Japanese Language Program

If you would like to experience everyday life in Japanese, the Thatcher Japanese Language Program is a way to do that right on campus.

The Thatcher Language and Culture House offers the opportunity to live in a residence hall dedicated to learning a foreign language and exploring foreign cultures. In this hall of 110 students, the majority are a part of one of our seven Language & Culture Programs.

Participants in the Thatcher House Japanese Language Program live together in the residence hall which includes a kitchen, classroom, and lounges where students can socialize in the language. They meet in the classroom regularly during the week for a specially-designed, two-credit conversation/culture course. Course activities include discussions, debates, presentations, games, etc. An experienced graduate student from the Japanese department teaches the course and organizes social and cultural activities.

Participants in the Thatcher Japanese Program engage in a variety of traditional cultural activities such as Japanese Tea Ceremony, preparing Japanese meals, and calligraphy. Students will be regularly exposed to authentic Japanese language spoken by native speakers. The Japanese Language Program has become the center for Japanese-American exchange: guests from the Japanese business and teaching communities visit the Program; Americans who have worked or studied in Japan come to share cultural insights and practical information.

Both Japanese majors and non-majors from a variety of disciplines make up the Thatcher House Japanese Language Program. Often members become double majors, adding Japanese fluency to their professional training. There is a continuous flow of students between the Program and Japan with students leaving to study or work abroad, or returning to the Program after doing so. Many program graduates have received an offer to work in Japan or Japan-related work in the US.

If you are interested in being part of this wonderful program, please make sure you have read the Thatcher Language and Culture House Program Explanation and then click here for the Application.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Yuki Yoshimura yuki@asianlan.umass.edu

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE AT MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH.