saitama Prefecture.

Community Ties

Many Japanese and American residents and businesses in Central Ohio make up the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO), whose mission is to bring together Central Ohio communities by goodwill through the sharing of knowledge about Japan. JASCO offers various business seminars and workshops in addition to many cultural events throughout the year. As such, OSU's Japanese Student Organization coordinates with JASCO on some annual events. IJS is an institutional member of JASCO, with an historical affiliation that started with JASCO's origin at OSU.

Language and Cultural Ties

Across the State of Ohio, as of Autumn 2016, 21 K-12 schools offer Japanese language classes for over 1,300 students while 23 colleges and universities offer 160 courses for over 2,300 students. At OSU, 380 students are enrolled in 22 courses. The OSU Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures is nationally one of the largest programs of its kind, offering BA, MA, and PhD degrees in Japanese language and literature. IJS administers the Japanese Language Proficiency Test that is given annually at a select dozen centers in the U.S. The OSU Libraries hold 147,612 Japanese-language volumes, ranking 5th among public universities and 12th among all universities in the U.S., with specific strengths in linguistics, modern literature, history of science and technology, sources on Okinawa, labor economics, and Japanese company histories. The OSU Cartoon Research Library and Museum is home to the largest Japanese *manga* graphic art collection in the world outside of Japan. OSU also boasts 2,770 Japanese cartographic and graphic collections that rank 3rd in the entire U.S.



Established in 1985, the Institute for Japanese Studies (IJS) serves as a center for scholarly research, instruction, outreach, and public programming about Japan for The Ohio State University faculty, students, the K-12 community, business and government, and the general public. IJS endeavors to advance and disseminate knowledge about Japan, ranging from its people, language, art, culture, history, environment, government and politics, economy and business, and other aspects of its society and institutions, to Japan's relations with the U.S. and the world. IJS conducts its events and programs in cooperation with the East Asian Studies Center and other units of The Ohio State University.

IJS is a unit of the East Asian Studies Center (EASC), and is led by the IJS faculty director and supported by EASC staff, a team of professionals who hold backgrounds in East Asian studies and have extensive experience in program administration. EASC and IJS are housed within the Office of International Affairs (OIA), which spearheads the University's international endeavors through its various units including OSU Gateway Centers, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Education Abroad, Global Engagement, International Partnerships, International Students and Scholars, and other area studies centers.

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