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:

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

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)
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!