

Achieving an excellent education is about many things: becoming a well-educated citizen, gaining knowledge for thoughtful and well-considered decisions, engaging your curiosity, and developing skills that will contribute to the greater good, for example. In addition, your education also prepares you to pursue a **wide variety of career paths.**

Depth of knowledge generally refers to the information and ways of thinking that are directly related to your academic major. In addition, you have developed an **incredibly important set of skills:** to think analytically and critically; to view issues in context and from multiple perspectives; to ask and address questions about ethical and societal implications; to pursue research; to engage your creativity; and to communicate complex issues clearly. Thus, **Japanese Language & Literature majors** offer an array of skills which are **highly valued by employers** from all sectors.

Many Possibilities. Because your major is not narrowly focused on specific career paths, you have a wide array of professional options. While this kind of career flexibility is definitely good news, it does require you to be more *proactive* in identifying and articulating your skills to potential employers.

Ready for the Work World. Five top critical skills identified by employers in a recent national survey were:

- Ability to communicate clearly
- Interpersonal / Teamwork skills
- Problem-solving and decision-making abilities
- Ability to find and process information
- Ability to plan, organize, and prioritize

You have undoubtedly developed these skills while studying at UW.

JOB SKILLS RELATED TO JAPANESE LANGUAGE & LITERATURE MAJORS

Here are even more career-related skills and strengths that most employers seek:

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|--|---|
| Read/interpret/synthesize complex material | Perceive patterns, structures, relationships |
| See situations from multiple perspectives | Understand human nature & its variations |
| Communicate in more than one language | Identify and explore implications |
| Produce effective persuasive writing | Propose and support recommendations |
| Write/revise for wide variety of audiences | Simultaneously see big picture and details |
| Understand & appreciate cultural variations | Engage intellectual curiosity |
| Design and implement engaging presentations | Conduct research |
| Understand nuance and subtlety | Bring motivation, imagination, enthusiasm, initiative |
| Handle ambiguity adeptly | Compare, contrast information / Draw conclusions |
| Apply mental agility to creative problem-solving | Work well individually and on teams |
| Understand the broader context | Understand how data can be interpreted in multiple ways |
| Gather, analyze, organize, interpret data | Write, revise, edit, proofread |
| Summarize concisely and accurately | And many more! |
| Link abstract concepts to practical applications | |

NEXT PAGE: ACTUAL JOBS IN THESE THREE CATEGORIES:

1. Japanese is *required/preferred* & the job's *primary* duties directly relate to your major (Entry & beyond)
2. Japanese is *required/preferred* but the job's *primary* duties aren't directly related to Japanese (Entry-level)

3. Your major *isn't required or preferred* but your transferable skills make you highly qualified (Entry-level)

In some cases, actual employers are included to convey the variety of employers.

*Most positions listed here are **entry-level**. Remember that, usually, you needn't have every single qualification in order to apply*

1. Your major is *required* and the job's *primary* duties directly relate to your major (Entry-level & beyond)

Translator (Nintendo, Staff World Services, more)

Business Interpreter/Translator

Translator (Denso Manufacturing Athens)

Cultural Ambassador

Japanese Novel Translator (Digital Manga)

Legal Interpreter/Translator

Medical Interpreter/Translator

Interpreter (Lingua Science Corp, many more)

Japanese Language Teacher (Fluent City, Multilingual Solutions, public/private schools, many more)

2. Japanese is *Required/Preferred* but job's *primary* duties aren't directly related to your major (Entry-level)

Social Media Account Executive (Pandemic Labs)

Bilingual Localization Associate (Pokémon Careers)

Associate Producer (NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation)

Business Research Analyst (FactSet)

Research Associate (FactSet Research Systems)

Japanese Siri Writer/Editor (Apple)

Risk Investigator with Japanese Language Skills (Amazon)

Park Ranger--Interpretation/Japanese (Department of the Interior, US Government)

Bilingual Wedding Coordinator (Good Luck International Corporation)

Japanese/English Investigative Analyst (LegitScript)

Bilingual Import /Export Coordinator (Top Group)

Small Business Solutions Specialist (Bank of America)

Investigation Specialist - Product Quality (Amazon)

Export Agent - Japanese Bilingual (Pasona)

Marketing Research Associate (Pasona)

Japanese-English Customer Service Representative (Cigna)

Japanese Banking Relationship Manager (Bank of the West)

Contract Writer--Japanese Fluent (Technomic)

HR Specialist--Japanese-English Bilingual (Lingua Science Corporation)

Media Sales Associate (International Business Promotion)

Logistics Coordinator (International Business Promotion)

Marketing Specialist (Marriott)

Japanese Support CSR (Hasbro)

3. Your major *isn't required or preferred* but your transferable skills make you highly qualified (Entry-level)

Associate Account Strategist, University Graduate (Google), Service Coordinator (Choice Program), Grassroots

Advocacy Coordinator (EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases), Research Associate (Environmental Law

Institute), Knowledge Assistant (Children's Law Center), Recruitment & Admissions Assistant (Fund for

American Studies), Partner Support Coordinator (Kiva Microfunds), Assistant Community Outreach

Coordinator (Next Step Living), Change Corps Assistant Organizing Director (Work for Progress), Investigative

Advocate (Disability Rights Washington), City Year - Corps Member (City Year Seattle/King County), Financial

Advisor (ING Financial Partners), Patient Services Representative (Seattle Reproductive Medicine), Outreach

Coordinator (MedBridge Education), Junior Project Manager (HealthPath Education), Internet Marketing

Specialist (Chair 10 Marketing), Immigration Assistant/Receptionist (Law Firm), Marketing Coordinator (Yext),

Account Coordinator, Employee Benefits (MCM), Executive Team Leader (Target)

More: Project Manager, Social Media Campaign Developer, Policy and Advocacy Specialist

These are just general examples. The Career Center can help you find positions that meet your goals!