B.A. in Korean

A B.A. in Korean is a gateway for students to engage with a culture whose art, music, and technological innovations shape lives around the globe. Students learn to read, write, and converse in Korean through careful and extensive study of Korean literature, popular culture, and linguistics. Distinctive coursework in the major is taught by professors who are leading researchers in their fields. Beyond the classroom, students benefit from language-intensive study abroad opportunities, academic resources such as the East Asia Library, and co-curricular options including a Korean singing and reading club. Alumni, as multilingual professionals with in-demand skills, find an advantage entering business and nonprofit work, STEM fields, graduate programs, and more across the globe.

Introductory Korean language courses are available in the fall or summer quarters. Students should sign up for introductory courses as early as possible in order to fulfill the major's language requirement. If you have previous experience with Korean, see the department's information on proficiency exams and placement interviews.

Admissions, Advising & Student Resources

Please see our Undergraduate Programs section for information about applying to the program, career paths, scholarships, and other student resources.

Degree Requirements

NOTE: The below requirements apply to students who declare the Korean major in Winter Quarter 2019 or later. The previous requirements will still apply to those who declared the Korean major before Winter Quarter 2019 unless special provision is made. Please contact a departmental advisor if you are interested in this option.

The Korean Language & Literature major has a requirement of 50-75 credits. The actual number of credits required depends on the level of Korean language attained upon entering the University of Washington.

I. Language Courses:

15-45 credits, with a minimum of 15 credits beyond the second year, drawn from the following courses:

- KOREAN 101, 102, 103 First-Year Korean
- KOREAN 201, 202, 203 Second-Year Korean
- KOREAN 301, 302, 303 Third-Year Korean
- KOREAN 415, 416, 417 Readings in Korean Literature and Culture

II. Area-Related Humanities & Social Science Courses:

30-35 credits. Suggested courses include:

- KOREAN 360 Topics in Korean Literature and Culture
Students who only have 15 credits of language must take 35 credits from Area-Related Humanities & Social Science Courses requirement, for a total of 50 credits towards the major.

Click here for a list of current quarter classes approved for the major and minor.

Courses taken to satisfy the language requirement may not be used simultaneously to satisfy the area-related humanities and social sciences requirement of the major.

Updated: Summer 2019