



Liberal Arts Japanese Option Welcome Orientation (Fall 2026)

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Education and Language Acquisition Dept.
LaGuardia Community College

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Alumni Pathways to Japan

- **Ed Agosto**, a LaGuardia alumnus and former JET teacher, shared his path from LaGuardia to teaching English in Japan for two years.
- **Adriana Allen**, a LaGuardia alumna and current Hunter College student, studied abroad at Meiji Gakuin University in Japan in Summer 2026 with support from the Gilman Scholarship.



<https://chrysanthemum.commons.gc.cuny.edu>

Alumni Pathways to Japan

- **David Dean Dujmovic** transferred to Temple University Japan and starting his junior year in Japan in September.



Self introduction (in Japanese style) (1)

- Make five business cards (write down your name, e-mail (optional), phone (optional), and interests).



Self introduction (in Japanese style) (2)

- Watch JapanTravelTV (<https://youtu.be/of8UgykfUbw?t=21>) about how to exchange business cards in Japan



Self introduction (in Japanese style) (3)

Self-introduction in the Japanese business style

- Meet with five new people that you have never spoken with.
- Exchange your business cards (properly!)
- Comment on at least one thing about your partner (e.g., "Oh, you like fine art. Me too" etc).



Welcome to the Japanese Option (1)

- Welcome to the Japanese Option! We are pleased to see you and are looking forward to working with you in your academic endeavor at LaGuardia Community College.



Welcome to the Japanese Option (2)

- This information sheet has a lot of useful information for new students
(<https://t-nagano.link/lg-JapanOptionNewStudents>).







ABOUT JAPANESE OPTION

United Asia Japanese Option (JAPO) offers an opportunity to learn the Japanese language and other related subjects such as Japanese Literature, from the East Asian Studies Program, the Department of East Asian Studies, and the Department of Japanese Studies at the University of Nagano. The program is designed for students who are interested in Japanese Language and Culture. The program is a part of the East Asian Studies Program, the Department of East Asian Studies, and the Department of Japanese Studies at the University of Nagano.

Why Study JAPO in the Japan Room

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Academic Curriculum

The academic curriculum is subject to change every academic year. Please refer to the United Asia Japanese Option (JAPO) website for the latest information. The program is designed for students who are interested in Japanese Language and Culture. The program is a part of the East Asian Studies Program, the Department of East Asian Studies, and the Department of Japanese Studies at the University of Nagano.

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Outline of this Orientation Presentation (1)

Quick Facts about the Liberal Arts Japanese Option

- **Faculty**

- Three full-time faculty with specialization in linguistics, history, and psychology. All full-timers hold doctoral degrees in their specialties.
- Five part-time faculty with specialization in the Japanese language and literature

- **Curriculum**

- Japanese language, Japanese literature, Asian art, East Asian history, religions and social psychology in Asia

- **Transfer**

- CUNY: Articulated with Queens (East Asian Studies) and Hunter (Japanese Language)
- Private institutions: Articulated with Temple University Japan Campus

- **Goal**

- To foster students' interest in Japanese culture (such as anime, manga, games, and other pop culture) into professional skill sets for future employment.

Japanese Option: Faculty (& Alumni) (1)



Meet the Japan Studies Faculty



Abdallah Alsallal
MA in Applied Linguistics
Courses: Japanese and Arabic languages



Eunji Kim
MA in Applied Linguistics
Courses: Japanese and Korean languages



George Tsouris
MA in Education & Philosophy
Courses: Philosophy and Japanese literature



Kyoko Toyama
Ph.D. in Psychology
Courses: Japanese language & Counseling



Miho Fujimori
MA in Education
Courses: Japanese language



Nhia Borja
MA in Linguistics
Courses: Japanese language



Robin Kietlinski
Ph.D. in History
Courses: History



Tomonori Nagano
Ph.D. in Linguistics
Courses: Japanese language

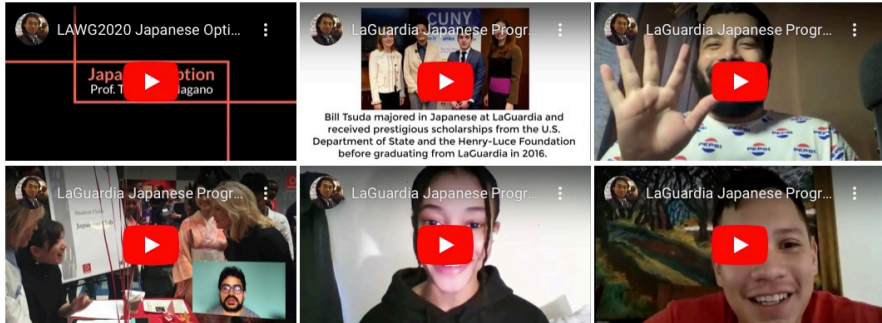
Are you interested in learning Japanese or majoring in Japan Studies? Visit the Japan Studies webpage at <https://t-nagano.com/projects/JapaneseProgram/> or contact Prof. Tomonori Nagano at tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu / 📞 718-482-5484 / 📠 B-234FF.

Tomonori Nagano <tnagano@lagcc.cuny.edu>

Friday, August 28th, 2026

Japanese Option: Faculty (& Alumni) (2)

- Alumni voices



<https://t-nagano.com/projects/JapaneseProgram/#alumniVoices>



Japanese Option: Curriculum (1)

Things to Know about the Japanese Option Curriculum

- The curriculum of the Japanese Option
- DegreeMap (<https://www.laguardia.edu/degreemaps/>)
- DegreeAudit (<http://degreeworks.cuny.edu/>)



Japanese Option: Curriculum (2)

- DegreeMap (<https://www.laguardia.edu/degreemaps/>)

Liberal Arts: Japanese Option
Associate of Arts | Degree Map

Follow this map to graduate in two years, though other paths are possible. Contact an advisor through My Laguardia for additional support, and see reverse for more information.

	Course	Category	Priority	Credits	Session
SEMESTER 1	LP121 First Year Seminar for Liberal Arts	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	EW111 English Composition I	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	MA121, 111 or 120 Mathematics Required Core Course Option	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	EL102 Elementary Japanese I	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	Humanities Course Option (see back)				
SEMESTER 2	EW112 English Composition II	PC	A	3	I
	NBL, NCL, OR NCP Topics in Biology, Chemistry or Physics	PC	A	3	I
	EL102 Elementary Japanese II	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	Social Science Course Option (see back)	PC	A	3	I
	Flexible Core Course Option				
SEMESTER 3	EW113 The Research Paper	PC	A	3	I
	EL102 Intermediate Japanese I	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	EL102 Japanese Literature in Translation	PC	A	3	I
	Flexible Core Course Option	PC	A	3	I
	Chinese or Korean Course Option (see back)				
SEMESTER 4	EL200 Humanities, Science & Technology (Capstone)	PC	A	3	I
	EL102 Intermediate Japanese II	PC	A	3 (0hrs)	I
	Literary/Art Electives	PC	A	3	I
	Flexible Core Course Option	PC	A	3	I
	Flexible Core Course Option				

Register for ELB000 "Intern to Graduate" in CUNYfirst to apply for graduation in your final semester.

Credits Required to Graduate

Pathways Required Core (PC)	12
Pathways Flexible Core (PC)	18
Program Core (PC)	30
Total	60

More information at [laguardia.edu/degrees](https://www.laguardia.edu/degrees)

Effective Fall 2018-Spring 2019 catalog. Updated: 7/31/19

Follow the map for the catalog year in which you first enrolled.

Check Degree Audit & speak to an advisor for more support.

Pre/Co-requisites

Refer to the Pre- and Co-requisite list below to ensure you register for the appropriate courses.

Pre-requisite: A course which must be completed prior to taking another course.

Co-requisite: A course which must be taken during the same semester as another course.

1. EL102 PRE: CSE 35/VE1, 97 or Exemption
 2. EL102 PRE: EL111
 3. EW112 PRE: CWRP & ENG111
 4. EL102 PRE: EL112
 5. EL102 PRE: ENG101
 6. EL200 PRE: ENG102 & JVC
 MA117/VE1/VE1/VE1/VE1/VE1
 Y. EL102 PRE: EL112

Other Program Notes

Chinese or Korean option - Select 1. EL112 Elementary Modern Chinese (or EL101 Elementary Korean (for other based on placement))

Humanities - Select 1. MA111 Introduction to Art; HU120 The Art of Eastern Asia; HU116 Public Speaking; HU120 The Art of Film; HU111 Introduction to Music; HU115 Art in New York; HU121 Introduction to Philosophy; HU119 Ethics and Moral Issues.

Social Science - Select 1. SS100 Introduction to Anthropology; SS101 Cultural Anthropology; SS105 International Economics; SS125 World Geography; SS115 World History from Ancient Times to 1800; SS126 World History from 1800 to the Present; SS120 Global Politics; SS113 Western Civilization from Ancient Times to the Renaissance; SS134 Western Civilization from the Renaissance to Modern Times; SS111 East Asia Civilization and Societies; SS112 Afro-American History; SS132 Survey of Latin American and Caribbean History; SS123 Politics of Latin America and the Caribbean; SS130 Introduction to Sociology.

General Information

DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES Based on your incoming proficiency, you may require additional preparation before entering college-level English (ENG101) or Math (MA101, 111, 120, etc.). Options can include:

- A) Co-requisite courses such as ENA101, MA111/112/113
- B) CUNY Start, Math Start, or CLIP
- C) English as a Second Language (ESL) courses
- D) Developmental courses such as ENA100 or MA100
- E) First Year Institute Program (FYIP) Workshops

SECTIONS / ASSESS Each semester, Fall and Spring, has two sessions, Session 1 (12-week) and Session 2 (8-week). It is recommended that you take 15 credits per semester for timely graduation. For questions regarding financial aid or tuition and fees, please speak with Student Financial Services in C-117 or e-mail Financialaid@laguardia.edu.

CREDITS & HOURS Courses often meet for the same number of hours per week as academic credits awarded, but in some cases your classes meet for more hours. Listed in the Credits column when applicable. Most degrees require 60 academic credits.

PRIORITY COURSES Priority Courses are important for your progress and should be taken in the suggested order.

PATHWAYS FLEXIBLE CORE You may choose Flexible Core courses based on an interest or transfer goals. Speak to an advisor or view your Degree Audit to see a full list of options and/or requirements. Associates of Arts or Science degrees require you to take one course in each Subject below, plus one additional course (18 credits). Associate in Applied Science degrees require you to take one course in three brackets (24 credits).

- Creative Expression
- Individual & Society
- Scientific World
- U.S. Experience in its Diversity
- World Cultures and Global Issues

URBAN STUDIES All students must complete an Urban Studies course to graduate. Urban Studies courses have an "U" at the end of the course code (example: HU112U).

Education & Language Acquisition Department, Laguardia Community College
 Email: ELAdapt@laguardia.edu Phone: 718-422-5543

Japanese Option: Curriculum (3)

- DegreeAudit (<http://degreeworks.cuny.edu/>)

The screenshot shows the DegreeWorks Online Advisement System interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the CUNY logo on the left and the DegreeWorks logo on the right. Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs: CUNYfirst, FAFSA, Pathways, Schedule Builder, Class Schedule, Help/FAQ, Report an Issue, Print, and Log Out. Below the navigation bar is a search area with a 'Find' button and a 'Student ID' input field. To the right of the search area are several dropdown menus for 'Name', 'Degree', 'Major/Plan', 'Career', 'Level', and 'Last Audit'. Below the search area is a row of buttons: Worksheets, Plans, Transfer What-If, Notes, Petitions, and GPA Calc. Below the buttons is a red banner with white text that reads: 'WELCOME TO DEGREWORKS, LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S DEGREE AUDIT SOFTWARE. CLICK ON THE HELP BUTTON FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR CLICK ON THE AUDIT BUTTON TO REVIEW STUDENT AUDITS. According to Federal FERPA regulations, no information regarding a student can be given out without the student's permission'. Below the banner is a section titled 'Student Accessible Features' with three items: 'Audit' (The Audit tab allows you to view the existing audit or run a new one for a student.), 'What-If' (Use the What-If tab to run a What-If audit for an individual student.), and 'Planner' (Choosing the Planner tab will display the Student Academic Planner function keys. Clicking Printable View gives a planner that is printer-friendly. Clicking on Edit Planner allows you to modify the planner.). Below this is a section titled 'Faculty Accessible Features' with one item: 'Find' (To search for a student using only part of the name, you must use the wildcard character '@' (e.g., to get a list that contains the student John Smith (displayed as Smith, John) , enter Smith@ for a last name search, or @John for a first name search; you may also try Smith@John@ for a better match).). At the bottom of the page is a footer that reads: 'Copyright 1995 - 2016 Ellucian Company L.P. and its affiliates.'

- Japanese Option has articulation agreements with the following 4-year institutions

Japanese Option: Articulation

- **Queens College**

- A traditional East Asian Studies major.
- Program website: <https://www.qc.cuny.edu/academics/cmalc/>
- Copy of the articulation: <https://bit.ly/LG-JPOTransQ>

- **Hunter College**

- Strong emphasis on Japanese language and culture
- Program website: <https://www.hunter.cuny.edu/classics/japanese>
- Copy of the articulation: <https://bit.ly/LG-JPOTransH>

- **Temple University Japan**

- The articulation agreement with Temple University Japan Campus has been finalized.
- Finish your BA in Japan and obtain a degree from Temple University
- Program website: <https://www.tuj.ac.jp>
- Admissions information : <https://bit.ly/LG-JPOTransTUJb>

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Japanese Option: Goals and Student Support (1)

General Support Offices

- **College Catalog**
 - <http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/academics/catalog/>
- **Education and Language Acquisition (ELA) Department** (B-234)
 - The LA Japanese Option is housed in the ELA Department. An advisor or program director will be available to talk about the option with you.
 - <http://www.laguardia.edu/ela/>
- **Academic Advisors** (B-100) or **ASAP** (BA-22)
 - A few academic advisors are designated to the Japanese Option students. See the advisement website at <https://www.laguardia.edu/Academics/Majors/Japanese/> and schedule appointments through Navigate.
- **Navigate**
 - Use Navigate to schedule appointments, connect with advisors and campus resources, view your class schedule, and communicate with your Success Team.
 - <https://www.laguardia.edu/academics/academic-affairs/navigate/students/>

Japanese Option: Goals and Student Support (2)

Academic Support

- **Modern Language Lab** (B-206)
 - Free language tutoring
 - <https://www.laguardia.edu/ela/ml-lab-and-placement/>
- **Japan Club**
 - Meetings during club hours (Wed 2:15pm–4:25pm)
 - <https://t-nagano.com/projects/JapanClub/>
- **Peer Advisors**
 - Senior students are available as mentors for newer students
 - <https://www.laguardia.edu/peeradvisors/>
- **Co-curricular events by the Japan Studies Program**
 - <https://t-nagano.com/projects/JapaneseProgram/>
 - <https://chrysanthemum.commonsgc.cuny.edu>

Contact Information for Japanese Option

-  Japanese Option **Blog**
 - <https://chrysanthemum.commons.gc.cuny.edu>
-  Japan Studies **Discord**
 - Japanese Option: <https://discord.gg/5nCZUjte57>
 - Japan Club: <https://discord.gg/5xgCYWkhaf>
-  Japanese Option **Reddit**
 - <https://www.reddit.com/r/lagJapaneseOption/>

Discord



- **Contact**

Tomonori Nagano, Ph.D.

Program Director of the Japanese Option

LaGuardia Community College

31-10 Thomson Avenue (B-234FF)

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 718-482-5484

 B-234FF

 Nagano-sensei

What is onigiri?

- おにぎり (**onigiri**) is Japanese rice balls, usually wrapped in のり **nori** (dried seaweed) and filled with savory ingredients.
- A filling can be placed in the center, or seasonings can be mixed into the rice.
 - Common flavors include *tuna mayo*, salmon, *umeboshi* (pickled plum), *kombu* (seaweed), *mentaiko* (spicy cod roe), and other *yakumi* (seasoned vegetables).
- Onigiri is a familiar homemade food in Japan – portable, simple, and easy to personalize.



おにぎり (onigiri) making (2)

The basics

- Freshly cooked Japanese short-grain rice
- Water for wetting your hands
- A small amount of salt
- Nori
- Fillings

Popular fillings and flavors

- **Umeboshi:** pickled plum
- **Sake:** cooked salmon
- **Tuna mayo:** tuna and mayonnaise
- **Okaka:** bonito flakes and soy sauce
- Furikake or sesame seeds mixed into rice

Before choosing a filling

Check the ingredient labels and tell the instructor about any allergies or dietary restrictions.

Make and introduce your onigiri

1. Choose a filling or seasoning.
2. Make one onigiri, following the demonstration and hygiene instructions.
1. **Wash your hands** thoroughly.
2. **Prepare your hands:** wet them lightly with clean water and add a small pinch of salt. (Food-safe plastic wrap may also be used.)
3. **Add rice:** place a small portion of rice in one palm and make a shallow indentation.
4. **Add the filling:** put a small amount in the center, then cover it with more rice.
5. **Shape gently:** press and rotate the rice into a triangle or ball. Do not squeeze too hard.
6. **Finish:** wrap it with nori, then place the onigiri on a clean plate.

おにぎり (onigiri) making (4)

- How to make onigiri by Nami @ Just Once Cookbook
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hjfPFK4bCog>)

