



**Dr. Myriam Ruthenberg**  
**Director of Undergraduate Studies**  
Department of Languages, Linguistics,  
and Comparative Literature  
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters  
Bldg CU-97, Suite 232G  
777 Glades Road / Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991  
Tel: 561.297.3860 / Fax: 561.297.2657

## MEMORANDUM

---

Date: March 14, 2014

From: Myriam S. Ruthenberg, Director of Undergraduate Studies

On behalf of: Marcella Munson, Chair

Cc: Ilaria Serra, LLCL representative to the UPC

Ana Anoufrieveva, LLCL Academic Advisor

Sumiko Uo, Instructor of Japanese

To: Jerry Haky, Chair, University Undergraduate Programs Committee

Re: Minor in Japanese

The Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature hereby requests the re-institution of a minor in Japanese Language and Culture. Our request is prompted by student need, a solid enrollment history, programmatic common sense, availability of courses, and availability of credentialed faculty.

It suffices to look at the enrollment history for Japanese language and culture since Fall 2008 to understand the great potential for a Japanese minor in our department. In addition, we have had many requests for a Japanese minor especially in recent years, and there is at this point no good reason not to meet a popular student request, especially if we are serious about student retention. Please consider the following data:

- The Asian Studies certificate would be greatly enhanced if students could also receive a minor in an Asian language; students who pursue this certificate would become more marketable with a proven record of competence in an Asian language and culture;
- The minor would also be attractive to students in other colleges, notably the College of Business, that has often inquired about this possibility;
- Lower-division Japanese courses have consistently not just met, but exceeded enrollment targets;
- The retention rate is higher in Japanese than in most other languages offered;
- Our course catalogue lists four levels of Japanese language and culture, as well as courses in Japanese film, literature, and culture, all of which our Japanese instructor, Ms. Sumiko Uo, is fully credentialed to teach;
- Our department now also offers a study-abroad program in Japan; this new program at Kansai Gaidai University was the second one to fill to capacity one month before the application deadline. Considering this is the result of one of multiple Memoranda of Understanding between Japanese institutions and FAU—not to speak of the popularity of our Japanese program--we are ideally positioned to offer a minor in Japanese.

**The requirements for a minor in Japanese language and culture are similar to the existing minors in Arabic and German:**

To complete a Japanese minor students are required to pass, with a grade of C or better, two courses in Beginning Japanese Language and Culture (JPN 1120 and JPN 1121), two courses in Intermediate Japanese Language and Culture (JPN 2220 and JPN 2221) and one upper-division course elective on a topic related to the Japanese world's culture, history, or politics approved by the LLCL advisor.

Japanese Language and Culture (JPN 2220 and JPN 2221) and one upper-division course elective on a topic related to the Japanese world's culture, history, or politics approved by the LLCL advisor.  
 Students who are Heritage/Native Speakers and students with advanced knowledge of Japanese language (beyond the basic level) need to contact the LLCL advisor for the list of five courses to take for the minor.

Thank you for considering our request.

**Signatures for approval:**

<b>Approved by:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
Department Chair: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>		<u>3/17/14</u>	
College Curriculum Chair: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>		<u>3/10/14</u>	
College Dean: <u><i>Deborah Coltrane</i></u>		<u>3-21-14</u>	
UUPC Chair: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>		<u>3/21/14</u>	
Undergraduate Studies Dean: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u>		<u>3/24/14</u>	
UFS President: _____		_____	
Provost: _____		_____	