

THE AMERICAN JUJITSU INSTITUTE DEGREE PROGRAM

The American Jujitsu Institute, 85-745 Kaupuni Pl., Waianae, Hawaii 96792, offers several different degrees in the field of Martial Arts. Degrees are offered for those whose life experiences have enabled them to achieve a level of knowledge and specialization which can be translated into a special external degree awarded by the American Jujitsu Institute. These degrees are similar to degrees from conventional schools.

The Institute allows those who have the necessary credentials to participate in a course of study that encompasses the range of personal life experiences and certain selected courses required by the Institute to complete a humanities-oriented external degree program. The course of study is individually tailored for each student. Courses required are chosen to complement life experiences achieved, resulting in a well-rounded curriculum, which prepares the student for final examination in which a presentation to the Board of Directors will determine the degree awarded by the Institute. The Board, depending on the candidate's presentation, may award degrees equivalent to a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, or Doctorate of Arts.

Degree Granting Authority

In addition to the degrees listed, the American Jujitsu Institute will customize a degree program to meet the student's specialized individual needs. Please note that AJI's degree programs are primarily based on your existing academic and/or extensive occupational and life experiences. Each Bachelor of Arts degree is worth 125 semester credits which will be determined by the length of experience and knowledge. Additional credits can be achieved when extra credits are needed to complete the degree being sought. Each Master of Arts degree requires 30 additional semester credits, and a thesis only is needed in addition for the Doctorate of Arts degree. We provide an official transcript upon completion of the student's program. Original transcripts will be filed in the permanent record at the Institute. Degree verification and official transcripts will be provided when requested, in writing by employers and others authorized by the graduate.

The American Jujitsu Institute was organized and is committed to, every individual who possesses motivation and maturity, and who chooses to combine valuable life experience and professional accomplishment. We recognize that our degree applicants desire an efficient and practical process that delivers personal satisfaction and enhances professional credibility.

How The Degree Program Works

As a basis for creating a degree program for jujitsu similar to that of a standard college degree, some of the criteria are different from that of a regular college degree program. In order to make the American Jujitsu Institute jujitsu degree program acceptable to the academic institutions, it will be necessary to illustrate how similar the course of study is for a serious student seeking such a degree.

A typical college class earns 3 semester credits and usually meets 3 times a week for approximately 15 weeks. One or more hours of outside class work are expected for every class hour. This equates to 3 semester college credit requiring 45 hours of in-class time, plus 45 hours of study time per semester unit. So for each college credit it would require 30 hours of combined in-class and out-of-class study. An Associates Degree requiring 60 semester credits would therefore require 1800 hours of combined study.

For Bachelor of Arts Degrees and above, add additional semester credit hours X 30 to achieve the total numbers of semester credit hours needed for the degree.

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Semester Credit Hours</u>	<u>Total Hrs.</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Associates Degree	60 total credit hours	(1800)	Shodan
Bachelor of Arts Degree	+60 (120 total) credit hours	(3600)	Nidan
Master of Arts Degree	+30 (150 total) credit hours	(4500)	Yodan
Doctorate of Arts Degree	+30 (180 total) credit hours	(5400)	Godan & up

Martial arts experience and current rank would apply towards the total numbers of semester credit hours that you can claim towards the degree recognition by the American Jujitsu Institute. Documentation of the hours to be considered for credit is required to demonstrate knowledge at each level. An example of qualifying martial arts experience would be: 1) National Organizational Officer; 2) Number of years as a schoolhead; 3) Any relevant academic study or degree.

In a jujitsu curriculum, serious students spend time outside class to broaden their knowledge, read relevant literature, create their own jujitsu notebook, spend time on the internet doing research, and spend time attending special clinics, camps, extra-curricular classes such as 1st aid/CPR, conventions, massage training, etc.

To make the AJI jujitsu degree program acceptable to institutions of higher learning a parallel must be shown between time spent in the study of jujitsu, both in and out-of-class, to that of a college student pursuing a traditional degree. The curriculum must include humanities-related subjects to illustrate that the student has a well-rounded knowledge of the subject matter. As the level of study in jujitsu changes from that of student to that of instructor, a more advanced curriculum is needed to illustrate the hours spent in the study of jujitsu. These areas include: teaching jujitsu, spreading jujitsu locally, regionally and nationally, and in related fields such as massage, anatomy, physiology, sports medicine, 1st Aid/CPR, philosophy, history, language etc. At the highest degree levels, national involvement should be necessary to show commitment to the art, and commitment to producing quality instructors of jujitsu.

For a further breakdown of what more specifically could be required to earn each of these degrees, and the degrees the American Jujitsu Institute offers, the following information is provided.

I. TYPES OF DEGREES OFFERED

A. Associate of Arts Degree

1. Jujitsu – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)
2. Jujitsu – With Regular College Credits (RCC)
3. Martial Arts – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)
4. Martial Arts – With Regular College Credits (RCC)

B. Bachelor of Arts Degree

1. Jujitsu – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)
2. Jujitsu – With College Credits (RCC)
3. Martial Arts – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)
4. Martial Arts – With Regular College Credits (RCC)
5. Honorary

C. Master's Degree

1. Jujitsu – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)
2. Jujitsu – With Regular College Credits (RCC)
3. Martial Arts – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)
4. Martial Arts – With Regular College Credits (RCC)
5. Honorary Master of Arts

D. Doctorate of Arts Degrees

1. Jujitsu – with Regular College Credits Only
2. Martial Arts – with College Credits Only
3. Honorary Doctorate of Arts

II. DEFINITIONS AND PROCEDURES

A. Life Experience Credits

1. The Life Experience Credit program is designed to assist non-traditional students in achieving their academic goals by documenting experience gained in jujitsu or martial arts training, the work place, military, or through public or community service.
2. Documentation of experiential knowledge must be presented to the board for approval. Instructors will work with students to outline the requirements of each course, and students work with the Life Experience Coordinator or Designee to document these proficiencies. The Coordinator or Designee may be the student's instructor. Written documentation outlining proficiencies, newspaper clippings, and letters from other instructors, officers or professors are examples of the documentation used to validate achievements.
3. Each credit earned through the Life Experience Credit program is charged at a substantially lower per credit rate. It takes more hours of life experience to be equivalent to college classroom credit.
4. An initial application for LEC must be submitted to the governing body for review and approval. An interview with the candidate may be required. The Body will review the candidate's experience to determine if college credit can be earned and will give an estimate of the number of credits possible.
5. Some or all of the following may be required:
 - a) Candidate will write a brief autobiography. This personal history helps identify learning experiences gained.
 - b) Additional documentation such as rank degrees and certificates are required.
 - c) A personal recommendation from candidate's instructor or designee is required.
 - d) Student relates learning experiences to credit-bearing college courses. Year of jujitsu or martial arts training shall be given the heavier weight than knowledge gained through personal contacts and or simply basic knowledge.
 - e) Student explores "best-fit" degree options based on their developing or already determined career objectives.

- f) Instructor works closely with students in defining course requirements and evaluating their actual experience.
- g) Student is guided by the LEC Coordinator throughout the process.
- h) The Board reviews the documentation.
- i) Life Experience Credit is granted for qualified criteria.

B. Regular College Credits

1. Defined as classes or semester credit hours earned at the college level. These may include, but are not limited to English, History, Logic, Math, Humanities, Arts, etc.
2. For all degrees requiring RCC hours, the hours shall reflect a well-rounded student. **Example Only:** An associate degree candidate will have 30 RCC hours:

Credit Hours Per Unit

- 12-15 English/Language
- 15-25 Social Science, History, Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, Psychology
- 15-24 Humanities, Literature, Religion, Philosophy
- 15-24 Physical Science, Geography, Geology, Chemistry, Physics, Math, Computer Science
- 15-24 Biological Science, Botany, Zoology, Marine Science, Sports Medicine, Nutrition, Exercise, science, Sanitation, Disease
- 15-24 Fine Arts, Music, Arts, Theater, Dance
- 12-15 Business, Economics, Management, Statistics
- 12-15 Physical Education, Health and Safety, Athletic Training

Credits may come from all fields of study, provided that whatever institution the candidate earned the credit at, recognizes the credit as valid.

C. Jujitsu Training

1. Training in Kodokan / Danzan Ryu Jujitsu
2. Semester credit hours shall be based on levels of proficiency in:

Yawara	(20 arts)	2 credit hours
Nage	(20 arts)	2 credit hours
Shime	(25 arts)	2 credit hours
Oku	(25 arts)	3 credit hours
Shinnin	(35 arts)	2 credit hours
Tanto	(4 arts)	3 credit hours
Tanju	(6 arts)	3 credit hours
Self-Defense		
(includes Keri Te, Uke Te, Sutemi)		2 credit hours
Kappo & Massage		3 credit hours
Anatomy/Physiology/Taping		2 credit hours
History/Philosophy/Vocabulary		2 credit hours
Teaching		2 credit hours
Written Essay		<u>2 credit hours</u>
Total	=	30 credit hours

For the more advanced degrees which students apply for (Bachelor's Degree and above) more credit hours are given for the following lists and less for the

above lists due to the fact that a thorough knowledge base is already assumed on those lists.

Weapons Training (knife, gun, club, hanbo, yawara stick, bo, tessen)
Shinen No Maki
Shinyo No Maki
Shingen No Maki
Healing Arts (includes athletic taping, massage, seifukujutsu, kappo)
Teaching (includes assistant teaching, teaching classes on own, teaching at local, regional, state and national events)
Writing (includes an essay at the lower level, articles in magazines and publications, books, videos, etc.)

The exact amount of semester credit hours allowed for each of these subject areas should be individually assigned by the student's instructor or designee.

D. Martial Arts Training

1. Actual physical training in other forms of jujitsu or any other martial arts.
2. Historical studies of martial arts.

E. Program of Study

1. This shall mean a specific area of study, which may include training, in which the instructor or governing body requires specific accomplishments, deeds, training research, and/or knowledge. Samples include study of massage, advanced arts in other disciplines, historic research, detailed analysis of the Board of Danzan Ryu and a myriad of other topics. The topic should be submitted to the governing body for preliminary approval.
2. Generally speaking, due to the detailed nature of this project, the completion of this area shall include a detailed written paper, report, or detailed description of accomplishments. A presentation to the governing body may be required.

F. Teaching/Instruction

1. Actual physical teaching and/or instruction to class(es) in the field of study. The teaching should be for a continuous period. The instruction may be either at the head instructor or assistant instructor level.

G. Field of Study (Doctorate Degree)

1. The field of study herein is referred to as the theme which the candidate chooses to accomplish his/her doctorate thesis. The theme may be broad or narrow in scope.
2. The candidate should first consult with his/her instructor or the governing board for approval.
3. The program chosen shall be memorialized in the form of a publication, book, video, movie and/or a national level presentation. Accompanying the above shall be an official report to the governing body, documenting the endeavor.

H. Certified Instructor

1. A certificate from the applicant's organization which expressly certifies that candidate is an instructor.
2. This signifies that the candidate has passed a set of requirements as proscribed by his/her organization. This is a teaching certificate.

3. We may or may not accept a normal/regular teacher's certificate in lieu of the organization's instructor certificate.

III. SPECIFIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A. For an Associates Degree recognition

1. Jujitsu – With Life Experience Credits (LEC)

- a. 30 semester credit hours of Kodankan Danzan Ryu Jujitsu training with measurable proficiency as specified in (see page 5) plus many miscellaneous areas that are necessary to round out the student's knowledge. Some of these include a notebook, required reading, instructional videos and internet research, club defense, bo techniques, elbow striking techniques, randori and sparring, and certification in 1st Aid/CPR. For exposure to larger segments of the martial arts community a minimum of three mat activities including conventions, camps, competitions, regional events and clinics would be required. Also all students reaching this level would need to have teaching experience, both in teaching an entire class and segments of classes, or assistant teaching.
- b. 30 credit hours of LEC
 - i. Brief autobiography of the student
 - ii. Rank degrees and certificates – 8 credits
 - iii. Recommendation from candidate's instructor – 6 credits
 - iv. Educational experiences as compared to credit-bearing college courses (jujitsu or martial arts training weighted more) – 8 credits
 - v. Course requirements and evaluation by instructor of life experiences – 8 credits
- c. Minimum rank of Shodan
- d. 5 year minimum time spent in Jujitsu training

2. Jujitsu – With College Credits

- a) 30 credit hours of Regular College Credits (see definition in (see page 4)
- b) 30 credit hours of Jujitsu training
- c) Maximum of 12 credit hours of LEC in lieu of RCC
- d) Minimum rank of Shodan

3. Martial Arts – Life Experience Credits

- a) same as Jujitsu training except the training shall be in any martial art

4. Martial Arts – With College Credits

- a) Same as Jujitsu training except that the 12 credit hours shall be of any martial arts training.

B. For a Bachelor of Arts Degree recognition

1. Jujitsu with Life Experience Credits

- a) The requirements of the Associate Degree plus 30 hours additional Jujitsu training
- b) The requirements of the LEC plus 30 hours of additional credit hours
- c) Minimum rank of Nidan
- d) All requirements for the previous rank with more in-depth training in each area are required. Responsible for teaching either in your own school or in designated classes; serving as an assistant to a higher ranking individual does not meet this qualification. Students may, however, serve as assistant instructor in addition to the individual teaching requirement. Further study of anatomy, physiology, massage, kappo, and athletic taping, as well as improved skill with tanto and tanju techniques. Weapons work is part of the curriculum at this level. Work on bo, yawara stick, hanbo, and everyday items used as weapons are emphasized. The entire shinin list is required. More extensive reading, philosophy, and cross training is needed. Students should also maintain their notebook with in-depth descriptions and variations of specific techniques. A written essay is required to progress to the next level.

2. Jujitsu With College Credits

- a) 30 credit hours of Regular College Credits (see page 4)
- b) 30 credit hours of further Jujitsu training
- c) Maximum of 12 credit hours of LEC in lieu of RCC
- d) Minimum rank of Nidan

3. Martial Arts – Life Experience Credits

- a) Same as Jujitsu training except the training shall be in any martial art

4. Martial Arts – With College Credits

- a) Same as Jujitsu training except that the 12 hours shall be of any martial arts training

C. For a Master of Arts Degree recognition

1. Jujitsu – With Life Experience Credits

- a) The requirements of the Bachelor's Degree plus 30 hours additional Jujitsu training. All requirements for the previous rank with more in-depth training in each area are required. The ability to teach is key to attaining this level. Instruction of students, setting up a comprehensive curriculum to help students to progress in the art is critical. The knowledge and technical ability to demonstrate all arts is required at this level, as well assisting students to help them achieve Nidan level. Students should teach designated classes on their own, and teach seminars at the local and regional level. For a Master of Arts recognition, a mentor working with the student approved by the AJI will assign the program of study. This is to ensure that the student receives appropriate level work in all designated subject areas plus work on the advanced lists such as Shinyo, Shingen, advanced massage or Seifukujutsu and the Kiai No Maki arts.

- b) 8 years minimum of training
- c) At least 2 years of teaching/instruction
- d) Certified Instructor
- e) CPR and First Aid Certification
- f) Substitute a maximum of 12 LEC hours for above
- g) Minimum rank of Yondan

2. Jujitsu – With College Credits

- a) The requirements of the Bachelor's Degree plus 30 hours additional Jujitsu training.
- b) 8 years minimum of Jujitsu training
- c) 2 years minimum of teaching/instruction
- d) Certified Instructor
- e) CPR and First Aid Certification
- f) Substitute a maximum of 12 LEC hours for above
- g) Minimum rank of Yondan

3. Martial Arts – With Life Experience Credits

- a) The requirements of the Bachelor's Degree plus 30 hours additional Martial Arts training.
- b) 8 years minimum of martial training
- c) 2 years minimum of teaching/instruction
- d) Certified Instructor
- e) CPR and First Aid Certification
- f) Substitute a maximum of 12 LEC hours for above
- g) Minimum rank of Yondan

4. Martial Arts – With College Credits

- a) The requirements of the Bachelor's Degree plus 30 hours additional Martial Arts training.
- b) 8 years minimum of martial training
- c) 2 years minimum of teaching/instruction
- d) Certified Instructor
- e) CPR and First Aid Certification
- f) Substitute a maximum of 12 LEC hours for above
- g) Minimum rank of Yondan

B. For a Doctorate of Arts Degree recognition

1. Jujitsu

- a) Must first fulfill the requirements of the Masters Degree described in C-2 above entitled "Jujitsu with College Credits".
- b) Must have had their own dojo for at least 2 years
- c) Must have graduated at least one Shodan
- d) Must have taught seminars at the National Level
- e) Students must have taught and presented seminars at the local and state levels
- f) Must have a major contribution/research relative to the field of study such as a published book, movie, video, national event organizer or sponsor
- g) Must serve or have served as an officer in a national jujitsu organization
- h) Additional 30 RCC with a maximum of 12 LEC substitute
- i) Minimum rank of Godan required

2. Martial Arts

- a) Must first fulfill the requirements of the Masters Degree described in C-4 above entitled "Martial Arts with College Credits"
- b) Must have had their own dojo for at least 2 years
- c) Must have graduated at least one Shodan
- d) Must have taught seminars at the National Level
- e) Students must have taught and presented seminars at the local and state levels
- f) Must have a major contribution/research relative to the field of study such as a published book, movie, video, national event organizer or sponsor
- g) Must serve or have served as an officer in a national martial arts organization
- h) Additional 30 RCC with a maximum of 12 LEC substitute
- i) Minimum rank of Godan required

3. Honorary

- a) This degree is issued at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the American Jujitsu Institute.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS AND CONSIDERATIONS

- A.** You must lay out the exact units of credits for arts such as Yawara, Nage, etc. The credit hours must have some time and grade as well as a level of achievement to each and coincide with the credit requirements of the degree. Example: We could not give 15 credit hours for, let's say "Nage" as this would not fit in the requirements. It should be less.
- B.** Propose and/or implement suggestions for LEC relative to suggested weights in lieu of, or in place of actual Regular College Credits (RCC).
- C.** The scope of accepted college credits should be as broad as possible. This will ensure that many black belts already with college credits, will qualify for their degrees.
- D.** Consideration and acceptance should be awarded for CLEP exams.
- E.** Determine the cost for the degrees, inclusive of LEC and RCC. Acceptance of LEC should involve a cost commensurate with its weight. These costs should be in line with cost of similar weight in other non-traditional schools.
- F.** The candidate's rank and supporting certificates should bear weight in his/her proficiency at certain levels of the arts, whether jujitsu or otherwise.
- G.** For Doctorate degrees, lay out the manner and form of:
 1. Picking the field of study – consulting with instructor, governing body approval, etc.
 2. Length of time for completion based on the scope of the thesis or project.
 3. Cost of application and degree.
- H.** Candidate applying for a degree involving RCC should have an easier time getting their degrees provided their transcripts are provided in a timely manner, along with the application and documentation of their levels of achievements in their art.
- I.** The rank for a Doctorate whether Godan or Rokudan is adequate, however the 15 year criteria should be mandatory as we would question anyone at those ranks with less years of training in the arts.
- J.** For Doctorate degrees, I would prefer a published book, however this could impose such a hardship on some of our seniors that it would not be possible. The

video or movie option gives them the opportunity to achieve this goal with credibility.

- K. Programs of study for Masters Degree can be narrow or broad in scope. Example: If the candidate is doing something along the lines of massage, something relative to the candidate's view of anatomy, muscle movements, theories of the applications of certain techniques and the resulting effects, etc. are all viable topics or options. The effects of years of taking falls and accumulating injuries could be the subject matter. The topics are infinite. It should be incumbent on the applicant to properly relate to the governing body or board on how the topic is relative to the intended degree. As in the case of the field of study, the program of choice should be a critical analysis of the topic.
- L. We must encourage instructors to assist their candidates whenever possible and offer whatever guidance they can.

V. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In any degree program offered where RCC are required, the governing body may substitute LEC on a very limited basis.

Example: A candidate for a Bachelor's Degree has only 48 RCC and 60 semester credit hours of Jujitsu or martial arts training, leaving the candidate 17 hours short of a degree. The candidate may apply for acceptance of 17 LEC hours. In no case should this exceed 12 hours for an Associate Degree nor 24 hours for a Bachelor's Degree without the approval of the Board of Directors of the American Jujitsu Institute.

One of the most important items will be cost. How much should the AJI charge for certificates, credits, degrees, LEC etc. This should be evaluated at length and comparison made to comparable degrees. The methodology for application, acceptance, review and confirmation of degrees and awards, all need to be outlined in detail.

Included should be the make-up and scope of the governing board, directors, review committee, standards committee, or whatever we want to call it, etc. This all could be one and the same. Of course, initially there may be very few who could sit on the board. As time passes, we could install those who have been confirmed degrees/masters/doctorates, etc.

V. VARIANCE

This Board or entity will have the right of variance on any issue or requirement within the program. They shall further have the authority to grant honorary degrees as it sees fit. This is purely for public relations and/or political reasons.

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