Why Learn A World Language?

♦ In an increasingly globalized world, the knowledge of a world language becomes an indispensable skill important not only for personal enrichment, but also for broadening employment opportunities.

♦ According to a study from the University of Chicago, knowledge of a world language helps you boost decision-making skills.

♦ Students who study world languages score higher on standardized tests, as a study from York University in Toronto showed.

Students who study a world language for at least one year score an average of 38 points higher on the SATs.

♦ Knowledge of a world language increases your chances of landing a good job, as demonstrated in a recent poll in The Economist.

An MIT study shows that people who know two or more languages earn an average of $128,000 more over their lifetimes.

♦ Learning a second language has compelling health benefits, as suggested by a study from York University in Toronto that connects prevention of the onset of dementia with foreign language learning.

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For more information regarding Majors, Minors, courses, and other available resources in this language:

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Japan is a country with an extremely rich culture and history and its natural beauty is overwhelming for any visitor. Many elements of the Japanese culture, both modern and classic, found their way into Western culture. Japan is known for setting quite a few trends. Knowing the language enables you to read Japanese websites and newspapers, so you will be ahead of your friends in setting the newest trend. Learning another foreign language can have a major impact on your personal life. Most people add their Spanish or French language abilities onto their resume, but very few people can prove that they know Japanese. An employer who has Japanese business partners would be highly interested in you and your multilingual skills. You can use Japanese language skills for getting a better job in a large multinational company.

Who speaks Japanese?

Japanese is a member of the Japonic (or Japanese-Ryukyuan) language family. It is an East Asian language spoken by about 125 million speakers worldwide, the national language of Japan, and the recognized minority language in Palau.

Famous Americans of Japanese Descent

- Ann Curry - former anchor and correspondent for NBC News and The Today Show
- Ted Fujita - creator of the Fujita scale
- Bob Hasegawa - Member of the House of Representatives
- Wally Kaname Yonamine - first Japanese American in the NFL
- Nobu Matsuhisa - founder of Nobu & Matsuhisa
- Alex Shibutani - figure skater
- Michael Toshiyuki Uno - Academy Award nominated director
- Kevin Tsujihara - CEO of Warner Brothers
- Ryuzo Yanagimachi - pioneer in the cloning field

Why Study Japanese?

Indiana University is home to as many as 70 world languages!

Akan/Twi
American Sign Lang
Arabic
Avestan
Azerbaijani
Bamana
Bengali
Bosnian/Croatian/
Serbian
Catalan
Chinese
Czech
Dari
Dutch
Egyptian (Demotic)
Egyptian (Middle)
ESL
Estonian
Finnish
French
Georgian
German
German (Old High)
Greek (Classical)
Greek (Modern)
Haitian Creole
Hausa
Hebrew (Biblical)
Hebrew (Modern)
Hindi
Hungarian
Indonesian
Italian
Japanese
Kazakh
Korean
Kurdish
Kyrgyz
Lakota
Latin
Macedonian
Mongolian
Norwegian
Old Church Slavonic
Pashto
Persian
Polish
Portuguese
Quechua
 Romanian
Russian
Sanskrit
Spanish
Swarthi
Tajik
Thai
Tibetan
Turkish (Ottoman)
Turkish
Turkmen
Ukrainian
Urdu
Uyghur
Uzbek
Yiddish
Yoruba
Yucatec Maya
Zulu

Learn these everyday phrases!

- Welcome: ようこそ (yōkoso)
- Hello (General greeting): 今日は (konnichiwa)
- What's your name?: お名前はなんですか? (o-namae wa nan desu ka)
- My name is _____: _____ です (_ _ desu)
- Morning greeting: お早うございます (ohayō gozaimasu)
- Afternoon greeting: こんにちは [今日は] (konnichiwa)
- Evening greeting: 今晚は / こんばんは (konbanwa)
- Long time no see: 久しぶり (hisashiburi)