



ASIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON

2026-2027 TA APPLICATION WORKSHOP

Academic Counselor: **Kirk L. Van Scoyoc**

please visit in Gowen 225 or email asianadv@uw.edu

Language Coordinators (Teaching Professors):

Chinese: **Xi Ma** (xima@uw.edu)

Japanese: **Itsuko Nishikawa** (inishi@uw.edu)

Korean: **JungHee Kim** (junghee@uw.edu)

TIMELINE FOR TA APPLICATIONS

- **January 12, 2026:** Applications Due (late applications considered at discretion of the program)
- **January – February 2026:** TA Selection Process
- **beginning in March 2026:** Offers made on a rolling basis (continues through the spring quarter)
- **Possible Results:**
 - Job Offer (usually for a full academic year of three quarters)
 - Alternate Status
 - Denial

How to Apply (Required for All)

→ **Teaching Assistant Application** (online form at <https://asian.washington.edu/how-apply>)

The following documents should be combined and submitted as a **single PDF file** to Kirk at asianadv@uw.edu:

- **Cover Letter** (addressed to Prof. Chan Lü, department Chair)
- **CV/résumé** with information about past teaching experiences, coursework, etc.
- **Unofficial Academic Transcript** (UW students go to MyUW)
- **Records of Past Teaching Experience** (Optional)

How to Apply (Required for Some)

These documents should be submitted directly to Kirk at asianadv@uw.edu by the recommender or adviser:

- **Letter of Recommendation** for all applicants who have never worked for Asian L&L as a TA
- **Supervisor Recommendation** (PDF on website) for current/former Japanese TAs
- **Home Department Statement of Support Form** (PDF on website) (for **all** current UW students)
 - If you have applied to UW but have **not yet been accepted**, this form is not necessary.

NON-NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS ONLY:

**On the application form,
you will be asked about
proof of English Language
SPEAKING Proficiency
(required by Graduate
School Policy 5.2)**

MORE INFO:

<https://grad.uw.edu/policies/5-2-conditions-of-appointment-for-tas-who-are-not-native-speakers-of-english/>

Four Ways to Fulfill the English Speaking Proficiency Requirement:

1. Hold a BA degree (NOT MA) from a regionally accredited university in an English-speaking country (see list)
2. Score at least 26 on the speaking section of the TOEFL-ibT or 7.0 on the speaking section of the IELTS
3. If your speaking score is 23 – 25 on TOEFL-ibT or 6.0 – 6.5 on IELTS or 125 on Duolingo DET, you can ask for an appeal interview to meet this requirement. Please contact Kirk to schedule an appeal interview.
4. Pass ENGLISH 105 (course offered by the Academic English Program at UW)

SELECTION CRITERIA

ALL TAs MUST BE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON GRADUATE STUDENTS.

Selection criteria for TAs:

- > command of spoken and written English
- > academic progress (with priority given to Asian L&L students)
- > evidence of effective teaching potential
- > career plans involving teaching
- > responsibility and the ability to work well with others

The following criteria will be considered for language teaching applicants:

- > proficiency in the target language
- > experience teaching the target language
- > completion of coursework in foreign language pedagogy
- > knowledge of the grammar of the target language and the ability to explain it clearly

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

- TA-ship **cannot be combined with other full-funding**, such as a TA/RA-ship from another department or a FLAS fellowship.
- TAs must maintain full-time enrollment while employed (10 credits in autumn/winter/spring, 2 credits in summer)
- By the **time of appointment**, students who are non-native speakers of English must demonstrate sufficient ability in English. See [Graduate School Policy 5.2](#).
- You can always check **our website** for more info:
 - ❖ [How to Apply](https://asian.washington.edu/how-apply): <https://asian.washington.edu/how-apply>
 - ❖ [TA Application FAQ](https://asian.washington.edu/frequently-asked-questions-ta-application): <https://asian.washington.edu/frequently-asked-questions-ta-application>

CONTACT INFO

General Questions?

- > Kirk L. Van Scoyoc, Academic Counselor
Gowen Hall 225 (asianadv@uw.edu)

Program Specific:

- > Chinese: Xi Ma (xima@uw.edu)
- > Japanese: Itsuko Nishikawa (inishi@uw.edu)
- > Korean: JungHee Kim (junghee@uw.edu)

W

Questions?

