Graduate: Michael Hendricks
A Ripley, WV native, now a sales specialist at Nippon Thermostat Corporation of America, Fraziers Bottom, WV. Michael uses his skill with the Japanese language when communicating to the parent company in Japan and when translating different documents from customers.

Be willing to commit! In order to get a job using Japanese, your Japanese skill must be excellent. No matter how good your professors are, just going through their classes will not bring you to that level. You must make a commitment to learning and using Japanese outside of class. If you don’t like Japanese enough to enjoy using it in that manner, you should probably be majoring in something else because you’ll never surpass a mediocre level.

Think about your career! You must consider the kind of job class you want. If you want to work for a company, take some business classes. If you want to be a translator, take a wide variety of subjects so you can be active in many areas.

Useful websites suggested by your sempai (graduates):
http://athome.nealrc.org/
www.gaijinpot.com
www.ithinkimlost.com
www.top-us.com

For more information on studying abroad contact:

Kylie Gallagher
Executive Study Abroad Advisor
Office of Study Abroad
Center for International Programs
Old Main 320
Tel: 304-696-2379
Fax: 304-696-6353
Email: studyabroad@marshall.edu
URL: http://www.marshall.edu/cip/studyabroad

For more information on majoring Japanese contact:

Dr. Natsuki Fukunaga Anderson
Assistant Professor
Coordinator of Japanese Program
Department of Modern Languages
SH 742G, Tel: 304-696-3543
Email: andersonn@marshall.edu
URL: http://users.marshall.edu/~andersonn/home.html

www.marshall.edu/cip/studyabroad
revised 10/21/2009
Graduate: Alyssa Burlile
Originally a Tiffin, Ohio native, Alyssa is now a sales representative for the K\(I\) (USA) Corporation, Lexington, KY. Alyssa now acts as the main point of contact between the K\(I\) (USA) Corporation (a small Japanese automotive manufacturing facility) and its customers. Alyssa’s main purpose is essentially to bring in as much money as she can through contracts with customers like Nissan, Honda, and Toyota.

Take advantage of the TOP Group and apply for multiple jobs! I posted my resume on a number of online job sites in October, and sent online applications to a few companies through those sites. I also filled out an application for a few jobs via the TOP Group, which Dr. Nacky had advertised to our class. A few days after applying for the TOP jobs, I received a call from a TOP representative who had a couple of job suggestions for me. She interviewed me over the phone in English and Japanese, and then she set up a phone interview for me with K\(I\) (USA). Before my phone interview, she provided me with some information about the company so I could research them. I had my phone interview with K\(I\) (USA) about a week later; it was half in Japanese and half in English. It went well, so I had an in-person interview about two weeks later, also in English and in Japanese. Then I had a final in-person interview about two weeks after the first. It was near the end of the semester when I received my official offer letter for the job. (www.top-us.com)

Graduate: James Williams
St. Albans native, James Williams, now an ALT, and teaches English at two Elementary Schools in Hyogo Prefecture in Japan. His job duties include team-teaching classes, lesson preparation, making teaching materials, and giving piggy-back rides.

Interested in teaching abroad? I began applying for the JET Program while still a student at Marshall, as the process takes about 10 months. I sent in an application in November 2007, got an interview in February, was formally accepted in June, and went to orientation in Tokyo in August 2008.

Help fill the need of English Speaking Teachers! English is a new subject in most Japanese Elementary schools. The Ministry of Education will require all 5th and 6th graders to have English once a week by 2010. Unfortunately, the Elementary schools do not have actual English teachers; just regular teachers who are now expect to teach English too. At one of my schools, none of the teachers speak enough English to discuss lesson plans, so being able to speak Japanese has become absolutely essential.

Graduate: Ashley Cox
A Huntington Native, Ashley Cox is now an Assistant Language Teacher or an ALT working in the JET program and teaches English at Kawamoto-cho Middle School in Shimane-ken, Japan.

A Chance of a Lifetime! I went to Kansai Gaidai, and I feel it was my favorite semester throughout my college career. I was able to get an in depth experience and just be completely immersed in Japanese, which helped my speaking skills incredibly. I experienced countless Japanese culture events, such as wearing yukata, tea ceremony, temples, and many many festivals. Not to mention I was able to make friends from literally all over the world who were also in the same program as I was. I can’t stress enough how much my study abroad experienced really opened my eyes to the Japanese culture and language, and would recommend that every Japanese major student study abroad if given the opportunity. It is an experience of a lifetime and something you will never forget.