

Evan Moore

B.A. in Economics, Minor in Japanese Studies

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I chose to study Japanese at UCSD because studying the language and culture has always been a source of joy, personal satisfaction, meaningful relationships, and opportunities. I started studying Japanese in my freshman year of high school, and because of studying it for about 11 years I come to view it as one of my most valuable skills. When I transferred to UCSD, I knew that pursuing a minor in Japanese Studies would be a way to improve my Japanese and meet some new friends, and I am glad I made that choice.

I really appreciate the structure of the Japanese classes and the opportunities to mingle with other classmates through creatively planned projects and assignments. Some of my closest friends that I met at UCSD were because of the Japanese classes I took, and I think this was thanks to the efforts of the professors who carefully planned presentations around cooperation and having fun while learning. One example was a Japanese for Professional Purposes (JAPN 135) class where we regularly worked in groups to present to the class, and two of the friends I met through those experiences I still talk to today. I really appreciated these opportunities, because it showed me that the instructors are willing to go above-and-beyond to also foster closer connections in the class.

I think it would have been difficult to achieve both my personal and professional goals post-graduation without the help of my Japanese professors at UCSD. I had about four instructors that I regularly kept in touch with, and they helped me not just with my Japanese language studies but also through difficult personal troubles and with professional advice on how to work in Japan, both outside of class at the sacrifice of their own time.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have met the faculty and instructors from the Japanese Studies department at UCSD and really hope that your experience is as fulfilling and enriching as mine was. I really encourage you to interact with the instructors and your classmates as much as possible, because I guarantee you will make lifelong memories and connections if you do!